



#### A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

As the seasons of Christmas and Hanukkah draw near once again, we traditionally think of families, friends, and home. It is, indeed, a joyous and happy time of the year.

While some will be able to return home and renew family ties and friendships, it will not be possible for all of us. Many, of course, will be on duty around the world, helping our nation in its unceasing quest for peace among all nations.

Regardless of our personal circumstances, however, I think we all can take pride in knowing that Marines are a vital part of America's effort to maintain peace. We acknowledge with gratitude the vigilance and sacrifice of Marines who are separated from their families during these holidays in order that Americans might remain free.

To each of you, your families and friends, my sincere thanks for your devotion and dedication to your Corps and country. As you carry out your duties at home or away, Mrs. Wilson joins me in sending every good wish for a meaningful season, and then health and happiness during the coming year.

LOUIS H. WILSON  
General, U. S. Marine Corps