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

NOVEMBER 1969 — LZ LILY

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for November 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 November 1969
Commander	1stLt H. W. Brookshire Jr. (1–30 November)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol J. T. Bowen); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	LZ Lily, Hill 65, 2/5 field command post in the Arizona, Truong An hamlet
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (42 combat entries)
Base of Operations	LZ Lily
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

H&S Company's entries for November 1969 place it most often at or near LZ Lily (17 of 40 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Hill 65, 2/5 field command post in the Arizona, Truong An hamlet.

H&S Company was commanded by 1stLt H. W. Brookshire Jr. (1–30 November); the battalion by LtCol J. T. Bowen (1–30 November).

For November 1969 this report lists 56 entries (42 combat, 8 movement, 3 civic, 1 medical, 1 organization, 1 logistics): 15 naming H&S or one of its sections (the battalion command post, the 106mm section, S-2, S-5), and 41 battalion-level entries recorded by the battalion headquarters.

On 2 November 1969: Battalion sweep at AT 898547 found a booby trap (homemade ChiCom grenade with a trip device across a trail) — Destroyed in place.

On 4 November 1969: The IOD tower on day watch (AT 879578) spotted 4 VC/NVA at AT 881545, one with a weapon; D Battery fired — 1 VC/NVA KIA; the other 3 ran into a tree line and were fired on.

On 8 November 1969: IOD tower on day watch at AT 879578 spotted 13 VC in black pajamas harvesting rice at AT 843542; D Battery fired 42 rounds — IOD confirmed 9 VC 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	Command group, Foxtrot, Golf moved from Not stated to Landing zone at AT 858579 (AT 858 579) by helicopter.

4. Chronology of H&S Company Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for November 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
November days unstated	MEDCAPs at Nghia Tay and Truong An. [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 14]
1–16 Nov day unstated	Six-hour medevac from Charlie Ridge. [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 9]
2 Nov 11:05	Battalion sweep at AT 898547 found a booby trap (homemade ChiCom grenade with a trip device across a trail) — Destroyed in place [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 19]
4 Nov 09:43	The IOD tower on day watch (AT 879578) spotted 4 VC/NVA at AT 881545, one with a weapon; D Battery fired — 1 VC/NVA KIA; the other 3 ran into a tree line and were fired on [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 24]
8 Nov 13:00	IOD tower on day watch at AT 879578 spotted 13 VC in black pajamas harvesting rice at AT 843542; D Battery fired 42 rounds — IOD confirmed 9 VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 31]
8 Nov	Command group, Foxtrot, Golf, Hotel moved from Not stated to Hill 65 (AT 878 576) by helicopter. Foxtrot and Hotel traded places on 4 November, and on 8 November the command post, Foxtrot and Golf flew back to Hill 65. [C-Nov, PDF p. (From the monthly “by Company” summary, written from the chronology page images.) The narrative: “On 4 November, Fox Company and Hotel Company exchanged positions. On the morning of 8 November, the Command Post, Fox and Golf Companies were

Date	Activity / Events
	helilifted to Hill 65" (PDF p. 6). Date corrected from 4 to 8 November. (From the November 1969 chronology, read 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 6]
9 Nov 09:10	IOD tower saw 11 VC/NVA in civilian clothes, without weapons or packs, moving south in a rice paddy at AT 843545; D Battery fired 2 rounds — Negative results [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 33]
9 Nov 12:00	IOD tower spotted 4 VC at a bunker complex at AT 861543, in mixed clothing with no packs or weapons seen, walking around the area; fire mission with 55 white phosphorus rounds — 4 VC KIA confirmed; 1 bunker destroyed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 33]
11 Nov 15:30	E Battery fired on 6 VC/NVA at AT 890528 — 2 VC/NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 36]
12 Nov 16:30	F Battery fired on 3 VC/NVA at AT 876534 — 1 VC/NVA killed by artillery [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 37]
13 Nov 20:45	The 193rd RF unit (grid typed AT 217555) fired on 2 VC/NVA crossing the river (grid typed AT 211543); Echo called 60mm and 81mm missions — Search negative [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 38]
14 Nov 12:30	D Battery fired on 3 VC/NVA digging bunkers at AT 842546 — 3 VC/NVA killed by artillery [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 39]
15 Nov 02:30	D Battery fired on 2 VC/NVA at AT 873553 — 2 VC/NVA killed by artillery [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 40]
15 Nov 09:00	Vietnamese children turned in 6 ChiCom grenades, 4 cans of 7.62 ammunition and 5 M-79 warheads at the battalion CP (AT 878576) — Children paid 400 piasters each [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 40]
15 Nov 17:00	D Battery fired on 15-20 armed VC/NVA at AT 844533 — 11 VC/NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 40]
After 15 Nov day unstated	Battalion mess reunited at An Hoa. [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 11]
15 Nov	Battalion (forward) elements moved from Hill 65 (AT 878 576) to An Hoa Combat Base (AT 873 473) by truck. The battalion rear and aid station went back to An Hoa (the aid station moved on 15 November). (From the monthly "by Company" summary, written from the chronology page images.) Logistics: "Eight trucks provided on 14 November and 16 trucks provided on 15 November enabled elements of the Battalion (forward) to transfer from Hill 65" to the An Hoa cantonment (PDF pp. 11–12). (From the November 1969 chronology, read 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 3; 2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 11]
16 Nov 07:20	D Battery fired on 6 VC/NVA at AT 872543 — 5 killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 41]
16 Nov 11:35	D Battery fired on bunkers and trenches at AT 879556 — 1 body seen thrown in the air [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 41]
16 Nov 15:45	D Battery fired on 4 VC/NVA with packs and rifles entering a bunker — Unknown [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 41]
16 Nov 16:00	F Battery fired on 20 VC/NVA at AT 835539 — 2 enemy killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 41]

Date	Activity / Events
17 Nov 09:15	D Battery fired on 12 VC/NVA in green uniforms working in a rice field at AT 883532 — 4 enemy killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 43]
17 Nov	Command group, Foxtrot, Golf moved from Not stated to Landing zone at AT 858579 (AT 858 579) by helicopter. On 17 November the command post, Golf and Foxtrot flew into the Arizona, with Company A of 1/5 securing the landing zone and then coming under 2/5. (From the monthly "by Company" summary, written from the chronology page images.) The narrative: "On 17 November the Battalion Command Post, Golf and Fox Companies were helilifted to coordinates AT858579. Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines provided landing zone security" (PDF p. 6). (From the November 1969 chronology, read 18 Nov 2026.) Official history: "Late on 17 November, operations within northern Arizona began anew with the reinsertion of two companies of the 2d Battalion in the guise of resupplying the 1st Battalion." [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 6; U.S. Marines in Vietnam · High Mobility and Standdown, 1969, PDF p. 214]
17 Nov	Command group, Foxtrot moved from Not stated to Reported position (AT 826 537) on foot. That night the command post, Foxtrot and Company A marched to about AT 826537 to search the northwest Arizona (grid squares 8254, 8354, 8454). (From the monthly "by Company" summary, written from the chronology page images.) [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 6]
17 Nov	Foxtrot, Golf moved from Not stated to Reported position (AT 852 547) on foot. On the 18th Foxtrot blocked while Golf, after a night march, swept west into it from AT 852547. (From the monthly "by Company" summary, written from the chronology page images.) [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 6]
18 Nov 08:20	The battalion CP on a sweep at AT 822535 found 8 60mm rounds, 2 ChiCom grenades, 3 M-26 grenades, a bag of rice and 4 packets of medicine — Rounds blown in place; equipment sent to rear [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 44]
18 Nov 10:55	D Battery fired on 5 VC/NVA at AT 865536 — 1 enemy killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 44]
18 Nov 13:00	Company A, 1/5 found 2,200 lb rice in a village at AT 829538 — Captured [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 44]
18 Nov 16:00	D Battery fired on 5 VC/NVA with packs and weapons cooking in a tree line at AT 867555 — 2 VC/NVA killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 45]
18 Nov 16:50	Platoon of Company A, 1/5 apprehended 4 detainees at AT 829538 — 4 detainees [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 44]
18 Nov 17:00	Squad of Company A, 1/5 searching a village at AT 843525 found 2 M-26 grenades and apprehended a Vietnamese — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 44]
18 Nov 19:00	D Battery fired on flashing lights at AT 887519 — Light went out [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 44]
18 Nov 19:45	Squad of Company A, 1/5 moving to an ambush site at AT 829536 met 2 VC/NVA and fired — Search found an NVA pack and a rice container [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 44]
19 Nov 16:00	The battalion CP in its night position at AT 852551 found 100 rounds of AK-47 ammunition — Destroyed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 46]
19 Nov 18:00	The battalion CP in its night position at AT 852549 found an NVA uniform, civilian clothes, a can of personal effects, medical gear and what may have been a rifle storage area made of illumination canisters stuck in the ground — Items found [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 46]

Date	Activity / Events
19 Nov 18:15	D Battery fired on 6 VC/NVA with packs and helmets at AT 879578 — 3 killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 46]
20 Nov 10:10	Two platoons of Company A, 1/5 fired on 2 groups of VC/NVA moving north at AT 867535 — Negative results [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 48]
20 Nov 13:45	Company A, 1/5 moving into a new position at AT 871525 fired on 2 VC/NVA — 1 killed; a bag of rice, an ID card and NVA money captured [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 48]
20 Nov 14:10	The battalion CP in its new position at AT 878526 found 150 lb rice — Captured [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 48]
20 Nov 15:00	D Battery fired on 7 VC/NVA with packs at AT 830537 — 4 killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 48]
20 Nov 15:30	An aerial observer supporting Echo fired on 3 VC/NVA at AT 890523 — 2 killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 48]
20 Nov 16:50	D Battery fired on 7 VC/NVA at AT 827611 — 3 killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 48]
20 Nov 17:15	An aerial observer supporting Foxtrot fired on 4 VC/NVA at AT 845561 — 2 killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 48]
20 Nov 21:00	An ambush by the 117th RF unit at AT 839567 saw 20-25 VC/NVA in a cave at AT 821586 — 3 killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 48]
20 Nov 22:15	D Battery fired on 10 VC/NVA at AT 880543 and flushed out 25-35 more — 20 killed in all [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 49]
20 Nov	2/5 (-) with Foxtrot, Golf and Alfa 1/5 moved from Grid square 8755 (AT 87 55) to Football Island (AT 88 51) (means not stated). The narrative: “On 19 November the Battalion (-) with Fox, Golf and Alfa swept to grid square 8755 and then on the following morning moved to Football Island” (PDF p. 6). Mode not stated. (From the November 1969 chronology, read 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 6]
21 Nov 07:15	Platoon of Company A, 1/5 fired on 2 VC/NVA at AT 883517 — Both killed; an NVA ID card and documents captured [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 50]
21 Nov 17:30	Platoon of Company A, 1/5 dug up 2 VC/NVA killed by small arms — 2 bodies found [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 50]
21 Nov 18:20	The battalion CP in its day position at AT 879526 found 100 lb rice and 50 lb tobacco — Captured [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 50]
22 Nov	Command group moved from Football Island area (AT 88 51) to New command post at AT 845495 (AT 845 495) (means not stated). The narrative: “On 22 November the 2nd Battalion exchanged areas of operations with the 1st Battalion and the Battalion Command Post was established at coordinates AT845495” (PDF p. 6). Mode not stated. (From the November 1969 chronology, read 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 6]
23 Nov 10:00	10 Vietnamese refugees turned themselves in at the battalion CP (AT 844495) and asked to go to Duc Duc — Refugees [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 52]
26 Nov	Command group, Foxtrot, Golf, Hotel moved from Not stated to Not stated on foot. On 26 November the command group, Golf, Foxtrot and Hotel made a night move to grid square 8851. (From the monthly “by Company” summary, written from the chronology page images.) [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 7]

Date	Activity / Events
27 Nov 09:40	15 refugees turned themselves in at the battalion CP (AT 844494) and asked to go to Duc Duc — Refugees [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 55]
27 Nov 10:00	A rallier turned himself in at the battalion CP (AT 844494) — 1 Chieu Hoi [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 55]
28 Nov 21:50	The battalion CP in its night position at AT 845495 took an incoming ChiCom grenade; 81mm illumination and M-79s fired — 1 USMC WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 57]
29 Nov 16:00	An aerial observer supporting Hotel killed 2 VC/NVA at AT 870529 — 2 killed [2/5 ComdC Nov 1969, PDF p. 58]

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 Nov 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048121); U.S. Marines in Vietnam · High Mobility and Standdown, 1969.

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 Nov 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048121)

— U.S. Marines in Vietnam · High Mobility and Standdown, 1969

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