



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 4, 2013

I send greetings to all those celebrating the 238th birthday of the United States Army.

America endures because it has always been home to those willing to give their all and lay down their lives to preserve the values we hold dear. Today, men and women from every corner of our country carry this spirit forward in the United States Army, volunteering in our name to serve at home and abroad.

The commitment to selflessness that defines our service members is part of a constant thread in the character of our country. Our first patriots, believing in a democracy they had never known, fought for a Nation still only an idea. And beating in the hearts of soldiers in every generation since, this devotion lived on in brave men and women as they struggled to hold a new Union together and defend our way of life. Exemplifying a spirit of sacrifice that spans more than two centuries of American history, today's members of the United States Army are dedicated to our ongoing operations to promote freedom around the world and protect the land we love.

I am inspired by our soldiers and their extraordinary families who serve alongside them. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I salute the United States Army on 238 years of service. May God bless and protect you and your loved ones, and may God bless the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style.