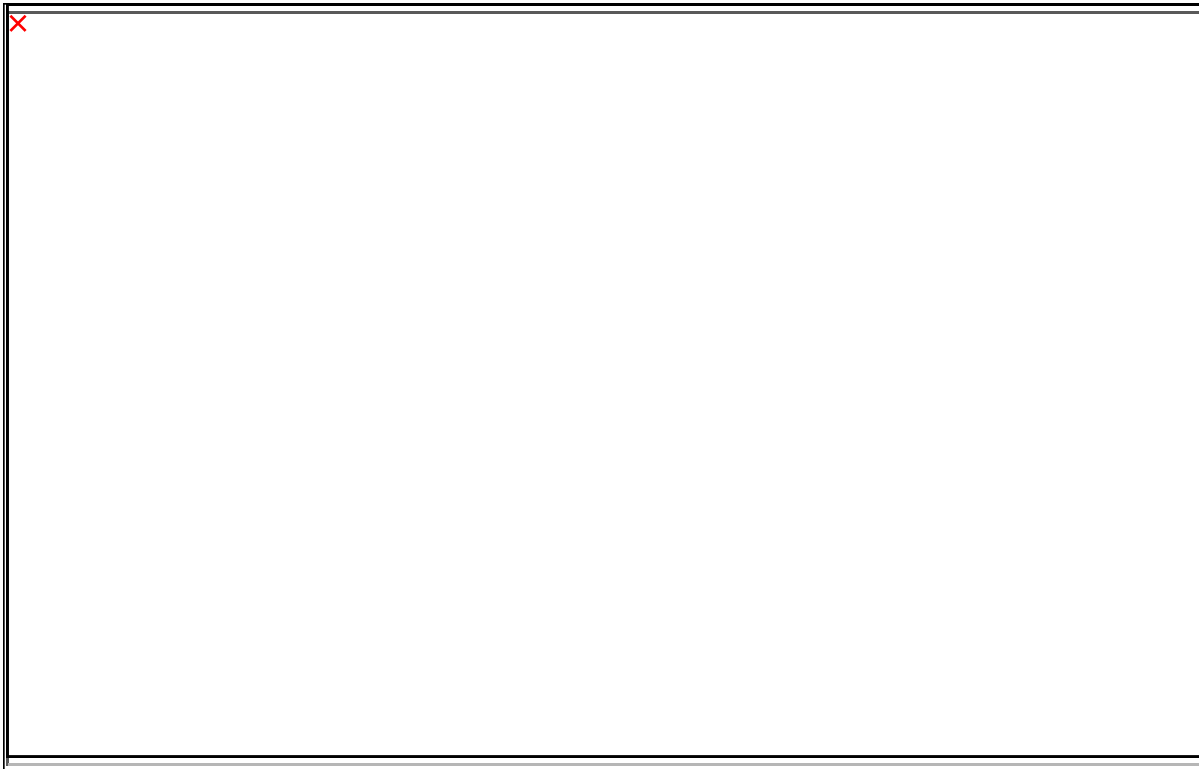


USAWC cake cutting ceremony honors 241st Marine Corps Birthday

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Class of 1910 Army War College graduate and 13th Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, Gen. John A. Lejeune, directed on Nov. 1, 1921 that a reminder of the honorable service of the Marine Corps be published by every command, to all Marines throughout the globe, on the birthday of the United States Marine Corps.



Honoring the wishes of its alum, the Army War College paid respect to Lejeune by celebrating the 241st birthday of the United States Marine Corps at a cake cutting ceremony held in Bliss Hall on Nov. 10.

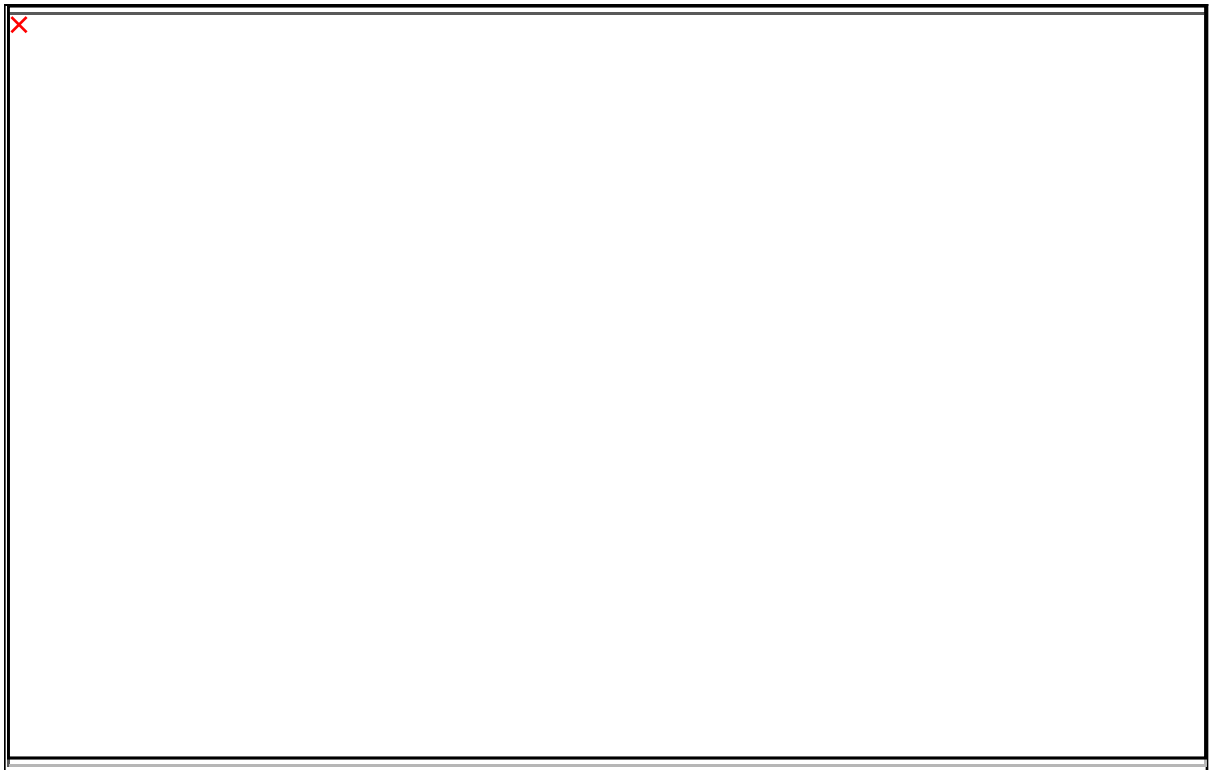
The ceremony began with the republishing of Lejeune's original birthday message, known today as Article 38, United States Marine Corps Manual, Edition of 1921, which begins as follows:

"On November 10, 1775, a Corps of Marines was created by a resolution of the Continental Congress.

Since that date many thousand men have borne the name Marine. In memory of them it is fitting that we who are Marines should commemorate the birthday of our Corps by calling to mind the glories of its long and illustrious history.”

Following the reading of Lejeune’s message, the official Marine Corps birthday cake was escorted on to Bliss Hall’s stage, and, in keeping with the long held tradition, which is observed by Marines around the globe, the oldest and youngest Marines present were presented with the first piece of birthday cake. The tradition symbolizes the passing of knowledge and experience from generation to generation.

The
oldest
Marine
present
was Mr.
David
Bennett,
a Marine
aviator
who left
the
Marine
Corps in
1974,
and who
served



as a faculty member here at the Army War College. After taking his first bite he passed the cake to the youngest Marine, Lt. Col. Elizabeth Perazzo, a current Army War College student.

Following the cutting of the cake the ceremony concluded with the playing of Anchors Away and the Marines’ Hymn after which those who had gathered enjoyed birthday cake and coffee in the atrium of Bliss Hall.