

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 30, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Lieutenant General Louis H. Wilson, Jr., USMC, to be Commandant of the Marine Corps, with the rank of General. He will succeed General Robert E. Cushman, Jr., whose term expires December 31, 1975. The appointment will be for a period of four years, as provided by law.

Lieutenant General Wilson has served as the Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, since September 1, 1972. He was promoted to the grade of Lieutenant General on August 9, 1972.

General Wilson was born on February 11, 1920 at Brandon, Mississippi. He received a B. A. degree from Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi in 1941 and enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in May of 1941. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in November of 1941.

During World War II he served with the 9th Marine Regiment at Guadalcanal, Efate, New Hebrides, Bougainville and the British Solomon Islands. In action on Guam on July 25 and 26 of 1944, he earned the Medal of Honor for repelling and later destroying a massive Japanese force while commanding Company F of the Second Battalion, 9th Marines. Because of wounds received in that battle, he was evacuated to the U. S. Naval Hospital, San Diego, California, where he remained until October 15, 1944.

General Wilson served in various assignments prior to his promotion to Brigadier General on November 3, 1966. From January of 1967 to July of 1968, he served as Legislative Assistant to the Commandant of the Marine Corps. He was promoted to Major General on March 16, 1970 and assumed command of the First Marine Amphibious Force and 3d Marine Division where he earned his third Legion of Merit.

Lieutenant General Wilson is married to the former Jane Clark of Pearson, Mississippi, and they have one daughter.

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