

Happy Birthday, Marines!

November 10 marks 241 years of valiant service

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KANSAS CITY, Mo. – November 10 marks the 241st birthday of the United States Marine Corps. With its rich traditions and hallmark of valor, the Corps has fought in every American armed conflict as the “first to fight for right and freedom” since 1775.

The standard of excellence U.S. Marines achieve and live by have made them an international symbol of honor and pride. From the Battles of Derna, Belleau Wood, Iwo Jima and Khe Sanh, to the toppling of the Saddam statue in central Baghdad, “America’s 911 Force,” has demonstrated its uninterrupted commitment and gallantry in protecting America and defending those who cannot defend themselves from tyranny and oppression.

In 1921, Marine Corps Commandant Maj. Gen. John A. Lejeune wrote, “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.”

Today the nearly 1.7 million members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliary proudly salute all Marines — and Marine families — for their sacrifices and selfless dedication to duty and service to country. Semper Fi!

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