



THE FIGHTING 13TH

Newsletter



Delivered Biweekly

Vol. 1, Issue 1, May 18, 2026

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

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13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



13th MEU Marines Participate in a Mechanized Raid

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Augusto Agostini, a rifleman assigned to Battalion Landing Team 2/4, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, loads into an amphibious combat vehicle during a mechanized raid at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, May 4, 2026. The execution of this raid is a key event of the amphibious raid course that aligns amphibious combat vehicle procedures with complex raid-force tactics, enhancing the 13th MEU's operational capabilities. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Mary R. Jenni) [More Imagery](#)



BLT 2/4, VMM-364 (Rein.) Conduct an Artillery Raid

A U.S. Marine Corps CH-53E Super Stallion assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 364 (Rein.), 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, secures an M777 howitzer to execute an airlift during an artillery raid at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, May 12, 2026. An artillery raid is the rapid insertion of long-range firing assets to set conditions in the battlespace and enable maneuver. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Michael Virtue) [More Imagery](#)



BLT 2/4 Executes a Night Mechanized Raid

U.S. Marines assigned to Battalion Landing Team 2/4, 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, prepare to breach at the entry point of the objective during a mechanized raid at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, May 7, 2026. The execution of this raid is a key event of the amphibious raid course that aligns amphibious combat vehicle procedures with complex raid-force tactics, enhancing the 13th MEU's operational capabilities. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Martha Linares) [More Imagery](#)

COMMANDER'S CORNER



13th MEU Family and Friends,

Your 13th MEU just wrapped up a very productive two weeks! Our Marines and Sailors have been hard at work executing Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) training, advancing our raid capabilities, and conducting tactical vehicle driver training. We will carry this momentum forward as we prepare for Realistic Urban Training (RUT) Exercise from Yuma, AZ. As this training cycle keeps our service members busy, we know it is you—our families and friends—who keep life moving at home. Your unwavering support enables our team to focus, train, and operate at the highest standard. You are the foundation of our unit's readiness, and for your role in our success, you have my deepest gratitude.

Semper Fi,

Col. Richard Alvarez

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13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



Video: 13th MEU Conducts an Artillery Raid

U.S. Marines with the 13th MEU conduct multiple airlifts with support from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 364 (Rein.) during an artillery raid at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, May 12, 2026. An artillery raid is the rapid insertion of long-range firing assets to set conditions in the battlespace and enable maneuver. (U.S. Marine Corps video by Sgt. Martha Linares). [Watch Video](#)



Explosive Charge Detonation

EOTG, I MEF, detonates an explosive charge to simulate battlefield effects during a mechanized raid at MCB Camp Pendleton, California, May 6, 2026. [More Imagery](#)



Combat Casualty Care

A U.S. Navy Sailor assigned to BLT 2/4, 13th MEU, provides tactical combat casualty care to a simulated casualty during a mechanized raid, May 6, 2026. [More Imagery](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS & RESOURCES



L.I.N.K.S. Sunset Beach Walk

Looking for a great way to unwind and connect with others? Join Marine Corps Community Services for the Sunset Beach Walk on **Thursday, May 21, 2026, from 5–7 p.m. at Del Mar Beach & Marina** aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. This relaxed, no-pressure gathering is open to anyone looking to enjoy the ocean breeze, meet new people, and take in the sunset along the coast. Whether you come with friends or solo, the event offers the perfect opportunity to recharge, socialize, and enjoy the outdoors in a laid-back setting. L.I.N.K.S. stands for Lifestyle, Insights, Networking, Knowledge, and Skills and is an MCCS program designed to help Marines, spouses, parents, teens, and children better understand and adapt to the Marine Corps lifestyle. [More Info](#)

Foundations for Spouses Workshop

Marine Corps spouses are invited to attend Foundations for Spouses, a free L.I.N.K.S. workshop hosted by Marine Corps Community Services on **Wednesday, May 27, and Thursday, May 28, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Building 202860** aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Designed for spouses who are new to the Marine Corps, new to the area, or simply looking to learn more about military life, the workshop provides valuable insight into Marine Corps culture, military pay and benefits, local resources, networking opportunities, safety, community involvement, and more. Participants will have the opportunity to connect with fellow military spouses in a welcoming and informative environment while gaining practical knowledge to help navigate the Marine Corps lifestyle. [More Info](#)



Grow: Raising Healthy & Resilient Children

Parents looking for practical tools to reduce stress at home are invited to attend “Grow,” a free three-part parenting workshop hosted by Marine Corps Community Services beginning **Monday, June 1, 2026, from 1–3 p.m. at Marine & Family Programs – Pacific Views, Building 202860** aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. This interactive series is designed to help parents navigate common challenges such as power struggles, emotional meltdowns, screen time battles, and bedtime routines while building healthier family dynamics. Participants will learn effective discipline strategies, emotional development techniques, and ways to establish routines that support children’s long-term well-being. [More Info](#)