

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

Concepts and Programs 2013 provides a status update of the United States Marine Corps. Drawing on our role as the Nation’s Expeditionary Force in Readiness, we have long recognized that our continued success depends on our capacity to prepare for, and adapt to the ever-changing global security environment. Marines are expeditionary by nature and maintain a high state of readiness by design. We are proud of what our Corps — in close partnership with the Navy — contributes to America’s forward presence and power projection. Combined with the unique contributions of joint and coalition partners, these capabilities provide America with a potent and versatile military arsenal.
Our achievements since September 11, 2001 are testament to our long history of innovation. The dynamic nature of conflict and competition for technological advancement steels our resolve to ensure that Marines are armed with the necessary weaponry, doctrine and equipment necessary to maintain an operational advantage in any engagement. Our focus is not limited to equipment and weapons systems, but reflects the development of new operational concepts and organizational realignments.

*Concepts and Programs 2013* is an excellent resource to better understand the Corps, our capabilities, and the course we have charted for the future. Optimizing the Marine Corps is a process, not an end-state, and spans years of investment and experimentation. The results of this continuous process will yield an increasingly lethal, diverse and versatile array of capabilities we consider vital to meet the demands of an uncertain security environment.

Semper Fidelis,

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General, U.S. Marine Corps
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