

MARINES' HYMN

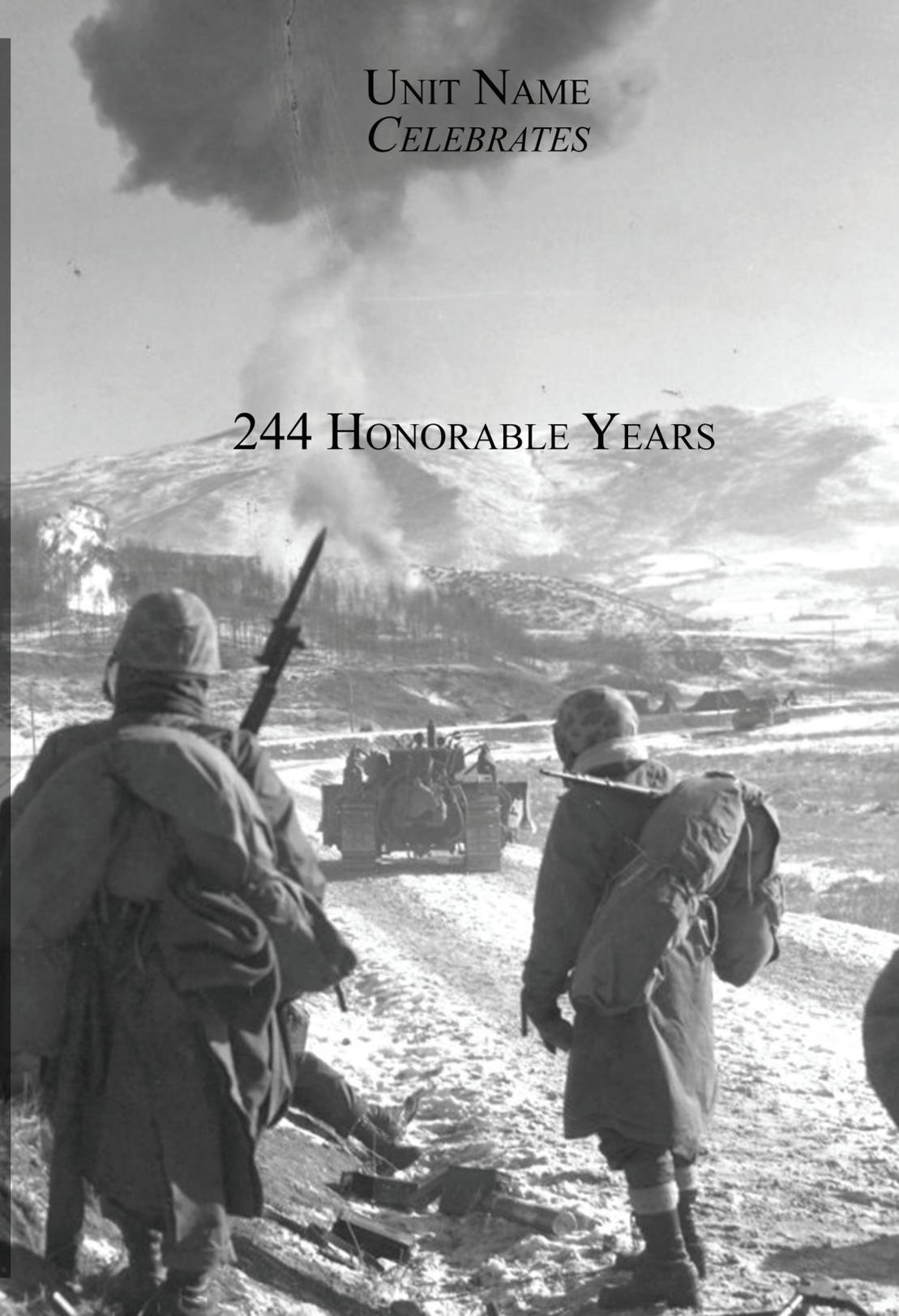
*From the Halls of Montezuma,
To the shores of Tripoli;
We fight our country's battles
In the air, on land, and sea;
First to fight for right and freedom
And to keep our honor clean;
We are proud to claim the title of
UNITED STATES MARINE*

*Our flag's unfurled to every breeze
From dawn to setting sun;
We have fought in every clime and place
Where we could take a gun;
In the snow of far off northern lands
And in sunny tropic scenes;
You will find us always on the job-
THE UNITED STATES MARINES*

*Here's health to you and to our Corps
Which we are proud to serve;
In many a strife we've fought for life
And never lost our nerve;
If the Army and the Navy
Ever look on Heaven's scenes;
They will find the streets are guarded by
UNITED STATES MARINES*

UNIT NAME
CELEBRATES

244 HONORABLE YEARS



The Commanding Officer of
Unit Name
welcomes you to the
244th Marine Corps Birthday Ball

The Guest of Honor is

The Youngest Marine is

The Oldest Marine is



“The Marine Corps has just been called by the New York Times “The elite of this country.” I think it is the elite of this world.”

Fleet Admiral William Halsey, USN



“The Marines I have seen around the world have the cleanest bodies, the filthiest minds, the highest morale, and the lowest morals of any group of animals I have ever seen. Thank God for the United States Marine Corps!”

-Eleanor Roosevelt, former First Lady



“The Marines have landed and the situation is well in hand”

-Richard Harding Davis



“Old breed? New breed? There’s not a damn bit of difference so long as it’s Marine breed”



-LtGen Lewis “Chesty” Puller



“Hell, these are Marines. Men like them held Guadalcanal and took Iwo Jima. Baghdad ain’t shit.”



-MajGen John F. Kelly

THE BIRTHDAY TRADITION

The Marine Corps was founded by the Continental Congress on 10 November 1775. From that day to this, the Tenth of November has been the climax of the Marine Corps year, and is the top social occasion of the Corps. The resolution which created our Corps reads as follows:

RESOLVED, that two Battalions of Marines be raised consisting of one Colonel, two Lieutenant Colonels, two Majors, and other officers as usual in other regiments, that they consist of an equal number of privates with other battalions; that particular care be taken that no persons be appointed to office, or enlisted into said Battalion, but such as good seamen, or so acquainted with maritime affairs as to be able to serve to advantage by sea, when required. That they be enlisted and commissioned for and during the present war with Great Britain and the colonies, unless dismissed by order of Congress. That they be distinguished by the names of the first and second battalions of American Marines, and that they be considered as part of the number, of which the Continental Army before Boston is ordered to consist.

The Birthday of the Marine Corps is celebrated officially and socially by all Marines throughout the world. Whenever one or more Marines are stationed aboard ship, at posts of other services, or in the field, November 10th is habitually celebrated. Although the Marine Corps joins the other services each May in observing Armed Forces Day, November 10th remains the Marines' own day – a day of ceremony, comradeship, and, of course, celebration.

Commanding General's Birthday Message



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. M. Iiams".

Major General K. M. Iiams
Commanding General
3d Marine Aircraft Wing

FULL NAME AND RANK
SERVICE (IF APPLICABLE)

Full Biography of GOH



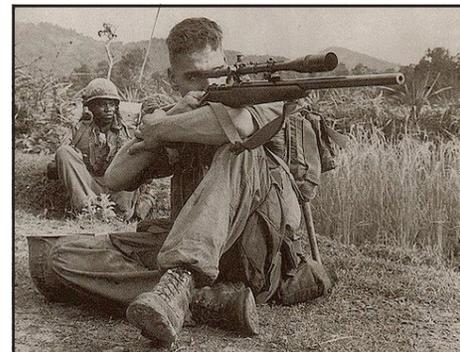
“You cannot exaggerate about the Marines. They are convinced to the point of arrogance, that they are the most ferocious fighters on Earth - and the amusing thing about it is that they are.”

-Father Kevin Keaney, former 1stMarDiv Chaplain, Korean War



“Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in the world. Marines don't have that problem.”

-Ronald Reagan, 40th President of the United States



“Every Marine is, first and foremost, a rifleman. All other conditions are secondary.”

-Gen Alfred M. Gray



General John A. Lejeune's Birthday Message

On November 10, 1775, a Corps of Marines was created by a resolution of the Continental Congress. Since that date, many thousand men have borne the name Marine. In memory of them, it is fitting that we who are Marines should commemorate the Birthday of our Corps by calling to mind the glories of its long and illustrious history.

The record of our Corps is one which will bear comparison with that of the most famous military organizations in the world's history. During 90 of the 146 years of its existence the Marine Corps has been in action against the Nation's foes. From the Battle of Trenton to the Argonne, Marines have won foremost honors in war, and in the long eras of tranquility at home generation after generation of Marines have grown gray in war in both hemispheres, and in every corner of the seven seas that our country and its citizens might enjoy peace and security.

In every battle and skirmish since the birth of our Corps Marines have acquitted themselves with the greatest distinction, winning new honors on each occasion until the term Marine has come to signify all that is highest in military efficiency and soldierly virtue.

This high name of distinction and soldierly repute we who are Marines today have received from those who preceded us in the Corps. With it we also received from them the eternal spirit which has animated our Corps from generation to generation and has been the distinguishing mark of the Marines in every age. So long as that spirit continues to flourish Marines will be found equal to every emergency in the future as they have been in the past, and the men of our Nation will regard us as worthy successors to the long line of illustrious men who have served as "Soldiers of the Sea" since the founding of the Corps.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John A. Lejeune".

General John A. Lejeune
16th Commandant of the Marine Corps



A Message from the Commandant of the Marine Corps

General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps
