



MARINES PRIDE AND HONOR OF A MARINE COMMISSION

PRIDE AND HONOR OF A MARINE COMMISSION

Marines have a fighting spirit that has guided them to a long and storied history and heritage of winning battles, two of the most well-known being the battle of Belleau Wood over the Germans in World War I and the battle of Iwo Jima over Japan during World War II. That history has given rise to several cherished symbols and icons such as the Eagle, Globe and Anchor, the Blood Stripe and the Dress Blues uniform that represent the pride and honor felt when leading fellow Marines in winning our Nation's battles.

- The Eagle, Globe and Anchor can be traced back to the early Continental Marines. The current version of the emblem was approved in 1868. The eagle represents service to the Nation, the globe signifies worldwide service and the anchor stands for naval traditions.
- The current dress blues uniform reflects the Marines' proud heritage; it has remained relatively unchanged since the 19th century. Earning the right to wear the dress blues uniform of the United States Marine Corps is a great achievement; it is tangible evidence that you have completed one of the most intense training programs in existence and have proven, mentally and physically, that you have what it takes to become a Marine Officer. The dress blue uniform is the most elaborate of the United States Armed forces, a fitting tribute to those few who have successfully earned the privilege of wearing it. More than anything, it distinguishes you as a leader of one of the most elite military forces in the world.
- The Mameluke Sword is the ceremonial sword worn by Marine Officers. The sword was presented to Marine 1stLt Presley O'Bannon by the Pasha of Tripoli in 1804, during the First Barbary Pirate War. The Mameluke Sword is the oldest weapon still in use in the United States arsenal and remains an important symbol of authority and leadership.
- The Marine Corps Flag is a proud symbol of the Corps. In April of 1925, an official Marine Corps order designated scarlet and gold as official colors of the Marines. In 1939, the Marines were authorized to attach battle streamers to the flag staff.

