H COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

JUNE 1967 — OPERATION ARIZONA

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for June 1967

1st Marine Division · III Marine Amphibious Force · I Corps, Republic of Vietnam

1. Unit Overview

Unit Designation	Hotel Company (H Co), 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division
Reporting Period	1–30 June 1967
Commander	Captain R. W. Layer Jr., 1–21 June 1967; Captain J. H. Cowman, 22–30 June 1967
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol Mallett C. Jackson Jr.); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division; under the 7th Marines for Operation Arizona
Area of Operations	2/5 An Hoa TAOR, Quang Nam Province — the An Hoa basin, Liberty Road, Phu Loc (6) and Nong Son; the valley south of Alligator Lake; the Song Thu Bon crossing sites (Operation Arizona)
Combat Posture	Offensive — company search and destroy, then Operation Arizona under the 7th Marines
Base of Operations	An Hoa Combat Base
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

June 1967 began with Hotel Company on a four-day search and destroy operation in the valley system south of Alligator Lake (vicinity AT 952452), from which it returned to An Hoa on 11 June after what the battalion called “a highly successful operation.” That night the An Hoa Combat Base and the Duc Duc district headquarters came under attack.

On the night of 13 June Hotel Company left An Hoa a platoon at a time to occupy regimental blocking positions 13, 14 and 15 on the east bank of the Song Thu Bon for Operation Arizona, the 7th Marines' sweep of the Arizona Territory. It then moved along the bank to the crossing site with Company E following, and in the attack that followed Company H seized Battalion Objectives 2, 3 and 5 on the right flank with gun and flame tanks in support. Contact was light; the company made one emergency and one priority medical evacuation, seven Marines in all, and needed two resupply runs.

After Arizona, at first light on 20 June, Hotel Company crossed the Song Thu Bon by amphibian tractor to search the area of the previous night's artillery and air strikes. The battalion's other operation that

month, Calhoun (25–29 June), was fought by Companies F and G. On 22 June Captain J. H. Cowman relieved Captain R. W. Layer, who moved to the battalion S-3 section.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Search and destroy south of Alligator Lake	8–11 June 1967	A four-day company operation in the valley system south of Alligator Lake (AT 952452); the company returned to An Hoa on 11 June.
Operation Arizona	140800H – 181915H June 1967 (2/5 participation)	H COMPANY PARTICIPATED. A 7th Marines operation. 2/5 (-)(Rein) with Company E, Company H (Capt R. W. Layer Jr.), a provisional H&S platoon, amtracs, Ontos and tanks. Company H took the regimental blocking positions on the Song Thu Bon and then seized Battalion Objectives 2, 3 and 5. Light contact.
Strike-area reconnaissance	20 June 1967	Company H crossed the Song Thu Bon by amtrac at first light to search the area of the artillery and air strikes.
Operation Calhoun	250600H – 291900H June 1967	H COMPANY DID NOT PARTICIPATE. Companies F and G attacked into Base Area 116; Company E took over Nong Son on 23 June. See Operation_Calhoun.docx.

4. Chronology of Company H Activities

Compiled from the narrative summary and the chronological sequence of events in the 2/5 command chronology for June 1967. Only entries naming Company H, or bearing directly on it, are listed. Grid references and times are as recorded.

Date	Activity / Events
8–11 Jun	Company H's four-day search and destroy operation in the valley system south of Alligator Lake (AT 952452). The company returned to An Hoa Combat Base on 11 June.
11 Jun	On the night of 11 June the An Hoa Combat Base and Duc Duc were attacked.
13 Jun	At 131900H, D-1 for Arizona, Company H (Rein) left An Hoa a platoon at a time to occupy regimental blocking positions 13, 14 and 15 along the south-east bank of the Song Thu Bon.
14–16 Jun	Company H moved along the bank to the crossing site with Company E following, and attacked on the right flank to Phase Line Rock (AT 870523–AT 906538), where night defensive positions were set. The battalion continued toward Phase Line Blue with

Date	Activity / Events
	Company H on the right and Company E on the left, four gun tanks and two flame tanks in support.
16–18 Jun	Company H seized and secured Battalion Objectives 2 (AT 894544) and 3 (AT 898555) and continued to Objective 5 (AT 882550). The command group and provisional platoon followed in trace. Two resupply runs and one emergency and one priority medical evacuation (seven Marines). 2/5's part in Arizona ended at 181915H.
20 Jun	At first light Company H crossed the Song Thu Bon on amtracs and searched the area of the night's artillery and air strikes.
22 Jun	Captain J. H. Cowman relieved Captain R. W. Layer as commanding officer of Company H; Captain Layer joined the battalion S-3 section.
25–30 Jun	Operation Calhoun by Companies F and G; Hotel Company in the An Hoa TAOR.

5. Notes and Caveats

This file was rewritten on 21 September 2026 directly from the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines command chronology. The notes below record what changed and where the record is thin.

1. SOURCE. The 2/5 command chronology for June 1967 (Texas Tech item 1201048089), including the Combat After Action Reports for Arizona and Calhoun.

2. OPERATION UNION II REMOVED. The earlier version had Hotel Company finishing Union II on 1–5 June. It was not in Union II. See Operation_Union_II.docx.

3. OPERATION ARIZONA ADDED. The old file described “post-Union II patrolling” instead. Arizona was the month's principal Hotel Company operation. See Operation_Arizona.docx.

4. CHANGE OF COMMAND. The June organisational data lists Captain R. W. Layer for 1–21 June and Captain J. H. Cowman for 22–30 June 1967.

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

— 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology for June 1967 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048089).

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.

— “Hotel Company.” Hotel 2/5 Combat Marines. https://hotel25vv.com/hotel-company

— Related files in this collection: Operation_Arizona.docx, Operation_Calhoun.docx, Operation_Union_II.docx.

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. | Hotel Company, 2/5 Marines, June 1967