

## VFW Salutes US Marine Corps for 235 Years of Service

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November 10, 2010, marks the 235th birthday of the United States Marine Corps. With its rich traditions and hallmark of valor, the USMC 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 the motto by which they live — Semper Fi — have made them an international symbol of honor and pride. From the Battles of Derna, Iwo Jima and Khe Sanh, to the battle of Fallujah, "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, Major General 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."

The 2.1 million members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliaries proudly salute you for your continued sacrifices and dedication to duty and service to country.

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