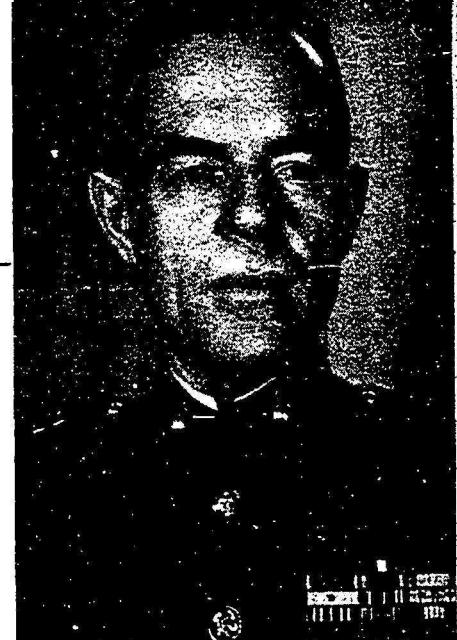




HEADQUARTERS U. S. MARINE CORPS  
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20380



192ND BIRTHDAY MESSAGE FROM  
THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

As we near fulfillment of a second century of service to our Country and our Corps, United States Marines -- past and present -- can take prideful inventory of our Corps' accomplishments and its contributions to the development and welfare of the greatest Nation on earth.

The occasion of the 192nd birthday of the Marine Corps is a time for reflection on the past; to pay tribute to our predecessors who set the watch. It is also time to view the present and look into the future to assure that the watch remains eternal.

Although fighting his Country's battles is a Marine's profession, it is not his preoccupation. It is not for him to make war, but to keep the peace. This anniversary, however, finds Marines in fierce combat, as they have been on many anniversaries past. But it is my fervent hope and desire that all of us will be able to mark future observances in an environment of peace -- and at home.

To those Marines now serving in Vietnam, I send special greetings and personal wishes for Godspeed in the pursuit of their tasks. To all Marines and their loved ones -- everywhere -- I say thank you for making the past year in our Corps' history every bit as illustrious as those before.

*Wallace M. Greene, Jr.*  
WALLACE M. GREENE, JR.  
General, U. S. Marine Corps