

USMC REDBOOK



From the Home of Marine Artillery



Colonel C. A. Tavuchis
Commanding Officer
US Marine Corps Artillery
Detachment, Fort Sill, OK

Marine Artillery Support to 38th Commandant

The Marine artillery and fire support community is pleased to showcase our annual activities in the latest edition of Field Artillery Journal. Our inclusion in the Journal highlights our rich and enduring association with the U.S. Army and the U.S. Army Field Artillery School.

Our update follows closely on the heels of the recent publication of our 38th Commandant's Planning Guidance (CPG) in July 2019, which sees Marine artillery and fire support community on the cusp of significant changes. The CPG provides the 38th CMC's strategic direction for the Marine Corps and mirrors the function of the Secretary of Defense's Defense Planning Guidance. It serves as the authoritative document for Service-level planning and provides a common direction to the Marine Corps Total Force. It also serves as a road map describing where the Marine Corps is going and why; what the Marine Corps force development priorities are and are not; and, in some instances, how and when prescribed actions will be implemented. The CPG serves as our Commandant's Intent for the next four years. The CPG reignites the Marine Corps' commitment to our traditional naval expeditionary character and alerts the force to a bold new vector that envisions our Corps operating inside actively contested maritime spaces in support of fleet operations. The CPG is laser focused on the concept of Expeditionary Advanced Based Operations which complement the Navy's Distributed Maritime Operations Concept.

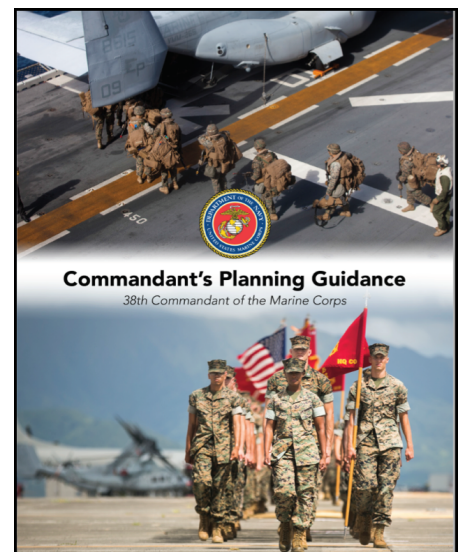
Our community anticipates supporting the CMC's vision by transforming our current capability sets towards one more focused on ground-based long-range precision-fires (LRPF). These LRPF will have sufficient range and precision to deter our enemies with an eye towards sea denial and sea control. Achieving this goal will require a system with a minimum objective range of 350NM. Possession of such a capability is not only an operational imperative based on the threat, but one that will increase options to commanders and will serve to radically alter our forward posture once fully realized. It is

with great anticipation that our community awaits the outcome of the CMC-directed force design effort later this spring. As we do daily at Fort Sill and throughout the Fleet Marine Forces with our maneuver customers, the artillery and fire support community stand poised and ready to support our Commandant's vision.

In addition to the development of new capabilities to realize the CMC's vision, the Marine Artillery Detachment (MarDet) Fort Sill, OK – the Home of Marine Artillery – is blazing a trail toward modernizing our entire learning environment through the Learning Modernization Cell. Directed by the CGs for Training and Education Command and Training Command, we are in the process of assessing, experimenting, reforming, and refining instruction. Our efforts are focused on transforming learning and teaching modes in order to move from a traditional "industrial" age learning model – instructor centric fact recitation – to a more "information" age model. Modern learning seeks to enhance instruction through the adaptation and integration of technology and new, student focused techniques into the learning environment

The MarDet is "moving out," taking the lead in our unique role within the training and capabilities development enterprise. It is a fascinating and exciting time to be a member of the Marine and Army artillery and fire support communities.

Semper Fidelis!



US Marine Corps Active and Marine Forces Reserve Field Artillery Units

Marine Artillery Detachment, Fort Sill, OK

The United States Marine Artillery Detachment, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, commanded by Colonel Christopher A. Tavuchis, is home to all artillery training in the Marine Corps. With 93 permanent party Marines, the Marine Detachment (MarDet) teaches 13 Marine specific courses and collaborates with the Army on additional joint courses. These courses include entry-level and career-progression artillery and fire support related instruction. Additionally, the MarDet promotes the advancement of artillery programs, doctrine and instruction through direct coordination with Marine Corps Operating Forces, Headquarters Marine Corps, the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab, Training and Education Command, and the U.S. Army's Fires Center of Excellence.

The MarDet is organized into several branches to accomplish its mission and tasks. They include, the Marine Corps Cannoneer School, the Enlisted Gunnery School, the Target Acquisition School and the Officer Instruction Branch. All of these entities are supported and supervised by the detachment headquarters element comprised of special staff, S1, S3, S4, an Academics Department, and the Marine Training Battalion.

The Marine Corps Cannoneer School is responsible for entry-level and advanced training on the M772A2 howitzer and the M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS). They will soon add the Section Chiefs' Course to their advanced training curriculum.

The Target Acquisition School is organized into four sections. The Radar

Section provides entry-level and advanced training for Q-50 radars, as well as radar theory and target processing techniques. The Artillery Electronics Maintenance section provides entry-level training for intermediate level repairs of all artillery electronics. The Sensor Support Section instructs entry-level and advanced skills in acoustics, artillery meteorology and survey. The Observed Fires section provides entry-level training in scout observer procedures, advanced instruction in battalion and regimental fire support coordination, and instructor and operator certification for the Marine Corps Target Mensuration Only Program. All sections provide some level of instruction to the Target Acquisition Officer Basic Course, the Marine Artillery Officer Basic Course, and Marines of the Field Artillery Captains' Career Course.

The Officer Instruction Branch (OIB) provides entry-level training for Marine lieutenants and follow-on training for captains after completing their career-level education of the Field Artillery Captains' Career Course. They also provide instructors to the Army's 1st Battalion, 30th Field Artillery of the 428th Field Artillery Brigade to teach Army and international officers to be artillerists in a combined setting.

The logistics staff provides instruction to entry-level officers and career progression courses for Marine staff non-commissioned officers (SNCOs) and officers in the areas of combat service support, material management, supply, fiscal, arms, ammunition and explosives (AA&E), publications, maintenance, and use of the Global Combat Support System - Marine Corps (GCSS-MC).

Finally, the Marine Training Battalion consists of the commander, senior

enlisted advisor, battalion gunnery sergeant and four platoon sergeants, which supervise, mentor and assist in the training and administration of all entry-level enlisted Marines. The battalion is responsible for executing the Marines Awaiting Training Program in support of new entry-level enlisted Marines that report to Fort Sill for Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) training.

The year 2019 proved, yet again, to be a busy and demanding time for the Detachment. The respective branches trained a total of 1,451 officers and enlisted Marines in their entry-level and career progression courses.

In addition to training artillerymen, the MarDet provided direct support to operational force units and Headquarters, Marine Corps during the past year. The MarDet supported the Expeditionary Warfare School through an Occupational Field Expansion Course (EWSOFE), numerous fire support and sensor equipment tests, artillery and fire support working/advisory groups to include the Joint Fire Support Executive Steering Committee, the Operational Science & Technology Advisory Group, the Collateral Damage Estimation Working Group and multiple war games. The MarDet also participated in updates to numerous Marine Corps, multiple service and joint doctrinal publications.

As the MarDet looks forward to the year ahead, it will continue a maniacal focus on producing basically trained artillery Marines, expertly trained careerists and providing timely support to the operating forces. The continued dedication and professionalism of the instructors and staff of the MarDet will ensure this.



In the field at Fort Sill with Marine Cannoneer School Class 2-10, MGySgt John Locke, Director



Marine Artillery Detachment's SgtMaj Lopez with personnel and students participating in the November Post Run aboard Fort Sill, Fires Center of Excellence.

10th Marine Artillery Regiment, Camp Lejeune, NC

Located at Marine Corps base Camp Lejeune, N.C., 10th Marine Regiment is one of the oldest and proudest of the Marine Regiments. The regiment's primary focus this last year was on training, equipping and deploying units in support of overseas contingency operations, including individual augments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Joint Manning Document requirements, Unit Deployment Program (UDP), and Marine Expeditionary Units (MEU). The 10th Marine Regiment provides fire support to the 2nd Marine Division, employing the M777A2 towed 155 mm howitzer. Training highlights for 2019 included two large scale training exercises. From 28 February to 30 March

2019, 10th Marine Regiment executed exercise Rolling Thunder (RT 1-19) aboard Fort Bragg, North Carolina. During Rolling Thunder, the Regiment simulated combat operations against a peer competitor in a contested environment through artillery Force on Force Training (FOF). From 15 October until 13 November, 10th Marines executed MAGTF Warfighting Exercise (MWX), in support of 2nd Marine Division. MWX was the largest Division level exercise in over 30 years for the Division. This exercise encompassed all warfighting functions from utilizing rail operations to Twenty-nine Palms, the use of the Mobile User Objective System (MUOS) communication system, and a simulated six day FOF battle. MWX was extremely beneficial in solidifying the Tactical Standard Operating Procedures at both the Division and Regimental levels. Lastly, it allowed the regimental staff to operationalize the staff procedures, specifically intelligence, logistics, communications and administration

Future operations the regiment's participation in Naval Large Scale Exercise in the spring of 2020 where we will provide artillery fires in support of 2nd Marine Division while conducting Battalion amphibious operations from ship to shore. In October of 2020, 10th Marines will be participating in a MEF exercise in Twenty-nine Palms. In May of 2021, 10th Marines will execute Rolling Thunder 1-21 at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. This year the Marine Corps Birthday Ball was celebrated as a Regiment on December 22, 2019 in Greenville, NC.

1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, Camp Lejeune, NC

The 1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment conducted Exercise Rolling Thunder in March of 2019, evaluating the unit's ability to conduct operations against a peer adversary. The regimental-level exercise enabled the battalion to validate methods needed to succeed in an environment where the electromagnetic signature of a unit was contested or compromised. The month-long exercise concluded with an artillery force-on-force scenario, testing the limits of the battalion and subordinate firing batteries to conduct sustained operations against a like force with similar capabilities.



A U.S. Marine with India Battery, 1st Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division carries an M795 155mm High Explosive round during a live-fire exercise on Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, Oct. 31, 2019. India Battery conducted the exercise to support Expeditionary Warfare Training Group, Atlantic during a Joint Terminal Attack Controllers course

During the calendar year, the battalion provided surface fires in support of: four Tactical Air Control Party events, aiding in the qualification of new Joint Tactical Attack Controllers; two Fire Support Coordination Exercises for maneuver units subordinate to 2d Marine Regiment; and two battalion-level firing exercises.

In February of 2019, Battery C redeployed from a successful six-month rotation in support of 3d Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment as part of forward deployed forces in the Unit Deployment Program. Batteries I and A conducted subsequent rotations, with Battery A currently participating in UDP 19.2.

Battery B conducted a deployment for training (DFT) to Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) Twenty-nine Palms, California to support Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) 1-20, providing cannon support to maneuver units within 3d Marine Regiment.



A U.S. Marine with 10th Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division determines the range of enemy targets during a live-fire training exercise on Camp Lejeune, N.C., May 8, 2019. The training was conducted during a Tactical Air Control Party course which certifies Marines to employ air-controlled weapons systems on both fixed and rotor-wing aircrafts.

In October of 2019, the battalion participated in MAGTF Warfighting Exercise 1-20, exercising the unit's ability to conduct operations against a large, peer force. Throughout the Division-level exercise, the battalion provided direct support fires to Regimental Combat Team – 2. This event provided the opportunity for the battalion to capitalize on lessons learned from previous exercises, refining tactics, techniques, and procedures that enable the battalion to remain responsive while survivable.

Future operations include Battery B's deployment to Okinawa, Japan in support of UDP 20.1; the battalion's DFT to MCAGCC Twenty-nine Palms, California in support of ITX 2-20; and the battalion's participation in Naval Large Scale Exercise in the spring of 2020.

2nd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, Camp Lejeune, NC

The 2nd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, started the year with a Field Supply Maintenance Administration Office (FSMAO) inspection, designed to identify the strengths and deficiencies in maintenance for the Battalion. After successful completion of FSMAO the Battalion participated in Regimental Exercise Rolling Thunder 19. This exercise focused on the ability to shoot, move, and communicate against a peer adversary. Post Rolling Thunder, Battery F conducted their Marine Corps Combat Readiness Evaluation (MCCRE) in preparation for their upcoming deployment with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

The Battalion used the time after Rolling Thunder to refine tactics, techniques, and procedures in preparation for Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) 5-19. In April, 2019 the 3/8 Battalion Fire Support Team (BFiST) returned from supporting Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force-Crisis Response Africa (SPMAGTF-CRAF) 19.1 and Marine Rotational Force-Europe (MRF-E) 19.1. In May, 2019 Battery F detached from the Battalion and attached to the 26th MEU.

In July, 2019 the Battalion departed to ITX 5-19 comprising of HQ Battery, Battery E, and Battery K. This exercise



US Marines with Kilo Battery, 2nd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment set up an M777 Howitzer in support of the Mechanized Assault Course during Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) 5-19 aboard Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center Twenty-nine Palms, Calif., Aug. 3, 2019. The purpose of ITX 5-19 is to create a challenging, realistic training environment that produces combat-ready forces capable of operating as an integrated MAGTF.

allowed the Battalion to conduct artillery operations in support of a MAGTF. During this time Battery G returned from the 22nd MEU, supporting Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR). The 3/6 BFiST also returned from Unit Deployment Program (UDP) 19.2 in July 2019. Concurrently, one BFiST detached from the Battalion and attached to 2/6 to support the SPAMAGTF-CRAF 20.1, MRF-E 20.1, and Task Force South West (TFSW) 20.1. Once the Battalion returned from ITX 5-19, actions were immediately taken to facilitate the departure of HQ battery and Battery K to MAGTF Warfighting Exercise 1-20. This exercise allowed the Battalion to test the capabilities and limitations against a peer adversary. The exercise primarily focused on communication and being able to command and control the division in a force on force scenario. Once HQ Battery and Battery K returned to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina the Battalion began their maintenance stand down to finish off the calendar year.



JUN 24, 2019 - U.S. Marines with 3rd Platoon, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, run during a simulated chemical, biological, radioactive, and nuclear attack for the Command Sponsored Corporals Course, at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California. The CSCC was hosted by 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, to provide students with basic knowledge and skills to become successful small-unit leaders.

11th Marine Artillery Regiment, Camp Pendleton, CA Cannon Cockers

The Cannon Cockers of 11th Marine Regiment, commanded by Colonel Ricardo Miagany, provide fire support to 1st Marine Division and are located in Camp Pendleton, CA. Over the course of the last year the regiment supported the USINDOPACOM Theater by deploying batteries on Marine Expeditionary Units, Unit Deployment Program, Marine Rotational Force Darwin, as well as providing High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) support to Task Force Southwest in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

In July 2019, the regiment conducted its annual Summer Fire Exercise in which all battalions conducted live fire training aboard Camp Pendleton. In December 2019 the regiment supported 1st Marine Division's annual exercise, Steel Knight '20. During the exercise 11th Marine Regiments Regiments conducted distributed operations across the Division's battle space, providing fires in support of an amphibious assault at Camp Pendleton, an air assault in Yuma, AZ, and a mechanized assault in Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twenty-nine Palms, CA



OCT 21, 2019 U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Davon Moore, left, a field artillery cannoneer, and Gunnery Sgt. Nicholas Cantu, the motor transportation chief, both with Alpha Battery, Battalion Landing Team 3/5, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, observe the night sky at Colonel Ernesto Ravina Air Base, Philippines, during exercise KAMANDAG 3. KAMANDAG advances military modernization and capability development through subject matter expert exchanges.

**1st Battalion,
11th Marine Regiment,
Camp Pendleton, CA
Cobra**

The 1st Battalion, 11th Marines (1/11), located at Camp Pendleton, CA is currently composed of Batteries A, B, C, and I (3-12). 1/11 provides direct support for 1st Marine Regiment. The battalion is capable of attaching M777A2 155 mm howitzer firing batteries, and fire support teams to Battalion Landing Teams (BLT) for Marine Expeditionary Units (MEUs). 1/11 has fielded one firing battery and three fire support teams to support three deploying MEUs while participating in more than six-division and lower exercises during 2019.

Battery A redeployed in November 2019, after being attached to Battalion Landing Team (BLT) 3/5 during an eight month deployment with the 11th Marines Expeditionary Unit (MEU).

Battery B supported Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) 1-20 as an adversary force at Marine Corps Ground Air Combat Center (MGACC), 29 Palms from October to November 2019. They prepare to support the Weapons and Tactics Instructor (WTI) Course in March 2020 at Yuma,

Arizona and attach to the 11th MEU in the winter of 2020.

Battery C supported ITX 3-19 at MGACC, 29 Palms from April to May 2019. They embarked on the USS Pearl Harbor to conduct a ship to shore assault to Camp Pendleton to support Exercise Steel Knight, a division level amphibious exercise aboard Camp Pendleton. Battery C prepares to support ITX 2-20 as an adversary force at MGACC, 29 Palms in January 2020 and attach to the 31st MEU in the summer of 2020.

Battery I, 3/12 simulated a ship embark and ship to shore assault to support Exercise Steel Knight in Camp Pendleton, CA. They prepare to support Exercise Native Fury, a bilateral exercise in the United Arab Emirates in spring 2020 and attach to BLT 1/4 for the 15th

MEU in the summer of 2020.

**2nd Battalion,
11th Marine Regiment,
Camp Pendleton, CA
Cobra**

The 2d Battalion, 11th Marines, located at Camp Pendleton, CA is currently composed of Batteries E, F, G. The battalion provides direct support fires for 5th Marine Regiment. The battalion provides batteries capable of firing the M777A2 155mm howitzer, along with fire support teams for Marine Expeditionary Units (MEUs) and Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Forces (SPMAGTFs).

Battery E deployed from November 2018 – May 2019 in support of the 31st MEU based out of Okinawa, Japan. They supported Battalion Landing Team (BLT) 1/4 in exercises COBRA GOLD in the Kingdom of Thailand and an exercise with the MEU in the Republic of South Korea. Since May, they participated in Weapons and Tactics Instructor (WTI) course 1-20, exercise SUMMER FURY, LA Fleet Week, and exercise STEEL KNIGHT 20 Air Assault in support of 5th Marine Regiment.

Battery G deployed from May 2019 – November 2019 in support of the 31st MEU with BLT 2/1. They conducted amphibious landing operations on Townshend Island, trained for the embassy reinforcement mission set, and conducted a Firing Exercise in the Republic of South Korea.

Battery F deployed in November 2019 in support of the 31st MEU with BLT 1/5. They are currently in Okinawa, preparing to participate in the 31st MEU's 20.1 Spring Patrol.

Jan 25, 2019 U.S. Marines with 2nd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division participate in exercise Steel Knight (SK) 2019 at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California.





Jan 25, 2019 U.S. Marines with India Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, fire a M777 Howitzer, during exercise Steel Knight (SK) 2019 at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twenty-nine Palms, California. SK is an annual exercise used to enhance the Marines' and Sailors' skills, tactics, and combat readiness by performing in various dynamic scenarios, ground combat maneuver operations, and live fire ranges.

**3rd Battalion,
11th Marine Regiment,
Camp Pendleton, CA
Thunder**

3d Battalion, 11th Marines, located onboard Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twenty-nine Palms, CA, is currently composed of Headquarters Battery, Battery I, Battery K, Battery M and Fire Support Battery. The battalion provides direct support cannon fires to 7th Marines and is comprised of three batteries capable of firing the M777A2 155mm howitzer. Stationed at the Marine Corps' premier training center, 3d Battalion supports units and agencies from all across the Department of Defense with artillery fires and fire support coordination every year.

Battery I deployed to Darwin, Australia in support of the Marine Rotational Force-Darwin in April. They participated in joint missions with the Australian military, culminating in Exercise KOOLENDONG 19. Battery I integrated directly with an Australian Joint Fires and Effects Coordination Center, establishing a digital communications network and firing missions in conjunction with Australian artillery.

Battery K returned from the Unit Deployment Program in Okinawa in April. Their support of Artillery Relocation Training Program 19.2 on the Japanese mainland strengthened the relationship between 12th Marines and the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force. Battery K also traveled to Camp Pendleton with 3d Battalion Battalion in July for 11th Marines Summer FIREX and won the annual Top

gun competition for the Regiment.

Battery M participated in multiple live fire exercises at the Combat Center throughout the year, including Integrated Training Exercise 3-19 in May. They conducted pre-deployment training throughout the summer and deployed to Okinawa in October in support of the Unit Deployment Program.

Fire Support Battery continues to provide certified battalion- and company-level fire support teams to the battalions of 7th Marines. These teams regularly deploy in support of Operation INHERENT RESOLVE, Operation FREEDOM'S SENTINEL, and the Marine Rotational Force-Darwin.

**5th Battalion,
11th Marine Regiment,
Camp Pendleton, CA
Steel Rain**

The 5th Battalion, 11th Marines (5/11 or Steel Rain) continues to provide the Marine Air-Ground Task Force Commander with long range precision fire support capability across several distributed operations around the globe. High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) will maintain a high operational tempo in keeping with Commandants Planning Guidance. This guidance calls for aggressive and innovative capabilities to employ HIMARS from distributed locations and naval platforms or surface connectors to support distributed maneuver, the continued development

of precision fire capabilities for HIMARS from austere and expeditionary bases, and the range and capacity to provide fires supporting multiple entry points from the sea. The battalion is ready for this challenge.

5/11's participation in named exercises displayed the desired advancement of these concepts as early as 2017 to include Lightning Sword 17 which tested a fully digital airspace coordination concept where HIMARS missions were integrated onto the airspace control order. The battalion's work extended into the maritime domain during Dawn Blitz in October 2017 with the successful live fire of one M31A1 Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) from the flight deck of the USS Anchorage to a surface target. This test helped to validate maritime HIMARS capabilities and provided critical data for employment considerations.

The battalion's strategic level fires development has arguably been and continues to be at the apex of testing and innovation. Steel Rain was critical in developing these capabilities while working directly with the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab (MCWL) and Marine Corps Tactical System Support Activity (MCTSSA) through support of various exercises including Juke Box 18, Pacific Blitz 19, Northern Edge 19; Talisman Sabre 19, and Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course (WTI) 1-19, 2-19, and 1-20. The scope of this testing positively affected current and future programs of record through live fire, communication architectures validation, and signature management initiatives.

Aug 14, 2019 A Marine Corps M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System from 5th Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, is driven onto a U.S. Navy landing craft, utility assigned to the amphibious transport dock ship as part of a simulated amphibious raid, at Kin Blue, Okinawa, Japan. This simulated amphibious raid marks the first time that HIMARS have been inserted by landing craft, utility, demonstrating the Marine Air-Ground Task Force's ability to conduct combined-arms maneuver from amphibious shipping.



Altogether, between March 2017 and December 2019, the battalion executed five Unit Deployment Program (UDP) battery rotations, five battalion exercises, three regimental exercises, three division exercises, support for three iterations of WTI, and provided a HIMARS detachment organized, equipped, and deployed to Helmand Province, Afghanistan in support of Task Force Southwest as the only surface to surface fire support asset available to support joint and combined operations in support of Operation FREEDOM SENTINAL and Operation RESOLUTE SUPPORT. In addition, the battalion has been refining its techniques and procedures in order to broaden the scope of HIMARS integration with ground forces to include HIMARS Rapid Infiltration (HIRAIN), extended range or Beyond Line Of Sight (BLOS) command and control, distributed/disaggregated operations, and assessing the capability to employ HIMARS aboard amphibious shipping.

Several upcoming exercises are planned for 2020, which will advance the HIMARS long range precision fire capability from austere and expeditionary bases, experiment with maritime strike capability, further the range and capacity of munitions, as well as extend the ability to command and control HIMARS assets. In February 2020, Quebec Battery will participate in Iron Fist 20, which is a I MEF exercise with Japanese Self Defense Forces (JSDF). The battery will conduct a HIRAIN raid using C-130 and Landing Crafts Air Cushioned (LCACs). The exercise will focus on advancing HIMARS role in Expeditionary Advanced Based Operations (EABO), exercising BLOS command and control during amphibious operations, and expeditionary logistics. Concurrently in February and early March 2020, Sierra Battery will participate in Arctic Edge 20, a joint exercise program event sponsored by North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), Marine Forces North (MARFORNORTH), and Northern Command (NORCOM) and executed under Alaskan Command (ALCOM). Sierra battery will conduct operations in an austere arctic environment including participation in the tactical recovery of a HIMARS Launcher, a HIRAIN via LC-130, and long range precision fire support exercising BLOS communications. Around June, 5th Battalion, 11th Marines will participate in Sea Launched ATACMS from Shipboard HIMARS (SLASH), which is a program under the Joint Capability

Technology Demonstration (JCTD) to further develop the capability to employ HIMARS from naval platforms.

Additionally, in 2020, the battalion will be working to support various Amphibious Operations conducted throughout the Pacific to continue to refine employment from surface connectors supporting distributed maneuver, operations in austere and expeditionary advance bases, and the capability to provide fires supporting multiple entry points from the sea or Anti Access Area Denial operations (A2AD).

12th Marine Artillery Regiment, Camp Hansen, Okinawa Japan



Oct. 18, 2019 U.S. Marines with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, prepare to fire a M240-B machine gun during the Artillery Relocation Training Program 19.3 in Hokkaido, Japan. Marines fired their machine guns in sequence with one another to practice proper suppression. ARTP provides 12th Marine Regiment with essential live fire training in different regions of Japan to increase combat readiness and support the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security.

Upon receipt of the 38th Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC) Planning Guidance, the Marines and Sailors of 12th Marine Regiment immediately began examining our current capabilities and challenges to achieve the CMC's vision of Fires in the Pacific. Working with the Third Marine Division (3DMARDIV), III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF), and 7th Fleet partners, the Regiment codified the following problem statement: 12th Marine Regiment lacks the situational awareness, responsiveness, mobility, and lethality to succeed in an anti-access, area denial (A2AD) environment in which Third Marine Division (3DMARDIV) must deter and disrupt our adversary's access to sea lines of communication (SLOCs) while

protecting friendly SLOCs in support of a larger Naval campaign.

To address situational awareness and responsiveness, efforts are currently underway to move towards integrating more efficiently with our higher headquarters, joint and combined partners. True interoperability across all stakeholders in a joint maritime campaign will be a significant challenge with legacy systems and personnel structures. We are experimenting with new tactics, techniques and procedures using existing and sometimes repurposed capability while capturing lessons-learned to inform future requirements. Our goal is to encourage moving towards a real-time, interoperable Joint Common Operating Picture in order to cut the kill chain from minutes to seconds.

To address mobility and sustainment challenges, 12th Marines is developing an exercise series to employ small-footprint, low signature Fires Expeditionary Advanced Bases (EABs) aboard austere island positions. The "Castaway" series seeks to challenge the MEF to disperse, sustain, and employ multiple firing positions in support of a Naval campaign. The series seeks to leverage existing joint, combined and commercial conveyance methods as well as inform future maritime connector requirements.

To address lethality, 12th Marines has recommended increasing Pacific theater capacity and capability to employ rockets and missiles. Current cannon platforms do not possess the range or lethality to engage mobile maritime targets. While current rocket and missile systems can be employed against stationary vessels and coastal facilities, the Regiment is anticipating that emerging munitions will allow for a much broader variety of targets. As most of the capability to achieve surface-based effects in the maritime domain are designed around a missile delivery system, we seek to transform into a Missile Regiment.

It is an incredibly exciting time to be in the Pacific. We look forward to continue building our relationship with 7th Fleet partners, developing capability and fully realizing the CMC's vision of us being a stand-in force in the contact layer.



U.S. Marines with 14th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, during annual training.

14th Marine Artillery Regiment, 4th Marine Division, At the Ready

The 14th Marine Regiment, the “At the Ready” Regiment, is headquartered at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, and is a unique Marine artillery regiment. At the Ready units are spread across the continental United States, spanning from Fort Dix, NJ, to Seal Beach, CA and many points between. The Regiment consists of two M777A2 cannon battalions, one High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) battalion, and a Headquarters Battery. The mission of the 14th Marine Regiment HQs is to provide the Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) with a Force Artillery Headquarters (FAHQ) for command, control, and coordination of artillery units not assigned to the ground combat element. The Regiment also provides artillery forces to augment active component units during major contingency operations. The Regiment's primary focus in 2019 was to man, train and equip deploying units in support of overseas contingencies such as Task Force Southwest (TFSW) in Afghanistan, MAGTF level exercises with III Marine Expeditionary Force, and theatre security cooperation missions such as DYNAMIC FRONT 19 (DF19) in Europe.

14th Marine Regimental Headquarters

The Regimental Headquarters participated in multiple annual training exercises during 2019. DYNAMIC FRONT 19 was a US Army Europe exercise designed to test technical and tactical interoperability of NATO

artillery systems. The Regiment participated in RADAR, rocket, cannon, and mortar live fire operations in Adazi Training Area, Latvia, controlling the fires of USMC, Canadian, Spanish, Czech, and Latvian forces, as well as controlling RADAR operations. The Regiment also supported the III Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) MEF Exercise in Okinawa, Japan during May 2019. The Regiment continued its long relationship with III MEF by providing command, control, and expertise on long range fires and targeting to the MEF. Similarly, the Regiment supported III MEF again in August 2019 by participating in EXERCISE DONG MANG 19.2 in both Okinawa, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

2nd Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment

The 2nd Battalion, 14th Marines, has the following firing units: Rocket Battery D in El Paso, Texas, Rocket Battery F in Oklahoma City, Okla., and Rocket Battery K in Huntsville, Ala. Second Battalion supported myriad real world operations and exercises during 2019 due to HIMARS being a high demand and low density item in the Marine Corps, both in the Active Component and Reserve Component. Second Battalion continued to support TFSW in Afghanistan with a HIMARS detachment; Battery D and Battery K each

supported coalition operations during 2019, firing many missions in support of ground forces. Second Battalion executed the first Annual Training (AT) event of the year for 14th Marines, supporting US Special Operations Command's EXERCISE EMERALD WARRIOR. From 13-27 January 2019, Battery K, 2/14 trained on sensor integration, advanced communications, and HIMARS Rapid Insertion (HIRAIN) during both day and night conditions. In March, Marines from F 2/14 participated in EXERCISE DYNAMIC FRONT in Adazi Training Area, Latvia, participating in live fire operations and receiving fire missions from the Theater Fires Command hundreds of miles away in Germany, simulating long rocket fires directed by the Land Component Command. In June, 2nd Battalion participated in EXERCISE SENTINEL EDGE with Marine Air Group-41 at Cold Lake, Canada. HIMARS launchers were embarked and flown from Tinker Air Force Base, OK via USMC KC-130 aircraft for an extended HIRAIN live fire. Second Battalion also conducted a collective battalion exercise, EXERCISE OPERATION ZEUS, on Fort Hood, TX with 1st Cavalry Division Artillery, the first of its kind in several years for the battalion. These exercises are critical to the readiness and lethality of the Regiment as the Marine Corps faces traditional and emerging threats.



MAR 13, 2019 U.S. Marines with Fox Battery, 2nd Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, launch rockets from a High Mobility Artillery Rocket System during live-fire training at Adazi Training Area, Latvia, March 7, 2019, in support of exercise Dynamic Front 19. Exercise Dynamic Front 19 includes approximately 3,200 service members from 27 nations who are observing or participating from Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany; Riga, Latvia; and Torun, Poland; during March 2-9, 2019.

3rd Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment

Third Battalion is comprised of four firing batteries, Batteries G, H, I, and M, each equipped with six M777A2 howitzers and a Headquarters Battery, all of which are located in the Eastern United States. Third Battalion participated in the 10th Marine Regimental exercise ROLLING THUNDER 19 on Fort Bragg, NC during March 2019. They supported the exercise with the Battalion HQs and Batteries G, I, and M providing live fire cannon artillery during a Battery and Battalion phase. The Battalion underwent and passed a Marine Corps Combat Readiness Evaluation during Battalion phase. During Regimental phase, the battalion participated in an artillery force on force exercise against 1st Battalion 10th Marines, which provided critical insights on signature management, concealment techniques, and movement procedures. Battery H participated in DF19, providing cannon live fire in support of the Regiment and alongside coalition and allied artillery units. Third Battalion also conducted multiple live fire training events over their drill weekends throughout the year, maintaining their proficiency and ability to mobilize at any time.

5th Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment

Fifth Battalion, 14th Marines, consists of four firing batteries, Batteries N, O, P, and Q, equipped with M777A2

howitzers and a Headquarters Battery, all located in the Western United States. The battalion headquarters, Battery N, and Battery O are located in Seal Beach, CA, Battery P is located in Spokane, WA, and Battery Q is located in Aurora, CO. Fifth Battalion participated in several Service and battalion level exercises throughout 2019. Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) is a large, Service level training evolution that provides a Marine Air Ground Task Force with realistic live fire and maneuver aboard Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twenty-nine Palms, CA. Fifth Battalion supported ITX with the Battalion HQs, and Batteries N, P, and Q providing live fire in support of maneuver battalions

during the Fire Support Coordination Exercise, Air Assault Course Offense and Defense, Tank Maneuver Assault Course, and the Mechanized Assault Force. Battery O conducted their annual training by participating in 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines firing exercise aboard Camp Pendleton, CA.



U.S. Marines with 5th Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment, fire a M825 aboard Camp Pendleton during live fire training.



U.S. Marines with 3rd Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment, conduct live fire training at Fort Dix, NJ

US Marine Corps Active and Marine Forces Reserve Field Artillery Unit Map

