

**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: 13-006  
JUNE 14, 2013

**U.S. MARINES TO MAKE HISTORIC LANDING OF MV-22 TILT-ROTOR OSPREY  
ON JAPANESE NAVY SHIPS**

San Diego, Calif. - Marines from Marine Medium Tilt-rotor Squadron 161 (VMM-161), Marine Aircraft Group-16, 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade to demonstrate the versatile capabilities of the MV-22 Tilt-rotor Osprey aircraft aboard Japanese Maritime Self Defense Forces ships for the first time off of the Southern California coast, June 14.

MV-22 Osprey aircraft commanded by Lt. Col. Bradley J. Harms, will fly from Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar along with Brig. Gen. John J. Broadmeadow, commanding general, 1st MEB and Japanese leaders from the Japanese Self Defense Forces and land aboard the JS Shimokita and JS Hyuga. After landing on the Hyuga, crews will demonstrate the utility of the MV-22 and conduct a Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) demonstration; shut-down, tow procedures, lower and raising in ship's elevator before flying ashore. U.S. Navy and Marine conducted familiarization training with Japanese crews in preparation of the landings, June 3-11.

"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.

Introduction of the Osprey into the Asia-Pacific region allows the U.S. to deliver to its allies, the unprecedented capabilities the Marine Corps brings with its MV-22's in terms of range, lift, and speed. The first twelve MV-22s arrived at Iwakuni, Japan on July 23, 2012. The deployment of the MV-22 to Japan is critical to the United States' fulfillment of its responsibilities under the mutual security treaty.

Japan and the United States have worked together building a strategic alliance that has been the cornerstone of peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region. The training builds on a lasting relationship between the U.S. and Japan spanning 66 years.

More than 5,000 total forces from the U.S., Canada, Japan and New Zealand are participating in the third iteration of the amphibious exercise Dawn Blitz taking place across Southern California, June 11-28.

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**PHOTOS AND VIDEO WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD ON  
THE DAWN BLITZ FEATURE PAGE:**

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

**CONTACT THE 1ST MEB PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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[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)

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**MV-22 OSPREY INFORMATION:**

**FEATURES:**

Designed for expeditionary assault, raid operations, cargo lift and special warfare. Built with composite materials, fly-by-wire flight controls, digital cockpits Vertical takeoff and landing, and short takeoff and landing capabilities In-flight refueling.

With the speed and range of a turboprop, the maneuverability of a helicopter and the ability to carry 24 Marine combat troops twice as fast and five times farther than previous helicopters, the Osprey greatly enhances the advantages Marines have over their enemies. The Osprey's impact was felt immediately upon its arrival in Iraq. Commenting on its advanced expeditionary capabilities and staggering operational reach, a top Marine commander went as far as to say it turned his battle space "from the size of Texas into the size of Rhode Island."

**ROLES:**

- Tiltrotor Airframe Mechanic, MV-22
- Tiltrotor Crew Chief, MV-22
- Tiltrotor Mechanic, MV-22
- Helicopter/Tiltrotor Dynamic Components Mechanic

<http://www.3rdmaw.marines.mil/Units/MAG16/VMM161.aspx>

<http://www.marines.com/operating-forces/equipment/aircraft/mv-22-osprey>

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**DAWN BLITZ:**

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, Maritime Prepositioning of Forces (MPF), battle-space shaping operations, force-on-force training, special operations training, operational planning, infantry immersion training, shipboard driver qualification, medical training, raids, MV-22 take-offs and landing aboard a Japanese ship, and the largest multilateral amphibious landing in Camp Pendleton history, 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.

Related training related to the DB exercise continuum includes Iron Fist, Pacific Horizon and Javelin Thrust.

**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), 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.

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**1ST MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE INFORMATION:**

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

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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.