



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY  
2300 E STREET NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20372-5300  
  
FORCE MASTER CHIEF

17 June 2008

I want to extend my hearty congratulations and best wishes to the men and women of the Hospital Corps. For 110 years, the Hospital Corps has remained a vital part of Navy Medicine and the Navy and Marine Corps team. The Hospital Corp's place in history continues to be written and under scored by devotion to service, sacrifice and dedication.

The impact that the Hospital Corps has had on the success of our Navy and Marine Corps may sometimes be understated but should never be underestimated. From the hellish days on Iwo Jima to the unnamed highways and hills of Iraq and Afghanistan, from the decks of the USS Yorktown at Coral Sea to the USS Cole in Yemen, Hospital Corpsmen have selflessly answered the call of "Corpsman up". Today, the Hospital Corps is being tested once again and I have no doubt that we will stand up to the challenge. You represent the best of what our country has to offer and should be proud of who you are and what you represent. Enjoy your day, celebrate our successes, remember our fallen, and always be prepared to respond.

It has been the greatest pleasure of my career to be serving as your Force Master Chief and the Director of the Hospital Corps and I look forward to assisting the Hospital Corps to prepare for the future. Happy 110th Birthday Hospital Corps, "Well Done"!

Sincerely,

L. A. MARTINEZ  
Force Master Chief  
Fleet Marine Force  
United States Navy