The 179th anniversary of the establishment of the Infantry is an occasion to honor the American Infantryman.

In land war the Infantryman plays a valiant, essential role. Upon his courage, skill, and resolute spirit rests the final outcome of efforts to close with and defeat the enemy. In World War II and in Korea, no less than in the many previous wars our Nation has fought, the Infantryman has borne the major burden on the battlefield and has reaped the decisive results. The advent of modern weapons has increased the Infantry soldier's capabilities and placed greater demands upon his physical stamina and his spiritual dedication. In any test of the future, he will continue to be an indispensable instrument of victory.

I speak for all your comrades in the Army in expressing to each member of the Infantry our deep pride in your achievements and abilities and our abiding confidence in your devotion to your Service and your Nation.

M. B. Budge
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff