



Marine Corps Air Station **NEW RIVER**

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Press Release

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VMX-22 deploys to support SPMAGTF-South

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION NEW RIVER, N.C. – Approximately 72 Marines and Sailors with Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron 22 (VMX-22) stationed aboard Marine Corps Air Station New River deployed Wednesday in support of Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force-South (SPMAGTF-South) aboard USS AMERICA (LHA 6). SPMAGTF-South will make multiple port visits to conduct different types of engagements with our partner-nation counterparts.

AMERICA is the Navy's newest America-class amphibious ship and will be traveling around South America in transit to her home port in San Diego. It is the first ship with the ability to facilitate maintenance on more aircraft simultaneously at a significantly faster rate than older ship designs due to enhanced aviation maintenance and hangar facilities.

Col. Robert L. Rauenhorst, the commanding officer of VMX-22, will lead the squadron in its first deployment which is expected to last two months.

Print, photo and video content of the SPMAGTF-South departure will be available at the following link: <http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/SPMAGTF-South>, and print and imagery of VMX-22's departure will be available at <http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/mcasnrjpa> for media outlets to utilize at their disposal.

Please contact the SPMAGTF-South Public Affairs Officer at (408) 887-2259, or email at pena_joshua0842@yahoo.com for more information about the deployment.

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