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

AUGUST 1966 — TAM KY (COLORADO BASE)

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for August 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	1–31 August 1966
Commander	1stLt J. T. Jenkins (1–30 August); 1stLt A. J. Bocutti (31 August)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol W. Moore); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Tam Ky (Colorado base), Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai), Song Ly Ly valley patrol base, Phu Long
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (3 combat entries)
Base of Operations	Tam Ky (Colorado base)
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

H&S Company’s entries for August 1966 place it most often at or near Tam Ky (Colorado base) (12 of 24 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai), Song Ly Ly valley patrol base, Phu Long.

H&S Company was commanded by 1stLt J. T. Jenkins (1–30 August); 1stLt A. J. Bocutti (31 August); the battalion by LtCol W. Moore (1–31 August).

For August 1966 this report lists 31 entries (15 organization, 11 movement, 3 combat, 2 civic): 0 naming H&S or one of its sections (the battalion command post, the 106mm section, S-2, S-5), and 31 battalion-level entries recorded by the battalion headquarters.

On 1 August 1966: LVTs on resupply at BT439045 found a buried mine; blown in place.

On 1 August 1966: An LVT on a resupply run hit a mine at BT435056: a large hole, two push arms blown off, cargo hatches blown off and the vehicle on fire — 2 USMC WIA.

On 9 August 1966: The battalion perimeter fired on the enemy near AT951296 — 3 VC KIA confirmed.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Operation Colorado (Lien Ket 52)	6–22 Aug 1966	Operation Colorado: 2/5 (-) left the Hill 69 CP by truck for Tam Ky BT290234 with Echo, Golf, W Battery 2/11 and 4.2-inch mortars (5th Marines OpOrder 322-66)

4. Chronology of H&S Company Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for August 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 Aug 11:00	LVTs on resupply at BT439045 found a buried mine; blown in place [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 8]
1 Aug 13:39	An LVT on a resupply run hit a mine at BT435056: a large hole, two push arms blown off, cargo hatches blown off and the vehicle on fire — 2 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 8]
2 Aug 17:50	An LVT on resupply found a 60mm round rigged in the trail at BT435056; blown in place with a secondary explosion [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 9]
6 Aug 04:15	Operation Colorado: 2/5 (-) left the Hill 69 CP by truck for Tam Ky BT290234 with Echo, Golf, W Battery 2/11 and 4.2-inch mortars (5th Marines OpOrder 322-66) [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 26]
6 Aug 04:15–05:31	2/5 (-): Command Groups Alpha and Bravo, Echo, Golf, W Battery 2/11 (4.2-inch mortars) moved from Hill 69 CP (BT 462 073) to Tam Ky (BT 290 234) by truck. Moved to Tam Ky to set up the operational base and stand by for the helicopter lift (5th Marines OpOrder 322-66; 2/5 Frag Order 18-66). [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 26]
6 Aug 23:00	2/5 (-) in perimeter at BT016218; about 35 Vietnamese asked to be evacuated [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 27]
7 Aug 09:30	2/5 extracted from LZ BT016218; about 697 Vietnamese refugees evacuated to Tam Ky [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 28]
7 Aug 09:30–18:00	2/5 (-): Echo, Golf, Hotel and command group moved from Objective 3 landing zone (BT 016 218) to Tam Ky (BT 290 234) by helicopter. About 697 Vietnamese refugees who asked to leave were lifted out first. Echo landed at Tam Ky at 1430; the last units arrived at 1800 and took over the defense of the Tam Ky logistic support area. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 28; 2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 42]
8 Aug 12:00	2/5 (-) CP at Tam Ky BT290232; Golf's perimeter at BT320229 guarded the 2/11 artillery [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 29]

Date	Activity / Events
9 Aug 07:20	2/5 was lifted into blocking positions on the western escape routes in the Song Ly Ly valley [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 29]
9 Aug 10:30	The battalion perimeter fired on the enemy near AT951296 — 3 VC KIA confirmed [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 30]
9 Aug 16:15	1 VC killed trying to escape the perimeter at AT954299 [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 30]
9 Aug 16:30	Bravo Command Group and the 4.2-inch mortars moved from Tam Ky (BT 290 234) to Battalion defensive perimeter (AT 950 295) by helicopter. Starting point not given; taken as Tam Ky, where they stayed for Phase I. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 31; 2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 42]
9 Aug 17:16	2/5 set a defensive perimeter and patrol base at AT950295-AT955300-AT948304-AT945300; cumulative 9 VC KIA, 1 VCC, 2 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 31]
11 Aug 10:00–12:00	2/5 (-): Bravo Command Group and 4.2-inch mortars first, then Echo, Hotel and the Alpha Command Group moved from Battalion perimeter (AT 950 295) to Tam Ky (BT 290 234) by helicopter. All units back at Tam Ky by 1200, ending Phase II. The official history dates the return 10 August; the battalion report gives 11 August. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 33; 2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 34]
11 Aug 11:00	2/5 extracted to Tam Ky [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 33]
11 Aug 12:00	2/5 became the reserve battalion and security for the Tam Ky logistic support area [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 34]
12 Aug 02:20	A reaction force of 2 platoons with tanks returned fire; the enemy withdrew [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 34]
13 Aug 06:40–07:30	2/5 (-): all units, Echo first moved from Tam Ky (BT 290 234) to Landing zone (BT 163 293) by helicopter. Phase III. Battalion commander airborne 0640; first Echo units in the zone 0645, all units by 0730. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 35; 2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 45]
13 Aug 07:30–15:00	2/5 (-) moved from Landing zone (BT 163 293) to Battalion perimeter (BT 191 297) on foot. Swept east toward Route 1 with air strikes ahead; hasty defense at BT 183 295 at 1320, perimeter at BT 191 297 by 1500. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 35; 2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 36]
13 Aug 15:00	Battalion perimeter at BT191297 [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 36]
14 Aug 09:45–10:30	Battalion command group, Echo and Golf moved from Battalion perimeter (BT 191 297) to Battalion CP (BT 168 305) by helicopter. The overlay shows the lift; the CP was at BT 168 305 by 1030. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 36; 2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 45]
14 Aug 11:00–14:53	2/5 (-): command group, Echo, Golf, Hotel moved from Battalion CP (BT 168 305) to Combat base (BT 173 313) on foot. Hotel cleared Hill 34; Golf swept Phu Long with 81mm mortars. Combat base at BT 173 313 by 1453: Golf BT 171 307, Hotel BT 157 303, Echo BT 176 314. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 37]
14 Aug 14:53	Combat base at BT173313; Golf at BT171307, Hotel at BT157303, Echo at BT176314 [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 37]
15 Aug 09:40	Battalion commander (Cass 6) moved from Operational area (BT 173 313) to Hill 69 (BT 462 073) by helicopter. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 38]

Date	Activity / Events
15 Aug 10:00–10:30	Command group and all remaining units moved from Combat base (BT 173 313) to Tam Ky (BT 290 234) by helicopter. All units out of the operational area by 1030. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 38; 2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 45]
15 Aug 10:35–14:00	2/5 (-): all units moved from Tam Ky (BT 290 234) to Hill 69 (Chu Lai area) (BT 462 073) by helicopter. Helilifted back to Hill 69; the command group arrived at 1055 and all units by 1400. The battalion stayed on standby there until Colorado ended on 22 August. [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 38; 2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 39]
15 Aug 14:00	All units returned to Hill 69 by 1400; this phase of Colorado ended [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 38]
22 Aug	Operation Colorado ended; 2/5 results: 13 VC KIA, 7 probable, 5 KBA; Marines 3 KIA, 2 killed by lightning, 2 DOW, 39 WIA, 7 hurt by lightning [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 39]
28 Aug 06:00	County Fair operation Key Chain: 2/5 (-) with tanks, flame tanks and Ontos blocked while PFs and a Combined Action Platoon swept Ky Sanh (1) BT455055 and a no-name village BT445055; 362 villagers screened, 171 treated; Foxtrot found a booby-trapped 60mm round at BT437056 [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 11]
30 Aug 23:00	A tank on the perimeter at BT423090 took 20 rounds from 3-5 VC [2/5 ComdC Aug 1966, PDF p. 12]

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 Aug 1966 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048072); U.S. Marines in Vietnam · An Expanding War, 1966.

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 Aug 1966 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048072)

— U.S. Marines in Vietnam · An Expanding War, 1966

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

Document prepared for historical research purposes. For authoritative casualty figures, unit rosters, and engagement details, consult original 2/5 Command Chronology records at NARA RG 127. | H&S Company, 2/5 Marines, August 1966