E COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

SEPTEMBER 1966 — HILL 69 (BATTALION CP, CHU LAI)

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for September 1966

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

1. Unit Overview

Unit Designation	Echo Company (E Co), 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division
Reporting Period	1–30 September 1966
Commander	not named in the monthly organisation data
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol W. Moore); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai)
Combat Posture	Security, movement and support (no combat entry recorded)
Base of Operations	Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai)
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

The battalion’s entries for September 1966 place it most often at or near Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai) (3 of 3 entries with a named place or grid).

The monthly organisation data does not name the commander of Company E for September 1966; the battalion was commanded by LtCol W. Moore (to 30 September).

No entry in the September 1966 record names Company E by itself. The 3 battalion entries listed below applied to the whole battalion, Company E included.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai) operations	September 1966	No named operation appears in this month's entries for the company; activities are listed in the chronology below.

4. Chronology of Company E Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for September 1966 in the hotel25vv research database. No entry names Company E; the battalion-wide entries are listed. Times and grid references are as recorded; each entry ends with its source page.

Date	Activity / Events
September days unstated	The battalion stayed in the Chu Lai TAOR at Hill 69 until the move north (no September chronology). [An Expanding War, PDF p. 211]
29 Sep	"On 29 September 1966, the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines were alerted for deployment to Dong Ha." The battalion (-), with Companies F, G and H and the command group, began leaving Hill 69 the next day. (Chronological sequence of events, Oct 1966 chronology, PDF p. 8.) [2/5 ComdC Oct 1966, PDF p. 8]
30 Sep 11:30–23:30	2/5 (-): Foxtrot, Golf and the battalion command group moved from Hill 69 (BT 464 072) to Dong Ha airfield (via the Chu Lai Airbase) (YD 243 597) by fixed-wing aircraft. Left Hill 69 for the Chu Lai airfield at 1130; the last elements flew out at 2245 and arrived at Dong Ha at 2330. Echo stayed at Chu Lai under 3/5. The official history dates the arrival 30 September – 1 October. Airfield grids from Kindred, Location of Bases in Vietnam. [2/5 ComdC Oct 1966, PDF p. 8; 2/5 ComdC Oct 1966, PDF p. 54]

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 U.S. Marines in Vietnam · An Expanding War, 1966; 2/5 Command Chronology Oct 1966 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048074); Bill Kindred, Location of Bases in Vietnam (list of bases, airfields and landing zones with grids).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. No entry names Company E; the chronology lists the battalion-wide entries instead.

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. No commander of Company E is named for this month.

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

— U.S. Marines in Vietnam · An Expanding War, 1966

— 2/5 Command Chronology Oct 1966 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048074)

— Bill Kindred, Location of Bases in Vietnam (list of bases, airfields and landing zones with grids)

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Shulimson, Jack and Charles M. Johnson. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: An Expanding War, 1966. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1982.

— “Echo Company.” Hotel 2/5 Combat Marines. https://hotel25vv.com

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. | Echo Company, 2/5 Marines, September 1966