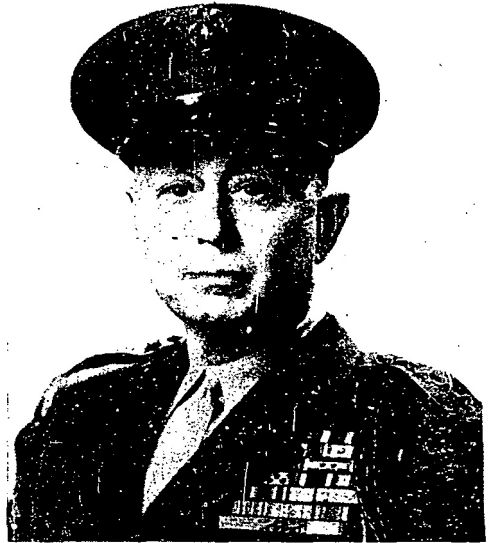


A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT



During the past year, another brilliant chapter has been written into the history of our Corps by those Marines who have fought so valiantly and died so honorably in Korea. To those men, all ranks join me in a well deserved salute.

The Marine Corps is not unmindful of the significant contribution made by our Reserve components to the Marine Corps' efforts during the present emergency. We have a full appreciation of the great sacrifice made by these men and women. As they return to their civilian pursuits, they take with them the sincere best wishes of their fellow Marines for much success and happiness in all future endeavors. Such a demonstration of comradeship is father to the proud motto, "Once a Marine, always a Marine."

On the happy occasion of the 176th Anniversary of the founding of our Corps, I am genuinely pleased to extend my hearty congratulations and felicitations to all Marines wherever you may be.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. B. Cates". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

C. B. CATES
General, U. S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps