

LIMA CO. 3/5/1 MARINES



VIETNAM 1966-1971

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Lima Company



MARINE CORPS 249TH BIRTHDAY

NEWSLETTER 145

The Marine Corps was formed
on November 10, 1775
by the Second Continental Congress,
with the first Marines enlisting under
Commandant Samuel Nicholas.
But it was not until 1921 that the Corps
began celebrating that historic day
officially as its birthday.



Marine Corps Heritage Foundation
www.marineheritage.org



Take part in the tradition November 10 by reading Order 47 on the reverse side.

47

According to tradition, [Tun Tavern](#) was where the United States Marines held their first recruitment drive. On November 10, 1775, the Second Continental Congress commissioned the inn-keeper and former Quaker Samuel Nicholas to raise two battalions of Marines in Philadelphia.

MARINE CORPS 249TH BIRTHDAY

**The traditional celebration
includes a reading of Order 47:**

MARINE CORPS ORDERS

No. 47 (Series 1921)

HEADQUARTERS U.S. MARINE CORPS

Washington, November 1, 1921

759. The following will be read to the command on the 10th of November, 1921, and hereafter on the 10th of November of every year. Should the order not be received by the 10th of November, 1921, it will be read upon receipt.

- (1) On November 10, 1775, a Corps of Marines was created by a resolution of 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.
- (2) 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.
- (3) 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.
- (4) 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 have 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.

JOHN A. LEJEUNE,
Major General
Commandant
75705--21

COMMANDANT'S 249TH BIRTHDAY MESSAGE

ALMAR 028/24

MSGID/GENADMIN/CMC WASHINGTON DC//

SUBJ/UNITED STATES NAVY 249TH BIRTHDAY//

1. On behalf of all United States Marines, past and present, I extend congratulations to the United States Navy on its 249th birthday.
2. On 13 October 1775, the Continental Congress created the Continental Navy. Since then, the United States Navy has honorably defended this Nation and its interests at home and abroad. Rising from its humble beginnings, the United States Navy now maintains maritime order on a global scale while building infrastructure and conducting humanitarian relief operations around the world. Marines everywhere are proud to serve alongside Sailors in the world's premier maritime force.
3. As the Navy approaches a quarter-millennia of service, let us remember some of the many milestones in its proud history. The Naval Act of 1794 authorized the building of the legendary six frigates and permanently established the Navy under the U.S. Constitution. The USS Constitution defeated HMS Guerriere in the first of the famous frigate duels of the War of 1812. USS Holland (SS-1), the Navy's first submarine, was commissioned on 12 October 1900. The Nation's first dreadnought battleship, USS South Carolina (BB-26), was commissioned 1 March 1910. In the First World War, the Navy shepherded the American Expeditionary Forces across the submarine-infested Atlantic as the United States projected its power to the European continent across seas for the first time. In the 1930s the Navy and Marine Corps together developed the carrier task forces and Fleet Marine Force that would lead to victory in the first major Pacific war. The Navy fought the first carrier battle, in which neither side came within sight of the other, against Imperial Japan in the Battle of the Coral Sea from 4–8 May 1942. The U.S. Navy's victory over the Imperial Japanese Navy in World War II established it as the premier naval force in the world. The commissioning of the first nuclear-powered submarine, USS Nautilus (SSN-571), on 30 September 1954 and the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, USS Enterprise (CVN-65), on 25 November 1961 revolutionized shipbuilding and provided the Navy with a decisive advantage in reach and staying power which lasted through the Cold War and beyond. The creation of amphibious ready groups in the 1960s allowed the Navy-Marine Corps team to respond to security threats and humanitarian emergencies around

COMMANDANT'S 249TH BIRTHDAY MESSAGE

the globe. Today, the United States Navy remains the preeminent force providing sea control and power projection on a global scale.

4. Marines have served alongside Sailors from the beginning and look forward to many more years standing together with their naval brethren in whatever duty the Nation requires. On behalf of the entire Marine Corps, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the United States Navy on its 249th birthday.

5. Semper Fidelis, [Eric M. Smith, General, United States Marine Corps, Commandant of the Marine Corps.](#)//



VETERANS DAY

[WIKIPEDIA](#)

Armistice Day, later known as Remembrance Day in the Commonwealth and **Veterans Day** in the United States, is commemorated every year on 11 November to mark the armistice signed between the Allies of World War I and Germany at Compiègne, France, at 5:45 am for the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front of World War I, which took effect at 11:00 am—the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918 although, according to Thomas R. Gowanlock, an intelligence officer with the U.S. First Division, shelling from both sides continued for the rest of the day, ending only at nightfall. The armistice initially expired after a period of 36 days and had to be extended several times. A formal peace agreement was reached only when the Treaty of Versailles was signed the following year.



[VETERANS DAY POSTERS](#)

[VETERANS DAY ★ 11 NOVEMBER 2024 ★ ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETARY](#)

National Veterans Day Ceremony

The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony commences precisely at 11:00 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and continues inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by Veterans' organizations and remarks from dignitaries. The ceremony is intended to honor and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces.

- [Past Veterans Day Speeches](#)
- [2023 Presidential Proclamation](#)

View information about ceremonies held at [Arlington National Cemetery](#).



VETERANS DAY

[MILITARY.COM](https://www.military.com)

Vietnam Veterans Memorial: 30th Anniversary Celebration

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., will mark the 40th anniversary of the "Three Servicemen" statue and the 20th anniversary of the In Memory plaque on Monday, Nov. 11, 2024, at 1 p.m. at its annual Veterans Day at The Wall ceremony.



A MARINE'S STORY

THE OLDEST RECRUIT TO COMPLETE MARINE CORPS BOOT CAMP

By Miguel Ortiz, Apr 13, 2021

Today, the average Marine recruit attending boot camp at MCRD San Diego or Parris Island is 21 years old. However, when Paul Douglas attended boot camp in 1942, he was 50.

Douglas was born in 1892. He worked as an economics professor from 1916-1942. He also ran for and won a seat on the Chicago City Council in 1939. By the time WWII broke out, Douglas had become acquainted with many high-profile politicians including future Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox. With Knox's help, Douglas enlisted in the Marine Corps five months after Pearl Harbor. Driven by the surprise attack on American soil, Douglas was determined to become a Marine and see combat.

Leaving behind his wife, child, and career, Douglas reported to Parris Island, South Carolina for boot camp. Despite being old enough to have fathered his own drill instructors, Douglas shined during training. He completed boot camp and earned the coveted title of United States Marine. "I found myself able to take the strenuous boot camp training without asking for a moment's time out and without visiting the sick bay," he wrote of his experience at The Island.

Following completion of boot camp, Douglas was assigned to the personnel classification section at Parris Island. With some help from his political influence in the Roosevelt administration, Douglas was promoted to corporal after three weeks, and staff sergeant a month after that. After seven months as an enlisted Marine, Knox and Douglas' CO recommended he be commissioned as a Marine Corps officer. He became a captain and served as division adjutant to 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines.

Oldest Marine recruit with a rifle

Every Marine is a rifleman and Douglas was no exception (U.S. Marine Corps)

During the Battle of Peleliu, despite his position as an adjutant, Douglas made several trips to the front to help evacuate the dead and wounded. During one of these mercy missions, he noticed that the Marines were low on flame thrower fuel and ammunition for their rocket launchers. After grabbing the supplies, Douglas braved heavy mortar and machine gun fire to resupply his fellow Marines. For his actions, he was awarded the Bronze Star. Later during the Battle of Peleliu, Douglas was wounded by shrapnel and earned his first Purple Heart.

Douglas later served during the invasion of Okinawa. He was promoted to major, but still ran around the battlefield with the vigor and energy of a younger Marine. While carrying out another resupply mission for Marines at the front, Douglas was hit in his left forearm by machine gun fire. Pfc. Paul E. Ison was part of the resupply mission. "If I live to be 100 years old I will never forget this scene. There, lying on the ground, bleeding from his wound was a white-haired Marine major. He had been hit by a machine gun bullet. Although he was in pain, he was calm and I have never seen such dignity in a man," Ison recalled. "He was saying 'Leave me here.'

A MARINE'S STORY

Get the young men out first. I have lived my life. Please let them live theirs.'" Douglas was evacuated and, despite his protests, returned to the states.

Oldest recruit presented with the Bronze Star

He was sent to a hospital in San Francisco before he was moved to Bethesda. After more than 14 months, he was dismissed from the hospital and medically retired from the Marines. Douglas only partially regained use of his left hand. However, in recognition of his courage in combat and exemplary service, Douglas was promoted to Lt. Col. in 1947.

He returned to Chicago as a war hero and was elected as an Illinois State Senator in 1949. During the race for the senate seat, his opponent notably refused to debate him. Making light of the situation, Douglas debated himself, switching chairs to answer his own questions. During his time in office, Douglas proudly displayed the flag of his beloved Corps in his office. He served as a state senator for 18 years until he retired at the age of 74. He died in his home in 1976.

In recognition of this exemplary Marine, the Parris Island visitor center is named for Paul Douglas. The memorial marker on the building reads, "By his personal courage, fortitude and leadership, the Honorable Paul H. Douglas demonstrated the personal traits characteristic of Marine leaders."

