



# THE FIGHTING 13TH

## Newsletter



Delivered Biweekly

Vol. 1, Issue 6, August 10, 2026

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## 13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



### 13th MEU Marines Demonstrate At-Sea 3D Printing Capabilities During RIMPAC 2026

By: Seaman Apprentice Zachary Warr

Replacing parts or tools at sea is not as simple as ordering replacements and having them delivered. Some items can take weeks to arrive, or they may no longer be made. Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Essex (LHD 2) and Combat Logistics Battalion 13, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, are addressing supply chain challenges by using embarked 3D printers, providing our team with additive and subtractive manufacturing capabilities.

RIMPAC 2026 will feature approximately 40 experimentation initiatives, each with a respective Department of War or Department of the Navy sponsor, as part of the Fleet Experimentation Program (FLEX). Experimentation initiatives will be conducted during all phases of RIMPAC execution, including while units are pierside, underway, and aboard U.S. Navy and partner nation units. By exposing the Fleet to emerging capabilities, RIMPAC enables experimentation, providing stakeholders

real-world warfighter feedback early in the acquisition process.



"We're able to manufacture parts on site at the point of need," said Gunnery Sgt. Samuel Margarini, 3D Printing Team non-commissioned officer in charge, assigned to Combat Logistics Battalion 13, 13th

Marine Expeditionary Unit. "Whether it's for the ship, the Marine Corps, or aviation, we're able to solve problems without waiting on the supply chain."

Though this capability currently does not solve all supply chain issues, it does break away from traditional manufacturing.

The processes of additive and subtractive manufacturing build or remove material from an object layer by layer from a digital model. The process begins when parts or product specifications that require a replacement are brought to the 3D printing team. The team then measures, designs a digital model, and prints a plastic prototype to verify the dimensions before producing the final product. More complex parts require technicians to use a 3D scanner to capture detailed... [Continue Reading](#)



### MRF Executes VBSS Training

A U.S. Reconnaissance Marine assigned to Maritime Raid Force, 13th MEU, provides overwatch during VBSS training off the coast of California, July 21, 2026. This advanced VBSS provides an organic element able to support larger ARG/MEU Maritime Interdiction Operation capabilities. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Angel Diaz Montes De Oca) [More Imagery](#)



### 13th MEU Sails Aboard USS Makin Island

USS Makin Island underway with Marines assigned to 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, off the coast of California, July 23, 2026. The 13th MEU and the Makin Island ARG are underway and conducting routine operations in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations to enhance their combined Navy-Marine Corps readiness and lethality. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Grace Stover) [More Imagery](#)



### I MEF CG Visits USS Makin Island

Lt. Gen. Christian Wortman, left, the commanding general of I Marine Expeditionary Force, shakes hands with Sgt. Maj. Gerald Furnari, the command senior enlisted advisor of the 13th MEU, prior to departing from Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) after visiting the 13th MEU, July 26, 2026. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Martha Linares) [More Imagery](#)

## COMMANDER'S CORNER



13th MEU Family and Friends,

The Fighting 13th is preparing to return aboard the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group for our next at-sea training period. While our previous underway periods forged the foundational Navy-Marine Corps integration necessary for success, this underway will pivot toward further advancing our capabilities and executing fully integrated amphibious operations. The training planned for the weeks to come will further develop our Marines and Sailors into a better-trained warfighting team. As we continue to prepare for the future, the unwavering support of our loved ones back home allows the team to remain healthy, fit, and focused.

Semper Fi,

Col. Richard Alvarez

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### Marines and Sailors Conduct DATF, Straight Transit Training

U.S. Marines assigned to Battalion Landing Team 2/4, 13th MEU, provide security during defense of the amphibious task force training aboard USS Makin Island (LHD 8) off the coast of California, July 23, 2026. The 13th MEU and the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group are underway and conducting routine operations in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations... [More Imagery](#)



### Amphibious Assault Training

BLT 2/4 Marines utilize Amphibious Combat Vehicles during amphibious assault training at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, July 28, 2026. [More Imagery](#)



### Simulates Casualty Recovery

BLT 2/4 Marines recover a simulated casualty during an amphibious assault training as part of integrated training, California, July 28, 2026. [More Imagery](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS & RESOURCES

For additional Events & Resources, visit the MCCS Calendar of Events: [Camp Pendleton](#) & [MCAS Yuma](#)

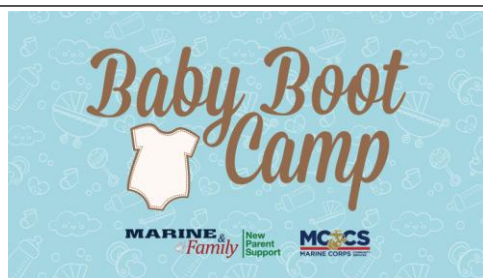


### Beach Front Friday Flow Yoga

Marine Corps Community Services will host Beach Front Friday Flow on **Friday, Aug. 14, from 9 to 11 a.m. at Del Mar Beach & Marina** on Camp Pendleton, offering Marines, families and community members an opportunity to start the weekend with an all-levels beachfront yoga session focused on movement, relaxation and wellness. Participants can enjoy guided yoga alongside the ocean in a welcoming environment and should bring a yoga mat, water and sunscreen. Children are welcome with adult supervision. [More Info](#)

### L.I.N.K.S. Coffee Chat: Connect and Discuss Military Life

Marine Corps Community Services will host Coffee Chat on **Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 9 to 11 a.m. at the L.I.N.K.S. House**, Bldg. 202860, Camp Pendleton, to provide members of the military community an opportunity to connect with others and share conversations about military life. The informal open-house gathering allows attendees to stop by at any time, enjoy coffee, meet new people and build connections within the Camp Pendleton community. [More Info](#)



### New Parent Support: Baby Boot Camp

Marine Corps Community Services' Family Advocacy Program will host Baby Boot Camp on **Thursday, Aug. 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bldg. 1122** on Camp Pendleton to provide expectant parents with the basic information and practical skills needed to care for a newborn. The one-day class includes hands-on instruction covering infant care, bathing, feeding, diapering, parental self-care, and pre- and postpartum emotions, along with other topics to help parents prepare for their new baby. [More Info](#)