OPERATION DECKHOUSE II

2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

1st Marine Division | Republic of Vietnam | 16–18 July 1966

FIELD	DETAIL
Operation Name	Operation Deckhouse II
Dates of Operation	16–18 July 1966
Mission Purpose / Objective	Amphibious assault by the Seventh Fleet Special Landing Force, reported separately from Operation Hastings. It landed on the coast east of the Hastings area. Once ashore, BLT 3/5 was to join Task Force Delta inland.
Locations / Cities	Blue Beach, 2,500 meters north of the mouth of the Cua Viet River; about eight miles northeast of Dong Ha; Quang Tri Province
TAOR	Northern coastal Quang Tri Province, near the Cua Viet River
UTM Coordinates	Not recorded.
USMC Units Involved	Special Landing Force BLT 3/5 (LtCol Edward J. Bronars), Companies I and K in the initial landing, with HMM-363 (LtCol James D. McGough).
2/5 Companies Participated	None – no 2/5 company took part in this operation.
Mission Results	Companies I and K of BLT 3/5 landed with ease at 0630 on 16 July. The operation was terminated after the SLF was firmly ashore, and BLT 3/5 joined Task Force Delta in Operation Hastings.
USMC KIA	Minimal (specific figures not available).
USMC Wounded	Minimal (specific figures not available).
Enemy KIA	Unknown
Enemy Wounded	Unknown

NOTES & SOURCE REFERENCES

UPDATED 16 SEPTEMBER 2026 FROM PRIMARY SOURCES. CORRECTION: H COMPANY DID NOT PARTICIPATE. This file previously said H/2/5 was involved in a supporting capacity and listed "elements of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines." Both statements are wrong. Deckhouse II was a 3/5 Special Landing Force operation. The 2/5 Command Chronology for July 1966 places Hotel Company's CP at BT 435079 (Hill 35) in the Chu Lai TAOR throughout the month. It records daily patrols there and does not mention Deckhouse II or Hastings. 2/5 COMPANIES THAT DID NOT TAKE PART: Company E, Company F, Company G, Company H, H&S Company. 2/5 was not involved.

Primary sources: 2/5 Command Chronology, July 1966 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048071); Jack Shulimson, U.S. Marines in Vietnam: An Expanding War, 1966 (HQMC, 1982). Originals: National Archives, RG 127 (National Archives II, College Park MD 20740; Marine Corps History Division, Quantico VA 22134).