

**Exercise Dawn Blitz 2013  
Joint Information Bureau  
Expeditionary Strike Group-3, Commander, Third Fleet  
1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade, I Marine Expeditionary Force**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DAWN BLITZ: 13-004**

**JUNE 11, 2013**

**US NAVY AND MARINE CORPS BEGIN MULTINATIONAL AMPHIBIOUS EXERCISE  
DAWN BLITZ 2013**

San Diego, Calif. - Marines and sailors from 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade, I Marine Expeditionary Force and the Navy's Expeditionary Strike Group-3, Commander, Third Fleet, announce the official commencement of multinational amphibious exercise Dawn Blitz 2013 off the Southern California coast, June 11-28.

Dawn Blitz 2013 is a culminating exercise in a continuum of training designed to test the Navy and Marine Corps' abilities in the planning and execution of complex amphibious operations from ship-to-shore. The initial, synthetic-based portion occurred Jan. 28-31, 2013, aboard the USS Boxer and at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. The live portion includes more than 5,000 U.S. Marines, sailors and coalition forces from Canada, Japan, and New Zealand; as well as military observers from seven countries.

Featured training includes large-scale amphibious assaults, sea-basing operations, mine warfare operations, live-fire opportunities, and Maritime Prepositioning of Forces (MPF), battle-space shaping operations, force-on-force training, special operations forces, operational planning, live-fire opportunities, infantry immersion training, shipboard driver qualification, MV-22 take-offs and landing aboard a Japanese ship, and the largest multilateral amphibious landing on Camp Pendleton's Red Beach, June 24.

DB 2010 and 2011 were the first and largest amphibious exercises for San Diego Navy and Marine Corps units since 2001. DB 2013 plays a vital role in returning the Navy and Marine Corps to its amphibious roots at the Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) and Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) levels for effective global crisis response across the range of military operations. Amphibious task forces are crucial to maritime power projection at sea and ashore.

"Dawn Blitz 2013 builds on an already close partnership between Canadian, Japanese and New Zealand militaries, which strengthens our capacity to respond to a variety of regional challenges, including regional disasters" Brig. Gen. John Broadmeadow, commanding general, 1st MEB.

Related exercises to the DB exercise continuum include Iron Fist, Pacific Horizon and Javelin Thrust.

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**DOWNLOAD HD VIDEO/ PHOTOS:**

[www.dvidshub.net/feature/DawnBlitz](http://www.dvidshub.net/feature/DawnBlitz)

**DAWN BLITZ WEB**

**PAGE:**

<http://www.imef.marines.mil/Units/1STMEB/DawnBlitz2013.aspx>

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**KEY DATES:**

- 11 JUNE- EXERCISE BEGINS
- 11-28 JUNE- MINE WARFARE AND DIVE TRAINING AT CAMP PENDLETON
- 10-21 JUNE- COALITION INFANTRY TRAINING
- 13-18 JUNE- MARITIME PREPOSITIONING FORCE OFFLOAD AT NAVAL BASE CORONADO, SILVER STRAND
- 14 JUNE- MV-22 LANDING ABOARD JAPANESE SHIP JS HYUGA
- 17 JUNE- SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS
- 17 JUNE- BI-LATERAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT ABOARD JS HYUGA
- 20 JUNE- JSDF LIVE FIRE TRAINING
- 23-28 JUNE- MARITIME PREPOSITIONING FORCE BACKLOAD AT NAVAL BASE CORONADO, SILVER STRAND
- 24 JUNE- MULTINATIONAL AMPHIBIOUS LANDING ON CAMP PENDLETON
- 25 JUNE- US NAVY MEDIA DAY ABOARD USS BOXER
- 25-28 JUNE- FORCE ON FORCE INFANTRY TRAINING WITH MARINE FORCES RESERVE
- 26 JUNE- MASS CASUALTY EXERCISE
- 28 JUNE- EXERCISE CONCLUDES

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

Participants include Commander, U.S. Third Fleet (C3F), Expeditionary Strike Group 3 (ESG 3), 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB), 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), 1st Marine Division, 1st Marine Logistics Group, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Forces Reserve, USS Boxer (LHD 4), USS Peleliu (LHA 5), USS New Orleans (LPD 18), USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49), USS Cowpens (CG 63), Naval Mine and Anti-Submarine Warfare Command (NMAWC), Mine Countermeasures Squadron 3 (MCMRON 3), Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 11 (EODMU 11), Japanese

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Ground Self Defense Forces Western Army Infantry Regiment, Western Army Aviation Group, Japanese Air Defense Command, Japan Maritime Self Defense Force ships: HYUGA, SHIMOKITA, and ATAGO, and Royal Canadian Navy ships: HMCS SASKATOON and NANAIMO. New Zealand will send a company-sized unit from the New Zealand Defence Force.

1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade participants include: Regimental Landing Team-1 from the 1st Marine Division, Combat Logistics Regiment-17 from the 1st Marine Logistics Group and Marine Aircraft Group-16 from the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing.

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**1ST MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE INFORMATION:**

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

[www.facebook.com/1stMarineExpeditionaryBrigade](http://www.facebook.com/1stMarineExpeditionaryBrigade)

[www.twitter.com/1stMEF](http://www.twitter.com/1stMEF)

[www.youtube.com/1stMarineBrigade](http://www.youtube.com/1stMarineBrigade)

1st MEB was reactivated on October 2, 2009. Larger than a Marine Expeditionary Unit but smaller than a Marine Expeditionary Force, a MEB is a scalable/ task organized crisis response capability consisting of 4-16,000 forces from I MEF. 1st MEB is capable of self-sustained operations in austere environments for up to 30 days. Its command element can deploy quickly on short notice to any place in the world to provide command and control for a wide range of contingencies, from combat missions to humanitarian aid and disaster relief.

Dawn Blitz is vitally important to the readiness of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade in responding to global crisis contingencies across the range of military operations. Simultaneously this exercise enhances the inextricably linked Navy and Marine Corps team while enhancing existing military-to-military relationships with Canada, Japan, and New Zealand by conducting realistic and relevant training.

**MV-22 OSPREY:**

"The very first landing of an MV-22 Osprey on a Japanese ship is a historic moment for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade and Marine Corps at large. Dawn Blitz provides us an opportunity to enhance our longstanding relationship with the Japanese and to highlight the capabilities of the MV-22 Osprey, which allows the Marine Corps to quickly respond to a crisis when launched from sea or land." – Brig. Gen. John Broadmeadow, 1st MEB commanding general.