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

APRIL 1969 — 2/5 FIELD COMMAND POST IN THE ARIZONA

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for April 1969

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 April 1969
Commander	1stLt M. R. Baggs (1–30 April)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol J. H. Higgins); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	2/5 field command post in the Arizona, LZ Lily, Tam Hoa hamlet, Thanh My refugee hamlet
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (11 combat entries)
Base of Operations	2/5 field command post in the Arizona
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

H&S Company's entries for April 1969 place it most often at or near 2/5 field command post in the Arizona (6 of 12 entries with a named place or grid), and also at LZ Lily, Tam Hoa hamlet, Thanh My refugee hamlet.

H&S Company was commanded by 1stLt M. R. Baggs (1–30 April); the battalion by LtCol J. H. Higgins (1–30 April).

For April 1969 this report lists 17 entries (11 combat, 5 movement, 1 civic): 8 naming H&S or one of its sections (the battalion command post, the 106mm section, S-2, S-5), and 9 battalion-level entries recorded by the battalion headquarters.

On 3 April 1969: Bn Command Group at AT 838493 received small arms, automatic and M-79 fire from NW at AT 833496; returned small arms, M-79, 81mm - 4 USMC WIA evac, 2 non-evac.

On 12 April 1969: 2/5 (battalion) moved from Not stated to Not stated on foot.

On 14 April 1969: Bn Command Group at AT 856519 saw 7 VC/NVA 600 m north moving west; fired 7 rounds 106mm: 2 NVA KIA.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Operation Arizona	140800H – 181915H June 1967 (2/5 participation; the S-2 lists the operation as 15–19 June); previously listed as 13–26 June	284 Arizona refugees moved to Thanh My and Go Chua.
Operation Muskogee Meadow	6–20 Apr 1969	2/5 (battalion) moved from Rice-harvest screen, vicinity AT 8448 (AT 84 48) to Vicinity AT 8655 (AT 86 55) (means not stated).

4. Chronology of H&S Company Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for April 1969 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
April day unstated	284 Arizona refugees moved to Thanh My and Go Chua. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 10]
3 Apr 19:45	Bn Command Group at AT 838493 received small arms, automatic and M-79 fire from NW at AT 833496; returned small arms, M-79, 81mm - 4 USMC WIA evac, 2 non-evac. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 16]
7 Apr 08:00	106mm RR platoon apprehended one male, one female at AT 842491; one classified civil defendant. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 53]
7 Apr 12:15	Bn Command Group Marine found K-44 rifle in bomb crater at AT 843492. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 53]
11 Apr	2/5 (battalion) moved from Rice-harvest screen, vicinity AT 8448 (AT 84 48) to Vicinity AT 8655 (AT 86 55) (means not stated). Operation Muskogee Meadow began 7 April with three companies screening the rice harvesters around AT 8448. “On D plus four, the Battalion moved Northwest and conducted a search and clear operation in the vicinity of AT8655” (PDF p. 53). The after-action report says “Transportation of personnel and equipment to and from the AO was accomplished by helicopter” and that two M116 Huskies carried the 106mm recoilless rifles and excess equipment for the command group (PDF p. 57); it does not say how the battalion moved inside the

Date	Activity / Events
	area of operations. Grids are 1-km area grids. (From the Operation Muskogee Meadow after-action report in the April 1969 chronology, read 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 53; 2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 57]
12 Apr	2/5 (battalion) moved from Not stated to Not stated on foot. On 12 April the battalion swept north in the Arizona and met heavy enemy contact. (From the monthly "by Company" summary, written from the chronology page images.) [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 5]
14 Apr 13:00	Marines around Bn Command Group at AT 857519 found two graves ~1 month old with 3 bodies. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 53]
14 Apr 15:00	Air observer under 2/5 control saw 40-50 VC/NVA moving south at AT 8752, 8852, 8751; directed artillery: 3 VC/NVA KBA. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 53]
14 Apr 18:00	Bn Command Group at AT 856519 saw 7 VC/NVA 600 m north moving west; fired 7 rounds 106mm: 2 NVA KIA. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 53]
14 Apr 22:10	Bn Command Group received incoming 82mm, B-40, automatic small arms and hand grenades from AT 852527, 862517, 853515; returned fire with small arms, 60mm, 81mm, artillery, 106mm: 3 USMC WIA non-evac. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 53]
16 Apr	2/5 (battalion) moved from Vicinity AT 8655 (AT 86 55) to Vicinity AT 8448 (AT 84 48) (means not stated). "On D plus nine, the Battalion returned to the vicinity of AT8448" (PDF p. 53). The after-action report says "Transportation of personnel and equipment to and from the AO was accomplished by helicopter" and that two M116 Huskies carried the 106mm recoilless rifles and excess equipment for the command group (PDF p. 57); it does not say how the battalion moved inside the area of operations. (From the Operation Muskogee Meadow after-action report in the April 1969 chronology, read 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 53; 2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 57]
17 Apr	2/5 (battalion) moved from Vicinity AT 8448 (AT 84 48) to Vicinity AT 8345 (AT 83 45) (means not stated). "From 17 to 20 April the Battalion moved southwest in the vicinity of AT8345 and encountered light enemy resistance" (PDF p. 52). The after-action report says "Transportation of personnel and equipment to and from the AO was accomplished by helicopter" and that two M116 Huskies carried the 106mm recoilless rifles and excess equipment for the command group (PDF p. 57); it does not say how the battalion moved inside the area of operations. (From the Operation Muskogee Meadow after-action report in the April 1969 chronology, read 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 52; 2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 57]
21 Apr	2/5 (battalion) moved from Vicinity AT 8345 (AT 83 45) to Command group and Golf at AT 818484 (26 April) (AT 818 484) (means not stated). The narrative: "During the period 21 to 30 April, the Battalion commenced search and clear operations moving West, again encountering heavy enemy contact"; on the night of 26 April "The Battalion Command Group and Company G at AT818484" were attacked (PDF p. 4). Date shown is the start of the move west; the end grid is from 26 April. (From the April 1969 narrative, read 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 4]
26 Apr 12:00	aerial observer directed air strikes near AT 825477 - 1 VC/NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 45]
26 Apr 14:05	AO saw 2 VC/NVA with weapons at AT 861520, fired rockets and M-60 - 2 KBA. [Hotel commander changed 26 Apr: Capt W.C. Fite to 1stLt A.D. Skroch.] [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 45]
28 Apr 05:00	Bn Command Group and Company G in night defensive positions at AT 818484 received small arms, 60mm, B-40 and ChiCom grenades from AT 822484, 819487, 814485; returned fire with small arms, 106mm, 60mm, 81mm, artillery and 90mm - 3

Date	Activity / Events
	USMC WIA evac, 4 NVA KIA, 2 AK-50, 2 AK-47, 3 ChiCom grenades captured [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 47]
28 Apr 15:45	Bn Command Group at AT 818481 saw one NVA run into a bunker at AT 821479; tanks fired one HE delay and one canister round; search - 1 NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Apr 1969, PDF p. 47]

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 Apr 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048114).

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 Apr 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048114)

— 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology for April 1969, as published on hotel25vv.com (Battalion Chronology page): https://hotel25vv.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/1969April-2-5CommandChronology.pdf

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Smith, Charles R. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: High Mobility and Standdown, 1969. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1988.

— “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, April 1969