



UNCLASSIFIED  
**CURRENT OPERATIONS BRIEF**  
**18 Oct 2012**





UNCLASSIFIED

# Outline

- **Role of the United States Marine Corps**
  - Commandant's memorandum to the Secretary of Defense
- **USMC Personnel**
- **Operation Enduring Freedom**
- **RC(SW) Situational Overview**
- **RC(SW) Counterinsurgency**
- **Global Force Disposition**
- **Marine Expeditionary Units**
- **15<sup>TH</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit**
- **24<sup>TH</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit**
- **31<sup>ST</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit**





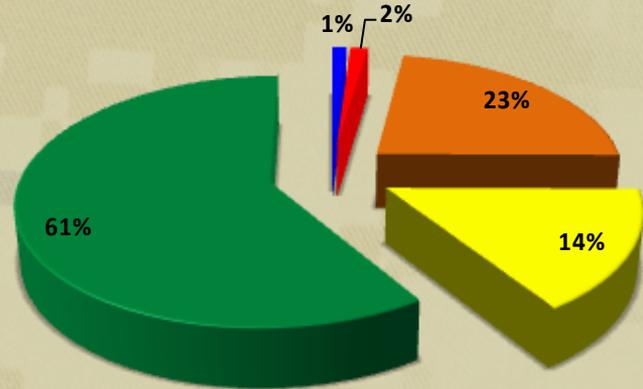
# Role of United States Marine Corps

- **A Maritime Nation – naval forces fulfill our global maritime responsibilities**
  - Not reliant on host nation support
  - Step lightly on allies and host countries
  - Operate simultaneously, and seamlessly across three domains (sea, land, air)
  - Provides operational reach and agility (buy time, decision space)
- **Scalable and relevant across the range of military operations**
- **Expeditionary – a “state of conditioning”**
  - Postured to respond at a moments notice
- **Middleweight Force – unique lane in America’s armed forces**
  - *“... an efficient and effective hedge against the Nation’s most likely risks.”*





# USMC Personnel



- Active Component - Operating Forces: 120,120
- Trainees, Transients, Patients, Prisoners: 31,682
- Supporting Establishment: 45,935
- Activated Reservists: 2,790
- Active Reserve: 2,202

**Total on active duty: 202,729**

**Total Deployed: ~22,500**

**Total Afghanistan: ~9,700**





# Operation Enduring Freedom



**NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan (NTM-A)**

**RC WEST**

**RC EAST**

**RC CAPITAL**

**RC SOUTH KANDAHAR**

**RC SOUTHWEST**

**Special Operations Task Force HQs (RC-W)  
Marine Special Operations Company (RC-W)  
Marine Special Operations Company (RC-SW)**

**Commander ISAF / US Forces - Afghanistan  
General John R. Allen  
Joint Staff Kabul – Individual Augments**

**Marine Corps Logistics Command (Fwd)  
R4 Operations Group**

**I Marine Expeditionary Force (Fwd)  
Major General Charles M. Gurganus**





# RC(SW) Situational Overview



## ➤ Geography

- Borders Pakistan/Iran
- Nimroz & Helmand
- Desert Plateau
- Helmand River

## ➤ Population

- 2011 Afghan Census
  - Helmand- 1,011,163
  - Nimroz- 179,707
- Helmand-Pashtun majority
- Nimroz-Baluch majority

## ➤ Helmand Economy

- Agricultural
- Animal Husbandry
- Transport Companies
- Narcotics Trafficking

## ➤ Enemy

- Taliban
- Close ties to Helmand
- Poppy as income source
- Facilitation networks supply fighters across Afghanistan



# RC(SW) Counter-Insurgency Efforts

## ➤ Security

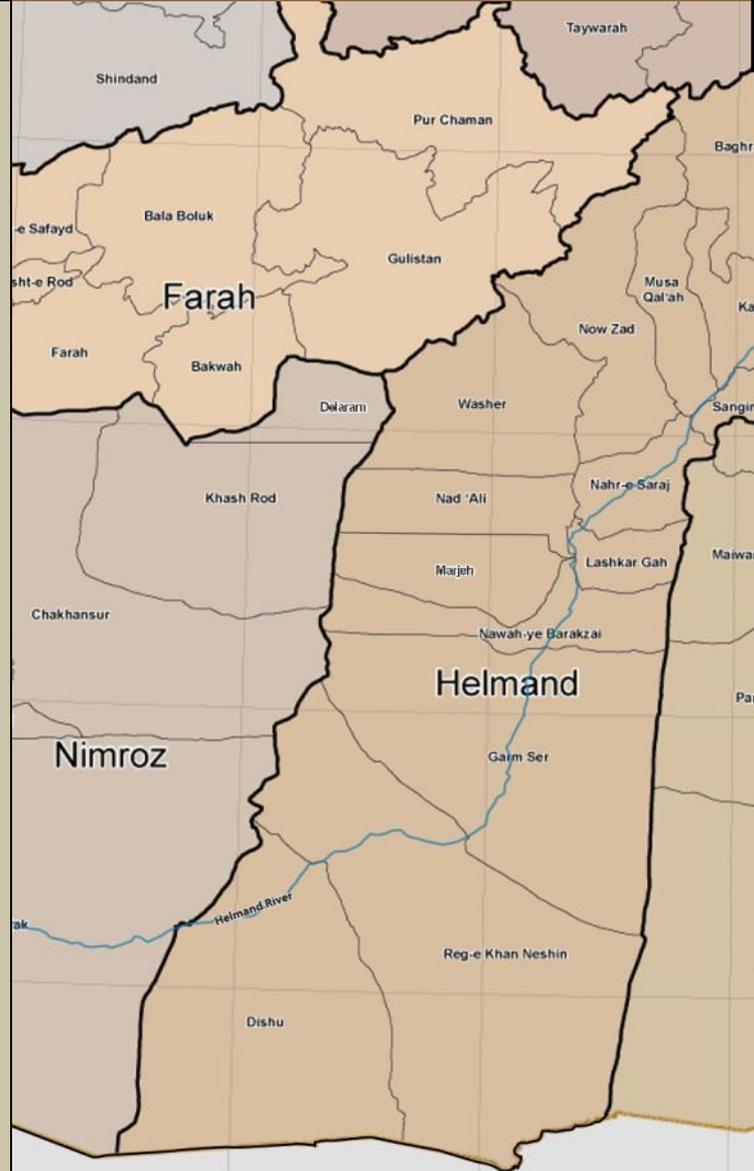
- Fighting the Taliban
- Partnering with Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)
- Transition of Security Responsibility

## ➤ Governance

- Governors in 13 of 14 districts
- Providing services increases credibility

## ➤ Development

- Infrastructure
- Agribusiness Development Team
- Agriculture
- Alternative Livelihood Program



### ANSF - Taking the Lead



### Partnering - Professionalization



Pakistan



UNCLASSIFIED

# Global Force Disposition

(As Of 18 October 12)

Operation Enduring Freedom  
~10,900
 + 
 DEP W/US Navy  
~6,900
 + 
 Other Exercises  
~4,700
 = 
 Total Deployed  
~22,500

NORTHCOM: ~300

EUCOM: ~600

AFGHANISTAN: ~9,700

OTHER CENTCOM: ~4,000

**USNORTHCOM**  
 RF/DF PUGET SOUND  
 RED FLAG 13-1

**USEUCOM**  
 GEORGIA DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM-ISAF 2  
 STEADFAST INDICATOR  
 TLD PROGRAM

**USCENTCOM**  
 OEF-AFGHANISTAN  
 JORDAN OPERATIONAL  
 DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM  
 CRISIS RESPONSE  
 UAE SECURITY COOPERATION  
 MEU ENGAGEMENT TEAM

**USS FT MCHENRY**  
 USEUCOM

**VMFA-251/ USS ENT**  
 USEUCOM

**24TH MEU**  
 USCENTCOM

**31ST MEU**  
 USPACOM

**15TH MEU**  
 USPACOM

**FAST PLTS**  
 USEUCOM  
 USCENTCOM  
 USPACOM  
 USNORTHCOM  
 USSOUTHCOM

**USSOUTHCOM**  
 NSTR

**USAFRICOM**  
 HEAVY HELO DET  
 OPERATION ONWARD LIBERTY  
 LIBYA CRISIS RESPONSE  
 SPMAGTF-AFRICA 13.1  
 MINOC-A II  
 PILOT IX

**USPACOM**  
 OEF-PHILIPPINES  
 AUSTRALIAN FCE  
 PHIBLEX  
 ISLAND FURY  
 CARAT CAMBODIA  
 KMFP 13.1  
 CROIX DU SUD  
 AMERCAL

**MARSOC**  
 USCENTCOM  
 USPACOM

**OPERATION**

**EMBARKED WITH USN**

**USMC DEPLOYMENTS**

SOUTHCOM: ~100

AFRICOM: ~600

PACOM: ~7,200



# Marine Expeditionary Units (MEUs)

**26<sup>TH</sup> MEU**  
CAMP LEJEUNE, NC

**13<sup>TH</sup> 11<sup>TH</sup> MEU**  
CAMP PENDLETON, CA

**22<sup>D</sup> MEU**  
CAMP LEJEUNE, NC



**PRE-DEPLOYED**



**DEPLOYED**



**POST-DEPLOYED**



UNCLASSIFIED

# 15<sup>TH</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit

## COL S. D. CAMPBELL

BLT 3/5 HMM-364 (REIN), CLB-15

DEPLOYMENT DATES: SEP 12 – MAY 13

USS PELELIU (LHA- 5)

USS GREEN BAY (LPD-20)

USS RUSHMORE (LSD-47)



PMINT  
CAMP PENDLETON  
JUNE 2012

CERTEX  
CAMP PENDLETON  
AUG 2012



EXERCISE CROCODILO  
TIMOR-LESTE  
OCT 2012



UNCLASSIFIED

# 24<sup>TH</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit

COL F. L. DONOVAN

BLT 1/2, VMM-261 (REIN), CLB-24

DEPLOYMENT DATES: MAR 2012 – NOV 2012

USS IWO JIMA (LHD-7)

USS NEW YORK (LPD-21)

USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44)





**UNCLASSIFIED**  
**31<sup>ST</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit**  
**COL J. E. MERNA**

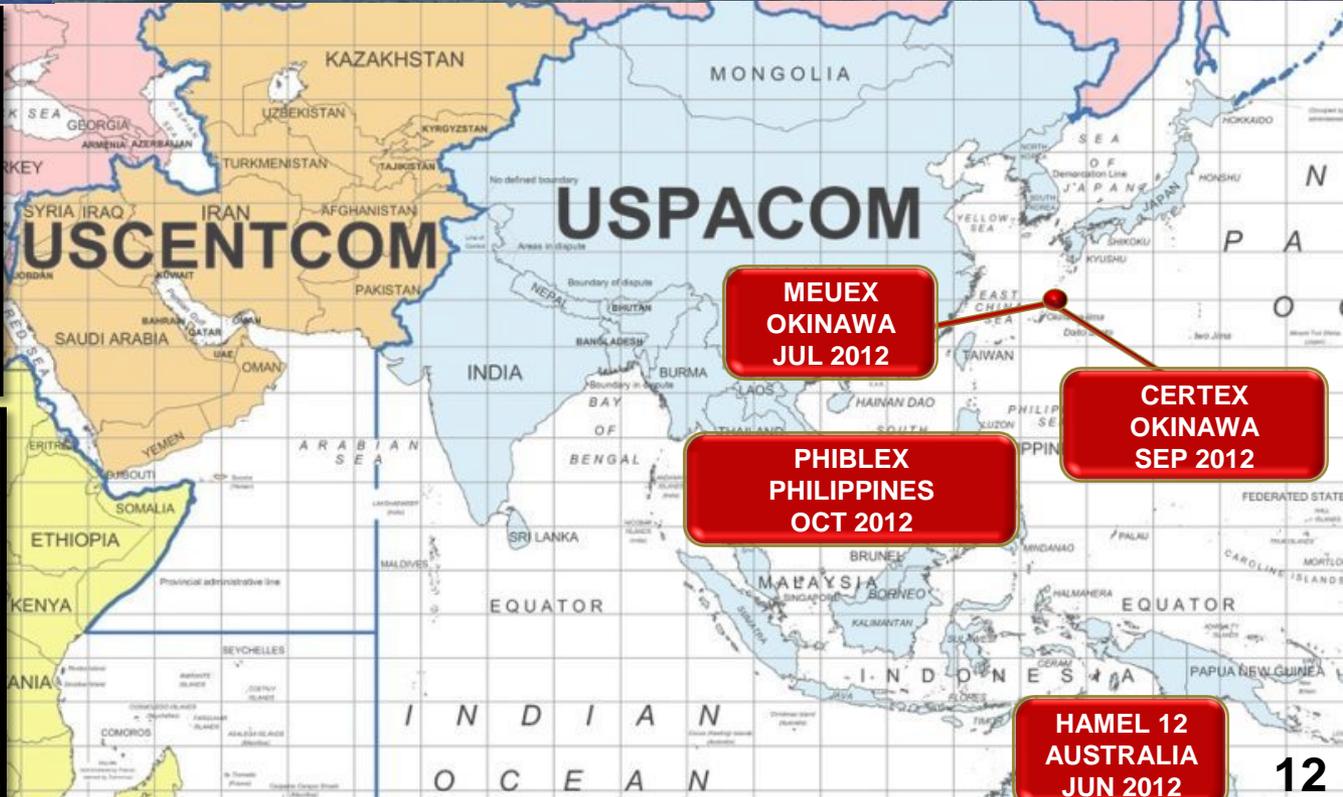
**BLT 2/1, HMM-262 (REIN), VMA-542, CLB-31**

**DEPLOYMENT DATES: JUN 12 – DEC 12**

*USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD-6)*

*USS DENVER (LPD-9)*

*USS TORTUGA (LSD-46)*





UNCLASSIFIED

# THIS CONCLUDES THE CURRENT OPERATIONS BRIEF

