



1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade
Public Affairs Office
United States Marine Corps
Camp Pendleton, Calif. 92055



1ST MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
PO Box 555321
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055-5025
760.763.7047

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1ST MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE CHANGES COMMAND

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – The commanding general of 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade is scheduled to relinquish command to the incoming commander during a ceremony at I MEF headquarters Thursday.

Major General Melvin G. Spiese, commanding general, 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade, deputy commanding general, I Marine Expeditionary Force, will transfer authority of the 1st MEB to Brig. Gen. John J. Broadmeadow, commanding general, 1st Marine Logistics Group.

1st MEB is a task-organized crisis response force of I MEF capable of responding to austere environments to conduct self-sustained operations ranging from combat operations to humanitarian assistance missions.

The change of command ceremony is a formal tradition, symbolizing the continuity of the authority of command. It is a transfer of total responsibility, authority and accountability from one officer to another and is usually conducted before the assembled company of the command.

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Media interested in attending this event/ interviewing MajGen Spiese or BGen Broadmeadow should contact the 1st MEB public affairs office no later than **4:00 p.m. Wednesday**. Media must arrive at the Camp Pendleton main gate **NLT 10:00 a.m. Thursday** and will be escorted to I MEF HQ at Camp Del Mar for the ceremony.

CEREMONY DETAILS:

WHEN: THURSDAY DECEMBER 13TH **10:30 A.M**

WHERE: CAMP PENDLETON, CALIF.. I MEF HEADQUARTERS, 21 AREA, CAMP DEL MAR.

WHO: CONTACT 1st MEB PAO, 1stLt GARTH LANGLEY, AT 760.763.7047,
GARTH.LANGLEY@USMC.MIL

CONNECT WITH 1ST MEB:



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**ON THE WEB → www.imef.marines.mil/Units/1STMEB
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Q's/A's

- 1. When was 1st MEB re-activated?**
 - a. October 2nd 2009
- 2. What did 1st MEB do after activation?**
 - a. After the 2009 activation, Marines and sailors of the 1st MEB executed a 12-month deployment in the spring of 2010 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan conducting counterinsurgency operations and training Afghan national security forces. The unit joined NATO's International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan's Regional Command-South.
- 3. What are MEB's designed to do?**
 - a. The nation depends on the Marine Corps to deploy forces with the ability to move ashore and self-sustain for prolonged operations. These forces are organized into various Marine Air Ground Task Forces, or MAGTFs, which combine aviation, ground and support assets under one commander. Depending on the situation – whether it's combat operations, crisis response or humanitarian assistance – a MAGTF will morph, in size and capability, to meet the requirement.
 - b. MEB's provide unique and agile force projection capabilities that are greatly enhanced when partnered with naval forces, from assaulting an enemy beachhead to bringing ashore food and supplies to a disaster-stricken nation
- 4. What does 1st MEB provide to I MEF?**
 - a. A Marine Expeditionary Brigade comprises a Marine Air-Ground Task Force constructed around a command element, a ground combat element, an aviation combat element and a logistics combat element. The 1st MEB will include a reinforced infantry regiment, a composite Marine aircraft group, and a brigade logistics support group.
- 5. How many Marines make up a MEB?**
 - a. Before the re-establishment of the MEB which can range from 4,000 to 16,000 Marines, the Marine Expeditionary Unit with around 2,200 Marines, and the Marine Expeditionary Force with 50,000.
- 6. What training has 1st MEB conducted?**



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- a. **Javelin Thrust:** 2011, 2012: Javelin Thrust 2012/Large Scale Exercise-1 took place at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, Calif. 1st MEB Command Element along with more than 5,000 Marines from Marine Forces Reserve are participated in the exercise.
- b. The large-scale exercise was the first in a three-part continuum, culminating with a Navy and Marine Corps led amphibious exercise Dawn Blitz in 2013. Javelin Thrust is the largest annual Marine Corps Reserve and active duty training exercise, comprised of reserve Marines from 38 states, 2nd Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, 9th Communication Battalion, and the newly activated 1st Law Enforcement Battalion, I Marine Expeditionary Force. The 33 Canadian Brigade Group from Ottawa, Canada is participating as a coalition force, with a higher headquarters based at Camp Pendleton.
- c. **Pacific Horizon:** 2011, 2012: Pacific Horizon is a large-scale Maritime Prepositioning Force (MPF) exercise off the coast of Camp Pendleton, Calif. Navy and Marine Corps forces to conduct selective offload and at-sea transfer of personnel and equipment from sealift platforms to amphibious ships, or directly to air and surface craft capable of ship-to-shore delivery at the Marine Expeditionary Brigade-level. The exercise is part of an annual training plan that prepares Navy and Marine Corps forces to conduct selective offload and at-sea transfer of personnel and equipment from sealift platforms to amphibious ships, or directly to air and surface craft capable of ship-to-shore delivery.
- d. **Dawn Blitz:** 2010, 2011, 2013: DB is designed to train Sailors and Marines in the complexities of Marine Expeditionary Brigade-size amphibious operations, and increase the proficiency of the First Marine Expeditionary Force, 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade and Commander, Third Fleet and Expeditionary Strike Group Three, to plan and execute amphibious landings.
- e. **Dawn Blitz 2013:** is a multi-national two-part exercise, taking place 24-31 January (first) and 17-28 June (second) throughout Southern California
- f. **San Francisco Fleet Week:** 2011, 2012: As the Marine Corps makes a pivot to the Pacific after a decade of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, the six-day event is an opportunity to showcase the humanitarian disaster relief capabilities of the Marine Corps and Navy in the San Francisco Bay Area.



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Major General Melvin G. Spiese
Deputy Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force; and Commanding General, 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade



Major General Spiese was commissioned via the NROTC program after receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in May of 1976.

After The Basic School, Major General Spiese was assigned to 3d Battalion, 4th Marines as a Rifle Platoon Commander, Executive Officer and Commanding Officer with Company L, and served on the battalion staff. Upon return to CONUS, Major General Spiese was assigned to Marine Barracks, Naval Weapons Station, Concord, CA. In May of 1981 he was assigned to 3d Battalion, 9th Marines as the Commanding Officer of Company I and Battalion S-4. In May 1983 he was transferred to the NROTC Unit, Illinois Institute of

Technology as the Marine Officer Instructor.

Leaving Illinois in June 1986, Major General Spiese was posted to Headquarters Marine Corps, serving as the Head of Regular Officer Procurement. Following his tour at Headquarters, he attended Marine Corps Command and Staff College, graduating in May of 1990. After graduation, Major General Spiese was transferred to Marine Corps Air Station in Iwakuni, Japan and was assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 12 as the Assistant Operations Officer and Ground Combat Liaison.

Major General Spiese was assigned to 6th Marines in July of 1991 as the Executive Officer of 3d Battalion, then Regiment S-3. He assumed command of 2d Force Reconnaissance Company in December 1993. Upon relinquishing command in July 1995, Major General Spiese was reassigned to U.S. Special Operations Command, serving as a Policy Officer dealing with Counter Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Marine Corps matters. Upon his departure from USSOCOM, Major General Spiese attended Top Level School at the U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies as a Fellow in the Advanced Operational Arts Studies program. He remained a second year serving as a seminar leader for the Advanced Military Studies Program, a second year program for majors attending the Army Command and General Staff College.

Major General Spiese was assigned to the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in June of 1999 as the Director, Tactical Training Exercise Control Group. He assumed command of the School of Infantry (East) in June of 2001, and was assigned as the Director,



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Expeditionary Warfare School upon relinquishing command in July of 2003. In March of 2005, Major General Spiese assumed the duties of Commanding General Training Command, Deputy Commanding General Training and Education Command.

Major General Spiese transferred to U.S. European Command and served as the Deputy Director for Strategy, Policy and Assessments, in October 2005. He assumed Command of Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, CA, in July 2007. He commanded Training and Education Command in Quantico, VA, from May 2008 to August 2010.

His current assignment, as of September 2010, is Deputy Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force, and Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Brigade.

Major General Spiese has been awarded three Legions of Merit, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and the Joint Service Achievement Medal. He is a Military Freefall Parachutist and Marine Combatant Diver. Major General Spiese has earned a Masters of Science degree from the University of Southern California, and a Masters of Military Arts and Science degree from the U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies.

Brigadier General John J. Broadmeadow
Commanding General, 1st Marine Logistics Group

Brigadier General Broadmeadow graduated from Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont in May 1983 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in July 1983.

As a Company Grade Officer from 1983 to 1995, he served in staff and command billets with 3rd Force Service Support Group, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade, Facilities Department Camp Pendleton, 1st Marine Corps District, and 1st Force Service Support Group deploying to Somalia for Operation Restore Hope.

As a Field Grade Officer from 1995 to 2009, he served in the following staff billets; G-4 Operations and Plans Officer, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, Japan; Prepositioning Officer for Deputy Commandant Plans, Policies, and Operations at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; Assistant Chief of Staff (AC/S) G-4, 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade; AC/S N-4, Task Force 58 during the amphibious assault and first conventional force operations in Afghanistan at the start of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF); AC/S G-4, 1st Marine Division for the attack to Baghdad during Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) I and the return for stability / counter





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insurgency operations in Al Anbar, Iraq for OIF II; and AC/S G-4, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing.

His command billets include Commanding Officer, Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 deploying to Al Anbar, Iraq for OIF 04-06; Commanding Officer, Combat Logistics Regiment 17; and Team Chief and Senior Advisor to the 7th Iraqi Infantry Division in Iraq for OIF-08.

As a General Officer he was assigned as the Deputy Commanding General, Marine Forces Pacific in August 2009. During this tour he also served as the Combined Force Land Component Commander (CFLCC) for Exercise Rim of the Pacific '10 and as the Deputy Commander for Joint Task Force 505 in Japan for Operations Tomodachi and Pacific Passage. Brigadier General Broadmeadow assumed Command of 1st Marine Logistics Group in June 2011 and deployed to Afghanistan in Feb 2012 for OEF 12.

Brigadier General Broadmeadow is a graduate of the USMC Amphibious Warfare School and Command and Staff College (non resident programs), a graduate of the U.S. Army War College in 2001, the Joint Forces Staff College in 2008, and the National Defense University's CAPSTONE Course in 2009. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Norwich University, a dual M.A. in Business Administration and Computer Resources Management from Webster University, and a M.S. in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

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