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

DECEMBER 1967 — AN HOA COMBAT BASE

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for December 1967

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 December 1967
Commander	1stLt J. P. Pindel Jr. (1–31 December)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol G. C. McNaughton); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	An Hoa Combat Base, Phu Nhuan (8), Mau Chanh (2) (CAP N-2), Tuscaloosa river crossing
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (1 combat entries)
Base of Operations	An Hoa Combat Base
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

H&S Company’s entries for December 1967 place it most often at or near An Hoa Combat Base (5 of 11 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Phu Nhuan (8), Mau Chanh (2) (CAP N-2), Tuscaloosa river crossing.

H&S Company was commanded by 1stLt J. P. Pindel Jr. (1–31 December); the battalion by LtCol G. C. McNaughton (1–31 December).

For December 1967 this report lists 15 entries (10 organization, 2 movement, 1 personnel, 1 logistics, 1 combat): 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 1 December 1967: Memorial service for the 2/5 Marines killed in December; 210 attended.

On 3 December 1967: A CAP N-3 patrol north of the An Hoa airstrip took fire from AT888494, assaulted; an AK-44, an M-16 magazine and 500 lb of rice captured.

On 4 December 1967: Three-day hole-hunting operation in Phu Nhuan (3) (AT900505) with Foxtrot, Golf (-) and Hotel (-); booby traps killed 4 and wounded 11; 2 more wounded by small arms.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Operation Auburn	28 December 1967 – 3 January 1968 (whole operation). 2/5 companies took part 29–30 December 1967.	Command group, Echo, Golf moved from Helicopter staging area (not named) to LZ Hawk (Operation Auburn, Go Noi Island) by helicopter.

4. Chronology of H&S Company Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for December 1967 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
December day unstated	Memorial service for the 2/5 Marines killed in December; 210 attended. [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 6]
December days unstated	Engineers of the 7th Engineer Battalion surfaced Liberty Road before the monsoon. [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 4]
3 Dec	A CAP N-3 patrol north of the An Hoa airstrip took fire from AT888494, assaulted; an AK-44, an M-16 magazine and 500 lb of rice captured [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 15]
4 Dec	Three-day hole-hunting operation in Phu Nhuan (3) (AT900505) with Foxtrot, Golf (-) and Hotel (-); booby traps killed 4 and wounded 11; 2 more wounded by small arms [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 4; 2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 15]
9 Dec	An Otter in a convoy to Da Nang set off a 25-lb box mine near AT911506 — 5 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 16]
19 Dec	Second three-day hole-hunting operation in Phu Nhuan (2) (AT903513) with Golf and Hotel; booby traps and mines killed 5 and wounded 12; caves, tunnels and rice found [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 4; 2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 17]
22 Dec	A Vietnamese truck from An Hoa set off a 20-lb box mine near AT918514 [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 17]
23 Dec	Two booby traps and a box mine on Liberty Road killed 1 Marine and 1 An Hoa security guard and wounded 5 Marines [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 17]

Date	Activity / Events
26 Dec	Six mines and booby traps found on Liberty Road and three more tripped — 3 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 17]
29 Dec 00:07	CAP N-2 (AT888474) took 200 rounds from AT887476, AT891475 and AT896475; 18 command-detonated box mines exploded around CAP N-3 (AT865487) [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 18]
29 Dec 10:00	Command group, Echo, Golf moved from Helicopter staging area (not named) to LZ Hawk (Operation Auburn, Go Noi Island) by helicopter. LtCol George C. McNaughton was to "resume command of his Companies E and G, which were already in helicopter staging areas for Operation Auburn, and reinforce the 3d Battalion, 5th Marines in LZ Hawk." The battalion arrived in LZ Hawk "shortly after 1000" on 29 December and attacked toward Bao An Dong, Echo leading and Golf on the right. The history gives no grid for LZ Hawk. (From the official history; the 2/5 chronology has no separate entry for this move.) [U.S. Marines in Vietnam · The Defining Year, 1968, PDF p. 111; U.S. Marines in Vietnam · The Defining Year, 1968, PDF p. 108]
29 Dec	The 2/5 command group took command of Echo and Golf in Operation Auburn and secured Regimental Objective 2 (AT993534) [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 5]
30 Dec	6 VC ambushed 3 PFs near AT884479 — 2 PF KIA [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 18]
30 Dec	The command group returned to An Hoa [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 5]
30 Dec	Command group moved from Operation Auburn, Objective 2 area (AT 993 534) to An Hoa (AT 874 474) (means not stated). The December 1967 chronology: "On 29 December, the 2/5 Command Group was called to the field to take command of Companies E and G in Operation AUBURN … secured Regimental Objective 2, (AT993534). On 30 December the Command Group returned to AN HOA while the two companies remained OPCON to 3/5" (PDF p. 5). Mode not stated. (Checked 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Dec 1967, PDF p. 5]

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 Dec 1967 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048096); U.S. Marines in Vietnam · The Defining Year, 1968.

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 Dec 1967 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048096)

— U.S. Marines in Vietnam · The Defining Year, 1968

— 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology for December 1967, as published on hotel25vv.com (Battalion Chronology page): https://hotel25vv.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/1967December-2-5CommandChronology.pdf

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Telfer, Gary L., Lane Rogers and V. Keith Fleming Jr. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: Fighting the North Vietnamese, 1967. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1984.

— “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, December 1967