United States Marine Corps

History

During the American Revolution, the Continental Congress passed a resolution that “two battalions of Marines be raised” as far as service as landing forces for newly formed Continental Navy. On November 10, 1775, drafted by future President John Adams and adopted in Philadelphia, established the creation of the Continental Marines and now is observed as the birth date of the United States Marine Corps.

Symbolism of the Marine Corps flag, Symbols, and Insignia

January 18th, 1939, the Marine flag was adopted, boasting a deep scarlet red background. The Marine Corps Order 4 established the colors scarlet and gold to be the official colors in 1925.

There are two versions of Corps flag for design. The indoor and parade purpose Marine flag is bordered with gold fringe, while the outside version is not. The emblem is an eagle, anchor, and globe. The eagle represents the nation the Marines protect and is sitting on top of the globe with wings wide open. A scroll is in the eagles mouth with the words, “Semper Fidelis.” The anchor then points to the navel heritage of the Marines and their access to any coastline across the world. The globe represents the Marine worldwide presence.

Together the eagle, anchor, and globe represent Marine’s diehard commitment to defend the United States whether it be on air, land, and sea. This emblem has been part of Marine uniform since 1868 and then became the official emblem in 1955.

One final component of the flag is a ribbon below the emblem that reads, “United States Marine Corps.” The Marine flag flies for various occasions including ceremonies, parades, installations, and many more. The Marine Corps flag is also displayed in the offices of the United States President, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Navy, and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

FROM THE HALLS OF MONTEZUMA...

The Marines’ Hymn begins, “From the Halls of Montezuma…”
This refers to the Battle of Chapultepec in 1847. The United States Marines conquered Chapultepec Castle in Mexico City and occupied the city as part of the Mexican-American War.

...TO THE SHORES OF TRIPOLI

In 1801, the United States decided to take action regarding piracy in the Mediterranean. President Jefferson sent the Navy in the beginning and in 1805, the Marines finished the job. The Battle of Derne, on the shores of Tripoli occurred during the First Barbary War. The first overseas land battle fought by the United States military.

“...It is a proud privilege to be a soldier – a good soldier ... [with] discipline, self-respect, pride in his unit and his country, a high sense of duty and obligation to comrades and to his superiors, and a self confidence born of demonstrated ability.” - George S. Patton Jr.