



THE FIGHTING 13TH

Newsletter



Vol. 1, Issue 7, August 24, 2026

<https://www.13thmeu.marines.mil/>

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13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



VMM-364 (Rein.) Aircraft Arrive for the Underway

A U.S. Marine Corps MV-22B Osprey assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 364 (Reinforced), 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, prepares to land aboard Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) to conduct routine training off the coast of California, Aug. 14, 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 to enhance their combined Navy-Marine Corps readiness and lethality. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Martha Linares) [More Imagery](#)



13th MEU Embarks USS Makin Island

U.S. Marines assigned to the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, prepare to embark Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) at Naval Base San Diego, California, Aug. 13, 2026, to conduct routine training off the coast. 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 to enhance their combined Navy-Marine Corps readiness and lethality. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Martha Linares) [More Imagery](#)



VMFA-211 Conducts Carrier Qualifications

U.S. Marine Corps F-35B Lightning II aircrafts assigned to Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 211, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, land on the flight deck of Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) during carrier qualifications as part of routine training off the coast of California, Aug. 18, 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 to enhance their combined Navy-Marine Corps readiness and lethality. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Mary R. Jenni) [More Imagery](#)

COMMANDER'S CORNER



13th MEU Family and Friends,

The Fighting 13th is underway conducting training missions to ensure the MEU remains at a high state of readiness. Since our composite in March, all service members have honed their skills and become intimately familiar with operations aboard amphibious ships. Fighting from the sea is what the 13th MEU and our Marine Corps excels in. Everyone will have an opportunity to take a well-deserved break in the coming weeks to spend time with loved ones. Surely there are several stories to catch up on as the school year just started as well. I remain thankful for the contribution all our family members make to facilitate the rigorous but necessary training program.

Semper Fi,

Col. Richard Alvarez

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NEWSLETTER
AND MAILING
LIST SIGN UP





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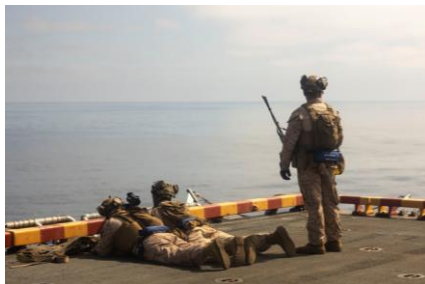


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13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



BLT 2/4 Marines Execute DATF

U.S. Marines assigned to Battalion Landing Team 2/4, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, observe the surrounding area during defense of the amphibious task force training aboard Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) off the coast of California, Aug. 21, 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 to enhance their... [More Imagery](#)



13th MEU Executes Readiness Flights

A U.S. Navy Sailor assigned to Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8), directs a U.S. Marine Corps F-35B Lightning II pilot assigned to Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 211, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, to park during carrier qualifications as part of routine training off the coast of California, Aug. 18, 2026. The 13th MEU and the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group are underway and conducting routine operations in the U.S. 3rd Fleet... [More Imagery](#)



Visit, Board, Search and Seizure Training

A U.S. Reconnaissance Marine assigned to Maritime Raid Force, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, provides overwatch during visit, board, search and seizure training off the coast of California, Aug. 19, 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 to enhance their combined Navy-Marine Corps readiness and lethality... [More Imagery](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS & RESOURCES

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

KIDS BOWL FOR FREE DAY

Come and spend your afternoon with the family at Leatherneck Lanes on Sept. 1. From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., children bowl for free. This event doesn't end—kids bowl for free every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday! Children can also bowl for free on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, [click here](#).



GROW

Pacific Views is hosting a three-session workshop for parents focused on raising emotionally healthy children, establishing positive family rules, and promoting healthy minds and bodies. Held on Sept. 7 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., these sessions will provide you with valuable tools to foster a supportive and harmonious household. For more information, [click here](#).



YOGA AT THE BEACH

Every Friday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., MCCS hosts a beach yoga session at Del Mar Beach. Open to all skill levels, this class is designed to energize your body, calm your mind, and help you welcome the weekend. Just bring your mat, water, sunscreen, and positive energy to enjoy this guided practice. For more information, [click here](#).

