H COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

JUNE 1968 — PHU GIA

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for June 1968

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 1968
Commander	Captain G. D. Hendrickson, 1–11 and 26–30 June 1968; 1st Lieutenant T. A. Keene, 12–25 June 1968
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol Ernest C. Cheatham Jr.); 5th Marines; Task Force X-Ray, 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Thua Thien Province south of Hue — Phu Bai, the Truoi River bridge, Cao Doi, the Rock Crusher, Phu Gia and Route 1
Combat Posture	Security — Operation Houston: Route 1, bridges and outposts
Base of Operations	Phu Gia (battalion CP)
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

June 1968 is one of the thinnest months in the series: the battalion's chronology is a 13-page file with no dated company entries. It records the battalion at Phu Gia for the whole month, still on the second phase of Operation Houston — securing Route 1 with ambushes, patrols and outposts in the southern half of the regimental area.

Hotel Company changed hands twice. Captain G. D. Hendrickson commanded from 1 to 11 June and again from 26 June; 1st Lieutenant T. A. Keene had the company from 12 to 25 June.

The support sections recorded engineer ground-clearing at the Lang Co bridge for new defensive positions, and the forward command post building up its stocks so that the companies along the road could be resupplied more quickly.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Operation Houston (second phase)	June 1968	H COMPANY PARTICIPATED. Route 1 security from Phu Gia; no company-level detail in the chronology.

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 1968. Only entries naming Company H, or bearing directly on it, are listed. Grid references and times are as recorded.

Date	Activity / Events
1–11 Jun	Captain G. D. Hendrickson commanding; Route 1 security.
12–25 Jun	1st Lieutenant T. A. Keene commanding Company H.
26–30 Jun	Captain Hendrickson in command again. Engineer work at the Lang Co bridge for new defensive positions.

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 1968 (Texas Tech item 1201048104), 13 pages.

2. HAPPY VALLEY REMOVED. The earlier version described “Happy Valley base area destruction” on Mameluke Thrust in June. The battalion was at Phu Gia in Thua Thien Province.

3. COMMANDERS NAMED. The old file said the commander was not confirmed. The June data lists Capt Hendrickson (1–11 and 26–30 June) and 1stLt Keene (12–25 June).

4. THIN RECORD. Nothing has been invented to fill this month.

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 1968 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048104).

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Shulimson, Jack, et al. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: The Defining Year, 1968. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1997.

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

— Related files in this collection: Operation_Houston.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 1968