

Veterans Day 2010 message

Commanding General

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Veterans Day 2010

President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the first Armistice Day on Nov. 11, 1919 to honor the one-year anniversary of the end of World War I and to recognize the sacrifices of all those who served in that conflict.

It's been more than half a century since Armistice Day was renamed "Veterans Day" to honor all of our Nation's veterans. Over that time, Americans have continued to set aside Nov. 11 as a special day of solemn observance and reflection to honor those who have proudly worn a uniform in defense of freedom.

Today, America has troops deployed around the globe and the demands on our force are many. However, the American Soldier continues to answer the call of service to face every challenge and to accomplish every mission.

I take pride in my service as a member of our profession. I hope each of you feels the same sense of pride and accomplishment as we continue to serve our great Nation.

On this 2010 Veterans Day, Deanie and I would like to say thank you to each and every one of you for your service and sacrifice. We'd also like to thank your loved ones for their hardships and for the sacrifices they endure. Together, you embody the selfless patriotism that keeps America strong and free.

I ask that you devote a moment in observance of this patriotic day of tribute to remember and thank all of our men and women in uniform, past and present, who have so bravely served and sacrificed for our Nation.

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." – John Fitzgerald Kennedy

God bless our veterans and their Families!

Martin E. Dempsey

General, U.S. Army

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