



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

MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2006

Congratulations to the United States Marine Corps for 231 years of vigilant duty as defenders of America's freedom. From the humblest of beginnings in Tun Tavern to the elite fighting force of today, the Corps has always been a national symbol of courage and strength. President Ronald Reagan said it best when he stated, "Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they have ever made a difference in the world, but the Marines don't have that problem."

As we continue to fight terrorism across the globe, the US Marines remain at the forefront, steadfast in their resolve, and indeed committed to making a difference. I applaud the tremendous dedication of all of our Marines, serving at home and in every clime and place. Thank you for all that you and your families do to preserve our way of life.

On behalf of the Joint Chiefs, the men and women of the Armed Forces, and a grateful Nation, Happy Birthday to the US Marine Corps. Semper Fidelis!

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