



## *A Message from the Commandant*

Armed Forces Day is traditionally set aside by Americans everywhere to salute those men and women who proudly wear the American uniform.

The survival of our Country as a Nation of free men depends on the willingness and dedication of her citizens to defend the traditions and ideals articulated by our forebearers nearly two hundred years ago. Our freedom was not easily won nor can it be maintained without constant sacrifice and determination. Today, as in times past, our freedom is protected by those who have answered the call to arms.

Whatever demands the changing climate of our times may hold for our Nation, I am confident that each Marine, Sailor, Soldier, Airman, and Coast-guardsmen will meet every challenge with competence, versatility, and with the high sense of purpose and devotion to duty that has earned the American fighting man the respect of our adversaries.

I join the American people in thanking you for your service and commend you for it.

*R. E. Cushman Jr.*

R. E. CUSHMAN, JR.  
General, U. S. Marine Corps