



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20318-9999

## **Army Birthday 2008**

Americans everywhere join me this weekend in wishing Soldiers the very best as you celebrate the birthday of the United States Army.

We pause to salute you, the heirs of a 233-year legacy of duty, honor and country. We pause to thank you and your families for your service during this critical time in our nation's history. Throughout the Army's history the nation has asked much of its Soldiers, and never have they responded or performed more bravely or honorably than they do today.

During long and recurring deployments, you fight violent extremists who threaten our way of life. You work hard to build partnerships with local citizens and communities. Your decisive action on the field of battle has and will continue to inspire. From Iraq and Afghanistan, across Europe and around the Pacific Rim, you represent the best of America's ideals and the finest of her dreams. You exemplify the Soldier's creed in your actions, words and heart.

The Joint Chiefs and I salute America's Soldiers and your families for your devotion to duty and tireless efforts in defense of our nation. Thank you for always putting the mission first, for never accepting defeat and never, ever quitting.

We need you. We are proud of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M.G. Mullen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

M.G. MULLEN  
Admiral, U.S. Navy