

# 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 MARINES

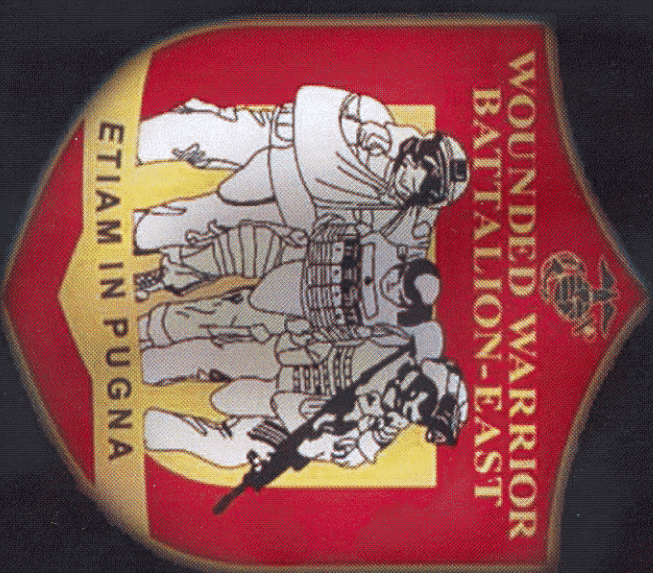
OUR FLAG'S UNFURLED TO EVERY BREEZE  
FROM DAWN TO SETTING SUN;  
WE HAVE FOUGHT IN EVERY CLIME AND PLACE  
WHERE WE COULD TAKE A GUN.  
IN THE SNOW OF FAR OFF NORTHERN LANDS;  
AND IN SUNNY TROPIC SCENES,  
YOU WILL FIND US ALWAYS ON THE JOB  
THE UNITED STATES MARINES

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

# 237th

## U.S. MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CEREMONY

Marine Corps Detachment  
Walter Reed  
National Military Medical Center



9 November 2012

# Sequence of Events



Cocktails  
1800-1855

Guests and Head Table Seated  
1855

Video (CMC Message)  
1900

Benediction  
1910

Fallen Comrades  
1915

Ceremony Commences  
1920

March on Detachment OIC/Guest of Honor

March on Colors

March on Cake

General John A. Lejeune's Message

Introduce Detachment OIC, Speech

Introduce Guest of Honor, Speech

Cake Cutting Ceremony Introduce Oldest and Youngest Marine

Retirement of Colors

Dinner  
2010-2050

Dancing/Entertainment  
2050-Comp

# Detachment Staff



Marine Corps Detachment Walter Reed

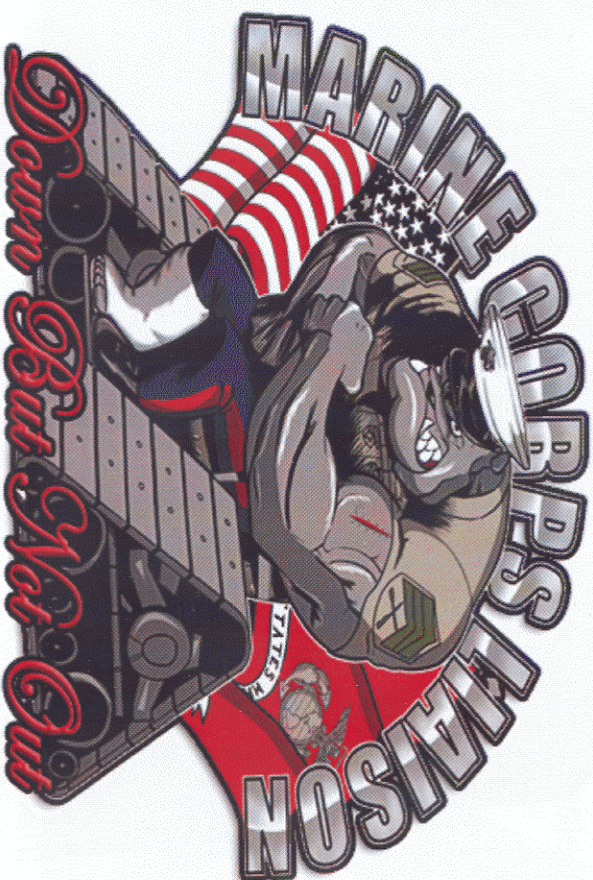
Detachment Officer In Charge  
LtCol Peter J. Epton

Deputy Officer In Charge  
Ms. Melissa Mimms

Detachment First Sergeant  
1stSgt Michael F. Barrett

Guest of Honor

16th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps  
SgtMaj Carlton Kent (Ret.)



Guest of Honor

**SgtMaj Carlton Kent (Ret.)**  
16th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps



Sergeant Major Kent served 36 years as a United States Marine until retiring as the 16th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps in June 2011.

Sergeant Major Kent has served at numerous levels as a Noncommissioned Officer and Staff Noncommissioned Officer. Some of his billets include; Drill Instructor, Chief Instructor at Noncommissioned Officers/Tactics School, Platoon Sergeant, Company Gunnery Sergeant, Company First Sergeant, and numerous levels as a Sergeant Major. Sergeant Major Kent also served at the American Embassies in Kinshasa, Zaire, and Panama City, Panama.

His awards include the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Gold Star in lieu of second award, a Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star in lieu of second award, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Gold Star in lieu of second award, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Gold Star in lieu of second award, and the Combat Action Ribbon. He is the recipient of the General Gerald C. Thomas Award for inspirational leadership and the recipient of the Marine Corps League's Military Order of the Iron Mike" award.



## A Birthday Message from Major General John A. Lejeune 13th Commandant Of The Marine Corps



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 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 have also received from them the eternal spirit which has animated our Corps from generation and has been a 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 our Corps.

## A Birthday Message from General James F. Amos Commandant Of The Marine Corps



1775  
11 NOV 10  
1775

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

As we pause to celebrate the 237th birthday of our Corps, we reflect on the rich legacy of service handed down to us, we recommit ourselves to the tasks at hand, and we look forward toward a bright future in service to our country.

Marines exist to fight and win our Nation's battles. We are most proud of our well-earned reputation for answering the clarion call first. This was never more evident than at the epic battle of Guadalcanal 70 years ago. Picked to lead the first allied counter-offensive of the Pacific war because they were the "most ready," Marines landed on 7 August 1942 in the Solomon Islands. They persevered through months of unrelenting deprivation and bitter combat. By the time the veterans of the Blue Diamond, the Cactus Air Force, our legendary Marine Raiders, and initial elements of the Follow-Me Division gathered together to raise a canteen and toast the birthday of their beloved Corps some three months later, the battle was no longer an issue. The situation was well in hand... victory was assured.

We carry that same legacy of resolute commitment and valor today. Over the past year, Marines have stood firm in the toughest of circumstances and on numerous occasions. We've taken the fight to the enemy in Helmand and to the Horn of Africa. We've manned the ramparts of beleaguered embassies in the Middle East and North Africa, fought alongside our allies throughout the world, while behind the scenes, afloat and ashore, other Marines did the painstaking hard work required to maintain our high levels of readiness and efficiency.

As we look toward the future, we know that our sentimental place in the hearts of our fellow Americans and critical role in the defense of our way of life are assured. America has always wanted a Marine Corps... it's always been that way. Now, more than ever, America needs its Marines as we confront a dangerous and unpredictable world. Faced with difficult days ahead, we will continue to draw strength from our rich heritage and the shared values of the Marines to our left and to our right. We know who we are... we know what we stand for. As ever we will strive to be found worthy of the legendary trust of our fellow Americans.

I salute the enduring faithfulness of those who have gone before, of those who wear our cloth today, and of the families who stand so resolutely at our sides. Happy Birthday, Marines!

Semper Fidelis.

JAMES F. AMOS

General, U.S. Marine Corps