

➤ Expeditionary Strike Group/ Expeditionary Strike Force

The Marine Corps is cooperating with the Navy in a series of experiments that are exploring the Expeditionary Strike Group and Expeditionary Strike Force concepts. As noted, the ESG concept will combine the capabilities of surface action groups, submarines, and maritime patrol aircraft with those of Amphibious Ready Groups and



Marine Expeditionary Units (Special Operations Capable) [MEU (SOC)s] to provide greater combat capabilities to theater combatant commanders. Expanding on the ESG, the Expeditionary Strike Force

integrates the Carrier Strike Group, the Expeditionary Strike Group, and the sea-basing functions provided by the Maritime Prepositioning Force (Future) to provide an even more potent capability.

In 2003, the Navy-Marine Corps team will conduct a pilot deployment on the West Coast to test the ESG concept. Navy combatants have already been incorporated within the existing training and deployment cycles of an Amphibious Ready Group. In addition, this experiment will allow the testing of different command-and-control arrangements for the ESG.

This experiment will allow the Naval Services to analyze the impact of the ESG model during the work up, deployment, and employment phases. It will provide critical information to support the future implementation of the concept and highlight any changes that are required in service doctrine, organization, training, material, leadership and education, personnel, and facilities.