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

APRIL 1970 — LIBERTY BRIDGE

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for April 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	1–30 April 1970
Commander	Capt D. O. Ford (1–30 April)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol F. D. Leder); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Liberty Bridge, An Hoa Combat Base
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (26 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 April 1970 place it most often at or near Liberty Bridge (4 of 6 entries with a named place or grid), and also at An Hoa Combat Base.

H&S Company was commanded by Capt D. O. Ford (1–30 April); the battalion by LtCol F. D. Leder (1–30 April).

For April 1970 this report lists 88 entries (55 organization, 26 combat, 2 logistics, 2 medical, 1 civic, 1 training, 1 movement): 4 naming H&S or one of its sections (the battalion command post, the 106mm section, S-2, S-5), and 84 battalion-level entries recorded by the battalion headquarters.

On 1 April 1970: Summary: 20 VC/NVA seen and 7 detained; dogs working with Foxtrot and Hotel found booby traps on patrol; fire missions called on sightings.

On 2 April 1970: Summary: 1 VC/NVA seen and 1 detained; 37 bunkers destroyed by Echo with tanks, with 500 lb of rice, potatoes and turnips; 4 booby traps encountered and 2 set off, 3 wounded; Delta sector took incoming and went on 100 percent alert.

On 4 April 1970: Summary: 32 VC/NVA seen; Hotel captured 21 POWs, an AK-47, a 60mm tube, an M-16, 2 M-26 grenades, 5 ChiCom grenades, 3 B-40 rounds and clothing; 2 booby traps found and destroyed; Phu Loc (6) took enemy fire.

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	3/51 (ARVN) will depart the Arizona

4. Chronology of H&S Company Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for April 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 Apr 23:00	All companies notified of An Hoa getting hit [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 13]
1 Apr 24:00	Summary: 20 VC/NVA seen and 7 detained; dogs working with Foxtrot and Hotel found booby traps on patrol; fire missions called on sightings [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 13]
April day unstated	Mail room moves to a new building. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 1]
April day unstated	New 100-kW generator and grease trap at An Hoa. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 1]
2 Apr 04:05	Delta sector received incoming; 2/5 on 100 percent [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 15]
2 Apr 09:35	2/5 receiving incoming rounds [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 15]
2 Apr 24:00	Summary: 1 VC/NVA seen and 1 detained; 37 bunkers destroyed by Echo with tanks, with 500 lb of rice, potatoes and turnips; 4 booby traps encountered and 2 set off, 3 wounded; Delta sector took incoming and went on 100 percent alert [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 15]

Date	Activity / Events
3 Apr 09:45	Two Vietnamese told the road guard where a 60mm round was [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 19]
3 Apr 21:00	Phu Loc (6) received incoming [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 19]
3 Apr 24:00	Summary: 2 VC/NVA seen and 3 detained; 3 Chieu Hois came to Foxtrot with magazines and an AK-47; Hotel detained a Vietnamese boy with a homemade .30-cal pistol; Phu Loc (6) and the Hotel CP took incoming; artillery missions called [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 19]
4 Apr 24:00	Summary: 32 VC/NVA seen; Hotel captured 21 POWs, an AK-47, a 60mm tube, an M-16, 2 M-26 grenades, 5 ChiCom grenades, 3 B-40 rounds and clothing; 2 booby traps found and destroyed; Phu Loc (6) took enemy fire [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 21]
5 Apr 14:30	Assume OPCON of Bravo 1/5 — 051000 [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 23]
5 Apr 24:00	Summary: no VC/NVA seen; Hotel's H3 found 1 dead VC/NVA, enemy equipment, food caches and an SKS; Bravo 1/5 came under 2/5 at 051000H; Hotel's H2 with tanks found 150 lb of rice; Foxtrot's F3B found and destroyed an M-26 booby trap [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 23]
6 Apr 14:25	Informed GR3A that Bravo had landed [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 25]
6 Apr 19:10	Bravo spotted 4 VC/NVA and fired small arms [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 25]
6 Apr 24:00	Summary: 7 VC/NVA spotted; Hotel's H2C took small-arms fire, 1 casualty; Echo's E3 with tanks found food caches; Hotel CP sent in a VIP ordnance report [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 25]
7 Apr 14:00	Bravo stepped in a punji pit — 1 WIA non-evac [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 27]
7 Apr 14:30	Bravo made contact with 4 VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 27]
7 Apr 14:30	Bravo found and destroyed an M-26 booby trap [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 27]
7 Apr 14:50	A Bravo member tripped a dud booby trap [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 27]
7 Apr 17:00	Bravo's 1J spotted 1 VC/NVA and fired small arms [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 27]
7 Apr 24:00	Summary: 15 VC/NVA seen and 7 reported killed; three booby traps encountered, none causing friendly casualties [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 27]
8 Apr 16:10	Bravo tripped an M-26 mine delay booby trap — 2 WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 29]
8 Apr 20:55	H&S message on VIP ordnance [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 29]
8 Apr 24:00	Summary: 70 VC/NVA seen, none reported killed; 7 booby traps encountered and 4 set off, 3 killed and 4 wounded; 4 detainees; Hotel received VIP ordnance; Golf saw an engineer grader kill a Vietnamese woman [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 29]
8–9 Apr	Drug-abuse lectures by the Division Inspector’s corpsman. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 1]
9 Apr 00:25	3/51 (ARVN) will depart the Arizona [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 33]
9 Apr 11:20	Bravo had one heat casualty [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 33]
9 Apr 12:35	Bravo had 2 heat casualties [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 33]
9 Apr 18:30	Delta received intense enemy fire [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 33]
9 Apr 18:55	One platoon of Delta 1/5 OPCON to 2/5 [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 33]

Date	Activity / Events
9 Apr 19:10	Bravo received sniper fire and returned fire [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 33]
9 Apr 19:15	Bravo received small-arms fire [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 33]
9 Apr 24:00	Summary: 6 VC/NVA seen and 4 reported killed; Bravo had 3 heat casualties and Golf tripped a booby trap, 1 wounded; Hotel found 150 lb of rice; Delta 1/5 passed to 2/5; intense enemy fire was reported and fire missions called [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 33]
10 Apr 09:30	Bravo found 2 dead Vietnamese suspects in a grave [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 37]
10 Apr 12:20	Bravo detained 3 Vietnamese [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 37]
10 Apr 16:25	Pass OPCON (Delta) back to 1/5 [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 37]
10 Apr 17:05	Recon insert Penny Wise has been extracted [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 37]
10 Apr 24:00	Summary: 21 VC/NVA seen and 5 reported killed; 2 found in a grave; Delta passed back to 1/5 and the Recon insert Penny Wise was extracted; Phu Loc (6) took 82mm rounds [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 37]
11 Apr 16:15	Bravo destroyed a downed helicopter except the tail end [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 41]
11 Apr 24:00	Summary: 12 VC/NVA seen and 3 reported killed; Hotel had 7 wounded not evacuated; Golf received a casualty from a booby trap, 1 wounded not evacuated [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 41]
12 Apr 13:00	Bravo was told of 2 VC/NVA in a treeline [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 43]
12 Apr 13:00	Bravo called a fire mission on 3 VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 43]
12 Apr 24:00	Summary: 8 VC/NVA seen, none reported killed; 2 detained and 800 lb of rice found by Golf; a booby trap found by a dog working with Foxtrot; Golf also found 3 bunker complexes and a converted mortar pit [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 43]
13 Apr 21:10	Bravo spotted 5 VC/NVA — 1 killed [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 45]
13 Apr 24:00	Summary: 5 VC/NVA seen and 1 killed; 1 POW and 1 detainee; Echo had 4 wounded evacuated; Foxtrot found 8,700 lb of food including rice, potatoes and corn; two bunkers found by Echo with tanks [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 45]
14 Apr 09:50	Bravo's B2H tripped a booby trap — 3 WIA evac, 1 WIA non-evac [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 47]
14 Apr 16:05	RFs set in at Liberty Bridge [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 47]
14 Apr 21:45	Bravo's B1H spotted an unknown force of enemy [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 47]
14 Apr 24:00	Summary: 14 VC/NVA reported, none killed; 6 booby traps encountered and 2 set off, 5 casualties (1 killed and 4 wounded); Bravo saw an unknown enemy force and RFs set in at Liberty Bridge; Liberty Bridge took incoming, 1 Marine and 7 RFs wounded [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 47]
15 Apr 10:15	Gunship killed 12 VC/NVA in an air strike [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 49]
15 Apr 16:40	Bravo killed 2 VC/NVA (nurses) [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 49]
15 Apr 19:00	Bravo spotted 3 VC/NVA and called a gunship [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 49]
15 Apr 21:45	Follow-up: Bravo's search found a blood trail [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 49]

Date	Activity / Events
15 Apr 24:00	Summary: 32 VC/NVA seen and 3 reported killed; three booby traps encountered and 1 set off, 1 wounded not evacuated; 2 detained; Hotel found 150 lb of rice, documents and NVA money; Phu Loc (6) took incoming with no casualties [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 49]
16 Apr 18:45	A tank hit a mine but it did not explode [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 39]
16 Apr 24:00	Summary: 1 detained; 6 booby traps encountered and 3 set off, 1 wounded evacuated; 3 non-battle and 1 non-battle evac; 200 lb of rice; Foxtrot company began a night move [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 39]
16 Apr	Foxtrot, Hotel and a battalion command group moved from Not stated to The Arizona Territory (means not stated). “From 16-20 April, Companies F and H and a battalion command group, supported by an RF platoon from Duc Duc District and four Marine tanks, conducted a search and clear operation in the Arizona area.” (From the official history; the 2/5 chronology has no separate entry for this move.) [U.S. Marines in Vietnam · Vietnamization and Redeployment, 1, PDF p. 58]
17 Apr 20:50	Report on a VC/NVA minefield [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 53]
17 Apr 24:00	Summary: 5 VC/NVA seen, none killed; 6 detained; Echo had 1 killed by a 105mm booby trap; Foxtrot with RFs captured about 5,000 lb of rice, corn and potatoes; message sent to all companies about a restricted area believed to be a VC/NVA minefield [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 53]
18 Apr 15:15	Message on Lt. Murray [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 55]
18 Apr 24:00	Summary: no sightings; two booby traps encountered and one caused 4 wounded evacuated [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 55]
19 Apr 24:00	Summary: 35 detained and 4 booby traps encountered, 1 set off, 1 wounded evacuated; the CP on the move took incoming mortars and returned fire with tanks [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 57]
20 Apr 10:00	The CP group killed 3 VC/NVA and detained 21 [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 59]
20 Apr 10:00	Tanks with the CP spotted 8 and killed 3 VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 59]
20 Apr 24:00	Summary: 18 VC/NVA spotted and 9 reported killed; 12 booby traps encountered and 1 set off by Hotel, 2 wounded evacuated; Hotel captured an SKS and an AK-47 with documents [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 59]
21 Apr 20:37	AO extension for the 7th Marines granted [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 61]
21 Apr 24:00	Summary: 19 VC/NVA seen and 1 detained; AO extension granted to the 7th Marines; intelligence reports sent to all companies [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 61]
22 Apr 24:00	Summary: 24 VC/NVA spotted, none reported killed; 7 booby traps encountered and 5 set off, 8 wounded and 1 killed; Hotel had 1 non-battle from an accidental discharge; Foxtrot captured 1 POW with an AK-47, a 16-year-old male; 4 detained [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 63]
23 Apr 24:00	Summary: 2 VC/NVA seen and 1 killed; 3 booby traps encountered and set off, 6 wounded; Hotel took sniper fire, 1 wounded not evacuated; Foxtrot received a 1-lb bomb (as written) and Golf found 75 lb of rice and destroyed 3 bunkers [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 67]
24 Apr 21:55	The CP received 10 rounds of AK fire — 100 percent on the lines [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 69]

Date	Activity / Events
24 Apr 24:00	Summary: 1 VC/NVA seen and 6 reported killed; friendly casualties were 2, from Echo and Golf firing on each other; the 2/5 CP took 10 rounds of AK fire and the lines went to 100 percent alert [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 69]
25 Apr 10:30	RFs found a former ARVN, now VC, and detained him [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 71]
25 Apr 15:30	AO extension for the 7th Marines approved [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 71]
25 Apr 24:00	Summary: 1 VC/NVA seen and 1 detained, caught by RFs at Liberty Bridge; one booby trap set off by Foxtrot, 3 wounded; Echo's E3 with tanks found 300 lb of rice and potatoes [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 71]
25–29 Apr	Only rain of the month, 1.47 inches, delays planned operations. [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 1]
26 Apr 09:10	The MO CP received friendly fire from artillery [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 73]
26 Apr 24:00	Summary: 14 VC/NVA seen and 7 reported killed; 2 detained; 1 friendly casualty from a firefight; Foxtrot's F1C found 3 SKSs and Echo's E3 with tanks found 50 lb of rice, corn and salt [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 73]
27 Apr 15:45	H&S 2/5 detained a suspected VC [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 75]
27 Apr 24:00	Summary: 21 VC/NVA seen and Hotel found 1 killed by air; three detainees; Echo took incoming mortar rounds; fire support called [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 75]
28 Apr 24:00	Summary: 31 VC/NVA seen and 5 detained; 2 friendly casualties from a firefight; Hotel's H3 CP received friendly incoming artillery and Golf CP fired on brush in the river and got a secondary explosion [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 77]
29 Apr 11:20	The entire company will stay at Liberty Bridge [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 81]
29 Apr 12:07	A Vietnamese woman is to be on the resupply bird [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 81]
29 Apr 15:30	Message on rice gatherers [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 81]
29 Apr 24:00	Summary: 8 VC/NVA spotted, none killed; Hotel's H1B found 500 lb of rice and released 5 detainees; Hotel's H3 CP took AK fire; no booby traps reported [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 81]
30 Apr 13:25	From 5th Marines COC: AO extension requested [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 83]
30 Apr 14:40	Enemy sightings from the 5th Marines COC [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 83]
30 Apr 24:00	Summary: 4 VC/NVA seen, none reported killed; AO extension requested from Regiment to fulfill Frag O 15-70 [2/5 ComdC Apr 1970, PDF p. 83]

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 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048126); U.S. Marines in Vietnam · Vietnamization and Redeployment, 1970–1971.

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 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048126)

— U.S. Marines in Vietnam · Vietnamization and Redeployment, 1970–1971

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

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 1970