THE FIGHTING 13TH
Newsletter

Delivered Biweekly

Vol. 1, Issue 12, November 2, 2026 https://www.13thmeu.marines.mil/ https://linktr.ee/13thmeu/

13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



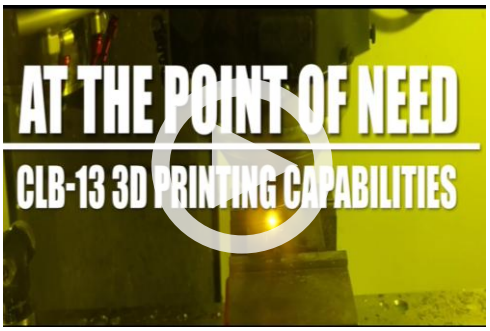
Marines Conduct a Crew Served Weapons Qualification

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Andrew Mejiacayetano, a combat cargo Marine assigned to Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8), loads a .50-caliber machine gun during live-fire training aboard Makin Island, Oct. 15, 2026. The 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit is currently 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



The MRF Sends Rounds Down Range

A U.S. Marine assigned to Maritime Raid Force, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, conducts a live-fire deck shoot aboard Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8), Oct. 20, 2026. The 13th MEU is currently underway aboard the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group in the U.S. 7th 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. Angel Diaz Montes De Oca) View More



CLB-13 Marines Showcase Organic 3D Printing Capabilities

U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Samuel Margarini, a fabrication specialist assigned to Combat Logistics Battalion 13, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, highlights the value of organic 3D printing capabilities supplementing supply chains at the point of need aboard Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8), Oct. 18, 2026. The 13th MEU is currently underway aboard the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations demonstrating the United States' long-term commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Marine Corps video by Sgt. Mary R. Jenni) Watch Video

COMMANDER'S CORNER

13th MEU Family and Friends,

Over the past week, we've conducted a port call in Yokosuka, Japan, focusing our efforts on the conduct of maintenance and resupply across our ships to keep the ARG/MEU fully ready and sustained. In addition to keeping their edge and maintaining personal readiness, your Marines and Sailors enjoyed well-deserved liberty exploring the surrounding areas of Japan. As Veterans Day approaches, I want to specially recognize and honor all the family members and friends who have served before us— your enduring legacy inspires us and reminds us of the proud standard we carry forward.

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.

THE FIGHTING 13TH
Newsletter

Delivered Biweekly

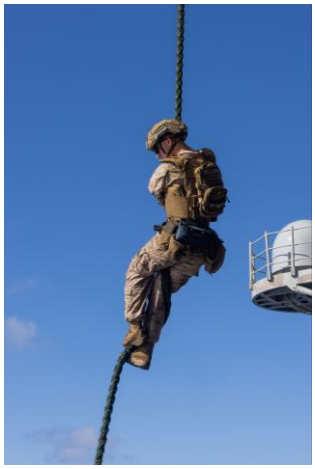
Vol. 1, Issue 12, November 2, 2026 https://www.13thmeu.marines.mil/ https://linktr.ee/13thmeu/

13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



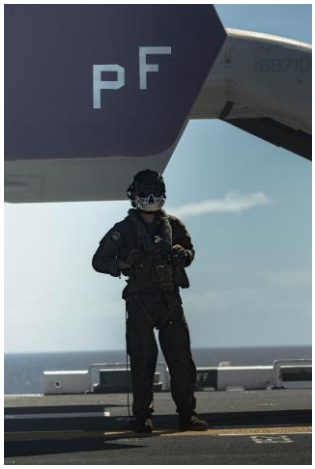
LAAD Marines Equipped with Advanced Capabilities

U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Jose Matias, a low altitude air defense gunner assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 364 (Reinforced), 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, explains the role of a LAAD gunner aboard Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8), Oct. 19, 2026. The 13th MEU is currently underway aboard the Makin Island... Watch Video



BLT 2/4 Fast Rope Training

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Ryan Krsak, a rifleman assigned to Battalion Landing Team 2/4, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, executes static fast rope training... View More



Purple Foxes Remain Ready

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Jalen Balboa, a crew chief assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 364 (Reinforced), 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit... View More

TOP SHOTS



Photo A



Photo B



Photo C

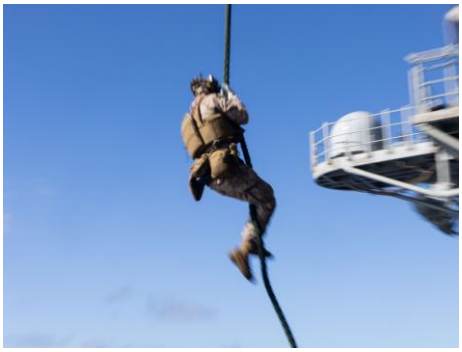


Photo D

You Choose the Top Shot!

We are back again with this week's photo competition, putting four of our best operational photos head-to-head, and your vote will determine the winner.

This showdown features:
Photo A: Marines conduct a machine gun live-fire range aboard USS Makin Island.
Photo B: Sailors with USS Makin Island conduct flight operations.
Photo C: MGySgt. Daniel Plank conducts pre-flight inspections.
Photo D: BLT 2/4 Marines conduct static fast rope training.

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 November 13th.

Cast your vote today!

Vote Now on Facebook!