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

FEBRUARY 1970 — LIBERTY BRIDGE

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for February 1970

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	1–28 February 1970
Commander	1stLt R. W. Vaughn (1–28 February)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol F. D. Leder); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Liberty Bridge, An Hoa Combat Base, Phu Nhuan (4)
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (14 combat entries)
Base of Operations	Liberty Bridge
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

H&S Company's entries for February 1970 place it most often at or near Liberty Bridge (2 of 4 entries with a named place or grid), and also at An Hoa Combat Base, Phu Nhuan (4).

H&S Company was commanded by 1stLt R. W. Vaughn (1–28 February); the battalion by LtCol F. D. Leder (1–28 February).

For February 1970 this report lists 81 entries (59 organization, 14 combat, 3 logistics, 3 civic, 1 training, 1 medical): 1 naming H&S or one of its sections (the battalion command post, the 106mm section, S-2, S-5), and 80 battalion-level entries recorded by the battalion headquarters.

On 1 February 1970: The CUPP unit took 2-3 incoming 60mm rounds — 6 WIA evac.

On 1 February 1970: Summary: Liberty Bridge and Phu Lac (6) took incoming 60mm rounds, wounding 9 Marines evacuated and 1 not evacuated; Golf saw 50 VC/NVA and called a fire mission, 24 VC/NVA killed; Echo captured an AK-47.

On 2 February 1970: Summary: enemy sightings of 4 by Echo, 45 by Golf and 7 by Foxtrot, all negative; Echo tripped an 81mm booby trap, 4 wounded evacuated and 2 not; CUPP took incoming ChiComs, 1 Marine wounded not evacuated; Golf reported 1 probable killed.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Operation Durham Peak	20 Jul – 13 Aug 1969	From Regiment: ROK Marines are east of Durham Peak

4. Chronology of H&S Company Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for February 1970 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 Feb 01:32	The CUPP unit took 2-3 incoming 60mm rounds — 6 WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 14]
1 Feb 04:20	CUPP spotted 5 VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 14]
1 Feb 24:00	Summary: Liberty Bridge and Phu Lac (6) took incoming 60mm rounds, wounding 9 Marines evacuated and 1 not evacuated; Golf saw 50 VC/NVA and called a fire mission, 24 VC/NVA killed; Echo captured an AK-47 [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 14]
1–14 Feb days unstated	Defenses on Hill 119 improved. [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 9]
February completed 16 February	New operations center bunker finished; the aid station moves into the old one. [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 9]
2 Feb 12:35	DC 3/4 spotted 6 VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 16]
2 Feb 20:20	CUPP received 2 ChiCom grenades [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 16]
2 Feb 24:00	Summary: enemy sightings of 4 by Echo, 45 by Golf and 7 by Foxtrot, all negative; Echo tripped an 81mm booby trap, 4 wounded evacuated and 2 not; CUPP took incoming ChiComs, 1 Marine wounded not evacuated; Golf reported 1 probable killed [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 14]
3 Feb 13:00	Message to DC3: refugees on Phu Lac (6) [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 18]
3 Feb 22:20	An investigation officer will come to Echo's position between 0900 and 1200 on 4 Feb [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 18]
3 Feb 24:00	Summary: Echo and Foxtrot found four booby traps, of which Foxtrot set off 2, wounding 2 evacuated and 2 not; Echo was hit by friendly artillery: 2 KIA, 5 wounded

Date	Activity / Events
	evacuated and 2 not, all evacuated; Golf spotted 25 VC/NVA during the night [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 18]
4 Feb 24:00	Summary: no enemy sightings; Golf saw smoke from a cook fire [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 20]
5 Feb 10:00	CUPP received 10 AK-47 rounds [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 22]
5 Feb 12:40	Bunker and body that was hit by napalm [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 22]
5 Feb 14:20	Ceasefire instructions from Regiment for the Tet period, sent to all units in the field [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 22]
5 Feb 22:35	From Regiment: ROK Marines are east of Durham Peak [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 22]
5 Feb 24:00	Summary: numerous sightings by Foxtrot (3), Golf (32) and Hotel (5); Golf killed 5 VC/NVA; Echo saw a couple of boats; Tet ceasefire instructions received [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 22]
5 and 18–19 Feb	Driver licensing school and safe-driving class. [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 10]
6 Feb 12:00	Vietnamese children brought in 2 M-26s and other ordnance [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 24]
6 Feb 20:55	Called Regiment 1/4 to request helicopters for the flip-flop on 9 Feb [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 24]
6 Feb 24:00	Summary: sightings scarce except Foxtrot, which met 4 VC/NVA and had 1 friendly casualty; VIP ordnance received: 4 M-79 rounds, 2 M-26s and a ChiCom grenade, all paid for [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 24]
7 Feb 24:00	Summary: Golf saw 14 enemy and Foxtrot 4; Foxtrot had 2 wounded not evacuated; fire missions called, no results [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 26]
8 Feb 07:00	The senior corpsman feels the sick people don't need medevac [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 28]
8 Feb 11:00	Execute company move to Go Noi Island [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 28]
8 Feb 24:00	Summary: Foxtrot and Golf spotted 15 VC/NVA in all; Hotel found 2 booby traps and blew them in place; Hotel provided MedCap security [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 28]
9 Feb 14:45	Message: need emergency resupply [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 30]
9 Feb 24:00	Summary: sightings by Echo 15, Foxtrot 56 and Hotel 10, all with fire missions, negative results; one booby trap and a 250-lb bomb found and destroyed; Hotel received VIP ordnance and children were paid [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 30]
10 Feb 18:15	From MO3 to MOF: your finding of the minefield (booby traps): the Colonel sends his regards [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 32]
10 Feb 24:00	Summary: numerous sightings, Echo 8 and Foxtrot 23; Hotel captured 2 POWs; Foxtrot found a field full of booby traps: 18 M-26s, 2 250-lb bombs, a LAAW and 7 rock mines, all blown in place; Foxtrot tripped one booby trap, 3 wounded (2 evacuated, 1 not); MedCap for 101 Vietnamese [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 32]
11 Feb 24:00	Summary: sightings by Echo 9, Foxtrot 7, Golf 0, Hotel 20; Hotel found and destroyed a booby trap and set off an M-26, 1 Marine wounded evacuated; fire missions called on sightings [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 34]

Date	Activity / Events
12 Feb 09:00	A gunship delivered ordnance — 3 VC/NVA killed [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 36]
12 Feb 24:00	Summary: VC/NVA spotted by Echo 16 (11 killed), Foxtrot 16, Golf 5 and Hotel 6; Foxtrot had 2 trip flares go off and Hotel tripped an M-26 daisy chain; a gunship killed 3 VC/NVA on a mission Golf called; Hotel tripped another booby trap, killing 3 and wounding 2; Golf and Hotel took heavy small-arms fire; Hotel saw VC/NVA along the river [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 38]
13 Feb 24:00	Summary: Echo spotted 19 VC/NVA and killed 2; Foxtrot spotted 19 and detained 30 Vietnamese; Echo and Foxtrot found fresh trenches and graves; fire missions called on sightings; VIP ordnance bought, 4,000 piasters paid [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 40]
14 Feb 24:00	Summary: 30 VC/NVA spotted, fire missions called; Echo found 350 lb of rice and 3 bunkers; Foxtrot had two trip flares go off; Hotel received VIP ordnance; Hotel set off 2 105mm rounds, 1 killed and 2 wounded [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 44]
15 Feb 24:00	Summary: 21 VC/NVA sighted and 7 killed; Foxtrot had 4 casualties from a 60mm booby trap in a trash pit; Golf had 3 casualties from a 60mm booby trap; Foxtrot found 3 105mm booby traps and blew them in place [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 46]
16 Feb 24:00	Summary: 28 VC/NVA sighted; Golf's G3 captured 1 POW; Foxtrot found food caches and took heavy enemy fire; Golf tripped a 60mm booby trap, 3 friendly casualties; fire missions called on all sightings [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 48]
17 Feb 24:00	Summary: 12 VC/NVA seen, 9 reported killed and 2 wounded, all by supporting arms; Hotel found and destroyed an M-26 booby trap; Hotel received a Vietnamese child wounded by a booby trap [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 52]
18 Feb 10:15	Message: flip-flop of the companies [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 54]
18 Feb 16:00	Interim report follow-up: a Vietnamese national was killed by friendly fire [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 54]
18 Feb 17:45	Follow-up to spot report 181400H: 1 KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 54]
18 Feb 24:00	Summary: about 90 VC/NVA seen and 35 reported killed; message sent to Echo and Hotel for the companies' flip-flop; a Vietnamese national was killed by friendly fire; Hotel received VIP ordnance and took 2 RPG rounds and small-arms fire; no friendly casualties [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 54]
19 Feb 08:10	Message on POWs and detainees [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 56]
19 Feb 24:00	Summary: about 8 VC/NVA seen; killed: Echo 9, Foxtrot 2; Hotel was taken to a 250-lb bomb booby trap and it was blown in place; Foxtrot took 25 rounds of AK fire; no friendly casualties [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 56]
20 Feb 19:00	Message to H3B concerning OPCON to 1st Recon Bn [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 58]
20 Feb 19:35	Message to check out a 250-lb bomb [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 58]
20 Feb 24:00	Summary: 7 VC/NVA seen and 4 killed; Foxtrot found an M-26 booby trap and blew it, and found the 250-lb bomb a child reported the day before; Foxtrot set off an M-26 booby trap, 1 killed and 3 wounded; all sightings had fire missions [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 58]

Date	Activity / Events
21 Feb 12:00	5 dump trucks returned to An Hoa because they had no offensive weapons [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 62]
21 Feb 19:00	Message about a Kingfisher operation [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 62]
21 Feb 24:00	Summary: 11 VC/NVA spotted, none reported killed; RFs and PFs detained 5 Vietnamese who gave food to VC/NVA and took small-arms fire during the action [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 62]
22 Feb 09:45	Late entry: light status on Liberty Bridge [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 64]
22 Feb 16:30	Message: Kingfisher operation scheduled [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 64]
22 Feb 17:40	Message: actual and squad leader were casualties from an explosive [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 64]
22 Feb 22:20	Message to S-2: reinforce companies in the area [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 64]
22 Feb 22:20	Message to S-2: spotted 1 VC with a mortar [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 64]
22 Feb 24:00	Summary: 39 VC/NVA spotted, 9 reported killed; a Vietnamese woman tripped a 60mm booby trap, and one unit took AK fire twice during the day [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 64]
23 Feb 11:45	Notified regiment that the Kingfisher operation ended — It resulted in 2 VC/NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 68]
23 Feb 21:30	Request for a Vietnamese-run laundry and barber shop [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 68]
23 Feb 24:00	Summary: 26 VC/NVA spotted, none reported killed; Foxtrot found and destroyed an 81mm booby trap; Golf reported 1 VC/NVA killed and Hotel found and destroyed 3 boats; 2 enemy killed in the Kingfisher operation [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 68]
24 Feb 15:00	Called West Orange (Hill 119) about troops coming to the position [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 70]
24 Feb 24:00	Summary: 2 VC/NVA spotted, none killed; Foxtrot found and destroyed an M-26 booby trap and had one casualty from a command-detonated 105mm round; Echo found 500 lb of unhusked rice; children brought in 2 shaped-charge mines [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 70]
25 Feb 11:50	Message to Regiment: objectives being prepped by fire [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 72]
25 Feb 12:00	Kicked off the operation at 1200 [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 72]
25 Feb 14:40	RFs in heavy contact at AT 926494 [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 72]
25 Feb 15:30	The 21st ARVN tripped an unknown booby trap — 2 WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 72]
25 Feb 24:00	Summary: 8 VC/NVA spotted, one reported killed; about 500 RFs (6 companies) on a sweep through the eastern AO boundary [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 72]

Date	Activity / Events
26 Feb 11:30	The 21st ARVN Battalion took small-arms fire [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 74]
26 Feb 13:15	The 21st ARVN Battalion completed its sweep [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 74]
26 Feb 13:30	The 23rd RFs took fire — 2 wounded [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 74]
26 Feb 16:45	The 23rd ARVN Battalion made contact with 1 platoon of VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 74]
26 Feb 24:00	Summary: 16 VC/NVA spotted and 2 reported killed; Foxtrot's F1B set off an M-26 with no casualties; the 21st ARVN Battalion took heavy fire and saw numerous VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 74]
27 Feb 11:10	Vietnamese refugees at Phu Loc (6) [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 76]
27 Feb 13:10	The ARVN tripped a booby trap — 2 KIA, 2 WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 76]
27 Feb 15:00	Hotel: be prepared to flip-flop [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 76]
27 Feb 18:20	S-2B received VIP ordnance [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 78]
27 Feb 24:00	Summary: 1 VC/NVA spotted, none killed; Hotel's H1 provided security for a downed Cobra; VIP ordnance turned in to S-2 and children paid in piasters [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 76]
28 Feb 09:20	Submit a patrol route [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 78]
28 Feb 10:45	The 23rd ARVN Battalion took sniper fire [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 78]
28 Feb 13:20	RFs tripped a booby trap — 1 wounded evac [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 78]
28 Feb 16:00	RFs are now at Phu Loc (6) [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 78]
28 Feb 18:25	Have installed 3 USDs [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 78]
28 Feb 24:00	Summary: no enemy sightings and none killed; the RF operation secured at 1655 [2/5 ComdC Feb 1970, PDF p. 78]

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 Feb 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048124).

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 Feb 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048124)

— 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology for February 1970, as published on hotel25vv.com (Battalion Chronology page): https://hotel25vv.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/1970February-2-5CommandChronology.pdf

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Cosmas, Graham A. and Terrence P. Murray. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: Vietnamization and Redeployment, 1970–1971. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1986.

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