OPERATION BALLISTIC CHARGE

2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

1st Marine Division | Republic of Vietnam | 16–22 September 1967

FIELD	DETAIL
Operation Name	Operation Ballistic Charge
Dates of Operation	16–22 September 1967 (Telfer). Company E, 2/5 was placed under the 1st Marines for the operation on 15 September 1967.
Mission Purpose / Objective	Search and destroy: a simultaneous heliborne and surface assault of an objective area, a rapid sweep north, then a detailed search-and-destroy sweep south along the track of the first move.
Locations / Cities	An objective area about four miles south-east of Dai Loc, Quang Nam Province.
TAOR	1st Marines area south of Da Nang, Quang Nam Province, I Corps.
UTM Coordinates	Not recorded in the 2/5 chronology.
USMC Units Involved	Special Landing Force Alpha, Battalion Landing Team 1/3, landed from the USS Okinawa, with the 1st Marines; Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines attached to the 1st Marines.
2/5 Companies Participated	Company E (Capt J. D. Kinder).
Mission Results	Opposition was mostly snipers; BLT 1/3 detained 55 suspects and took three confirmed prisoners. When the operation ended on 22 September BLT 1/3 went to the 1st Marines for Operation Shelbyville. The 2/5 chronology records that “the fighting spirit and high quality professionalism earned Company E a ‘well done’ from the controlling unit commander.”
USMC KIA	Not recorded in the sources found.
USMC Wounded	Not recorded in the sources found.
Enemy KIA	Not recorded in the sources found.
Enemy Wounded	Not recorded in the sources found.

NOTES & SOURCE REFERENCES

COMPILED 20 NOVEMBER 2026 FROM PRIMARY SOURCES. This file exists because Company E is named in Operation Ballistic Charge and the operations list had no file for it. The whole-operation description is from the official history; the 2/5 chronology adds only Company E’s attachment and the commander’s praise.

Primary sources: 2/5 Command Chronology, September 1967, Part II narrative (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048092, PDF p. 4); Gary L. Telfer, Lane Rogers and V. Keith Fleming Jr., U.S. Marines in Vietnam: Fighting the North Vietnamese, 1967 (HQMC, 1984), p. 171. Originals: National Archives, RG 127 (National Archives II, College Park MD 20740; Marine Corps History Division, Quantico VA 22134).