



MARINES

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA

Public Affairs Office | Box 99113, Building 852 | Yuma, Arizona 85369

MEDIA ADVISORY

WTI Marines to hold humanitarian aid exercise in Yuma

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MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, Ariz. (April 11, 2013) – Students and instructors participating in Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron's Weapons and Tactics Instructor course 2-13 are scheduled to conduct a new humanitarian assistance/disaster recovery exercise in Yuma, Ariz. on Apr. 19.

MAWTS-1 will hold a press briefing at 9:30 a.m. on Apr. 16. to answer questions about the HA/DR exercise, overall WTI training and testing of new capabilities in support of the Marine Air Ground Task Force. A senior representative from MAWTS-1 will brief the media and be available for questions afterward.

In past years, WTI students would practice non-combatant evacuation training in Kiwanis Park and at Trinity Christian to help students prepare for real world incidents that require a quick reaction force to extract U.S. and allied personnel from hostile situations.

In an effort to broaden WTI students' understanding of how to respond to natural disasters and how to assist people who are displaced from their homes due to hostilities or catastrophic weather, this year's exercise in Yuma will show how Marines can provide essential aid to those in dire need around the globe.

The general public will see some changes in the scheme of maneuver of operations at Kiwanis Park and are reminded that for this WTI, there will not be any activity at Trinity Christian.

WTI students flying MV-22 Ospreys will conduct the NEO exercise in 29 Palms, Calif. at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center.

Media who wish to attend the press briefing must R.S.V.P. for this event no later than 4 p.m. on Monday, Apr. 15. Those attending the press briefing must meet at the MCAS Main Gate on Avenue 3E no later than 9 a.m. A public affairs Marine will escort you from the gate to the briefing and back.

Media who wish to attend the HA/DR exercise in Yuma on April 19 and conduct stand up interviews with Marines must R.S.V.P. for this event no later than 4 p.m. on Thurs, April 18. Those attending will be provided with additional coordinating instructions at least 24 hours prior to the exercise to include the start and end times of the exercise.

To R.S.V.P., contact Cpl. Bill Waterstreet, Media Relations, at 928-269-3682(office), 248-877-2877 (cell), or william.waterstreet@usmc.mil. When reserving a spot, be sure to include name of organization and the names and phone numbers of reporters attending.

Those attending are asked to meet outside of the entrance of the gate at Kiwanis Park for check in and bring an official government issued I.D. A public affairs Marine will escort you at all times while inside the gate.

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