



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

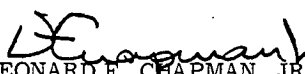
193D BIRTHDAY MESSAGE FROM  
THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

This 10th of November 1968 marks the 193d anniversary of the founding of our Corps. Conceived in a period of crisis, Marines ever since have stood ready to defend the Republic. We do so today.

Our success derives from the sweat and blood of the Marines who preceded us. We see the value of this heritage reflected in the combat record of our forces in Vietnam.

To those past Marines who have made the Corps what it is -- the finest fighting force the world has ever seen -- we pay our everlasting respect. To those wearing the uniform today, I say, "Well done; continue the march."

Our Corps lives in the hearts and minds of Marines -- regular, reserve, retired -- throughout the world. To them, and to their families on this very special day, I send my personal greetings and best wishes.

  
LEONARD F. CHAPMAN, JR.  
General, U. S. Marine Corps