

**A Message From
The Commandant
General R. E. Cushman, Jr.**



1 March 1972

Fellow Marines:

Our Corps enjoys a most enviable reputation among the armed forces of our country. We Marines met the challenge of a tough conflict in Southeast Asia and we proved we could pack the gear.

Today, we face an even tougher challenge -- that of maintaining the Corps as our country's true force-in-readiness. One way to help accomplish this is to "take care of our own".

We all know that each Marine has his own background, interests, and future goals. To truly understand and help our fellow Marines, we must respect these differences and see to it that all Marines are treated as equals.

All Marine leaders, especially small-unit leaders, must take an added interest in the welfare of their men. You must know each man's abilities and talents. You must know his problems and his prejudices. Help him solve them.

By living, working, and learning together as Marines dedicated to Corps and country, we can continue to be the finest military organization in the world.

Sincerely,

R. E. Cushman, Jr.
R. E. CUSHMAN, JR.
General, U. S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps