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COMUSFLTFORCOM/CGIIMEFINST 3502.1

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COMUSFLTFORCOM/II MEF INSTRUCTION 3502.1

Subj: AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP FLEET RESPONSE TRAINING PLAN AND
MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT PREDEPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3000.15
(b) COMUSFLTFORCOM/COMPACFLTINST 3000.15
(c) OPNAVINST 3501.316B
(d) COMPACFLT/COMUSFLTFORCOMINST 3501.3
(e) COMUSFLTFORCOM/COMPACFLTINST 1500.49
(f) OPNAVINST 3500.38B/MCO 3500.26A/USCG COMDTINST 3500.1B
(g) COMUSFLTFORCOM OPOD 2000
(h) COMNAVSURFPAC/COMNAVSURFLANTINST 3502.7
(i) MCO 3570.1C
(j) MCO 3502.3B
(k) MCO 3120.13
(l) DoD Instruction 1322.28
(m) MEFO 3100.3D
(n) CNO/CMC 202238Z Jun 12, Policy for ARG/MEU VBSS Capability (NOTAL)
(o) NAVAIR 00-80R-14
(p) NAVSURFMINEWARDEVCENTINST 3502
(q) NAVSURFMINEWARDEVCENTINST 3500.2
(r) NTP 3-32.2 Assured Command and Control
(s) TM 3-12.1-17 Defensive Cyberspace Operations Tactics for Surface Forces
(t) CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT OF UNITED STATES
SECOND FLEET (C2F) Released 171750Z JUN 19

Encl: (1) Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) Fleet Response Training Plan (FRTP) and Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) Predeployment Training Program (PTP) Graphic
(2) Basic Phase (ARG) and Initial Phase (MEU) Events
(3) Integrated Phase (ARG) and Intermediate Phase (MEU) Events
(4) Integrated Phase (ARG) and Final Phase (MEU) Events

1. Purpose. This Commander, United States Fleet Forces Command (COMUSFLTFORCOM) and Commanding General, II Marine Expeditionary Force (CG II MEF) instruction establishes policy, responsibility, and requirements for the amphibious ready group (ARG) fleet response training plan (FRTP) and Marine expeditionary unit (MEU) predeployment training program

43 (PTP). This instruction covers the overlap period between the ARG FRTP and MEU PTP.
44

45 2. Cancellation. COMUSFLTFORCOM/CG II MEF INST 3502.1. This instruction is new and
46 should be read in its entirety.
47

48 3. Scope and Applicability. This instruction is applicable to all ARGs under
49 COMUSFLTFORCOM administrative control (ADCON), all MEUs under II MEF ADCON, and
50 to all subordinate commands and units supporting the ARG FRTP and MEU PTP.
51

52 4. Background. COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG II MEF are responsible for training ARGs and
53 MEUs in support of Combatant Commander (CCDR) requirements. COMUSFLTFORCOM and
54 Commander, U.S. Marine Forces Command (COMMARFORCOM) are responsible for
55 certifying those forces for employment or deployment. Essential pre-deployment events
56 associated with training and certification of the ARG and MEU requires coordination to plan and
57 execute. These areas of coordination and integration include, but are not limited to, scenario
58 development, exercise construct, coordination of forces, unit participation, arrangement of
59 services and logistics, area clearance, and command and control (C2). References (a) through
60 (n) provide related policy and guidance information.
61

62 a. The ARG FRTP and MEU PTP are separate and distinct training programs that cover
63 different timeframes. However, for the time period they overlap, they are closely integrated and
64 complementary, resulting in a trained and certified ARG and MEU team.
65

66 b. Per reference (c), an ARG is a navy task organization formed to conduct amphibious
67 operations composed of an amphibious squadron (PHIBRON) staff and 3 amphibious warfare
68 ships, normally 1 amphibious assault ship-general purpose (LHA) or amphibious assault ship-
69 multipurpose (LHD), 1 amphibious transport dock (LPD), and 1 dock landing ship (LSD). The
70 mission of an ARG is to embark, transport, and land elements of a landing force for a variety of
71 amphibious warfare (AMW) missions.
72

73 c. A MEU is a Marine air-ground task force (MAGTF) comprised of a command element
74 (CE), ground combat element (GCE), aviation combat element (ACE), and logistics combat
75 element (LCE). The mission of a MEU is to provide a forward deployed, flexible sea-based
76 MAGTF capable of conducting AMW operations, crisis response, and limited contingency
77 operations to include enabling the introduction of follow on forces and designated special
78 operations forces (SOF) to support the theater requirements of the CCDRs.
79

80 d. The ARG-MEU is a scalable and adaptable sea-based force that is formed when a MEU is
81 embarked in an ARG. An ARG-MEU provides continuous, forward naval presence in key
82 regions to conduct security cooperation, military engagement, and deterrence, as well as
83 immediate response to episodic crises and contingencies.
84

85 e. The command relationship between the ARG and MEU Commanders is supported-
86 supporting with the mission or tasking further defining who is supported and who is supporting.
87
88

89 5. Responsibilities

90

91 a. COMUSFLTFORCOM will certify ARGs ready for employment or deployment as
92 outlined in reference (b).

93

94 b. COMMARFORCOM will certify MEUs ready for employment or deployment.

95

96 c. Commander, Carrier Strike Group (COMCARSTRKGRU) FOUR is
97 COMUSFLTFORCOM lead for ARG training and certification recommendations.

98

99 d. Officer in Charge (OIC), II MEF Expeditionary Operations Training Group (EOTG) is
100 CG II MEF lead for MEU training and certification recommendations.

101

102 6. Policy

103

104 a. ARGs and MEUs are trained and certified to deploy against pacing threats per references
105 (a) through (n). Certification is contingent upon satisfactory completion to prescribed standards
106 of designated tasks under the Navy mission-essential task list and United States Marine Corps
107 (USMC) mission essential tasks (MET).

108

109 b. Though the ARG FRTP cycle is 36 months, this instruction will focus on the 26-week
110 period where the ARG FRTP intersects with the MEU PTP. This period is comprised of a series
111 of training events (e.g., classroom education, individual training, unit training, collective
112 training, integrated synthetic training, live at-sea, and field training) designed to sequentially
113 build and perfect required warfighting skills. Significant planning and coordination is required,
114 typically beginning 12 to 15 months in advance, to develop a FRTP and PTP for each deploying
115 ARG and MEU.

116

117 c. The ARG FRTP and MEU PTP is comprised of academics, synthetic training, and at-sea
118 periods with a nominal allotment of 56 at-sea training days. This provides the appropriate time
119 for the ARG and MEU to conduct all at-sea integrated training requirements. This duration does
120 not account for additional training and steaming days required for unit level training or transit
121 time required for ships homeported at Naval Station Mayport.

122

123 7. Construct. The FRTP and PTP contains three segments to facilitate a building block approach
124 that will ultimately result in the deployment of a combat ready force.

125

126 a. Basic phase (ARG) and Initial phase (MEU). This normally begins when ARG assigned
127 ships complete their maintenance availabilities and the MEU VBSS unit begins specialized
128 training roughly 6 months prior to PMINT.

129

130 (1) Duration is 26 weeks for the MEU and 24 weeks for the ARG.

131

132 (2) The focus is on specialized skills, individual platform and small unit capabilities, and
133 staff training. The objective is to develop the skill sets and staff preparation required before
134 starting more advanced integrated ARG and MEU training, to include:

- 135
136 (a) Conduct staff training (e.g., Navy tactical planning, ARG-MEU staff planning
137 course). Navy staff training requirements are defined in reference (e).
138
139 (b) Complete all individual ship Basic phase requirements as defined in reference (h).
140
141 (c) Complete II MEF EOTG specialized skill and small unit leader's workshops and
142 courses per reference (i).
143
144 (d) Exercise and develop amphibious skills (e.g., ship-to-shore movement, well deck
145 and flight deck operations, loading and unloading amphibious craft and ships).
146
147 (e) Familiarize MEU personnel on amphibious ships.
148
149 (f) Conduct MEU personnel training on basic shipboard damage control literacy and
150 firefighting familiarization for amphibious ships, conduct flight deck firefighting training
151 required by reference (o) for ACE personnel and conduct driver and combat cargo training.
152
153 (g) Conduct ACE deck landing qualifications (DLQ) for a duration of 7-10 days
154 within 60 days of PMINT.
155
156 (h) Conduct an initial load conference to identify requirements, validate loading
157 characteristics pamphlets, and develop initial load plans.
158
159 (i) Develop ARG composite warfare commander (CWC) structure and assign warfare
160 commanders and coordinators.
161
162 (j) Develop ARG, MEU, and integrated standard operating procedures (SOP),
163 operational tasking (OPTASK) messages, and preplanned responses (PPR).
164
165 (k) Develop staff battle rhythm, formal planning processes, and conduct drills and
166 walk through events to exercise these processes.
167
168 (l) Develop foundational skills (e.g., communications, use of SOPs, link, common
169 tactical picture, and C2).
170
171 (m) Prepare the ARG and MEU visit, board, search, and seizure (VBSS) team and
172 maritime raid force (MRF) to conduct full mission profiles (FMP) from amphibious ships.
173
174 (3) Per references (e), (g) and (m) and as outlined in enclosure (2), the following are
175 required ARG and MEU academic courses and training events provided by
176 COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG II MEF training organizations.
177
178 (a) ARG and MEU Staff Planning Workshop
179
180

181 (b) Warfare Commander's Conference (may be conducted during Basic Phase
182 timeframe, but technically part of the integrated phase)

183
184 (c) Supporting Arms Coordination Center (SACC) course

185
186 (d) II MEF EOTG individual and small unit and specialized skill courses

187
188 (e) VBSS integrated training continuum

189
190 b. Advanced phase (ARG). Advanced Phase starts at the completion of Basic Phase and ends
191 when the ARG meets Advanced Phase exit criteria detailed in Chapter 4 of reference (h). During
192 Advanced Phase, the ARG conducts multi-unit tactical level training (e.g. SWATT) in
193 preparation for Integrated Phase, per reference (p) and (q), consisting of:

194
195 (1) Four days of in port training and 10 days of at sea advanced tactical training.

196 Requests for USMC support for SWATT events may be requested on an as available,
197 case-by-case basis to facilitate ARG training objectives.

198
199 (2) Live Fire with a Purpose (LFWAP), which provides an opportunity for the ships to
200 plan and execute tactical employment of weapons, execute and validate the Commanding
201 Officer's Battle Orders, validate the full Detect to Engage sequence of the combat system and
202 demonstrate tactics developed by Naval Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center
203 (SMWDC).

204
205 c. Integrated phase (ARG) and Intermediate phase (MEU). MEU intermediate begins with
206 Realistic Urban Training and ends with the completion of the ARG-MEU Exercise. ARG
207 Integrated phase is defined by reference (d) and (h).

208
209 (1) MEU Intermediate phase is approximately 11 weeks and ARG Integrated phase is
210 approximately 18 weeks.

211
212 (2) During this phase the ARG and MEU team will progress through collective (e.g.,
213 MEU and ARG unique) and integrated (e.g., ARG and MEU combined) training. The emphasis
214 for the MEU will be first live fire and second night operations over extended distances.

215 Objectives include:

216
217 (a) Continue staff training.

218
219 (b) Perfect amphibious skills and fully integrate the MEU into operations afloat.

220
221 (c) Complete all unit level training and recurring training requirements.

222
223 (d) Continue ACE DLQs.

224
225 (e) Conduct main and final load conferences, exercise and refine load plans.

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(f) Refine, exercise, and finalize ARG, MEU, and integrated SOPs and PPRs.

(g) Flex and refine integrated staff battle rhythm and planning processes.

(h) Exercise the ARG as an integrated fighting force under the CWC construct in a pacing threat environment (both synthetic and live).

(i) Master foundational skills and develop advanced warfighting capabilities.

(j) Conduct live fire exercises.

(k) Complete staff training for joint and coalition operations.

(l) Complete anti-terrorism force protection exercise.

(m) Conduct special operations forces liaison element (SOFLE) and SOF integration.

(n) Continue VBSS training continuum through the execution of blue water FMPs from amphibious ships using MEU and ARG assets. ARG and MEU VBSS capability outlined in reference (n), includes execution of no less than three underway FMPs, which exercises all VBSS mission elements in a realistic environment.

(3) As outlined in enclosure (3), the following are ARG and MEU academic courses and training events provided by COMUSFLTFORCOM and II MEF training organizations.

(a) Realistic Urban Training-Maritime and Land.

(b) PHIBRON-MEU Integrated Training (first at-sea period), incorporates Deploying Group Systems Integration Testing.

(c) Fleet Synthetic Training (FST)-Group Commander.

(d) ARG-MEU Exercise (second at-sea period)

d. Integrated phase (ARG) and Final phase (MEU). The capstone event of this period is Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX). Upon completion, units will be assessed in all capability and mission areas reported in Defense Readiness Reporting System–Navy, per reference (d).

(1) MEU Final phase is approximately 9 weeks, which is concurrent with the last ARG integrated event.

(2) This phase incorporates the final certification, sustainment, and preparations for deployment.

273
274 (3) As outlined in enclosure (4), the following are ARG and MEU training events
275 provided by COMUSFLTFORCOM and II MEF training organizations.

276
277 (a) COMPTUEX (third at-sea period), incorporates Supporting Arms Coordination
278 Exercise. COMPTUEX is the final event of the ARG Integrated phase.

279
280 (b) Preparation for overseas movement (POM) period which should be 21 to 28 days,
281 but not exceed 4 weeks, and commences upon the return to port from COMPTUEX and
282 concludes upon deployment.

283
284 (4) At the conclusion of COMPTUEX, the ARG and MEU will have been trained and
285 assessed on all of their METs required for deployment per references (a) through (q).
286 COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and OIC, II MEF EOTG will generate a coordinated ARG and
287 MEU recommendation for certification message. CG, II MEF will release the recommendation
288 message per reference (d).

289
290 e. Other Major Exercise

291
292 (1) While not normally part of the FRTP and PTP for an ARG and MEU, it is possible
293 that participation in another major exercise (e.g., BOLD ALLIGATOR) may be directed by
294 COMUSFLTFORCOM and II MEF. If this occurs, coordination between COMCARSTRKGRU
295 FOUR and II MEF EOTG will be required to ensure training events are deconflicted to allow the
296 ARG and MEU to meet all training requirements for their certification to deploy.

297
298 (2) The ARG and MEU can be integrated within an Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG)-
299 Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) construct once the PHIBRON and MEU have
300 demonstrated their capability to lead the ARG and MEU as a single unit.

301
302 (3) The scenario and storyline will be fully integrated between any other exercise and the
303 ARG FRTP and MEU PTP to minimize disruption for the training audience and to maintain a
304 realistic training environment to greatest extent possible.

305
306 8. Exercise Control Roles and Responsibilities

307
308 a. During the ARG-MEU Exercise and COMPTUEX events (and any others deemed
309 required and feasible), a coordinated exercise control effort will be developed between
310 COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG in the planning process leading up to event
311 execution. The focus of this effort is to conduct integrated exercise planning, support, and
312 control that ensures safe execution of all certification requirements.

313
314 b. Integrated phase training and exercise period will normally use the treasure coast scenario
315 developed by COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG.

316
317 c. C2 relationships of additional Navy and USMC forces not associated with the ARG or
318 MEU will be agreed upon during the exercise planning process.

319
320 d. Exercise Control Responsibilities

321
322 (1) COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR will:

323
324 (a) Conduct planning conferences involving all stakeholders to determine
325 participants, training objectives, sequence of events, scheme of maneuver (SOM), and other
326 elements to ensure completion of ARG and MEU requirements toward certification.

327
328 (b) Establish exercise control afloat and ashore to provide scenario injects, higher
329 command interaction, management of training ranges, and resources in support of event
330 execution.

331
332 (c) Provide personnel as required to augment the tactical exercise control group
333 (TECG) located ashore at II MEF EOTG.

334
335 (2) II MEF EOTG will:

336
337 (a) Support the planning process including scenario development, training objective
338 determination and sequence of event scripting to ensure MEU training objectives are fulfilled.

339
340 (b) Provide evaluators and controllers as required and feasible to support exercise
341 control efforts.

342
343 (c) Schedule and manage ashore training range requirements for II MEF training
344 objectives.

345
346 9. Joint and Special Operations Integration. Throughout the ARG FRTP and MEU PTP there
347 will be opportunities to integrate joint and SOF forces. This will be coordinated and deconflicted
348 by COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG to ensure integration does not impact ARG
349 and MEU training objectives.

350
351 10. Records Management. Records created, as a result of this instruction, regardless of media
352 and format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

353
354 11. Administration. COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG II MEF is responsible for the
355 administration and update of this instruction. COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG II MEF will
356 review this instruction annually on the anniversary of the effective date to ensure applicability,
357 currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense (DoD), Secretary of the Navy
358 (SECNAV), Navy policy, and statutory authority. This instruction will automatically expire 5
359 years after the effective date unless reissued or otherwise canceled prior to the 5-year anniversary
360 date, or an extension has been granted.

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12. Action. Ensure widest dissemination and implementation of this instruction.

LtGen Robert F. Hedelund
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AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP (ARG) FLEET RESPONSE TRAINING PLAN (FRTP) AND
MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT (MEU) PREDEPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM
(PTP) GRAPHIC

PHASE	BASIC				ADVANCED	INTEGRATED				SUSTAIN	
ARG	ARG-MEU STAFF PLANNING COURSE	SACC COURSE	VBSS TRAINING	WCC	SWATT	RUT	PMINT	FST-GC	ARG-MEU EXERCISE	COMPTUEX	POM
PHASE	INITIAL				INTERMEDIATE				FINAL		
MEU	EOTG SPECIAL SKILLS AND LEADERSHIP COURSE					RUT	PMINT	FST-GC	ARG-MEU EXERCISE	COMPTUEX	POM
	ARG-MEU STAFF PLANNING COURSE	SACC COURSE	VBSS TRAINING	WCC							

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450 BASIC PHASE (ARG) AND INITIAL PHASE (MEU) EVENTS

451
452 1. ARG and MEU Staff Planning Course

453
454 a. Description. The first major event of the FRTP and PTP. This course is designed to train
455 Navy and USMC officers and senior enlisted in the doctrine, planning considerations, and
456 procedures associated with execution of the rapid response planning process (R2P2) in an
457 amphibious environment. This event consists of classroom instruction and situational training
458 exercises over a 10-day period.

459
460 (1) Attendees consist of PHIBRON and MEU commanders and staff officers, Major
461 Subordinate Element (MSE) commanders and staffs, ship commanding officers and select
462 personnel, detachment OIC, and others that the PHIBRON or MEU commanders may direct.

463
464 (2) MEU and PHIBRON commanders are responsible to ensure their subordinate
465 personnel have a working knowledge of the USMC planning process and navy planning process
466 prior to execution in order to facilitate an effective training event.

467
468 b. Lead. COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR for observation and training, shall provide scenario
469 scripting support as requested.

470
471 c. Command Relationships

472
473 (1) Officer Scheduling Exercise (OSE): COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG II MEF

474
475 (2) Officer Conducting Exercise (OCE): COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR

476
477 (3) Support:

478
479 (a) EWTGLANT will:

480
481 1. Provide auditorium, classroom space, Joint Expeditionary Tactical Trainer and
482 technical support for 10 days.

483
484 2. Provide instructors and mentors to facilitate staff planning and amphibious
485 planning training as required.

486
487 3. Arrange appropriate guest speakers and subject matter experts on relevant
488 topics (e.g., intelligence, information operations (IO), information management (IM) and
489 knowledge management (KM)).

490
491 4. Develop and publish a schedule of events (SOE).

492
493 (b) TACTRAGRULANT will provide instructors and mentors as required.

494
495 (c) II MEF EOTG will assist with the development of the sequence of events, provide

496 scenario support, and provide mentors as requested and as feasible.

497

498 d. Objectives

499

500 (1) Facilitate ARG and MEU team building.

501

502 (2) PHIBRON and MEU staff, associated MSEs, ships companies, and detachments
503 knowledgeable in the R2P2.

504

505 (3) SOPs and checklists to effect rapid planning exercised.

506

507 (4) PHIBRON and MEU staff battle rhythm established.

508

509 (5) Planning SOPs and other required SOPs, memorandums of agreement, memorandums
510 of understanding between PHIBRON and MEU finalized and conditions set for successful
511 execution of the FRTP and PTP.

512

513 (6) Key PHIBRON and MEU staff planners prepared to begin informed and effective
514 construction of the ARG and MEU landing plan.

515

516 e. End State. R2P2 SOPs socialized, refined, and applied. Key PHIBRON and MEU staff
517 officers familiar with their individual responsibilities in support of the R2P2 for follow on
518 training and deployment.

519

520 2. Warfare Commander's Conference

521

522 a. Description. A 10-day course designed to instruct the PHIBRON staff, the prospective
523 warfare commanders and subordinate unit staffs and the MEU CE staff on CWC doctrine.
524 The Warfare Commanders' Conference is the academic primer for the ARG's CWC structure
525 and trains the ARG and MEU staff and warfare commanders in a seminar forum, discussing
526 air defense (AD), surface warfare (SUW), antisubmarine warfare (ASW), IO, strike warfare
527 (STW), AMW, and C2 issues.

528

529 b. Lead. COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR for observation and training.

530

531 c. Command Relationships

532

533 (1) OSE: COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG II MEF

534

535 (2) OCE: COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR

536

537 (3) Support:

538

539 (a) TACTRAGRULANT will:

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541 1. Host course and provide classroom space for 10 days.

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2. Provide instructors and mentors as required.

3. Develop and publish a SOE.

4. Develop and conduct two synthetic war games emphasizing warfare commander responsibilities.

5. Provide planning opportunities to develop concept of operations (CONOPS) and Combined Force Maritime Component Commander (CFMCC) executive level briefs to support gameplay.

(b) EWTGLANT will provide instructors and mentors as required.

d. Objectives

(1) Hone working relationships and allow leadership to discuss, debate, and finalize the ARG operation order (OPORD) 6000.

(2) Discuss and develop operational general (OPGEN) supplemental (SUPP) and OPTASKs.

(3) Discuss and organize staff battle rhythm and planning.

(4) Discuss and refine CWC, ARG staff and platform assignments and responsibilities, and link between the ARG CWC structure and the ARG and MEU supported-supporting relationship.

(5) Develop and exercise procedures for the integration of MEU capabilities into ARG and vice versa.

(6) Provide instruction on current operations and discuss tactical employment of assets based on new and evolving threats.

(7) Train on relevant mission area tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) in preparation of future training events.

(8) Introduce coalition operations and support requirements expected of an ARG and MEU while deployed.

(9) Introduce tactical decision aids, specific to ASW and SUW.

(10) Identify staff liaison officers from the AD commander and other required warfare commanders to the ARG.

(11) Develop baseline maritime warfare PPRs and discuss asset allocation procedures to

588 counter various maritime threats.

589

590 (12) Conduct a minimum of two synthetic events to flex CWC construct and PPR
591 execution.

592

593 (13) Plan to and develop CONOPS and CFMCC executive level briefs to support
594 gameplay.

595

596 (14) Hone working relationships with SOFLE and SOF.

597

598 (15) Develop a Defense of the Amphibious Task Force (DATF) Memorandum of
599 Understanding (MOU) between the PHIBRON and MEU commanding officers that outline:

600

601 (a) MEU support to the DATF during strait transits, ship-to-shore movement, and
602 blue water CWC operations in support of the ARG.

603

604 (b) Detailed C2 SOP to support integration of MEU forces within ARG shipboard and
605 CWC C2 architectures.

606

607 e. End State

608

609 (1) Refine CWC assignments.

610

611 (2) Draft OPGEN and OPTASK SUPP, refine and develop OPORD 6000.

612

613 (3) Refine PPRs for follow on training and deployment.

614

615 3. Supporting Arms Coordination Center (SACC) Course

616

617 a. Description. Conducted for MEU and PHIBRON staffs and the supporting elements of
618 the tactical air control squadron and battalion landing team. This 2-week long course consists of
619 instruction and training on the principles and techniques used in the coordination of supporting
620 arms and the duties, responsibilities, and functioning of a SACC during an amphibious operation.
621 It enables students to use integrated C2 and fire support systems in a team based, scenario driven
622 exercise.

623

624 b. Lead. COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR for training, observation, and evaluation.

625

626 c. Command Relationships

627

628 (1) OSE: COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG II MEF

629

630 (2) OCE: COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR (lead)

631

632 (3) Support:

633

634 (a) EWTGLANT will:

635

636 1. Provide instructors, mentors, and evaluators as required.

637

638 2. Develop and publish a SOE.

639

640 (b) II MEF EOTG will provide scenario support, and provide mentors as requested
641 and as feasible.

642

643 d. End State. SACC personnel prepared for evaluation during COMPTUEX.

644

645 4. Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) Training Continuum

646

647 a. Description. To fully certify in VBSS, the ARG and MEU team requires a series of
648 training events both ashore and afloat, involving Navy and USMC assets. Creating this
649 capability requires an extensive training continuum with specific training requirements that
650 includes ARG and MEU SOP development, ARG and MEU staff planning, MRF specialized
651 skill training, VBSS (landside) and static maritime interoperability training, Realistic Urban
652 Training (maritime), and finally assessed events conducted during at-sea periods. The full
653 mission profiles conducted during the Integrated Phase will be focused on certifying the MRF
654 VBSS capability. Specific dates for each event must be established as early as possible to
655 coordinate all organizations and resources required to execute the training.

656

657 The Navy VBSS teams will be certified to perform daytime only bottom-up compliant boardings
658 per ref (h), while the MRF (with the VBSS RHIB crew) will be certified to perform up to
659 daytime, bottom-up/top-down opposed boardings in accordance with ref (n). The primary ship
660 on which the MRF intends to embark its VBSS capability is responsible for requesting two
661 Naval Special Warfare (NSW) RHIBs that meet the requirements of paragraph 4.A.2 of ref (n)
662 for the duration of the integrated training phase and deployment. Normally, the LPD will be
663 primary ship, with the LSD as the secondary ship.

664

665 Distributed Operations during deployment may require moving the MRF VBSS capability from
666 the LPD to the LSD. Because the boat crews for the VBSS RHIBs are organic to the ship, the
667 LSD shall also send one boat crew and associated maintainer through the Center for Security
668 Forces (CENSECFOR) training.

669

670 b. Scheduling

671

672 (1) Event 1: VBSS leaders' workshop is conducted prior to the MRF skill based training.
673 This event includes ARG VBSS and MRF leadership and is conducted by II MEF EOTG in
674 Camp Lejeune, NC.

675

676 (2) Event 2: VBSS situational training exercises is led by II MEF EOTG with
677 EWTGLANT supporting the situational training exercise portion during the ARG and MEU staff
678 planning course.

679

680 (3) Event 3: ARG and MEU VBSS rigid-hulled inflatable boat (RHIB) training with
681 Center for Security Forces (CENSECFOR) for LPD and/or LSD boat crews. Boat crews will be
682 prepared to support the MRF.

683
684 (4) Event 4: VBSS Course (static ashore). MRF and aviation (USMC and USN)
685 interoperability training conducted at Camp Lejeune, NC.

686
687 (5) Event 5: VBSS Course (static maritime). MRF, aviation (USMC and USN), and
688 ARG and MEU VBSS RHIB interoperability training conducted on static target vessels at James
689 River Reserve Fleet anchorage (Fort Eustis, VA).

690
691 (6) Event 6: Realistic Urban Training (maritime). MEU CE and PHIBRON staff, MRF,
692 aviation (USMC and USN), and ARG and MEU VBSS RHIB interoperability training conducted
693 on static and underway target vessels.

694
695 (7) Event 7: Assessed FMPs during at-sea periods. A minimum of three assessed FMPs
696 are required for certification. The FMP profiles will be designed to certify the MRF VBSS team
697 up to the capability outlined in para 4 of ref (n).

698
699 (8) Event 8: Gas-oil platform (GOPLAT) orientation. Key leader orientation of
700 GOPLAT static maritime platforms in the Gulf of Mexico.

701
702 c. Command Relationships

703
704 (1) OSE: COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG, II MEF

705
706 (2) OCE: PHIBRON commander and MEU commander for their respective training
707 events

708
709 d. End State

710
711 (1) ARG and MEU VBSS SOP is in place and utilized.

712
713 (2) ARG and MEU fully certified to conduct VBSS mission per para 4, ref (n).

714
715 (3) All ARG and MEU VBSS RHIB crews fully trained to conduct VBSS missions per
716 para 4, ref (n).

717
718 (4) All assigned Navy and USMC helicopter crews fully trained to conduct VBSS
719 missions per para 4, ref (n).

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INTEGRATED PHASE (ARG) AND INTERMEDIATE PHASE (MEU) EVENTS

1. Realistic Urban Training

a. Description. Realistic Urban Training enhances the MEU's capability to execute special skills operations by training the CE, ACE, and GCE. Realistic Urban Training (maritime) offers an enhanced opportunity for ARG and MEU interoperability training in preparation for the assessed FMPs conducted during the at-sea periods.

(1) The MEU establishes an intermediate staging base (ISB) at an east coast military installation. The ISB is in a fictitious country within the treasure coast synthetic geography created by COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR.

(2) Situational training exercise sites that are located off of federal facilities will be coordinated by II MEF EOTG.

(3) The Realistic Urban Training exercise will include maritime and land situational training exercises.

(4) Realistic Urban Training (maritime) will consist of VBSS situational training exercises to static and underway target vessels, using the integrated MEU and PHIBRON team to support planning and execution of the missions.

(5) Realistic Urban Training (maritime) will include Navy assets (e.g., MH-60S and ARG-MEU VBSS RHIBs). The PHIBRON staff and planners are required unless otherwise tasked.

(6) Realistic Urban Training (land) will consist of raid situational training exercises conducted to sites located off of federal facilities.

(7) Realistic Urban Training (land and maritime) will allow for SOF integration opportunities.

b. Scheduling. Begins on or about week 9 of the MEU PTP (9 weeks after the MEU composite is formed).

(1) There will be at least 1 week between the completion of Realistic Urban Training and commencement of PHIBRON-MEU Integrated Training.

(2) Once the dates for Realistic Urban Training have been set, detailed coordination begins (approximately 12 to 18 months prior to the exercise). Realistic Urban Training planning requires contractual obligations and coordination with federal, state, county, local governments and agencies, and private property owners and corporate property owners and managers. These factors make it extremely difficult to change the dates or location of Realistic Urban Training.

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c. Lead. II MEF EOTG will:

(1) Provide a scenario to include scripted signals intelligence (SIGINT) and human intelligence (HUMINT) traffic and events.

(2) Coordinate the use of all scheduled training sites, both on and off of federal facilities.

(3) Coordinate the use of all landing zones (LZ), both on and off of federal facilities, to be used for exercise events.

(4) Coordinate all airspace with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), federal installations, and civilian aviation authorities as required.

(5) Arrange for a suitable ISB that is capable of housing and sustaining the MEU. Ensure that the ISB has sufficient training facilities to support concurrent MEU training (as applicable).

(6) Request appropriate augmentation to II MEF EOTG staff to support execution. Personnel will provide functional area expertise and staff depth.

(7) Submit a notification of the Realistic Urban Training to Headquarters Marine Corps (HQMC) per applicable directives.

(8) Establish a TEGC and ensure proper exercise control and safety oversight procedures are in place.

(9) Coordinate all role player actions.

(10) Provide after action review to the MEU upon completion of each situational training exercises.

(11) Coordinate with United States Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command (MARSOC) G7 to incorporate the SOFLE and SOF forces if available.

d. Command Relationships

(1) OSE: CG, II MEF

(2) OCE: CO, MEU

(3) Exercise Control Officer: OIC, II MEF EOTG.

(4) Support:

(a) PHIBRON will coordinate sourcing of assets (e.g., MH-60s and ARG and MEU

813 VBSS RHIB) and planners.

814

815 (b) COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR will assist with scenario scripting support as
816 requested and as feasible.

817

818 (c) EWTGLANT will provide observers and mentors as requested and as feasible.

819

820 (d) MARSOC G7 will assist with SOF scenario scripting, and coordinating
821 Incorporation of SOF assets and personnel.

822

823 e. Objectives

824

(1) Conduct long-range communications.

826

(2) Conduct urban targeting.

827

828

(3) Conduct urban aviation operations, to include confined area landings.

829

830

(4) Refine intelligence collection and analysis.

831

832

(5) Refine staff action and the ability to execute R2P2.

833

834

(6) Conduct long-range vertical assault raid (as feasible). In conjunction, conduct air
836 delivered ground refueling operations.

837

(7) Train to MEU METs as requested by the MEU Commander and as supportable.

838

839

f. Baseline Schedule. Realistic Urban Training is a 21-day exercise (including embark and
841 movement days). The schedule fluctuates depending upon various factors.

842

g. End State. Increased proficiency in R2P2, mission execution across the MEU METs,
844 refinement of SOPs, and prepared to conduct integrated MAGTF operations from amphibious
845 ships.

846

847 2. PHIBRON-MEU Integrated Training (First At-Sea Period)

848

a. Description. This is the ARG and MEU's first at-sea period and is the first time that the
850 majority of the MEU is embarked. An underway event in which the entire ARG-MEU
851 participates. Coordinated amphibious operations as well as warfare commander roles will be
852 exercised to resolve issues discovered in operating instructions and determine the best tactical
853 employment of assets assigned. The focus of training is dictated by the MEU and ARG
854 Commanders but normally incorporates the following:

855

(1) Ship orientation and safety briefs.

856

857

(2) CE: Development of battle rhythm between MEU and PHIBRON. R2P2 rehearsals

858

859 of certain MEU missions at a crawl-to-walk pace.

860

861 (3) GCE and LCE: Armory and ammo procedures, mission staging, execution, and
862 reception training, vehicle driver training (ship and landing craft).

863

864 (4) ACE: DLQs and mission rehearsals.

865

866 (5) Shipboard missile firings, as equipped.

867

868 (6) Initial underway integrated VBSS events, unless Realistic Urban Training follows the
869 exercise.

870

871 (7) Initial integration of Joint Intelligence Center (JIC), including embarkation of
872 ARG/MEU organic and direct-support intelligence personnel. Stand-up of EXPLOT with full
873 complement of INTEL/SIGINT/ELINT watchstanders.

874

875 (8) Integration of Force METOC into ARG/MEU staff planning and battle rhythm.

876

877 b. Scheduling. To allow flexibility PHIBRON-MEU Integrated Training will be post
878 Realistic Urban Training or post Warfare Commander's Conference. Ideally, PHIBRON-MEU
879 Integrated Training should include a highlight period (i.e., lux level ≥ 0.0022) to facilitate ACE
880 DLQs.

881

882 (1) There must be a minimum of 2 days allocated to ACE DLQs during PHIBRON-MEU
883 Integrated Training.

884

885 (2) The ACE may conduct DLQs on the day which it flies aboard the ship but this day
886 will not be counted as a DLQ day.

887

888 c. Lead. PHIBRON and MEU Commanders.

889

890 d. Command Relationships

891

892 (1) OSE: COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG, II MEF

893

894 (2) OCE: PHIBRON commander and MEU commander for their respective training
895 events

896

897 (3) Support: COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR (augmented by Commander, Expeditionary
898 Strike Group (COMEXSTRKGRU) TWO, Commander, Naval Beach Group 2, and Surface and
899 Mine Warfighting Development Center (Detachment Little Creek), II MEF EOTG, and other
900 training commands will:

901

902 (a) Provide planning expertise, observers and mentors as requested by the ARG-MEU
903 and as feasible.

904

905 (b) Assist in development of training objectives and sequence of events.

906

907 (c) Assist in coordination of ranges and training resources.

908

909 e. Objectives

910

(1) Continue ACE DLQ and flight deck operations.

912

(2) Continue to conduct wet well deck operations.

914

(3) Conduct rehearsal for follow-on assessed events.

916

917 (4) Conduct rehearsal of MEU missions per MET list and MEU Commander's training
918 guidance.

919

920 (5) Refine fundamental skills in communications, link and common tactical picture
921 manager (CTPM) and operational intelligence (OPINTEL) fusion.

922

923 (6) Conduct global broadcast service split-internet protocol communications drill to
924 increase operator familiarity with required equipment settings, set-up, and conduct of command
925 and control in a denied or degraded environment (C2D2E).

926

927 (7) Conduct maritime security operations (MSO) training to include maritime interdiction
928 operations (MIO) for the ships assigned boarding teams. This will also include fast attack craft
929 (FAC) and fast inshore attack craft (FIAC) walk through.

930

931 (8) One assessed FMP event will be coordinated and controlled by II MEF EOTG and
932 COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR.

933

934 (9) Conduct simulated combat system exercises to build on the skills and training that
935 were developed during SWATT composed of: air warfare, surface warfare, and electronic
936 warfare exercises to include air defense exercises, link drills, EMCON drills, and DATF
937 exercises. Emphasis should be placed on working through C2 within the CWC construct,
938 working in the MEU where appropriate.

939

940 (10) Exercise PHIBRON, MEU, and warfare commanders battle rhythm.

941

942 (11) Conduct R2P2 drills, air planning and air tasking order (ATO) development, warfare
943 commanders' coordination board; CONOPS development 24, 48, and 72 hours in advance.

944

945 (12) Conduct SACC drills and integrated fires rehearsal.

946

947 (13) Complete ship familiarization and driver training.

948

949 (14) Exercise and review draft load plans, craft and ship loading, wet well operations, and
950 air and surface ship-to-shore movement.

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(15) Exercise allied/coalition integration training as feasible, with emphasis on interoperability with NATO forces.

(16) Complete shipboard unit level training requirements, as required.

(17) Develop a SOE based upon mutual ARG and MEU training requirements that build upon previous events and prepare for subsequent training exercises.

(18) Develop and execute a loading plan to align ARG capabilities with full MEU berthing and support requirements.

(19) Develop basic integration capabilities between ARG and MEU (e.g., battle rhythm, communications, C2 relationships) to enable more complex interactions in subsequent training events.

(20) Validate C2 and supported/supporting relationships detailed in the DATF MOU designed during the WCC. Update and modify MOU details as necessary.

f. Baseline Schedule. Typically, PHIBRON-MEU Integrated Training is an 11-day underway exercise.

(1) Day 1: Ships underway.

(2) Day 2: MEU on-load (Morehead City, NC and Camp Lejeune, NC), limited ACE DLQs.

(3) Day 3: ACE DLQs, MEU and PHIBRON training.

(4) Day 4: ACE DLQs, MEU and PHIBRON training.

(5) Day 5-9: MEU and PHIBRON training.

(6) Day 10: MEU off-load.

(7) Day 11: Ships return to home port.

(8) Additional transit days will be required for ships home ported in Mayport, Florida.

g. End State. ARG and MEU prepared to conduct a FST event.

3. Fleet Synthetic Training (FST)-Group Commander

a. Description. FST-Group Commander exercises the ARG and MEU staff, warfare commanders and their staffs, subordinate ships, and major subordinate element commanders and their staffs. FST-Group Commander is a distributed synthetic war game conducted aboard

997 amphibious ships and at TACTRAGRULANT, EWTGLANT, and the II MEF Battle Simulation
998 Center.
999

1000 (1) FST-Group Commander will be deconflicted from the FRTP and PTP schedule to
1001 prevent any conflict that would prevent full participation by PHIBRON and MEU staffs.
1002

1003 (2) Primary responsibility for this deconfliction rests with COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR
1004 N5 and II MEF EOTG S3.
1005

1006 b. Scheduling. The goal is to schedule the event between PHIBRON-MEU Integrated
1007 Training and ARG-MEU Exercise (first and second at-sea periods).
1008

1009 c. Lead. COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR for training, observation and evaluation will:
1010

1011 (1) Provide observers, mentors, evaluators, and scenario scripting support as required.
1012

1013 (2) Be prepared to provide role players as required.
1014

1015 d. Command Relationships
1016

1017 (1) OSE: COMUSFLTFORCOM
1018

1019 (2) OCE: COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR
1020

1021 (3) Support:
1022

1023 (a) TACTRAGRULANT will:
1024

1025 1. Coordinate use of tactical trainers to enhance the training event and install
1026 equipment on participating ships to provide connectivity and facilitate game play.
1027

1028 2. Provide observers, mentors, and evaluators as required.
1029

1030 3. Develop and publish a SOE.
1031

1032 4. Develop synthetic war games and supporting products to include a detailed
1033 master scenario events list.
1034

1035 5. Man work stations at TACTRAGRULANT (Gallery Hall) to execute game
1036 play using the joint semi-automated forces system.
1037

1038 (b) II MEF G3 and G7 will:
1039

1040 1. Coordinate the use of the II MEF Battle Simulation Center, as required.
1041

1042 2. Provide technical support personnel to support the exercise as required.

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(c) EWTGLANT will:

1. Coordinate use of the SACC trainer for fires and other spaces as required.
2. Provide technical support to participants.
3. Provide observers, mentors, and evaluators as required.

(d) COMEXSTRKGRU TWO will provide observers in support of
COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR.

e. Objectives

- (1) Exercise CWC in actual ship spaces using shipboard C4I.
- (2) Exercise supported-supporting concept between the PHIBRON and MEU
Commanders inherent in the ARG and MEU.
- (3) Review, exercise, and refine SOPs and PPRs.
- (4) Exercise battle rhythm, Navy tactical planning, and R2P2 in a coalition and joint
environment.
- (5) Exercise Navy, USMC, coalition, and joint tasks.
- (6) Demonstrate MSO.
 - (a) Execute MIO.
 - (b) Execute anti-piracy operations.
- (7) Demonstrate defense of the amphibious task force planning and procedures.
- (8) Demonstrate coordination with theater ASW.
- (9) Demonstrate AD proficiency.
- (10) Demonstrate IO proficiency.
- (11) Demonstrate ATO coordination and distribution, ensuring proper allocation of air
assets to all mission areas.
- (12) Plan and execute amphibious ship-to-shore operations.
- (13) Conduct simulated operations with coalition assets (when available—otherwise white

1089 cell will play) to stress communications and coordination with partner nations.

1090

1091 (14) Demonstrate knowledge of rules of engagement.

1092

1093 (15) Conduct MEU missions (e.g., raids, VBSS).

1094

1095 (16) Develop a sea echelon area.

1096

1097 (17) Develop and publish primary control ship intentions to govern ship to shore
1098 movement.

1099

1100 (18) Demonstrate EXPLOT proficiency to provide Indications and Warning from
1101 shipboard C4I systems in support of CWC construct.

1102

1103 f. End State. Prepared to conduct integrated, at-sea CWC and amphibious operations.

1104

1105 4. ARG-MEU Exercise

1106

1107 a. Description. Typically, a 21-day at-sea period (second at-sea period) for the ARG and
1108 MEU team, providing the first fully integrated event of their warfighting capabilities under the
1109 direction of COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG. The ARG-MEU Exercise is a
1110 joint effort of COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG creating a realistic pacing threat
1111 environment to apply the MEU's strength from ARG ships, realizing the unique capabilities of
1112 an ARG and MEU team and the responsibilities of each element toward its success. A joint
1113 assessment of performance and recommendation is submitted by COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR
1114 and II MEF EOTG at the completion of the event that signifies progress toward eventual
1115 certification.

1116

1117 (1) ARG-MEU Exercise (second at-sea period) is a mid-term event in the ARG FRTP
1118 Integrated Phase and the final event of the MEU PTP Intermediate Phase. It is designed to
1119 continue the team's progress toward ARG and MEU certification. Integration with other
1120 exercises is usually inappropriate, but can be considered on a case-by-case basis.

1121

1122 (2) ARG-MEU Exercise can be used as an opportunity to integrate SOF forces, but only
1123 as it pertains to accomplishing ARG and MEU METs and in alignment with SOFLE support.

1124

1125 b. Scheduling. ARG-MEU Exercise is scheduled post FST-Group Commander. There will
1126 be at least 2 weeks between the "off-load" day of ARG-MEU Exercise and the "on-load" day of
1127 COMPTUEX.

1128

1129 (1) The first 4 days of ARG-MEU Exercise must be aligned with a highlight period (lux
1130 level ≥ 0.0022) to facilitate ACE DLQs. If this is not possible, it can be mitigated by scheduling
1131 a DLQ period prior to the exercise.

1132

1133 (2) 3 days will be allocated for ACE DLQs and MEU on-load.

1134

1135 (3) The ACE may conduct DLQs on the day that it flies aboard the ship but this day will
1136 not be counted as a DLQ day.

1137

1138 c. Command Relationships

1139

1140 (1) OSE: COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG II MEF

1141

1142 (2) OCE: COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR (FRTP events afloat) and OIC, II MEF EOTG
1143 (PTP events ashore)

1144

1145 (3) Exercise Control Officer: COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and OIC, II MEF EOTG

1146

1147 (4) Support: COMEXSTRKGRU TWO will provide observers in support of
1148 COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR

1149

1150 d. Planning Process. While all missions of the ARG-MEU Exercise require
1151 COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG coordination, specific missions require specific
1152 exercise control groups designated as the lead agency.

1153

1154 (1) FRTP and PTP Events. COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG will be the
1155 lead TEGs for missions designated as FRTP and PTP events. FRTP and PTP events are
1156 exercises conducted to evaluate the ARG and MEU's ability to plan and execute missions
1157 requiring detailed integration of ARG and MEU efforts. ARG-MEU missions include, but are
1158 not limited to raids, noncombatant evacuation operations (NEO), VBSS, amphibious assault, and
1159 mass casualty. TEG responsibilities for these missions will be coordinated between
1160 COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG and will follow a supported-supporting
1161 relationship. For the purposes of scheduling FRTP-PTP venues, COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR
1162 will schedule all overwater ranges and airspace and II MEF EOTG will schedule all ashore
1163 training areas and training facilities. Events supporting only a PTP or FRTP event, the lead
1164 TEG will be responsible for all range scheduling.

1165

1166 (2) COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR will coordinate with COMUSFLTFORCOM Fleet
1167 Schedules to ensure PHIBRON and ship schedules include all FRTP requirements.

1168

1169 (3) II MEF EOTG will coordinate MEU schedule to ensure all PTP requirements are met.

1170

1171 (4) COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG will coordinate a joint planning
1172 process for all FRTP and PTP integrated events.

1173

1174 (5) COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR responsibilities in the planning process:

1175

1176 (a) Coordinate and provide scenario scripting support as required.

1177

1178 (b) Coordinate with II MEF EOTG to incorporate an appropriate scenario to evaluate
1179 the SACC.

1180

- 1181 (c) Develop and publish a SOE.
1182
1183 (d) Develop a SOM for all ships that synchronizes with MEU training objectives.
1184
1185 (e) Develop an overall joint manning document for the exercise.
1186
1187 (f) Incorporate any independent deploying and coalition ships assigned to the
1188 exercise. Integrate any participating maritime and joint units in the exercise SOM.
1189
1190 (g) Coordinate the use of all maritime training areas and ranges with the appropriate
1191 authorities.
1192
1193 (h) Establish a TECG afloat and ensure proper command, control, and safety
1194 procedures are in place for all afloat events.
1195
1196 (i) Arrange for shipboard berthing for designated personnel as required.
1197
1198 (6) II MEF EOTG responsibilities in planning process:
1199
1200 (a) Provide a scenario for the ARG-MEU Exercise to include scripted SIGINT and
1201 HUMINT traffic and events.
1202
1203 (b) Coordinate the use of situational training exercise sites.
1204
1205 (c) Coordinate the use of LZs and air delivered ground refueling sites to support FMP
1206 execution.
1207
1208 (d) Coordinate all MEF airspace events with the FAA, federal installations and
1209 civilian aviation authorities as required.
1210
1211 (e) Arrange for a suitable site to serve as a U.S. Embassy for use by the forward
1212 command element (FCE), as required.
1213
1214 (f) Coordinate augmentation by federal agencies to ensure proper manning of a
1215 simulated U.S. Embassy.
1216
1217 (g) Coordinate augmentation by governmental agencies, nongovernmental
1218 organizations, and private volunteer organizations to provide a credible presence during foreign
1219 humanitarian assistance events.
1220
1221 (h) Establish a TECG ashore and ensure proper command, control, and safety
1222 procedures are in place for all ashore events.
1223
1224 (i) Coordinate all ashore role player actions.
1225
1226 (j) Provide observers and mentors as required.

1227
1228 (k) Develop Exercise SOFLE and SOF integration if forces are available and
1229 required.

1230
1231 (l) Situational training exercises for ARG-MEU Exercise will be confirmed no later
1232 than the mid-planning conference (MPC) based upon input from OIC, II MEF EOTG,
1233 COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR, and the MEU being evaluated.

1234
1235 e. Objectives

1236
1237 (1) C2, battle rhythm, and ARG and MEU integration.

1238
1239 (2) Exercise CWC in multi-threat blue water and littoral environments.

1240
1241 (3) Events: choke point transits, GOPLAT defense, force protection, counter FAC and
1242 FIAC, IO, coordinated ASW, anti-piracy, warning and disabling fires.

1243
1244 (4) Develop communications, C2, link CTPM, defensive cyberspace operations (DCO),
1245 OPINTEL fusion proficiency.

1246
1247 (5) Conduct MIO and VBSS and approach operations.

1248
1249 (6) Conduct coordinated Tomahawk land-attack missile (TLAM, when CRUDES
1250 assigned) and ACE long-range strike.

1251
1252 (7) Conduct operations with coalition (or role played coalition) asset demonstrating
1253 Combined Enterprise Regional Information Exchange System (CENTRIXS), or other
1254 allied/coalition network identified for deployment use and knowledge of coalition unit
1255 capabilities.

1256
1257 (8) Demonstrate ability to execute Assured Command and Control (AC2) through
1258 monitoring of C2 systems status, response to C2 outages and intrusions, and coordinate follow-
1259 on actions to restore capability or mitigate impacts per ref (r).

1260
1261 (9) Exercise dynamic bandwidth management plan to accommodate multiple
1262 communications degradation scenarios (C2D2E), ensuring continuous mission planning and
1263 seamless execution during sustained operations.

1264
1265 (10) Demonstrate integration with Defensive Cyberspace Operations (DCO)
1266 Augmentation team from Navy Cyber Defense Operations Command (NCDOC), including
1267 analysis of shipboard network trends, leveraging of external reporting and databases, and
1268 incident response actions per ref (s).

1269
1270 (11) Execute simultaneous multi-mission planning and execution of all MEU METs per
1271 appropriate governing orders and directives, to include but not limited to:

1272

- 1273 (a) Conduct DLQs.
- 1274
- 1275 (b) Exercise R2P2.
- 1276
- 1277 (c) Insert and exercise the FCE.
- 1278
- 1279 (d) Conduct reconnaissance and surveillance (R&S) planning, insertion and reporting.
- 1280
- 1281 (e) Execute FHA and disaster relief (DR) mission.
- 1282
- 1283 (f) Execute embassy reinforcement.
- 1284
- 1285 (g) Execute NEO.
- 1286
- 1287 (h) Conduct tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel (TRAP).
- 1288
- 1289 (i) Execute amphibious raids (e.g., aviation, surface, and MRF).
- 1290
- 1291 (j) Respond to mass casualty event.
- 1292
- 1293 (k) Execute long-range tilt-rotor and helicopter raid.
- 1294
- 1295 (l) Exercise load and embark plans.
- 1296
- 1297 (m) Conduct amphibious operations and ship-to-shore movement.
- 1298
- 1299 (o) Conduct a minimum of two VBSS FMPs.
- 1300

1301 f. Baseline Schedule. Due to training area availability, training support, and weather, the
1302 baseline schedule may deviate to support the execution of all training requirements.

- 1303
- 1304 (1) Day -5: CSG-4 C5I Fast Cruise.
- 1305
- 1306 (2) Day 1: ships underway.
- 1307
- 1308 (3) Day 2: MEU on-load (Morehead City, NC and Camp Lejeune, NC) limited ACE
1309 DLQs.
- 1310
- 1311 (4) Day 3: continue on-load & ACE DLQs.
- 1312
- 1313 (5) Day 4: continue on-load & ACE DLQs.
- 1314
- 1315 (6) Day 5-18: ARG and MEU mission execution.
- 1316
- 1317 (7) Day 19-20: off-load MEU personnel and assets.
- 1318

1319 (8) Day 21: ships return to homeport.

1320

1321 g. End State. The ARG and MEU team on track toward certification and ready for

1322 COMPTUEX.

1323

1324

1325 INTEGRATED PHASE (ARG) AND FINAL PHASE (MEU) EVENTS

1326
1327 1. COMPTUEX

1328
1329 a. Description. Executed in a realistic pacing threat environment to measure specific
1330 performance factors to assess readiness for deployment. COMPTUEX is the final event in the
1331 FRTP and PTP and is designed to complete the assessment and ultimately to certify the ARG and
1332 MEU for deployment. A joint assessment of performance and recommendation for certification
1333 is submitted by COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG at the completion of the event.

1334
1335 b. Scheduling. Ideally, COMPTUEX begins on or about week 22 of the MEU PTP. There
1336 will be at least 2 weeks between the last day of ARG-MEU Exercise and the "on-load" day of
1337 COMPTUEX.

1338
1339 (1) The first 4 days of COMPTUEX will be aligned with a highlight period (lux level \geq
1340 0.0022) to facilitate ACE DLQs. A highlight day is defined as a high light period beginning at
1341 end of evening nautical twilight and continuing until at least midnight. If this is not possible, it
1342 can be mitigated by scheduling a DLQ period prior to the exercise.

1343
1344 (2) The ACE may conduct DLQs on the day that it flies aboard the ship but this day will
1345 not be counted as a DLQ day.

1346
1347 c. Command Relationships

1348
1349 (1) OSE: COMUSFLTFORCOM and CG II MEF

1350
1351 (2) OCE: COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR (FRTP events afloat) and OIC, II MEF EOTG
1352 (PTP events ashore)

1353
1354 (3) Exercise Control Officer: COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and OIC, II MEF EOTG

1355
1356 (4) Support: COMEXSTRKGRU TWO provide observers in support of
1357 COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR

1358
1359 d. Planning Process

1360
1361 (1) While all missions of the COMPTUEX require COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II
1362 MEF EOTG coordination, specific missions may require specific exercise control groups
1363 designated as the lead agency.

1364
1365 (2) COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR will be the lead TEGC for FRTP events. ARG
1366 missions are training events designed to observe and evaluate the PHIBRON's ability to plan and
1367 execute specific missions. ARG missions for COMPTUEX may include, but are not limited to
1368 Supporting Arms Coordination Exercise, maritime interdiction, amphibious strike and strait
1369 transits and any events initiated by COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR or the ARG Commander.

1371 (3) OIC, II MEF EOTG will be the lead TECG for PTP events. MEU missions are
1372 training events designed to observe and evaluate the MEU's ability to plan and execute specific
1373 missions based on current MEU METs. During COMPTUEX, MEU missions include, but are
1374 not limited to NEO, FHA, DR, TRAP, amphibious raid, port seizure, airfield seizure, and VBSS.
1375 Situational training exercises for COMPTUEX will be confirmed no later than the MPC based
1376 upon input from OIC, II MEF EOTG, COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR, and the MEU being
1377 evaluated.

1378
1379 (4) COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR will coordinate with COMUSFLTFORCOM Fleet
1380 Schedules to ensure PHIBRON and ship schedules include all FRTP requirements.

1381
1382 (5) II MEF EOTG will coordinate MEU schedule to ensure all PTP requirements are met.

1383
1384 (6) COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR and II MEF EOTG will coordinate a joint planning
1385 process for all FRTP and PTP integrated events.

1386
1387 (7) COMCARSTRKGRU FOUR responsibilities in planning process:

1388
1389 (a) Coordinate and provide scenario scripting support as required.

1390
1391 (b) Coordinate an appropriate scenario with II MEF to evaluate the SACC.

1392
1393 (c) Develop and publish a SOE.

1394
1395 (d) Develop a SOM for all ships that synchronizes with MEU training objectives.

1396
1397 (e) Develop an overall joint manning document for the exercise.

1398
1399 (f) Incorporate any independent deploying and coalition ships assigned to the
1400 exercise. Integrate any participating maritime and joint units in the exercise SOM.

1401
1402 (g) Coordinate the use of all maritime training areas and ranges with the appropriate
1403 authorities.

1404
1405 (h) Establish a TECG afloat and ensure proper command, control, and safety
1406 procedures are in place for all afloat events.

1407
1408 (i) Arrange for shipboard berthing for designated personnel as required.

1409
1410 (8) II MEF EOTG responsibilities in planning process:

1411
1412 (a) Provide a scenario for COMPTUEX to include scripted SIGINT and HUMINT
1413 traffic and events.

1414
1415 (b) Coordinate the use of situational training exercise sites.

1416

- 1417 (c) Coordinate the use of helicopter LZ and rapid ground refueling sites to support
1418 situational training exercises.
1419
- 1420 (d) Coordinate all overland airspace with the FAA, federal installations, and civilian
1421 aviation authorities as required.
1422
- 1423 (e) Arrange for a suitable site to serve as a United States Embassy for use by the FCE.
1424
- 1425 (f) Coordinate augmentation by federal agencies to ensure proper manning of a
1426 simulated United States Embassy.
1427
- 1428 (g) Coordinate augmentation by governmental agencies, nongovernmental
1429 organizations, and private volunteer organizations to provide a credible presence during foreign
1430 humanitarian assistance events.
1431
- 1432 (h) Establish a TECG ashore and ensure proper command, control, and safety
1433 procedures are in place for all ashore events.
1434
- 1435 (i) Coordinate all ashore role player actions.
1436
- 1437 (j) Provide observers and mentors as required.
1438
- 1439 (k) Develop Exercise SOFLE and SOF integration if forces are available and
1440 required.

1441
1442 e. Objectives
1443

- 1444 (1) C2, battle rhythm, and ARG and MEU integration.
1445
- 1446 (2) Exercise CWC operations in pacing threat, blue water, and littoral environments.
1447
- 1448 (3) Events: choke point transits, GOPLAT defense, force protection, counter FAC and
1449 FIAC, IO, coordinated ASW, anti-piracy, warning and disabling fires.
1450
- 1451 (4) Develop communications, C2; link CTPM, DCO, OPINTEL fusion proficiency, and
1452 conduct operations in C2D2E.
1453
- 1454 (5) Conduct MIO and VBSS and approach operations.
1455
- 1456 (6) Conduct coordinated TLAM (when CRUDES assigned) and ACE long-range strike.
1457
- 1458 (7) Exercise as an expeditionary strike force if carrier strike group interaction available.
1459
- 1460 (8) Conduct operations with coalition (or role-played coalition) asset demonstrating
1461 CENTRIXS use and knowledge of coalition unit capabilities.
1462

- 1463 (9) Execute simultaneous multi-mission planning and execution of all MEU METs per
1464 appropriate governing orders and directives, to include but not limited to:
1465
1466 (a) Conduct DLQs.
1467
1468 (b) Exercise R2P2.
1469
1470 (c) Insert and exercise the FCE.
1471
1472 (d) Conduct R&S planning, insertion and reporting.
1473
1474 (e) Execute FHA and DR mission.
1475
1476 (f) Execute embassy reinforcement.
1477
1478 (g) Execute NEO.
1479
1480 (h) Conduct TRAP.
1481
1482 (i) Execute amphibious raids (e.g., aviation, surface, and MRF).
1483
1484 (j) Respond to mass casualty event.
1485
1486 (k) Execute long-range tilt-rotor and helicopter raid.
1487
1488 (l) Execute VBSS.
1489
1490 (m) Exercise load and embark plans.
1491
1492 (n) Conduct training for disaggregated operations following Service policies and
1493 global force management deployment requirements.
1494
1495 (o) Conduct amphibious operations and ship-to-shore movement.
1496
1497 (p) Conduct 2 days of evaluation of the SACC, 1 daylight simulated fires (in
1498 conjunction with the amphibious assault) and 1 daylight live fire.
1499
1500 1. Evaluation will include command, control, and coordination of aviation, naval
1501 surface fire support, and artillery delivered fires during pre-assault, assault, and subsequent
1502 operations ashore.
1503
1504 2. The SACC will be required to pass control of fires ashore to the battalion
1505 landing team fire support coordination center.
1506
1507 3. Prior to live fire commencing, the SACC will establish necessary voice and
1508 digital communications with required agencies. This plan should be exercised as often as

1509 possible during underway periods.

1510

1511 4. Supporting Arms Coordination Exercise is incorporated into the integrated
1512 training assessment phase of the COMPTUEX.

1513

1514 f. Baseline Schedule. Due to training area availability, training support, and weather, the
1515 baseline schedule may deviate to support the execution of all training requirements.

1516

(1) Day -5: CSG-4 C5I Fast Cruise.

1518

(2) Day 1: ships underway.

1519

1520

(3) Day 2: MEU on-load (Morehead City, NC and Camp Lejeune, NC) limited ACE
1521 DLQs.

1522

1523

(4) Day 3: continue on-load & ACE DLQs.

1524

1525

(5) Day 4: continue on-load & ACE DLQs.

1526

1527

(6) Day 5-21: ARG-MEU mission execution, to include amphibious assault with
1528 Supporting Arms Coordination Exercise.

1529

1530

(7) Day 22-23: off-load remaining MEU personnel and assets.

1531

1532

(8) Day 24: ships return to homeport.

1533

1534

1535 g. End State. The ARG and MEU team is fully deployment certified.