

DECEMBER 2006



## A MESSAGE FROM THE 34th COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS



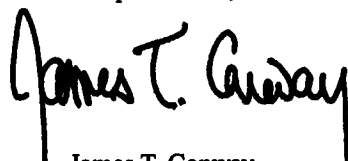
Marines, Sailors, Families and Those Invaluable Citizens Who Support Us:

As your new Commandant, I want you to know how proud I am of your perseverance and dedication as we combat the forces of terrorism around the globe. Today's generation of Marines stands shoulder-to-shoulder with those who have worn the eagle, globe and anchor as warriors in the finest fighting tradition. Though we are engaged in a complex war that will not be resolved soon, it is a war we must win! Below are my focus areas for the next few years—however, *our Marines and Sailors in combat are my number-one priority.*

- *Achieve victory in the Long War.*
- *Right-size our Corps to achieve a 1:2 DEPTempo [deployment cycle tempo].*
- *Reset and modernize to "be most ready when the Nation is least ready."*
- *Provide our Nation a naval force that is fully prepared for employment across the spectrum of conflict.*
- *Improve the quality of life for our Marines and their families.*
- *Rededicate ourselves to our core values and warrior ethos.*
- *Posture the Marine Corps for the future.*

*You will soon receive my Commandant's Planning Guidance (CPG). Within 30 days, I want commanders at all levels to review this Guidance with their Marines, Sailors and civilians. I plan to visit many of you over the next several months, and I will seek your feedback on the CPG and your ideas on how we can continue to defeat our adversaries, best serve our Nation, and forge the next chapter in the proud history of our Corps.*

Semper Fidelis,

  
James T. Conway  
General, U.S. Marine Corps