THE FIGHTING 13TH
Newsletter

Delivered Biweekly

Vol. 1, Issue 11, October 19, 2026 https://www.13thmeu.marines.mil/ https://linktr.ee/13thmeu/

13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



SKIDS Revisit Old Stomping Grounds at Kaneohe Bay

A U.S. Marine Corps AH-1Z Viper assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 364 (Reinforced), 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, flies over Kaneohe Bay in Oahu, Hawaii, Oct. 7, 2026. The 13th MEU was underway aboard the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations demonstrating the United States' long-term commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Fernando Cruz Martinez) View More



Recon Marines Land at MCB Hawaii

U.S. Marines assigned to Maritime Raid Force, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, conduct free fall training at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Oct. 7, 2026. The 13th MEU was underway aboard the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations demonstrating the United States' long-term commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Moses S. Lopez Franco) View More



13th MEU CO Recognizes Outstanding Marines

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Aidan Hamlin, left, a data systems administrator assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 364 (Reinforced), 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, receives a coin from Col. Richard Alvarez, the commanding officer of the 13th MEU, aboard Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8), Oct. 5, 2026. The 13th MEU was underway aboard the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations demonstrating the United States' long-term commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Grace Stover) View More

COMMANDER'S CORNER

13th MEU Family and Friends,

The Fighting 13th is back underway following our visit to Hawaii. Sailing by Pearl Harbor is always a memorable event. It was the first visit to the islands for most and offered a great opportunity for our service members to enjoy some liberty ashore. Since departing San Diego, the ARG/MEU has remained extremely busy training from our assigned ships. All remain fit, focused, and ready for any assigned mission. As families navigate this busy time of year, our local readiness resources and community stand ready to provide continuous support. Please continue to look out for one another and capitalize on the support network back home. The team is well trained and continues to exceed expectations.

Semper Fi,

Col. Richard Alvarez

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER AND MAILING LIST SIGN UP

To view the digital version and use the clickable links or to sign up for the newsletter mailing list, visit https://linktr.ee/13thmeu/ or scan the QR code.

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13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



BLT 2/4 Marines Maintain Shooting Proficiency

U.S. Marines assigned to Battalion Landing Team 2/4, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, repair targets during a live-fire range aboard Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8), Oct. 6, 2026. The 13th MEU was underway aboard the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations demonstrating the United States' long-term commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Mary R. Jenni) View More



MARFORPAC Visits the 13th MEU

U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Roger B. Turner, the commander of Marine Corps Forces, Pacific, speaks to Marines assigned to the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, while aboard Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8), Oct. 9, 2026. The 13th MEU was underway aboard the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations demonstrating the United States' long-term commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Staff Sgt. Michael Virtue) View More

TOP SHOTS



Photo A



Photo B



Photo C



Photo D

You Choose the Top Shot!

We are launching a new competition, putting four of our best operational photos head-to-head, and your vote will determine the winner.

This showdown features:
Photo A: Nighttime Flight Operations aboard the USS Makin Island.
Photo B: The Maritime Raid Force executing shipboard hoist and fast rope training.
Photo C: BLT 2/4 Marines conducting a live-fire range on the flight deck.
Photo D: A reconnaissance Marine preparing to execute a military free fall operation.

How to Vote:
Visit our Facebook and comment your favorite photo's letter (**A, B, C,** or **D**) under the Top Shot post.

Voting Deadline:
Voting opens immediately and will close on the morning of October 30th.

Cast your vote today!

Vote Now on Facebook!