



FORWARD ★ FAITHFUL ★ FOCUSED

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FOREWORD

The United States is a Pacific nation with deep and long-standing ties to the region. Following decades of counter-insurgency battles and operations ashore, the Marine Corps is reinvigorating its maritime roots as it transitions to a period of renewed great-power competition envisioned by the National Security Strategy and National Defense Strategy (NDS). The Marine Corps is radically changing its force structure and operating concepts, and the 38th Commandant's Planning Guidance identified III Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) as the Corps' focus of effort. III MEF is the only permanently-deployed Marine Expeditionary Force. III MEF's Marines and Sailors live and operate inside the contact layer envisioned in the NDS's Global Operating Model. III MEF is US Indo-Pacific Command's Stand-in Force and a critical component of the naval expeditionary elements that will be first to fight in the Western Pacific. To succeed in this space, III MEF maintains the highest level of readiness for contingencies across the spectrum of military operations while simultaneously modernizing and transforming to meet the threats of the future. III MEF competes daily for influence, access, and support from, and alongside, its regional partners and allies to maintain a free and open Indo-Pacific. III MEF's greatest strength in the Indo-Pacific is its relationships with partners and allies throughout the region. Finally, III MEF is organized, trained and ready to Fight Now as part of a joint team. III MEF is uniquely postured to contribute to a naval campaign in the Pacific and is aggressively increasing its integration with the U.S. Navy's 7th Fleet—most visibly through the frequency and quality of its joint exercises and operations. Similarly, III MEF continues its work with other joint and combined partners to ensure it can operate as one team when called upon for any mission across the spectrum and in all domains.

MAGTF

The Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) is the Marine Corps' principle organization for conducting missions across a range of military operations. MAGTFs provide combatant commanders with scalable, versatile expeditionary forces able to respond to a broad range of contingency, crisis and conflict situations. A single commander leads and coordinates this combined-arms team from pre-deployment training through all phases of deployment and combat.

The MAGTF combines air, ground, and logistical forces as a coherent, self-sufficient and highly responsive force.

MAGTFs are tailored by the mission for rapid deployment by air and/or sea. No matter the mission, a MAGTF is comprised of four elements: Command Element (CE), Ground Combat Element (GCE), Aviation Combat Element (ACE), and Logistics Combat Element (LCE).

CE- The Command Element contains the MAGTF headquarters and units that provide intelligence, communications, and administrative support.

GCE- The Ground Combat Element is task organized to conduct ground operations and includes infantry, artillery, reconnaissance, light armor, assault amphibious vehicles, engineer, and other forces.

ACE- The Aviation Combat Element conducts offensive and defensive air operations and is task organized to perform the six functions of Marine aviation – Assault Support, Anti-Aircraft Warfare, Offensive Air Support, Electronic Warfare, Control of Aircraft and Missiles, and Aerial Reconnaissance.

LCE- The Logistics Combat Element is task organized to provide the full range of combat logistics functions and capabilities necessary to maintain the continued readiness and sustainability of the MAGTF as a whole.

MEF- The Marine Expeditionary Force is the principal warfighting organization during larger crises or contingencies. MEFs are the primary “standing MAGTFs” in peacetime and wartime.

MEB- The Marine Expeditionary Brigade is the mid-sized MAGTF and provides highly capable, robust and rapid deployable forces. MEBs can conduct amphibious assault and sustained operations ashore in any geographic environment.

MEU- Forward-deployed Marine Expeditionary Units embark aboard Amphibious Ready Groups to operate continuously in the area of operations of the unified combatant commander and provide a flexible sea-based MAGTF for crisis response.

SPMAGTF- A Special Purpose MAGTF is task organized to accomplish a specific mission, operation, or regionally-focused exercise.

AIR



LAND



SEA





HISTORY OF III MEF



Observer who spotted a machine gun nest finds its location on a map. Iwo Jima, February 1945. (OOD photo)

Today's III MEF was originally activated as I Marine Amphibious Corps (I MAC) on October 1, 1942 at San Diego, California, with most of the staff joining from Amphibious Corps, Pacific Fleet.

Two weeks after its activation, the headquarters element sailed from California on board the SS Lurline for the South Pacific. The staff disembarked 28 October at Noumea, New Caledonia, which became the base of operations for the newly created unit. I MAC initially functioned as the administrative command for all Marine forces in the Pacific except the land-based air units and ship detachments. The

movement of the 1st, 2d and 3d Marine Divisions to the war zone in 1942 had necessitated the establishment of a unified administrative echelon able to assume certain functions previously the duty of Headquarters Marine Corps. Another reason for the formation of I MAC came in part from the desire to relieve the divisions of a portion of their administrative burden while in combat. I MAC had at first no tactical responsibility and thus it had no tactical control of the Guadalcanal Campaign, which was in progress at the time of its deployment to New Caledonia.

The tremendous flow of troops to the Pacific theater caused a modification in I MAC's assigned mission during the following year. Gradually, it took on tactical duties while retaining its administrative functions. Concurrently, the Pacific Fleet witnessed a vast increase in personnel and in ships, leading to the formation of subordinate striking forces—the Third and Fifth Fleets. Each had its own amphibious force. I Marine Amphibious Corps was redesignated as III Amphibious Corps (III AC) on April 15, 1944 and paired with the Navy's Third Amphibious Force. The redesignation also reflected the fact that the Corps

was a command including troops of all services, not just Marines. This was the justification for dropping "Marine" from the designation. The change also eliminated the discrepancy in designation between it and its sister unit, V Amphibious Corps (V AC) created in August 1943.

Units of the III AC and its predecessor took part in some of the most significant battles in the war against Japan. These included the New Georgia Group, Treasury-Bougainville, consolidation of the Northern Solomons, capture and occupation of Guam, capture and occupation of the Southern Palau Islands and the assault and occupation of Okinawa. Following the termination of hostilities, III AC was dispatched to North China in September 1945 to accept the surrender of enemy units and to supervise the repatriation of Japanese military and civilians. It remained occupied in this task for over eight months until the ordered reduction of American presence in China and post-war demobilization brought about the deactivation of III AC June 10, 1946.



HISTORY OF III MEF



In March 1965, the decision was made to land two battalions of Marines as security forces at Da Nang Air Base as the situation in Vietnam deteriorated. Units of the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade made an amphibious landing March 8, 1965 at Da Nang. Over the next two months, additional Marines arrived and moved into the Hue/Phu Bai area. With the growth in the number of Marines in Vietnam (in Da Nang alone roughly 5,000), there was a need for a larger command structure. III Marine Expeditionary Force was activated on May 6, 1965. Out of sensitivity to Vietnamese aversion to the term "expeditionary," the command was redesignated (along with all USMC forces in the region) to III Marine Amphibious Force (III MAF) the next day.

As the Marine Corps presence in Vietnam continued to increase, it was determined that III MAF was operating as a corps and therefore was the lineal successor to III AC of World War II. On August 18, 1965 the first large-scale American operation against the Viet Cong, Operation STARLITE commenced. By the end of the operation on August 24, nearly 700 Viet Cong had

been killed and inhibited any potential enemy attack on Chu Lai. III MAF operated in Vietnam for six years and participated in approximately 400 major combat operations and numerous smaller unit actions. At the height of the war, III MAF numbered more than 80,000 Marines and included ground, air and logistic combat elements by combining the 1st and 3d Marine Divisions, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing and Force Logistics Command under a single Marine commander. In April 1971, III MAF headquarters relocated from Vietnam to Okinawa, Japan.

III MAF remained in Okinawa as a forward-deployed force in readiness, with 3d Marine Division, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing and 3d Force Service Regiment (later 3d Force Service Support Group/3d Marine Logistics Group) as subordinate elements. In 1988, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Alfred M. Gray, decided that the Corps needed to return to its expeditionary roots and redesignated all "amphibious" units to "expeditionary" units; therefore, February 5, 1988, III MAF was redesignated as III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF).



A formidable task force carves out a beachhead on IJ45, about 350 miles from the Japanese mainland. (OOD photo)

Since then, III MEF has supported major combat operations in Operation DESERT SHIELD, Operation DESERT STORM, Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. Concurrently, III MEF responded to myriad crises in the Indo-Pacific region. III MEF, in conjunction with United States Agency for International Development (USAID), has responded to a wide breadth of some of the worst natural disasters experienced in the Indo-Pacific area of responsibility. These involved volcanoes, typhoons, tsunamis and earthquakes in countries to include the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

III MEF COMMAND STRUCTURE

U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific

III Marine Expeditionary Force

3d Marine Division

1st Marine Aircraft Wing

3d Marine Logistics Group



3d Marine Expeditionary Brigade

31st Marine Expeditionary Unit

III MEF Information Group



III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE



Commanded by a lieutenant general, with its headquarters at Camp Courtney, III Marine Expeditionary Force's mission, as part of the Naval Expeditionary Force in the Western Pacific, is to defeat the enemy through sea denial and maritime operations in support of fleet, joint and allied forces, and is prepared to conduct crisis response and other expeditionary operations.

The 2019 Commandant's Planning Guidance established III MEF as the Marine Corps' focus of effort – designed to provide U.S. Indo-Pacific Command and the Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet with a Stand-in Force capability. The "Stand-in Forces" concept is designed to restore the strategic initiative to naval forces and empower U.S. allies and partners to successfully confront regional hegemony that infringe on their territorial boundaries and interests. The teaming of III MEF and U.S. 7th Fleet greatly expands the network of assets that can be brought to bear on any given problem in any given location. The ability to conduct sea control and sea denial operations both from the sea and from key maritime terrain is an essential naval capability in modern armed conflict.

The Navy-Marine Corps team can enable the rest of the joint force to bring the full might of the U.S. military to bear on our enemies.

III MEF is organized as a MAGTF to provide a rapidly deployable, flexible, self-contained fighting force. The MAGTF's combined air, ground, and logistics forces operate as a coherent, self-sufficient force. Each mission dictates the MAGTF's scale and structure, giving the Marine Corps the flexibility to respond to any crisis and making it a "force-in-readiness."

III MEF is composed of 3d Marine Division, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, 3d Marine Logistics Group, 3d Marine Expeditionary Brigade, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit and the III MEF Information Group.

At full strength, III MEF totals nearly 19,000 Marines and Sailors located across 10 camps and an air station on Okinawa. In addition, 3,200 Marines and Sailors are stationed on mainland Japan and approximately 5,000 are stationed in Hawaii.

III MEF Marines and Sailors engage in more than

65 combined, bilateral and multi-lateral training operations and exercises annually throughout the Indo-Pacific, in countries including treaty allies Japan, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Australia. The purpose of each activity is to build partner capacity, develop and maintain strong regional alliances and military-to-military capabilities, readiness, and demonstrate commitment to a free and open Indo Pacific. These also prepare III MEF to conduct operations ranging from major combat operations to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.



U.S. Marines assigned to 5th Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment and Airmen assigned to the 8th Fighter Wing, "The Wolf Pack" work together to disembark two M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS) during exercise III Marine Expeditionary Force Fires onto Kunsan Airbase, South Korea, June 1, 2017. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by MCIAPAC Combat Camera Lance Cpl. Jesus McCloud)



3D MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE



U.S. Marines and Nepalese soldiers unload tarps off of a UH-1Y Huey at Orang, Nepal, during Operation Sahayogi Haat, May 19. The Nepalese government requested assistance from U.S. Agency for International Development after the 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck their country April 25. In response, the U.S. military sent service members as part of Joint Task Force 505 at the direction of USAID. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Isaac Ibarra)

Commanded by a brigadier general, with its headquarters at Camp Courtney, 3d Marine Expeditionary Brigade is III MEF's "Fire Brigade" – able to rapidly respond to crisis and project combat power by providing an agile, standing warfighting headquarters or Joint Task Force Nucleus that is uniquely capable and advantageously positioned to support operations within 24 hours that span the competition continuum, from cooperation to contingency, and crisis to armed conflict.

3d MEB provides a scalable, standing, joint capable,

forward-deployed warfighting headquarters that is capable of conducting expeditionary advanced base operations, crisis response and combat operations. Through scalable deployment options, 3d MEB tailors personnel and equipment necessary for the required mission. The flexibility of the MEB allows it to quickly and effectively accomplish the mission through multi-method conveyance to support rapid deployment and sustained operations. 3d MEB is prepared to respond within 24 hours to crisis or contingency throughout the



A U.S. Marine, serving with India Company, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, demonstrates how to properly fire a 60mm mortar system at Colonel Ernesto P. Ravina Air Base, Philippines, April 4, 2019 during Exercise Balikatan 2019. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elizabeth Johnson)

region. When called upon, 3d MEB will mitigate foreign or domestic crises, protect U.S. citizens and territories, or counter threats to U.S. national interests as the force of choice. 3d MEB is a ready force capable of supporting multi-domain operations, from HADR to armed conflict. 3d MEB enables joint and coalition operations and is ready to "fight now."

3d MEB generates tempo and enhances the crisis response readiness of III MEF and USINDOPACOM, as the force of choice in cooperation and conflict alike, by eliminating the requirement to build the nucleus of a rapidly-deployable, scalable warfighting headquarters out-of-hide. In the event of a contingency, 3d MEB will mitigate foreign or domestic crises, protect U.S. citizens and territories, or counter threats to U.S. national interests as needed. 3d MEB remains the resilient, ready and relevant crisis response force in the Indo-Pacific region and is actively engaged in ongoing regional contingency planning as well as participating in numerous joint and combined exercises to increase regional security and stability.

3d MEB is resilient, ready and relevant - always prepared to respond within 24 hours to crises throughout the Indo-Pacific region.











31ST MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



Commanded by a colonel, with its headquarters at Camp Hansen, the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (31st MEU) is the only continuously forward-deployed MEU, and remains a force-in-readiness in the Indo-Pacific region.

The 31st MEU is a ready crisis-response force capable of rapidly deploying and responding to contingencies and events throughout the region and the world. The MEU is composed of four elements: A Command Element, a Ground Combat Element built around a Battalion Landing Team, a Logistics Combat Element



Jack Jack, a military working dog with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's Maritime Raid Force, stands by during a fast rope and deck shoot rehearsal aboard amphibious assault ship USS America. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Isaac Cantrell)



A Marine with Battalion Landing Team, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, fires an M240B medium machine gun during a full mission profile defense of the amphibious task force exercise aboard amphibious assault ship USS America STET. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Isaac Cantrell)

built around a Combat Logistics Battalion and an Aviation Combat Element built around a reinforced Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron with detachments including F-35B Lightning II fighter aircraft.

Working together with the U.S. Navy, the 31st MEU regularly embarks with the ships of Amphibious Squadron II out of Sasebo, Japan, typically consisting of an America-class Amphibious Assault Ship, a Dock Landing Ship and an Amphibious Transport Dock

Ship. Together, this blue-green team comprises the first choice as a maritime crisis-response force for III Marine Expeditionary Force and the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

The 31st MEU prepares for real-life crisis and conflict by rehearsing full-mission profiles including amphibious raids, vertical air assaults, and maritime interdiction operations, such as visit, board, search and seizure and tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel. The MEU also trains to a variety of enabling operations to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, defense support to civil authorities and support to the U.S. Department of State with embassy reinforcement and non-combatant evacuation operations.

The 31st MEU, while continuously forward-deployed or on patrol aboard amphibious ships, regularly participates in multilateral exercises with allied and partner nations throughout the Indo-Pacific Command area of operations. These exercises continuously strengthen relationships between the United States and its partners, defining the 31st MEU's direct contribution to regional stability and security.







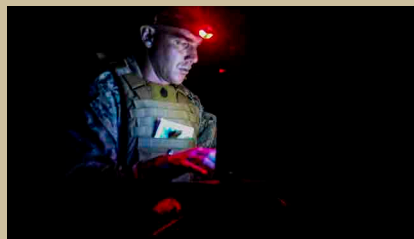


III MEF INFORMATION GROUP



Commanded by a colonel, with its headquarters at Camp Hansen, III MEF Information Group (III MIG) coordinates, integrates, and employs capabilities for information environment operations in order to ensure the Marine Air-Ground Task Force commander's ability to facilitate friendly forces maneuver and deny the enemy freedom of action in the information environment. III MIG provides communications, intelligence and supporting arms liaison to the III MEF, 3d Marine Expeditionary Brigade, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, and assigned units in order to enable and sustain MAGTF operations.

Acting as a vanguard on key terrain, in a complex



U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Patrick F. Kanaley, with 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III MEF Information Group, helps operate a long range ground based sensor during a simulated close air support and assault support training event at W-174, Okinawa, Japan, Aug. 19, 2020. (Photo by Cpl. Kealii De Los Santos)



U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Mario Avila with 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, III MEF Information Group, calls for fire support on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, Nov. 23, 2019. (U.S. Marine Corps Photo by Cpl. Malik Daniel)

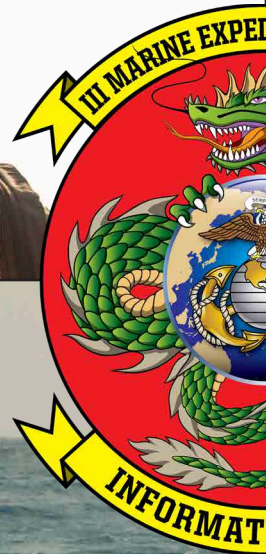
environment steeped in history, III MIG provides assured command and control, as well as intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, directly supporting III MEF's ability to target and achieve effects. As the only forward deployed MIG in the Marine Corps, operational responsibilities have continued to increase and develop to keep pace with the ever changing character of warfare.

III MIG traces its history from the 3d Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Intelligence Group (SRIG), which later became Headquarters and Service Battalion, and then III MEF Headquarters Group. In 2017, III MIG was

established, with its size, structure, and capabilities substantially growing from its SRIG lineage to over 3,200 personnel, with several subordinate commands, including: 3d Radio Battalion, 7th Communication Battalion, 3d Intelligence Battalion, 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, and III MEF Support Battalion. III MIG is spread across 4,500 miles with subordinate organizations located throughout Okinawa as well as Marine Corps Base Hawaii in Kaneohe Bay. III MIG operates in a dynamic environment supporting III MEF operations and exercises across the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command's area of responsibility as well as providing augmentation to other geographic combatant commanders.



U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Alexander Thomas, with 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III MEF Information Group sets up a remote sensor antenna during a patrol on Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, Dec. 10, 2019. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Matthew J. Bragg)









3D MARINE DIVISION



Commanded by a major general and headquartered at Camp Courtney, 3d Marine Division (MarDiv) is a Major Subordinate Command of III MEF. The mission of 3d MarDiv is to conduct sea denial operations in a contested environment as part of the Fleet Marine Force / Naval Expeditionary Force in order to support maritime campaigning across the competition continuum. The Division functions as an integrated part of the Joint Force and partners with allies



U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kyle Cook, a rifleman with 3d Battalion, 3d Marines, prepares for an ambush during Jungle Warfare Exercise in the Northern Training Area on Okinawa, Japan, May 25, 2021. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Ujian Gosun)

across the Indo-Pacific to remain postured and ready to deter and defeat any threat to regional security. Operating as part of a stand-in force within the First Island Chain, 3d MarDiv maintains the ability to seize

and defend key maritime terrain and rapidly establish long-range precision fires across a distributed maritime environment.

3d MarDiv's Major Subordinate Elements (MSEs) include 3d Marines, 4th Marines, 12th Marines, 3d Reconnaissance Battalion, and Headquarters Battalion. Based in Hawaii, 3d Marines is an infantry regiment in the process of transitioning into the 3d Marine Littoral Regiment – the first of its kind in the Marine Corps. 4th Marines is an infantry regiment headquartered on Camp Schwab boasting three of the most ready infantry battalions in the Marine Corps on a rotational basis from 1st Marine Division



U.S. Marines assigned to 3rd Marine Division, fire a Reduced Range Practice Rocket from a High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) during a Combined Joint Live Fire Exercise (CJLFFEX) at Rodriguez Range, South Korea, March 28, 2014. This is the first time HIMARS have been deployed and fired within the Republic of Korea. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Lauren Whitney/Released)



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Ray Pineda, a rifleman with 3d Battalion, 3d Marines, engages the enemy during Jungle Warfare Exercise in the Northern Training Area on Okinawa, Japan, May 26, 2021. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Ujian Gosun)

in California, 2d Marine Division in North Carolina, and 3d Marines in Hawaii. 12th Marines is an artillery regiment based on Camp Hansen with battalions in both Japan and Hawaii, bringing advanced targeting and long-range precision fires capabilities to the battlefield. 3d MarDiv also operates the Jungle Warfare Training Center within the Northern Training Area of Okinawa, which conducts unit and individual level jungle skills, medicine, communications, and leaders courses and facilitates littoral warfare exercises on a regular basis.







1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING



Commanded by a brigadier general, with its headquarters at Camp Foster, the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing is the aviation combat element of III Marine Expeditionary Force. Its mission is to conduct air operations in support of Fleet Marine Forces to include: offensive air support, anti-air support, aerial reconnaissance including active and passive electronic countermeasures, and control of aircraft and missiles. As a collateral function, 1st MAW may participate as an integral component of naval aviation in the execution of such other naval functions as fleet commanders may direct.

Consisting of approximately 7,500 Marines and Sailors, 1st MAW is organized into a fixed wing/fighter attack



An AH-1Z Viper prepares to land at U-Tapao International Airport, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 10, 2018. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Andy Martinez)

group (Marine Aircraft Group 12 stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni), two rotary assault support groups (MAG-36 stationed at MCAS Futenma and MAG-24 stationed at MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii), an aviation command and control group (Marine Air Control Group 18 stationed at MCAS Futenma), and a headquarters squadron (Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1 at Camp Foster). 1st MAW's rotary-wing aircraft, air control and aviation ground support assets of MAG-36 are stationed at MCAS Futenma. These include the CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter, the MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, the AH-1Z Viper attack helicopter and the UH-1Y Venom helicopter; which provide a powerful combination of firepower and assault support.

1st MAW's fixed wing/fighter attack units are stationed at MCAS Iwakuni on mainland Japan and include KC-130J Super Hercules, F/A-18C and F/A-18D Hornets and F35B Lightning IIs that operate under MAG-12.

An additional rotary-wing aircraft group, MAG-24, consisting of CH-53E Super Stallion helicopters, MV-22 tiltrotor aircraft, UH-1Y Venoms, and AH-1Z Vipers, and RQ-21A Blackjack unmanned aerial vehicles operate from MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii.



U.S. Marines with 1st Marine Aircraft Wing conduct rapid deployment training to increase the confidence of III Marine Expeditionary Force's ability to operate anywhere, at any time and to maintain a secure Indo-Pacific region while showcasing the lethality and operational flexibility of 1st MAW Oct. 25, 2019. As the only forward deployed MEF, III MEF is strategically postured to quickly and effectively respond to any crisis using austere, expeditionary bases and established airfields within the Indo-Pacific region. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Akael Austin)

1st MAW is supported by the Unit Deployment Program. Detachments from one F/A-18 squadron, one heavy-lift helicopter squadron, and one light-attack helicopter squadron rotate to and from Japan every six months from the United States.

The 1st MAW has distinguished itself in humanitarian relief efforts throughout the Indo-Pacific. For years, 1st MAW has been a key player in providing aid to areas devastated by tsunamis, typhoons, mudslides, and other disasters.











3D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP



U.S. military personnel assigned to units throughout Marine Corps Installations Pacific (MCIPAC), Camp Smedley D. Butler participate in exercise Constant Vigilance, Camp Foster, Okinawa, Japan, Oct. 11, 2018. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Savannah Mesimer)

Commanded by a brigadier general with its headquarters at Camp Kinser, 3d Marine Logistics Group is the logistics combat element of III Marine Expeditionary Force. Its mission is to provide responsive combat logistics support to the Fleet Marine Force within our area of operations, and to joint, combined, and federal agencies as directed, through expeditionary means, forward basing and global sourcing in order to sustain supported units during exercises and contingencies.

3d MLG consists of approximately 5,600 Marines and Sailors within subordinate commands spread over Okinawa, Hawaii and mainland Japan. They include

Combat Logistics Regiments 3 and 37, as well as five additional battalions that provide a wide range of combat service support. These battalions are: 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3d Maintenance Battalion, 3d Supply Battalion, 3d Medical Battalion and 3d Dental Battalion.



U.S. service members place and secure the final wall frame during a subject matter expert exchange on Royal Thai Marine Base Sattahip, Kingdom of Thailand, Jan. 31, 2020. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Ryan Harvey)

3d MLG regularly supports and conducts training exercises throughout the Indo-Pacific region including the Philippines, the Kingdom of Thailand, the Republic of Korea, Australia, India, Guam and across Japan. These exercises focus on increasing responsiveness to contingencies in the Pacific and improving partnership with allies while enhancing regional peace and stability.

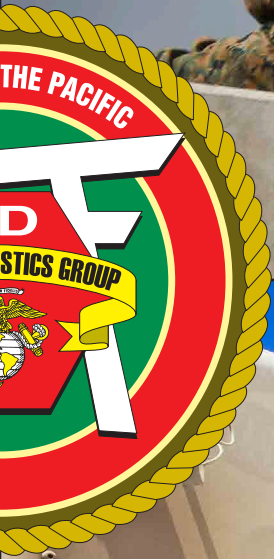


U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Thomas Moore scans a vehicle with a MultiRAE level 2 detector during an enhanced chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear response final exercise on Camp Kinser, Okinawa, Japan, April 2, 2020. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Armando Elizalde)

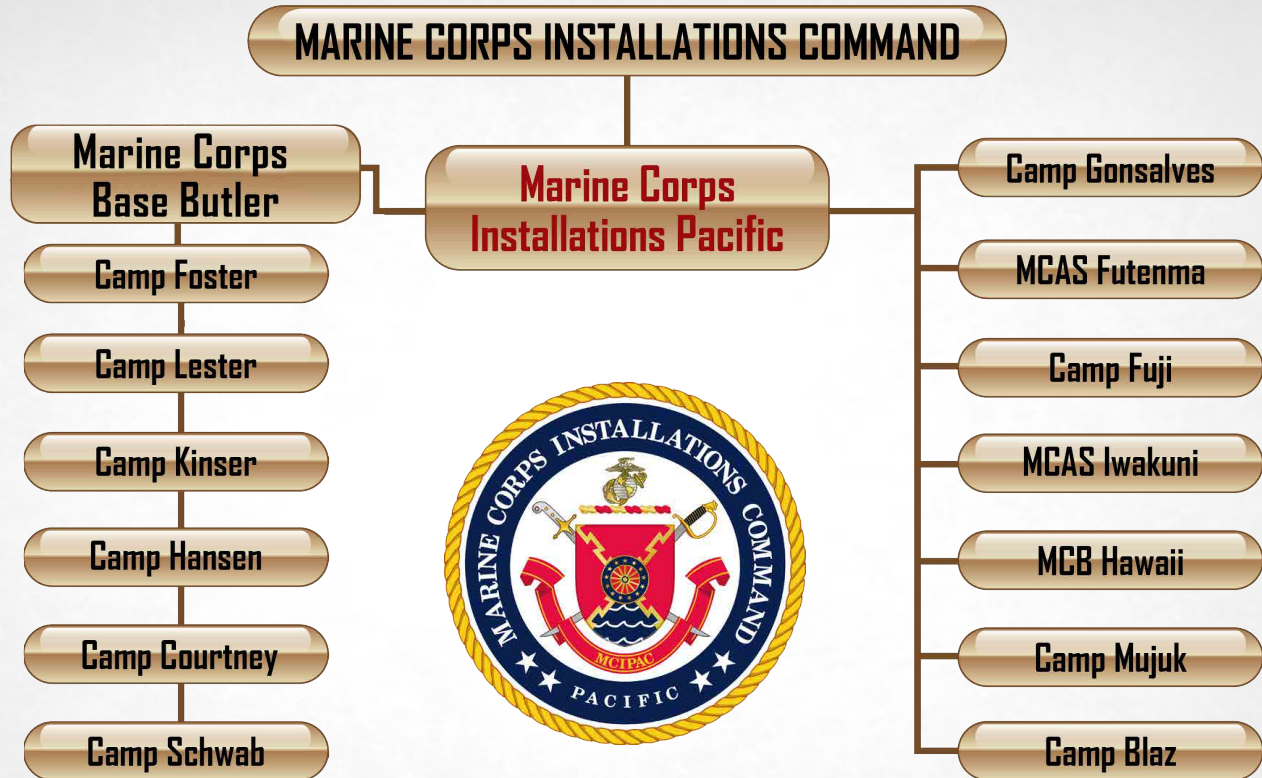
3d MLG also deploys in support of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations, focusing on medical and dental support, engineering and maintenance capabilities and providing the logistical backbone necessary to sustain other elements of III MEF's response force.

3d MLG is a Navy-Marine Corps team with professional leaders at all levels, committed to quality of life and stewardship of resources. It is fully mission capable, providing quality logistics in the Indo-Pacific region and responding to global sourcing requirements anytime, anywhere.





MCIPAC COMMAND STRUCTURE





MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS PACIFIC



Lance Cpl. Garrett Impola holds his dog back during a K-9 aggression demonstration at the Kadena Passenger Terminal on Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan. (U.S. Marine photo by Lance Cpl. Taylor P. Schwamb)

Marine Corps Installations Pacific (MCIPAC)- Marine Corps Base Butler is commanded by a major general, with its headquarters residing aboard Camp Foster. Its mission is to strengthen and enable force projection in the Indo-Pacific with our allies and partners to protect and defend the territory of the United States, its people, and its interests. MCIPAC camps and installations, arrayed across the region with purposeful designs, set theater-strategic conditions for partnered presence, logistics throughput, command and control, and military

readiness. The utility, resiliency, and strategic design represent the requisite and foundational support to the power of U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific.

MCIPAC is the single, regional authority for accountability of regional installation management resources and services within the Indo-Pacific area of operations. MCIPAC was established to increase regional installation management effectiveness. MCIPAC implements policies, develops regional strategies and plans, prioritizes resources, and provides services, direction, and oversight to all Marine Corps installations in Japan, the Republic of Korea, Hawaii, and Guam Marine Corps Installations Pacific is the 5th Element of the only forward-deployed Marine Expeditionary Force and is composed of approximately 2,600 service members, 1,200 civilian employees, and more than 3,300 Japanese and Korean workers in the Indo-Pacific region.

Installations included under MCIPAC's responsibility are MCB Camp Smedley D. Butler, MCAS Iwakuni, MCAS Futenma, and Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji in Japan, Korea and the U.S.; and Camp

Mujuk in the Republic of Korea; MCB Hawaii in the U.S.; and the most recent addition of MCB Blaz in the U.S. territory of Guam.

Whether participating in operations or training exercises, MCIPAC supports units before, during, and after each deployment. The command is responsible for ensuring installations provide a number of services like training areas, work facilities, utilities and housing.

MCIPAC remains committed to enhancing operational readiness, from the individual service member to every echelon of the Marine Air Ground Task Force, while at the same time cooperating, coordinating and communicating with our regional communities, partners and allies.

MCIPAC regularly engages in bilateral planning to ensure strong, long-term and mutually beneficial partnerships with our neighbors in the region. These continually developing relationships define our community relations efforts.







COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Marines, Sailors and their families are not only deployed here in the Pacific – they live, work and raise their children here as part of the community. They strive to be great neighbors and friends, in addition to being important allies.

Marines in Japan participate in myriad community relations events throughout the year to include annual festivals, English exchange programs, music festivals, culture exchanges and genuine friendships. Marine Corps Installations Pacific hosts Japanese university students for internships to further promote human resource development and mutual exchange.



Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) Sgt. Mio Sakuma, a french horn player with the JGSDF 15th Brigade band sings "Bashofu Bossa Nova," an Okinawan folk song during the spring concert in Tedako Hall in Urasoe, Okinawa, Japan, April 16, 2021. The annual concert was a display of the III Marine Expeditionary Force and 15th Brigade bands' alliance and unity within the musical arts. (Photo by Cpl. Terry Wong)

In the wake of the 2011 Japan earthquake and tsunami, Task Force 505 was activated to perform humanitarian and disaster relief operations. Shortly after the completion of the relief efforts, MCIPAC hosted a summer homestay program for children and adults from Oshima Island in Miyagi Prefecture, one of the hardest hit communities of the tsunami. After the tragic Shuri Castle fire in October 2019, U.S. Marine Corps service members, civilian employees and their families from across Japan and the world came together to raise more than \$11,000 toward reconstruction efforts of the historic Okinawa monument.

The Marines and Sailors of III Marine Expeditionary Force also display their good stewardship outside of Japan during various operations and exercises in the Indo-Pacific region. These humanitarian and civil assistance projects include school renovations and construction, cooperative health engagements, and joint sporting events in places such as Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand, Bangladesh, Republic of Korea and Northern Mariana Islands.

Some of the most visible Marines in the Indo-Pacific are members of the III MEF Band. The III MEF Band is the Marine Corps' sole musical representation in the Western Hemisphere and is responsible to the Commanding General, III MEF for providing musical support to military

ceremonies, while leveraging the inherent talent, tradition, and Esprit de Corps of military musicians to represent III MEF and the United States positively across the Indo-Pacific region. Promoting friendship through music, the III MEF band conducts community outreach performances and participates in international military band festivals across the region to include Hong Kong, Taiwan, Russia and the Peoples Republic of China.



Lance Cpl. Ricky E. Smith Jr., a rifleman with Battalion Landing Team, 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, walks with a local Okinawan child during a community relations event at Nature Marai Park, Kin Town, Okinawa, Japan. (U.S. Marine Corps Photo by Lance Cpl. Kevan Dunlop)

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10 USS AMERICA



FORWARD

III MEF vigilantly serves as our nation's only permanently forward-deployed Marine Air Ground Task Force. We live, train and operate within regional threats' weapon engagement zones—but maintain the Stand-in Force lethality and resilience required to blunt potential aggression and set conditions for follow-on forces to join the fight and win.

FAITHFUL

III MEF is ready to fight now in defense of our allies and national interests. We are committed to our role in support of ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific that comports with international laws and norms.

FOCUSED

III MEF is a critical component of our nation's naval expeditionary force within INDPACOM's boundaries. We are dedicated to ensuring the integration of Marine and Navy warfighting capabilities to decisively engage our nation's potential adversaries—now and in the future.





SEMPER FIDELIS