



# **U.S. MARINE CORPS**

## **CONCEPTS & PROGRAMS 2011**

*America's Expeditionary Force in Readiness*

**INCLUDES THE MARINE CORPS ALMANAC**

# CONCEPTS & PROGRAMS 2011



U.S. MARINE CORPS



## A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

The United States Marine Corps continues to defend our Nation amidst a world of ever-increasing instability and conflict. In the rugged Helmand River Valley of Afghanistan, onboard naval amphibious ships and in countless other locations, Marines are fighting our enemies and assisting our friends. All the while, we remain poised to respond to crisis in any clime or place. As *America's Expeditionary Force in Readiness*, we have a statutory responsibility to be prepared at a moment's notice to respond "as the President may direct" across the range of military operations, from humanitarian assistance missions to major combat operations. Our notion of "Expeditionary" is more than a slogan. It is a state of mind that drives the way we organize our forces, how we train, and what kind of equipment we buy.

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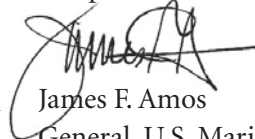
This past fall, our Corps conducted a comprehensive force structure review to ensure we are optimally postured for the emerging and future security environment. The results of that detailed study will have bearing on the programs and equipment we procure, now and into the future. This edition of *Concepts and Programs* serves as an encyclopedic reference of all our major programs and operational concepts for 2011. Yet, let me be clear... our focus is not only on equipment. Marines and their families are central to *everything* we do. This publication also includes a comprehensive Almanac, detailing demographics and other important statistics of our force.

America's Marines provide a large range of capabilities for the modest investment of our nation's scarce resources. In the most recent months and years, in locations all over the globe – Pakistan, Haiti, the Caribbean, the U.S. Gulf Coast, South America, the Gulf of Aden, the Philippines, and Afghanistan – Marine Corps forces were either engaging with our allies, conducting full spectrum counter-insurgency operations, enabling the Joint Force and Interagency Non-governmental Agency elements, providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, deterring aggression or contributing to assured

access. Today's Marine Corps is a "middleweight force." We fill the void in our nation's defense for an agile force that is comfortable operating at the high and low ends of the threat spectrum or the more likely ambiguous areas in between. We will continue to support our national objectives in Afghanistan. Concurrently, we will modernize, reset and reconstitute our equipment in order to provide a balanced air-ground-logistics team that is forward deployed and forward engaged; shaping, training, deterring and responding to a wide variety of global crises and contingencies.

As an elite and balanced air-ground-logistics team, the Marine Corps is ready to respond, along with the Navy — and as part of the joint force — to any crisis ... to any threat. Despite the challenges of the future, one thing will remain constant... the United States Marine Corps will continue to be "the most ready when the nation is least ready."

Semper Fidelis,



James F. Amos

General, U.S. Marine Corps



## U.S. MARINE CORPS

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