

10 November 1980

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

This November 10th marks the Corps' 205th year of dedicated service to our country; and while it is a time to recall with pride our past successes on the battlefield, it is also a time to ready ourselves for the certain challenges that lie ahead. In a world of unprecedented political instability, the potential for employment of Marines somehow and somewhere is ever-present. There will be no question that we are ready to do whatever needs to be done to protect our national interests wherever they are threatened.

The American people have unswerving confidence in the fighting ability of their Marines, and they will continue to look to the Corps for that extra measure of assurance when there is a battle to be fought. In the years ahead we will strengthen that confidence as we remain uncompromising in standards of conduct and performance, and continue to demonstrate our ability and willingness to be of service to our great country.

Happy birthday and best wishes to all members of our Marine Corps family on this our 205th anniversary.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "R. H. Barrow" with a stylized flourish at the end.

R. H. BARROW
General, U. S. Marine Corps