USS MAKIN ISLAND Amphibious Ready Group/11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (ARG/MEU)

22nd Annual Expeditionary Warfare Conference

CAPT Michael Crary
24 Oct 2017

Overall Classification of this brief is: UNCLASSIFIED
Agenda

• ARG/MEU Task Organization
• Executive Overview
• Pre-Deployment Training Program Overview
• Operational Discussion
• Recommendations
Task Organization

Supported / Supporting Command Relationship

Amphibious Squadron Five  
PHIBRON 5  
CAPT Michael Crary

11th Marine Expeditionary Unit  
11th MEU  
Col Clay Tipton

VMM 163 (REIN)  
(Aviation Combat Element)  
LtCol Christopher Browning

Battalion Landing Team 1/4  
(Ground Combat Element)  
LtCol Matthew Lundgren

Combat Logistics Battalion 11  
(Logistics Combat Element)  
LtCol Patrick Reynolds

CPR5 / ARG Personnel:  
1,947 Marines & Sailors

11th MEU Personnel:  
2,460 Marines & Sailors

LHD 8 MAKIN ISLAND  
CAPT Mark Melson

LPD 25 SOMERSET  
CAPT Darren Glaser

LSD 45 COMSTOCK  
CDR Bradley Coletti

Tactical Air Control Squadron 11

Fleet Surgical Team Five

Naval Beach Group One

Assault Craft Unit Five

Assault Craft Unit One

Beach Master Unit One

Helicopter Sea Combat Two One

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Executive Overview

- MAKIN ISLAND Amphibious Ready Group (MKIARG) / 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (11th MEU) deployed Oct 2015 – May 2017 to the Pacific Command (PACOM), Central Command (CENTCOM), and Africa Command (AFRICOM) Areas of Responsibility (AoR).

- Deployed for (214) days, of which the ARG/MEU operated (82) days in an Aggregated configuration, (118) days in a Split configuration, and (14) days in a Disaggregated configuration.

- Provided forward presence and deterrence in the PACOM AoR. In CENTCOM, ARG/MEU was postured mostly in the Gulf of Aden, supporting maritime trade and sea lines of communication.

- Assisted special operations forces (SOF) efforts to counter violent extremism, and provided alert contingency forces for theater requirements.

- Provided forces to support coalition forces in CJTF-OIR’s Operation INHERENT RESOLVE (counter IS offensive in Syria) with a fires-centric ground task force.

- Assigned to an postured for AFRICOM’s to support to US Department of State mission in South Sudan with sea-based and land-based alert contingency forces.

- Supported and developed partner force capability and own force readiness through eight major unilateral and bilateral exercises (six in PACOM and two in CENTCOM) and several smaller advisor and subject-matter-expert exchanges.
Aggressive, raids and alert contingency mission-based Pre-deployment Training Program (PTP) – validated on deployment

Pre-deployment Training Program focused on maximizing and “stacking” every event with as many assets of the MAGTF as possible; enabled by all three ships of the ARG deploying on time and remaining healthy for each exercise

First C3F-I MEF ARG/MEU subject to re-designed evaluation process – ARG and MEU both formally evaluated at CERTEX (not sequentially)

Early relationship w/ SOFLE and multiple ARG/MEU-SOF integration events throughout the Pre-deployment Training Program

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Overview of Deployment 2016-2017

Four Months in Middle East / Africa

Three Months in Pacific and Indian Oceans
**KEY THEMES**
- Multi-Role / Multi-Mission Force in Readiness
- Rapid & Timely Response to Emerging Crisis
- Flexible and Scalable Integration with Joint and Partnered Forces
- ARG Shipping = Sovereign US Soil

**THEATER SECURITY COOPERATION**
1. Japan – EX KEEN SWORD
2. Malaysia – EX TIGER STRIKE
4. Oman - EX SEA SOLDIER
5. Iraq - CBRN Training Mission
6. Pakistan – EX AMAN 17
7. Sri Lanka – Sri Lankan Marines & Navy
8. Malaysia – TACP/CAS Training
9. Papua New Guinea – Training assistance for APEC 18

**LEGEND**
- Significant Combat / Combat Support operations
- Theater Security Cooperation

**USCENTCOM CONTINGENCY/CRISIS RESPONSE**
- Support to US Diplomatic Mission in S. Sudan
- Support Operation Inherent Resolve in Syria

**MARITIME SECURITY, PRESENCE, AND INTERDICTION OPERATIONS**
- Support to SOF Theater Security Cooperation Activities
- Support to SOF Theater Security Operations to Counter Violent Extremism

**SUPPORT TO US SOF OPERATIONS TO COUNTER VIOLENT EXTREMISM**
- Iraq CBRN MTT
- EX AMAN 17
- EX SEA SOLDIER

**THEATER SECURITY COOPERATION**
- Japan – EX KEEN SWORD
- Malaysia – EX TIGER STRIKE
- Sri Lanka – Sri Lankan Marines & Navy
- Oman - EX SEA SOLDIER
- Iraq - CBRN Training Mission
- Pakistan – EX AMAN 17
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- Malaysia – TACP/CAS Training
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CPR-5 Summary and Recommendations

Reducing Risk During Split Operations

C5I / PERSONNEL / MEDICAL MANNING

- Enhanced C5I
- Full Motion Video Data Link capability
- Link 16 Interface for MH-60S
- Intelligence Specialists
- Air Intercept Controllers
- Aviation Ordnancemen
- Fleet Surgical Team (FST)/Expeditionary Resuscitative Surgical System (ERSS) Team for Role II
- Joint Range Extension Applications Protocol (JREAP)
- Flight Deck Manning Enhancements
- Role II Medical Capability

LOGISTICS / INFRASTRUCTURE

- Forward staging of high failure parts
- Develop wash down facilities
- Implementation of aviation logistics in DJI / DUQM
- Facilitation of contractor support (clearances / travel)

(U) Enhance split operations with key upgrades and targeted infrastructure development
Questions