H&S COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

JUNE 1966 — HILL 69 (BATTALION CP, CHU LAI)

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for June 1966

1st Marine Division · III Marine Amphibious Force · I Corps, Republic of Vietnam

1. Unit Overview

Unit Designation	Headquarters and Service Company (H&S Co), 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division; including the battalion command post, the 106mm section and the S-2 and S-5 sections
Reporting Period	1–30 June 1966
Commander	Capt R. D. Hughes (1–25 June); 1stLt J. T. Jenkins (26–30 June)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol W. Moore); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai), Ong Bo bridge (Song Trau)
Combat Posture	Security, movement and support (no combat entry recorded)
Base of Operations	Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai)
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

H&S Company’s entries for June 1966 place it most often at or near Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai) (6 of 6 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Ong Bo bridge (Song Trau).

H&S Company was commanded by Capt R. D. Hughes (1–25 June); 1stLt J. T. Jenkins (26–30 June); the battalion by LtCol W. Moore (1–30 June).

For June 1966 this report lists 15 entries (8 organization, 7 movement): 0 naming H&S or one of its sections (the battalion command post, the 106mm section, S-2, S-5), and 15 battalion-level entries recorded by the battalion headquarters.

On 9 June 1966: 2/5 (-): command group, Echo and Foxtrot moved from LZ Cobra (BT 312 135) to Phu Duc (4) (battalion combat base) (BT 305 146) on foot.

On 20 June 1966: Battery E 2/11 under 60mm fire and assault; Hotel and the command group moved from Hill 69 to Ong Bo bridge (BT430110) and swept both banks of the Song Trau.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Operation Incinerator	1 June 1966; the 2/5 chronology records the operation ending at 1720 (011720H).	Operation Incinerator: Echo, Golf and the command group blocked three sides of Khuong Nhon (1) and (2) while RF Company 744 swept; ended 1720 on 1 June
Operation Apache	090600H – 122000H June 1966. 2/5 Operation Order 305-66 was issued on 1 June 1966; the initial briefing was held on 5 June and a second on 7 June.	2/5 issued Frag Order 7-66 at 082000H June 1966 for Operation Apache (Frag Order 7-66, PDF p.

4. Chronology of H&S Company Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for June 1966 in the hotel25vv research database. Entries naming H&S or its sections and all battalion-level entries are listed; entries naming only a rifle company are left out. Times and grid references are as recorded; each entry ends with its source page.

Date	Activity / Events
1 Jun 05:00	Operation Incinerator: Echo, Golf and the command group blocked three sides of Khuong Nhon (1) and (2) while RF Company 744 swept; ended 1720 on 1 June [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 10; 2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 11]
8 Jun 20:00	2/5 issued Frag Order 7-66 at 082000H June 1966 for Operation Apache (Frag Order 7-66, PDF p. 40; listed as “Frag Order 7-66 of 8 June”, PDF p. 26). [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 40; 2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 26]
9 Jun 06:45–07:00	Command Group Bravo moved from Battalion landing zone, Hill 69 (BT 468 073) to LZ Cobra (BT 312 135) by helicopter. The battalion commander flew over the area in a UH-1E. [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 31]
9 Jun 07:45–11:20	2/5 (-): command group, Echo and Foxtrot moved from LZ Cobra (BT 312 135) to Phu Duc (4) (battalion combat base) (BT 305 146) on foot. Assaulted toward Phu Duc (4) from the Hill 68 complex against long-range sniper fire, took the village and set up the CP there; the first time the battalion based itself in an occupied hamlet. [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 31; 2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 37]

Date	Activity / Events
9 Jun 14:15–18:00	4.2-inch mortar battery and 105mm howitzer battery (2/11) moved from Not stated to Battalion combat base, Phu Duc (4) (BT 305 146) by helicopter. The report notes this was the first time a battery had been helilifted in support of the battalion in Vietnam. [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 32; 2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 37]
9 Jun	Operation Apache, phase II, 9-12 June: battalion command base in an occupied hamlet with companies on search and destroy missions; battalion rear on Hill 69 [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 12]
10 Jun 10:40	Sparrow Hawk platoon, 2/5 moved from Not stated to LZ near Ngoc Nha (4) (BT 278 117) by helicopter. Landed to support Echo's assault on Ngoc Nha (4) at BT 269 124, after an air strike on the zone. [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 33]
12 Jun 06:25–07:10	Command Group Alpha moved from Battalion combat base (BT 305 146) to ARVN outpost (BT 319 089) by helicopter. In the LZ at BT 317 088 at 0650; in position at the ARVN outpost by 0710. [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 34]
12 Jun 13:50	Command Group Alpha moved from ARVN outpost (BT 319 089) to Battalion combat base (BT 305 146) by helicopter. [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 35]
12 Jun 15:10–18:30	2/11 artillery units moved from Battalion combat base (BT 305 146) to Hill 35 (BT 435 076) by helicopter. [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 35]
12 Jun 20:25	At 121928H Company F completed its helilift to Hill 69; at 121930H Company E began its helilift to Hill 54, and at 122000H Company E and the HST detachment completed extraction. At 122025H “Operation APACHE terminated.” (After action report, PDF p. 35.) [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 35]
15 Jun 14:30	24-hour search and destroy in the southwest TAOR; Golf and Foxtrot lifted from Hill 69 to LZs at BT403072 and BT415032 with tanks and Ontos [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 13]
18 Jun	Hotel took over the battalion defense on Hill 69; Foxtrot to Hill 35; Golf to Hill 76 and Ky Phu (2); a 3/7 company took Hill 35 on deployment [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 15]
20 Jun 00:40	Battery E 2/11 under 60mm fire and assault; Hotel and the command group moved from Hill 69 to Ong Bo bridge (BT430110) and swept both banks of the Song Trau [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 16]
27 Jun	2/5 issued Frag Order 15-66 on 27 June 1966 (listed as “Frag Order 15-66 of 27 Jun”, PDF p. 26; its operation overlay, with blocking positions for Company E and a supporting position of a platoon of Ontos and a reinforced Company F squad, PDF pp. 54–55). [2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 26; 2/5 ComdC Jun 1966, PDF p. 54]

5. Notes and Caveats

This file was built on 22 November 2026 in the same format as the Company H reports, directly from the checked, page-cited transcriptions of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines command chronologies. The notes below record its sources and where the record is thin.

1. SOURCE. The entries come from 2/5 Command Chronology Jun 1966 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048070).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. H&S 2/5 is recorded in the chronology under several names: H&S, H&S (Bn CP), Bn CP, the 106mm section and the S-2 and S-5 sections. All are combined here. Because H&S was the battalion headquarters, every battalion-level entry not tied to a rifle company is included too. Entries are listed in date and time order, each with the page of the chronology it was read from; entries naming only Echo, Foxtrot, Golf or Hotel are left out.

3. COMMANDER. Company and battalion commanders are taken from the monthly organisation data (Section I of each chronology) as recorded in the battalion leadership ledger.

4. CASUALTIES. Casualty figures are not totalled here. Individual losses appear in the entries as recorded; for authoritative totals see the casualty tables in the original chronology.

5. ORIGINALS. National Archives and Records Administration, Record Group 127, Records of the United States Marine Corps. For full records contact National Archives II, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park MD 20740, or Marine Corps History Division, Quantico VA 22134.

6. Sources

This document was compiled from the following primary and secondary sources:

PRIMARY SOURCES

— 2/5 Command Chronology Jun 1966 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048070)

— 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology for June 1966, as published on hotel25vv.com (Battalion Chronology page): https://hotel25vv.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/1966June-2-5CommandChronology.pdf

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Shulimson, Jack and Charles M. Johnson. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: An Expanding War, 1966. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1982.

— “2/5 Battalion Chronology.” Hotel 2/5 Combat Marines. https://hotel25vv.com/vietnam-war-chronology/battalion-chronology