PRIDE OF THE PACIFIC

11TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT

INTRODUCTION
UNIT COMPOSITION
AIRCRAFT
VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

COMMANDING OFFICER ..... Col. Michael R. Hudson
SERGEANT MAJOR ..... Sgt. Maj. Scott T. Pile

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The United States, with a strong partnership between its Marine Corps and Navy, maintains the largest and most capable amphibious force in the world.

... FLEXIBLE, SEA-BASED ...

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 Marine Air Ground Task Forces, or MAGTFs, a combination of aviation, ground and support assets.

MAGTFs provide the nation with a broad spectrum of responses when U.S. and allied interests have been threatened, and when immediate assistance is needed during non-combat times of crisis. Marine Expeditionary Units, or MEUs, are the smallest of the MAGTFs. Coupled with the Navy, this team serves as the nation's forward-deployed, quick-response team, capable of accomplishing a variety of missions worldwide.

The MEU, commanded by a colonel, is comprised of about 2,100 Marines and sailors, embarked on three ships configured as an Amphibious Ready Group, or ARG.

COMMANDING OFFICER

Col. Michael R. Hudson was born in San Francisco and grew up in the Bay Area.

He enrolled in the Platoon Leaders Course while attending San Jose State University and graduated with a degree in Aeronautics in December 1984. He completed The Basic School and was designated a Naval Aviator in April 1987. He was assigned to Marine Helicopter Training Squadron 301 at Marine Corps Air Station Tustin, Calif., and received his designation as a CH-46 medium-lift helicopter pilot.

Subsequently joining Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161 at Tustin, he was assigned to both the administrative and intelligence departments and deployed as part of the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit in January 1989. Upon returning, he was promoted to captain and assigned to squadron operations. In August 1990, Capt. Hudson deployed again with HMM-161 to Jubail, Saudi Arabia, for both Desert Shield and Desert Storm, returning in April 1991.

In June 1991, he was transferred to 3rd Tank Battalion, Twentynine Palms, Calif., where he served as air officer. He built the air package for the first Steel Knight Exercise, and participated in numerous combined-arms exercises, Exercises Desert Fire and Desert Scimitar. In September 1992, he was transferred to Training Squadron Six (VT-6) in Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Fla., where he served as the Standardization officer and flight instructor in the T-34C. During this time, he completed his master's in business management from Troy State University in Alabama. Completing this tour in July 1995, he transferred to Marine Helicopter Training Squadron 204 in New River, N.C., for CH-46 refresher training.

In November 1995, he was promoted to major and assigned to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 161 at Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Calif., where he was assigned as the administration officer before serving as operations officer. He deployed with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit in March 1997. In April 1998, Maj. Hudson was transferred to Marine Aircraft Group 16 to serve as plans officer.

In August 1998, he was transferred to the Navy Warfare Development Command in Newport, R.I. While assigned there, he drafted the Naval Land Attack Concept and worked on Time Critical/Sensitive Targeting and advanced sensor-to-weapon networks.

In June 2001, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel and transferred to Marine Medium Helicopter Training Squadron 164 at Camp Pendleton, Calif. After completing his refresher syllabus, he was assigned to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364 to serve as executive officer. In March 2002, he deployed with the squadron to Korea to support Exercise Foal Eagle and a reception, staging, onward-movement and integration exercise. Upon his return in June, he was assigned as the Marine Aircraft

Group 39 executive officer. He deployed to Ali Al Salem, Kuwait, in February 2003 for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, returning in October 2003. In May 2004, he assumed command of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364, "The Purple Foxes."

In February 2005, the squadron deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 04-06 to Al Taqaddum Air Base, Iraq, to conduct combat operations. Primarily conducting casualty-evacuation missions and direct-action raids, the squadron flew more than 3,800 mishap-free combat hours in seven months. In December 2005, he relinquished command and was assigned to 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing to serve as future operations officer.

In June 2006, he reported to the Naval War College, Newport, R.I. He was promoted to his present rank in September 2006 and graduated in June 2007 with a master's degree in national security and strategic studies.

From July 2007 to May 2009, he was assigned to U.S. Pacific Command to serve as Joint Operations Center Director. He transferred to I Marine Expeditionary Force in June 2009 for duties as future operations officer. He assumed command of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit in May 2010.

He has logged more than 3,900 total flight hours. His personal decorations include the Bronze Star with one gold star, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with one gold star, the Air Medal with strike flight 12, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with one gold star and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with one gold star. He is married to the former Nichelle Betters of Sunnyvale, Calif. They have two children, Courtney, 16, and Connor, 11.

SERGEANT MAJOR

Sgt. Maj. Scott T Pile has completed the Amphibious Warfare School, Command and Staff, and Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education Non-Resident Programs. He has an associate degree, a Bachelor of Science with honors degree, and a master's degree in administration.

He was a distinguished graduate of Noncommissioned Officer School, earning the Leadership Award there, and the U.S. Army Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course. He was the honor graduate of his Drill Instructor School class, and again, a distinguished graduate from both the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Career and Advanced Courses.

His personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal

with one gold star, the Army Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with three gold stars, the Combat Action Ribbon with one gold star, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal with bronze star.

UNIT COMPOSITION

The MEU is an expeditionary intervention force with the ability to move quickly on short notice to wherever needed to accomplish conventional operations. The strength of the unit resides in its inherent combined-arms capability while operating from forward-deployed amphibious shipping. Like all MAGTF models, the 11th MEU is comprised of four elements: command and control, ground combat, aviation combat and logistics combat.

MISSION: Provide a forward-deployed, flexible, sea-based, Marine Air Ground Task Force, capable of rapidly executing amphibious operations, crisis-response* and limited-contingency operations, to include enabling the introduction of follow-on forces.

Command Element

The CE is made up of the commanding officer, a Marine Corps colonel, and his supporting staff, approximately 200 Marines and sailors. They provide command, control and coordination essential for planning and executing missions. This element is reinforced with specialized detachments including Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company members and advanced intelligence and communications capabilities.

Ground Combat Element

The GCE is comprised of an infantry battalion and reinforced by an artillery battery, amphibious assault vehicles, combat engineers, reconnaissance, tanks, and light-armored reconnaissance vehicles. The infantry battalion is 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, aka the Thundering Third, which consists of approximately 1,200 Marines and sailors.

Aviation Combat Element

The ACE is a reinforced helicopter squadron consisting of about 350 Marines and sailors. Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 268 provides CH-46E Sea Knights, and detachments from various units provide CH-53E Super Stallions, UH-1Y Hueys and AH-1Z Super Cobras, as well as AV-8B Harrier jets. KC-130 transport planes are on standby ashore to support the MEU when needed. To operate, maintain and defend these assets, the ACE has air-traffic control, air defense, aircraft maintenance and supply.

Logistics Combat Element

Combat Logistics Battalion 11, consisting of approximately 300 Marines and sailors, serves as the LCE and provides combat support that includes supply, maintenance, transportation, explosive ordnance disposal, military police, water production and distribution, engineering, medical and dental services and fuel storage and distribution. The LCE gives the MEU the ability to support itself for 15 days in any environment.

AIRCRAFT

AH-1Z Super Cobra

Provides en-route escort for assault helicopters and their embarked forces. Additional missions include fire support and security, anti-armor, anti-helicopter, supporting arms control and coordination, and armed and visual reconnaissance.

CH-46E Sea Knight

Primary mission: transporting assault troops. Additional missions include heavy lift, aero-medical evacuation, search and rescue, assault support for evacuations and support for mobile refueling points.

UH-1Y Huey

Provides support to the landing force commander during ship-to-shore movement and operations ashore. Additional missions include command and control, supporting arms coordination, assault support, medical evacuation, search and rescue, and reconnaissance.

CH-53E Super Stallion

Missions include the transportation of troops, materials and supplies, and heavy loads including vehicles and aircraft recovery.

AV-8B Harrier

Featuring vertical takeoff and landing, this attack aircraft provides close-air support for ground troops. Other missions include close- and deep-combat air support and offensive missions against enemy ground-to-air defenses. It is a single seat, single engine aircraft.

KC-130 Hercules

A tactical tanker and transporter, this plane provides MAGTFs with aerial refueling, rapid ground refueling, aerial delivery of troops and cargo, emergency re-supply, medical evacuation and an airborne direct air support center.

VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

Light-Armored Vehicle

With a 25mm main gun and supporting machine guns, the LAV-25 model delivers accurate, destructive fire against light-armored vehicles and material targets. A logistics variant hauls supplies and equipment, and the LAV-Recovery is capable of towing.

Assault Amphibian Vehicle

The AAV-7A1 model carries surface-assault infantrymen and equipment from ships to inland objectives, supporting maneuver warfare and providing combat support. Variants include the Command AAV with enhanced communications and AAV-Recovery capable of towing.

Lightweight 155mm Howitzer

Designated the M777/M777A2, this towed howitzer, capable of firing unassisted high-explosive projectiles to a range of 15 miles, is a direct- and general-support artillery system whose major structures are made of high-strength titanium alloy. For accurate targeting, the A2 variant's digital fire-control system takes into account wind speed, meteorological conditions and even the Earth's rotation.

Joint Task Force Enabler

A ground mobile satellite communications system that connects the commander to subordinate elements with standard and encrypted internet and phone services. The JTF-E is capable of worldwide command, control, communications, computer and intelligence within 24 hours.

Medium Tactical Vehicle (R)

Air transportable and able to haul 15 tons, (7 tons off-road) this truck, which can be fully armored, is used for various missions including hauling troops and supplies.

M1A1 Abrams

This tank's 120mm main gun, combined with a 1,500 horsepower turbine engine and special armor, make it particularly suitable for attacking or defending against large concentrations of heavy armor forces on a highly lethal battlefield.

Humvee

Armor, high ground clearance and four-wheel drive give the M1114 High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle cross-country mobility, whether carrying infantrymen battle or leading a logistics convoy. Variants include the ambulance, troop carrier, shelter carrier and heavy payload carrier.

MK-48 Logistical Vehicle

A modular system consisting of a front-power unit and four interchangeable rear units. It is capable of hauling 22.5 tons on roads and 12.5 tons off-road.

	DELIVERS	SUSTAINS
FRESH WATER	**1,500** gallons* per hour	**1,500** troops per day
SALTWATER	**1,200** gallons* per hour	**1,200** troops per day

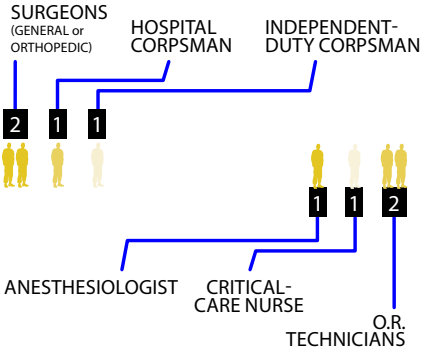
*Potable water purified by TWPS

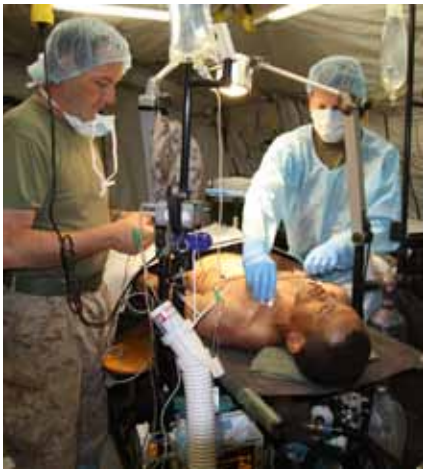
TACTICAL WATER PURIFICATION SYSTEM

With almost 200,000 U.S. troops stationed in the extreme climates of Afghanistan and Iraq, where temperatures can reach 120 degrees Fahrenheit during the arid summer months, the Tactical Water Purification System has become a crucial component for sustaining healthy forces. The TWPS uses state-of-the art, microfiltration technology to filter out silt and biological materials and includes advanced high-salt rejection and reverse osmosis technology to produce drinking water from the most extreme water sources in the world. These units are efficient for disaster-relief water supply. The microfiltration system proved its capability during flooding of the Red River in the U.S. Midwest several years ago. The combination of reverse osmosis and microfiltration makes this first-class disaster-relief system an asset anywhere in the world.

FORWARD RESUSCITATIVE SURGICAL SYSTEM

This trauma surgical unit provides the supplies and equipment to perform 18 emergency surgical interventions in a 48-hour period to stabilize casualties that might otherwise die or lose limbs before reaching treatment. The FRSS is the lightest and most mobile of the Marine Corps Health Service Support elements capable of providing trauma surgical care.





- Modular; Highly mobile
- Deployable by air or surface means
- Modular, rapidly transportable and deployable
- Provides Levels I and II health service support

They mobilize in minutes. Within the hour, they are in striking distance of the enemy. But they're less concerned with the enemy and more concerned with saving lives. Following combat-arms units every step of the way, this modern-day M.A.S.H., equipped with the latest life-saving technology, gives frontline troops history's fastest access to battlefield surgical care.