
Part I

Basic Issues

The Marine Corps organizes its operational forces as Marine Corps components and as MAGTFs in order to provide task organized, self-sustaining, multipurpose forces to the joint force or naval expeditionary force. These uniquely organized Marine Corps forces are capable of responding to a wide range of operational and tactical missions and tasks, providing the National Command Authorities with an unmatched combination of deployment and employment options. (MCDP 1-0)

1001. Marine Corps Issues

What is the Role of the Marine Corps?

The nation requires an expeditionary force-in-readiness capable of responding to a crisis anywhere in the world. The Marine Corps provides self-sustainable, task organized combined arms forces capable of conducting a full spectrum of operations in support of the joint force commander. These missions might include forcible entry operations, peace enforcement, evacuation of American citizens and embassies, humanitarian assistance, or operations to reinforce or complement the capabilities of other Services to provide balanced military forces to the joint force commander. The unique capabilities of the Marine Corps as a sea service and partner with the U.S. Navy allow the use of the sea as both a maneuver space and a secure base of operations from which to conduct operations in the littoral areas of the world. The ability to remain at sea for long periods of time without the requirement of third nation basing rights makes the Marine Corps the force of choice in emerging crises. Marine Corps forces exploit the Total Force concept, employing combinations of active duty and reserve Marines to ensure that missions are effectively and efficiently executed.

Naval expeditions comprised of Navy and Marine Corps forces have long been the instruments of choice in our Nation's response to global contingencies. From humanitarian assistance, to peacekeeping, to combat,

these forces are normally the first on scene and ready to respond. Naval expeditionary forces combine the *complementary but distinct capabilities* of the Navy and Marine Corps. They provide strategic agility and overseas presence without infringing on the sovereignty of other nations and simultaneously enable enhanced force protection. They provide a power projection capability that can be tailored to meet a wide range of crises from a major theater war to military operations other than war (MOOTW). Naval expeditionary forces can be task organized to provide an array of options to the National Command Authorities and combatant commanders in dealing with a particular situation. Naval expeditionary forces provide the United States the unique capability to conduct and sustain operations from the sea—including continuous forward presence and self-sustainment—in support of our national interests without reliance on prepositioning ashore, foreign basing, or the granting of over flight rights. (MCDP 1-0)

What are the Core Competencies of the Marine Corps?

The Marines Corps' core competencies allow Marines to conduct expeditionary operations across the spectrum of crisis and conflict around the world.

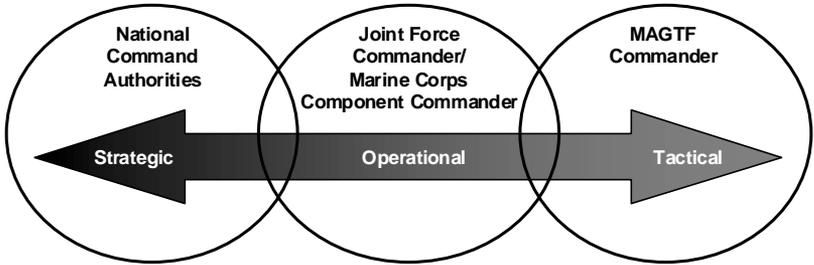
- Ready to fight and win.
- Expeditionary culture.
- Combined-arms operations.
- Task-organized.
- Reserve integration expertise.
- Forcible entry from the sea.
- Marines are naval in character.
- Joint competency.

(MCDP 1-0)

At What Levels of War Do the Marine Corps Component and MAGTF Commanders Operate?

The orientation of the Marine Corps component commander is *normally* at the operational level of war, while the MAGTF commander is *normally* at the tactical level. Naturally, there is some overlap. The Marine Corps component commander is normally responsible to set the conditions for Marine Corps tactical operations. These operations include military actions executed by the

MAGTF, other assigned or attached Marine Corps forces, and assigned or attached forces from other Services and nations. (MCDP 1-0)



What are the Characteristics of Expeditionary Operations?

Successful expeditionary operations require—

- Expeditionary mindset.
- Tailored Forces.
- Forward Deployment.
- Rapid Deployment.
- Expeditionary Basing.
- Forcible Entry.
- Sustainment.

(MCDP 1-0)

What is the Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare Concept?

Expeditionary maneuver warfare is the Marine Corps capstone operational concept. It applies the doctrine of maneuver warfare to Marine Corps expeditionary operations to achieve desired effects across the spectrum of conflict. Supporting operational concepts such as operational maneuver from the sea (OMFTS), ship-to-objective maneuver (STOM), MPF 2010, and Expeditionary Bases and Sites are all elements of expeditionary maneuver warfare. Expeditionary maneuver warfare builds on existing concepts of organization, deployment, and employment, adapting them to the future strategic landscape. Organizational concepts apply methods of task-organizing forces, tailoring them to meet the requirements of the mission and commander's intent. Deployment concepts apply the most appropriate, available means of achieving rapid force closure and sustainment, gaining operational advantage, and increasing tempo.

Expeditionary maneuver warfare focuses on the application of expeditionary military power at the right place, at the right time, and at the right level. In combat, this is achieved by using rapid and opportunistic maneuver flexibly to exploit physical, psychological, or temporal advantage over the enemy. New technologies such as the MV-22 Osprey tilt rotor aircraft, advanced amphibious assault vehicle, and the joint strike fighter will allow Marine forces to rapidly maneuver and strike unexpectedly deep in the enemy's rear. In MOOTW, expeditionary maneuver warfare may take the form of Marine Ospreys from amphibious ships rapidly transporting humanitarian aid to famine victims or Marines landing in advanced amphibious assault vehicles unexpectedly in the night to evacuate U.S. nationals from a riot-torn littoral city. (MCDP 1-0)

What are the Tenets of Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare?

The tenets of expeditionary maneuver warfare are—

- Focuses decisionmaking and effects on an operational objective.
- Maximizes maneuver battlespace (air, land, and sea) through enhanced mobility.
- Generates overwhelming tempo and momentum through enhanced strategic agility, operational reach, and tactical flexibility.
- Pits strengths against enemy weakness.
- Emphasizes intelligence, deception, flexibility, and sustainment.
- Promotes integration of organic, joint, interagency, and combined effects.
- Provides a joint/combined enabler and force multiplier.
- Capable across the entire spectrum of conflict.

(MCDP 1-0)

What is Operational Maneuver From the Sea?

OMFTS is a concept that is applicable across the range of military operations, from major theater war to smaller-scale contingencies. OMFTS applies maneuver warfare to expeditionary power projection in naval operations as part of a joint or combined campaign. OMFTS allows the force to exploit the sea as maneuver space while applying combat power ashore to achieve the operational objectives. It reflects the Marine Corps' expeditionary maneuver warfare concept in the context of amphibious operations from a sea base, as it enables the force to—

- Shatter the enemy’s cohesion.
- Pose menacing dilemmas.
- Apply disruptive firepower.
- Establish superior tempo.
- Focus efforts to maximize effect.
- Exploit opportunity.
- Strike unexpectedly.

In OMFTS, the force focuses on an operational objective, using the sea as maneuver space to generate overwhelming tempo and momentum against enemy critical vulnerabilities. OMFTS provides increased operational flexibility through enhanced capabilities for sea-based logistics, fires, and command and control. Sea-basing facilitates maneuver warfare by eliminating the requirement for an operational pause as the landing force builds combat power ashore, and by freeing the MAGTF from the constraints of a traditional beachhead. (MCDP 1-0)

What are Sustained Operations Ashore?

The Marine Corps conducts sustained operations ashore to provide the joint force commander four options when fighting a land campaign—

- **Enabling Force**—to set the stage for follow-on operations by other components of the joint force.
- **Decisive Force**—to exploit its advanced command and control system to identify gaps necessary to conduct decisive operations and reduce enemy centers of gravity. Decisive actions run the gamut from destruction of enemy military units to interdiction of critical lines of communication to the evacuation of American and third country nationals from untenable urban areas.
- **Exploitation Force**—to take advantage of opportunities created by the activity of other components of the joint force.
- **Sustaining Force**—to maintain a presence ashore over an extended period of time in order to support continued operations by the joint force commander within the joint AO.

The Marine Corps also has the capability to operate independent of the sea to support sustained land operations ashore with the Army or coalition partners. (MCDP 1-0)

What are Military Operations Other Than War?

Military operations other than war (MOOTW) focus on deterring war, resolving conflict, promoting peace, and supporting civil authorities in response to domestic crises. The Marine Corps approach to MOOTW links Marine Corps capabilities with the collective, coordinated use of both traditional and non-traditional elements of national power into a cohesive foreign policy tool, and focuses on the ability to be expeditionary through forward-deployed naval forces. The Marine Corps role is to provide the means for an immediate response, while also serving as the foundation for follow-on forces or resources. Forward deployed MAGTF's, with their inherent range of capabilities, are well positioned to conduct the wide range of missions and coordination with coalition, non-government organization and other agencies essential to success in a MOOTW environment.

MOOTW may involve elements of both combat and noncombat operations in peacetime, conflict, and war. In MOOTW, political and cultural considerations permeate planning and execution of operations at all levels of command. As in war, the goal of MOOTW is to achieve national objectives as quickly as possible. The operation should be executed with minimal risk to U.S. forces and local civilian populations, and concluded on terms favorable to the United States, its allies, and coalition partners.

MAGTF's conducting MOOTW are often in a support role to other governmental agencies and the United Nations. However, in certain types of MOOTW, the military may have the lead. MOOTW usually involve coordination with non-Department of Defense agencies and non-governmental or private voluntary organizations. Finally, although MOOTW is generally conducted outside of the United States, they may be conducted within the United States in support of civil authorities. (MCDP 1-0)

1002. Componency Issues

How are Marine Corps Forces Assigned to a Combatant Command?

The "Forces for Unified Commands" memorandum assigns Marine Corps operating forces to Commander in Chief, U.S. Joint Forces Command (CINCUSJFCOM) and Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Command (CINCUSPACOM). CINCUSJFCOM exercises combatant command

(COCOM) of II Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) through the Commander, Marine Corps Forces Atlantic (COMMARFORLANT). Additionally, CINCUSJFCOM exercises training and readiness oversight of all continental U.S.-based Marine Corps Reserve units when mobilized or ordered to active duty (other than for training). CINCUSPACOM exercises COCOM of I and III MEF through the Commander, Marine Corps Forces Pacific (COMMARFORPAC). This assignment reflects peacetime disposition of Marine Corps forces. MEFs are apportioned to the remaining geographic combatant commands for contingency planning and are provided by these combatant commands when directed by the Secretary of Defense. (MCDP 1-0)

What is the Unified Command Plan? What Does it Address?

“The Unified Command Plan” provides basic guidance for combatant commanders. It establishes missions, functions, responsibilities, and force structure and delineates general geographic areas of responsibility. (MCWP 0-1.1)

What are the Considerations for a Joint Force Commander when Organizing the Joint Force?

A joint force commander organizes his forces to accomplish the assigned mission based on the factors of mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available, and time available (METT-T), and the concept of operations. The organization should provide for unity of effort, centralized planning, and decentralized execution. He establishes subordinate commands, assigns responsibilities, and establishes appropriate command and support relationships. He should allow Service tactical and operational assets to function generally as they were designed, trained, and equipped. The intent is to meet the needs of the joint force while maintaining the tactical and operational integrity of the Service organizations. He can organize and conduct operations through Service component commanders, functional component commanders, or a combination of the two. (MCDP 1-0)

What are the Options for Organizing Joint Forces?

- **Service Component Command.** A command consisting of the Service component commander and all those Service forces, such as individuals, units, detachments, organizations, and installations under

the command, including the support forces that have been assigned to a combatant command, or further assigned to a subordinate unified command or joint task force. [*MARCENT is an example*]

- **Functional Component Command.** A command normally, but not necessarily, composed of forces of two or more Military Departments which may be established across the range of military operations to perform particular operational missions that may be of short duration or may extend over a period of time. [*Examples include JSOTF, JFLCC, and JFACC.*]
- **Combination** of Service and functional component commands.

(Joint Pub 0-2)

What are the Levels of Authority?

The commander is responsible for accomplishing the assigned mission. While the commander may delegate authority to accomplish the mission, the commander cannot delegate responsibility for mission accomplishment. The authority given to a commander must match the assigned responsibility. Command relationships include—

- **Combatant Command (Command Authority).** COCOM is the command authority over assigned forces vested only in combatant commanders or as directed by the President of the United States in the Unified Command Plan. It cannot be transferred or delegated. It allows a combatant commander to perform those functions of command over assigned forces that involve organizing and employing commands and forces, assigning tasks, designating objectives, and giving authoritative direction over all aspects of military operations, joint training, and logistics. COCOM provides the combatant commander full authority to organize and employ commands and forces to accomplish assigned missions. COCOM should be exercised through the commanders of subordinate organizations.
- **Operational Control.** OPCON is the command authority over all aspects of military operations necessary for mission accomplishment. OPCON is the authority to perform functions of command over subordinate forces and involves—
 - Organizing and employing commands and forces.
 - Assigning tasks.

- Designating objectives.
- Giving authoritative direction over all aspects of military operations and joint training necessary to accomplish the commander's assigned missions.

Unless specifically delegated by the combatant commander, OPCON does not include authoritative direction of logistic or administrative support, discipline, internal organization, or unit training. OPCON may be delegated to commanders at any echelon at or below the level of combatant command. OPCON is inherent in COCOM.

- **Tactical Control.** TACON is the command authority over assigned or attached forces or commands or military capability made available for tasking. TACON is limited to the detailed and local direction and control of movements or maneuvers necessary to accomplish the commander's assigned missions or tasks. TACON provides the authority to—

- Give direction for military operations.
- Control designated forces.

TACON provides authority to control and direct the application of force or tactical use of combat support forces or capabilities. TACON does not include organizational authority or authoritative direction for logistic or administrative support. The parent unit commander maintains this authority unless otherwise specified. Functional component commanders typically exercise TACON over military forces or over capabilities made available to the joint force commander for tasking through functional component commanders. TACON may be delegated to commanders at any level at or below the level of combatant command. TACON is inherent in OPCON.

- **Support Relationships.** Support is a command authority. A senior commander sets a support relationship between subordinate commanders when one organization should aid, protect, complement, or sustain another force. Support may be exercised by commanders at any echelon at or below the level of combatant command. Support relationships establish priorities to commanders and staffs who are planning or executing joint operations.

The senior commander issues an establishing directive to guarantee that both the supported and supporting commanders understand the

authority given to the supported commander. The establishing directive specifies the purpose of the support relationship, the desired effect, and the scope of the action to be taken. The supported commander can exercise general direction of the supporting effort which includes—

- Designation and prioritization of targets or objectives.
- Time and duration of the supporting action.
- Other instructions necessary for coordination and efficiency.

The supporting commander determines the supported force's needs and fills them within his capabilities based on the priorities and requirements of other assigned tasks. The supporting commander determines the forces, tactics, methods, procedures, and communications necessary to provide the support. The supporting commander—

- Advises and coordinates with the supported commander on the employment and limitations of his support.
- Assists in integrating support into the supported commander's effort.
- Ensures that his entire command knows the supported commander's requirements.

Other authorities include—

- **Administrative Control.** ADCON is the direction or exercise of authority over subordinate or other organizations for administration and support actions. ADCON includes—
 - Organization of Service forces.
 - Control of resources and equipment.
 - Personnel management.
 - Unit logistics.
 - Individual and unit training.
 - Readiness.
 - Mobilization/demobilization.
 - Discipline.
 - Other matters not included in the operational missions of the subordinate or other organizations.

ADCON may be delegated and exercised by Service force commanders at any echelon at or below the level of a combatant command's Service component command.

- **Coordinating Authority.** Coordinating authority is given to a commander or individual to coordinate specific functions and activities involving forces of two or more Military Departments or two or more forces of the same Service. Coordinating authority is used to coordinate special functions and activities. The commander or individual can require consultation among the agencies but does not have the authority to force agreement. The establishing directive names the common task to be coordinated but does not change normal organizational relationships in other matters. The missions and capabilities of the commands determine the scope of the coordinating authority. Coordinating authority applies more to planning than to operations. Commanders or individuals at or below the level of combatant command can exercise coordinating authority.
- **Training and Readiness Oversight Authority.** Combatant commanders will exercise COCOM over assigned Reserve forces only when mobilized or ordered to active duty (other than for training). The Commander in Chief, U.S. Joint Forces Command, will normally exercise *training and readiness oversight* authority over assigned Selected Marine Corps Reserve units on a continuous basis through COMMARFORLANT. This oversight includes the authority to—
 - Provide guidance to COMMARFORLANT on operational requirements and priorities to be addressed in training and readiness programs.
 - Comment on COMMARFORLANT program recommendations and budget requests.
 - Coordinate and approve participation of assigned Selected Marine Corps Reserve units in joint exercises and other joint training when on active duty for training or performing inactive duty training.
 - Obtain and review readiness and inspection reports of assigned Selected Marine Corps Reserve units.
 - Coordinate and review mobilization plans (including post-mobilization training activities and deployability validation procedures) developed for assigned Selected Marine Corps Reserve units.

(MCWP 0-1.1)

What are the Levels of Marine Corps Components?

There are two levels of Marine Corps components: a Marine Corps component under a unified command and a Marine Corps component under a subordinate unified command or joint task force. The subordinate unified command-level or joint task force-level Marine Corps component will communicate directly to the combatant command-level Marine Corps component on Marine Corps-specific matters. (MCWP 0-1.1)

What are the Basic Responsibilities of a Marine Corps Service Component Commander?

Joint Pubs 0-2, *Unified Action Armed Forces (UNAAF)*, and 3-0, *Doctrine for Joint Operations*, MCDP 3, *Expeditionary Operations*, and MCWP 0-1.1, *Componency*, describe Service component commander responsibilities. Among the most important responsibilities of the Service component commander are to advise the joint force commander on the proper employment of Service forces, provide and sustain those forces, and accomplish assigned operational missions. Regardless of the organizational and command arrangements, the combatant command-level Marine Corps component commander retains responsibility for certain Service-specific functions and other matters affecting his assigned forces. These Service-specific functions include internal administration and discipline, training, logistics, and Marine Corps-specific intelligence operations.

The Marine Corps Component Commander Can Serve as Which Functional Component Commanders?

As the commander of the force most capable of rapid world-wide deployment, the Marine Corps component commander may serve as a functional component commander in the initial phase of a major theater war. As the theater matures and additional U.S. forces flow into the theater, the Marine Corps component commander's capability to command and control these joint forces diminishes. When the functional component commanders establish their headquarters and supporting infrastructure, they begin to assume command and control of their assigned forces and capabilities. The transition of functional component duties from the Marine Corps component commander continues until the gaining functional component commander demonstrates full operational capability. (MCDP 1-0)

The joint force commander can designate the Marine Corps component commander as a functional component commander. The joint force commander can designate the Marine Corps component commander as the—

- Joint force maritime component commander.
- Joint force land component commander.
- Joint force air component commander.

If the Marine Corps component commander is assigned functional component commander responsibilities, execution is normally accomplished by the assigned MAGTF. Designation as a functional component commander brings additional responsibilities; however, they do not replace Service component responsibilities for assigned Marine Corps forces. *Regardless of the joint command structure, the Marine Corps component commander must still provide administrative and logistic support to assigned forces.* In addition to functional component duties, the joint force commander can assign the Marine Corps component commander other joint duties such as the area air defense commander or airspace control authority. Again, these functions are normally accomplished by the assigned MAGTF. (MCWP 0-1.1)

What is a Joint Force Maritime Component Commander?

The joint force maritime component commander is responsible for planning, coordinating, and executing joint maritime operations. The maritime environment includes oceans, littorals, riverine areas, and amphibious objective areas, and the coordinated airspace above them as defined by the joint force commander. The joint force commander will designate the component commander best suited to accomplish the mission as the joint force maritime component commander. When maritime operations are focused on littoral operations—and Marine Corps forces have the preponderance of the mission or capabilities to accomplish the mission—the Marine Corps component commander may be designated the joint force maritime component commander. (MCDP 1-0)

What is a Joint Force Land Component Commander?

The joint force land component commander is responsible for planning, coordinating, and executing joint land operations. Marine Corps component commanders normally have the preponderance of land forces and the

necessary command and control capability to direct their activities during expeditionary operations in a smaller-scale contingency. In the early stages of a major theater war, the Marine Corps component commander may serve as the joint force land component commander, but as forces continue to build up in theater, the joint force commander will normally designate the Army component commander as the joint force land component commander. (MCDP 1-0)

What is a Joint Force Air Component Commander?

The joint force air component commander is responsible for planning, coordinating, and executing joint air operations. The expeditionary nature of Marine aviation and its associated command and control capability allows the Marine Corps component commander to function as the joint force air component commander in a smaller-scale contingency. In the early stages of a major theater war, the Marine Corps component commander may serve as the joint force air component commander, but as forces continue to build-up in theater, the joint force commander will normally designate another component commander as the joint force air component commander. (MCDP 1-0)

What are the Possible Command Authorities for the Commander in Executing his Marine Corps Component and MAGTF Responsibilities?

- Operational control (OPCON).
- Tactical control (TACON).
- Support.
- Other authorities—
 - Coordinating authority.
 - Administrative control (ADCON)
 - Direct liaison authorized (DIRLAUTH)

(Joint Pub 0-2)

What Does Joint Doctrine Say About Control of USMC Tactical Air in Sustained Operations Ashore?

“The MAGTF commander will retain operational control of organic air assets. The primary mission of the MAGTF air combat element is the

support of the MAGTF ground element. During joint operations, the MAGTF air assets will normally be in support of the MAGTF mission. The MAGTF commander will make sorties available to the joint force commander, for tasking through the joint force air component commander, for air defense, long-range interdiction, and long-range reconnaissance. Sorties in excess of MAGTF direct support requirement will be provided to the joint force commander for tasking through the joint force air component commander for the support of other components of the joint force or the joint force as a whole. Nothing herein shall infringe on the authority of the geographic combatant or joint force commander in the exercise of operational control, to assign missions, redirect efforts (e.g., the reapportionment and/or reallocation of any Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) TACAIR sorties when it has been determined by the joint force commander that they are required for higher priority missions), and direct coordination among the subordinate commanders to ensure unity of effort in accomplishment of the overall mission, or to maintain integrity of the force.

NOTE: Sorties provided for air defense, long-range interdiction, and long-range reconnaissance are not “excess” sorties and will be covered in the air tasking order. These sorties provide a distinct contribution to the overall joint force effort. The JFC must exercise integrated control of air defense, long-range reconnaissance, and interdiction aspects of the joint operation or theater campaign. Excess sorties are in addition to these sorties.” (Joint Pub 0-2)

1003. MAGTF Issues

What is the MAGTF?

The MAGTF is a balanced, air-ground combined arms task organization of Marine Corps forces under a single commander, structured to accomplish a specific mission. It is the Marine Corps’ principal organization for all missions across the range of military operations. It is designed to fight, while having the ability to prevent conflicts and control crises. All MAGTFs are task-organized and vary in size and capability according to the assigned mission, threat, and battlespace environment. They are specifically tailored for rapid deployment by air or sea and ideally suited for a forward presence role. A MAGTF provides the naval, joint, or combined commander with a readily available force capable of operating as—

- The landing force of an amphibious task organization.
- A land force in sustained operations ashore.
- A land force or the landward portion of a naval force conducting MOOTW such as non-combatant evacuations, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, or the tactical recovery of an aircraft or aircrew.
- A forward deployed force providing a strong deterrence in a crisis area.
- A force conducting training with allied forces as part of a theater engagement plan.

All MAGTFs are, by design, expeditionary, and comprised of four core elements: a command element, a ground combat element (GCE), an aviation combat element (ACE), and a combat service support element (CSSE). The MAGTF's combat forces reside within these four elements.



MAGTFs are integrated combined arms forces structured to accomplish specific missions. To provide a frame of reference for general sizing, MAGTFs are categorized in the following four types:

- Marine expeditionary force.
- Marine expeditionary brigade.
- Marine expeditionary unit (special operations capable).
- Special purpose MAGTF.

(MCDP 1-0)

What are the Capabilities of the MAGTF?

MAGTFs provide joint force commanders with the capability to:

- Move forces into crisis area without revealing their exact destinations or intentions.

- Provide continuous presence in international waters.
- Provide immediate national response in support of humanitarian and natural disaster relief operations.
- Provide credible combat power in a non-provocative posture just over the horizon of a potential adversary, for rapid employment as the initial response to a crisis.
- Support diplomatic processes for peaceful crisis resolution before employing immediately responsive combat forces.
- Project measured degrees of combat power ashore, day or night, and under adverse weather conditions, if required.
- Introduce additional forces sequentially into a theater of operations.
- Operate independent of established airfields, basing agreements, and over-flight rights.
- Conduct operations ashore using organic combat service support brought into the AO.
- Enable the introduction of follow-on forces by securing staging areas ashore.
- Operate in rural and urban environments.
- Operate under nuclear, biological, and chemical warfare conditions.
- Withdraw rapidly at the conclusion of operations.
- Participate fully in the joint planning process and successfully integrate MAGTF operations with those of the joint force.

(MCDP 1-0)

Why Fight as a MAGTF?

The MAGTF is the Marine Corps' principle organization for the conduct of all missions across the range of military operations. MAGTFs are balanced, combined-arms forces with organic ground, aviation, and sustainment elements. They are flexible, task-organized forces that can respond rapidly to a contingency anywhere in the world and are able to conduct a variety of missions. Although organized and equipped to participate as part of naval expeditionary forces, MAGTFs also have the capability to conduct sustained operations ashore. The MAGTF provides a combatant commander or other operational commander with a versatile expeditionary force that is capable of responding to a broad range of crisis and conflict situations. MAGTFs are organized, trained, and equipped to perform missions ranging from humanitarian assistance to peacekeeping to intense combat and can

operate in permissive, uncertain, and hostile environments. They may be shore- or sea-based in support of joint and multinational major operations and/or campaigns. MAGTFs deploy as amphibious, air-contingency, or maritime prepositioning forces (MPFs), either as part of a naval expeditionary force or via strategic lift. They can present a minimal or a highly visible presence and are able to project combat power ashore in measured degrees or can provide secure staging areas ashore for follow-on forces. MAGTFs are prepared for immediate deployment overseas into austere operating environments, bringing all means necessary to accomplish the mission. When deployed aboard amphibious shipping, MAGTFs maintain a continuous presence at strategic locations around the globe and can be rapidly moved to and indefinitely stationed at the scene of potential trouble. The MAGTF provides the joint force commander with the capability of reconstitution, which is the ability of an expeditionary force to regenerate, reorganize, replenish, and reorient itself for a new mission without having to return to its home base. (MCRP 5-12D)