OPERATION GOLDEN FLEECE

2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

1st Marine Division | Republic of Vietnam | 30 September 1967 (2/5 participation)

FIELD	DETAIL
Operation Name	Operation Golden Fleece
Dates of Operation	30 September 1967 is the only date on which the 2/5 Command Chronology records the battalion taking part. Golden Fleece was not a single operation: III MAF used the name repeatedly from 1965 onward for rice-harvest protection operations across I Corps.
Mission Purpose / Objective	Protect Vietnamese farmers bringing in the rice harvest and deny the crop to the Viet Cong.
Locations / Cities	Phu Da (1) area, Duc Duc District, Quang Nam Province, I Corps.
TAOR	Quang Nam Province, I Corps; the An Hoa area of the 2/5 TAOR.
UTM Coordinates	AT 8749 (Phu Da (1) area).
USMC Units Involved	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol G.C. McNaughton) with Company E and Company G.
2/5 Companies Participated	Company E; Company G. Companies E and G protected the rice harvest at Phu Da (1).
Mission Results	Company E and Company G participated in Golden Fleece operations in the Phu Da (1) area on 30 September 1967. While protecting the Vietnamese farmers, squad-sized units conducted extensive “hole finding” operations. The chronology records no casualties on either side for this activity.
USMC KIA	Not recorded for this activity.
USMC Wounded	Not recorded for this activity.
Enemy KIA	None recorded for this activity.
Enemy Wounded	None recorded for this activity.

NOTES & SOURCE REFERENCES

COMPILED 18 OCTOBER 2026 FROM PRIMARY SOURCES. This file exists because Companies E and G are named in a Golden Fleece operation and the series had no file for it. CAUTION ON SCOPE: this is the only Golden Fleece entry found in any 2/5 command chronology from 1966 to February 1971, and it is a single sentence covering a single day. Golden Fleece was a recurring III MAF rice-protection effort rather than one discrete operation, so 2/5 may well have taken part on other occasions that its chronologies record under other wording, such as “rice harvest security”. This file should be treated as documenting one confirmed instance, not the whole of the battalion’s involvement. The record does not say whether Company F, Company H, H&S Company took part.

Primary source: 2/5 Command Chronology, September 1967, Part II narrative paragraph 13 (S:\Hotel25\Hotel25\Combat Operations\Battalion Chronologies\1967\1967September-2-5CommandChronology.pdf). Originals: National Archives, RG 127 (National Archives II, College Park MD 20740; Marine Corps History Division, Quantico VA 22134).