

10 November 1984

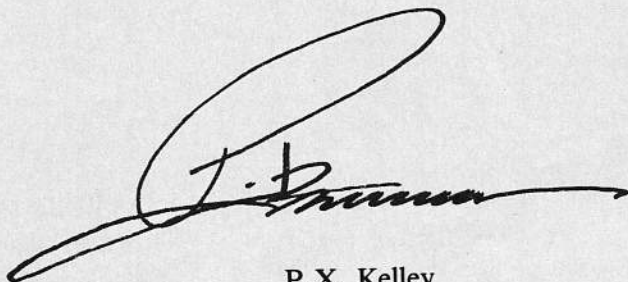
A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

To all who have earned the title MARINE; to the superb Navy men and women who serve alongside our Corps; and to our precious families—those silent heroes who endure uncertainties, hardships, and loneliness—and from whom in return we receive extraordinary love and devotion; to each of you—a heartfelt HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

As we move into our 210th year, I ask that all MARINES pause for one brief moment to rededicate themselves to Country, to Corps, to family, and to each other. We are a unique and special breed—a breed with the most important and demanding of all missions—the defense of our Nation!

The name MARINE knows neither defeat nor dishonor; it knows only pride and professionalism. We are proud “Soldiers of the Sea,” you and I, and our generation must uphold the highest traditions of our beloved Corps—a Corps of MARINES!

God bless you and Happy Birthday to the UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to P.X. Kelley, the Commandant of the Marine Corps at the time. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the top.

P.X. Kelley
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps