



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

US Army Birthday 2007

On 14 June, our Nation rightly pauses to recognize the men and women of the United States Army on their 232nd birthday. Today's Soldiers proudly continue the work of generations past, building upon a remarkable heritage of valor in the defense of our great Nation.

Yesterday's Soldiers fought for independence and battled the Nazis, communism, and the Cold War. Privates, corporals, and sergeants fought for each other – the Soldier to their left and to their right. They fought for the ideals Americans treasure still today. Battles at Valley Forge, Antietam, Ia Drang Valley, and Pork Chop Hill serve as reminders of the tremendous valor of our Nation's military, and the steep price we continue to pay for freedom.

Today's Soldiers fight a war on terrorism against an elusive and heartless enemy. You fight to ensure that your children and your children's children enjoy the same freedoms that Americans have enjoyed for more than 230 years. With a full understanding of exactly what service to this Nation means, you continue to serve with exceptional courage and selflessness. You exemplify the Soldier's Creed in word and deed.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff join me in saluting America's Soldiers, members of the most respected and revered Army in the world, for your demonstrated courage and devotion to duty.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Pace".

PETER PACE
General, United States Marine Corps
Chairman
of the Joint Chiefs of Staff