OPERATION PRAIRIE II

2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

1st Marine Division | Republic of Vietnam | 1 February – 18 March 1967

FIELD	DETAIL
Operation Name	Operation Prairie II
Dates of Operation	1 February – 18 March 1967
Mission Purpose / Objective	Continue offensive operations to eliminate PAVN forces south of the DMZ following Prairie I. Maintain pressure on PAVN 324B Division and prevent reconsolidation of enemy forces in Leatherneck Square area.
Locations / Cities	Prairie II: Quang Tri Province; Con Thien; Gio Linh; DMZ southern buffer zone; Leatherneck Square. Company H, 2/5 at the same time: An Hoa Combat Base and the Thu Bon River valley, Quang Nam Province.
TAOR	Prairie II: northern I Corps, Quang Tri Province; DMZ area; Leatherneck Square. Company H, 2/5: 2/5 An Hoa TAOR, Quang Nam Province.
UTM Coordinates	Company H raid on Giang Hoa (2), March 1967: AT 890520 (An Hoa area, Quang Nam Province). No Company H grid references fall inside the Prairie II area.
USMC Units Involved	Prairie II was a 3d Marine Division operation in Quang Tri Province. 2/5 had left the DMZ in November 1966 and was under 1st Marine Division control at An Hoa, Quang Nam Province, throughout this period.
2/5 Companies Participated	None – no 2/5 company took part in this operation.
Mission Results	Company H was at An Hoa, about 280 km south, not in this operation. During these dates 2/5 fought Operation Independence (1–9 Feb 1967) and Operation Lanoke (late Feb), and conducted Operation New Castle, County Fair and river raids in March; Company H made an amphibious raid with tanks and LVTP-5s from An Hoa on Giang Hoa (2), AT 890520. Operation as a whole (3d Marine Division): Continued attrition of PAVN forces. Marines maintained forward positions at Con Thien and Gio Linh under heavy artillery fire. Enemy infiltration continued despite Marine operations. Confirmed ongoing PAVN presence and determination to contest northern I Corps.
USMC KIA	Whole operation: 93 (all USMC forces).
USMC Wounded	Whole operation: 483 (all USMC forces).
Enemy KIA	Whole operation: 694
Enemy Wounded	Unknown

NOTES & SOURCE REFERENCES

CORRECTION: H COMPANY DID NOT PARTICIPATE. This file previously stated that H/2/5 “continued rotation through DMZ operational area.” That is wrong. 2/5’s only service on the DMZ was in Operation Prairie (Prairie I), 30 September – 23 November 1966. The February and March 1967 command chronologies place the battalion at An Hoa for both months. Sources: 2/5 Command Chronologies, January–May 1967 (Texas Tech Vietnam Archive items 1201048076, 079, 081, 083 and 086), each of which gives the battalion's location as An Hoa, RVN for the whole month; Gary L. Telfer, Lane Rogers and V. Keith Fleming, Jr., U.S. Marines in Vietnam: Fighting the North

Vietnamese, 1967 (HQMC, 1984), p. 79; hotel25vv.com. 2/5 COMPANIES THAT DID NOT TAKE PART: Company E, Company F, Company G, Company H, H&S Company.

Primary sources: 2/5 Command Chronologies, 1967 (Texas Tech Vietnam Archive; originals at National Archives, RG 127); Marine Corps History Division; hotel25vv.com. For full records contact: National Archives II, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park MD 20740 or Marine Corps History Division, Quantico VA 22134.