

MEF-level Operations

The MEF remains our most capable MAGTF and is and will remain capable of conducting major operations in the littorals, ashore, and inland. These may include exploiting success in amphibious landings, turning an adversary's flank, or creating opportunities for future Joint force actions. The Marine Corps' ability to fight and win in major engagements is essential for our Nation – and required by law. The MEF's structure is required to form other MAGTFs, especially the MEF (Fwd) and the MEB.¹ Essentially, it takes a MEF to deploy a MEB. Accordingly, we must:

- Remain ready to simultaneously employ a MEF in sustained operations and up to two MEBs.
- Be prepared to perform large-scale, forcible entry operations.
- Continue to wargame challenging scenarios to draw out and understand the implications of the future operating environment for MEF-level operations.
- Employ tailored MAGTF Command Elements (CEs) in addition to our standing MAGTF CEs for specific missions.

¹ A MEF (Fwd) is normally the lead echelon of a MEF or, for some contingencies, it can be a stand-alone MAGTF capable of sustained expeditionary operations. A MEF (Fwd) is normally smaller than a MEF and larger than a MEB.