Mr. President, I rise today to wish the United States Army happy birthday. It was 230 years ago today, June 14, 1775, that the Continental Army of the United States was formed.
Over the past 230 years, millions of men and women have served in the oldest branch of our armed forces. Their honor, courage, sacrifice and service are woven in the culture of America.
The principles of "Duty, Honor, Country" are the foundation of the U.S. Army. It is America. Every generation of Americans who have served in the U.S. Army –
from the Continental Army to our fighting men and women serving today in Iraq and Afghanistan – have been shaped by these principles. It has molded lives in ways that are hard to explain,
just as the Army has touched our national life and history.
The United States Army has protected the American values of liberty, freedom and democracy and made the world a more secure, prosperous, and a better place for all mankind.
It is only appropriate that we recognize the monumental contributions of this great institution to America and the world. On this 230th birthday of the U.S. Army, we also recognize and thank those who have sacrificed and served.
Their examples are inspiration to those of us who have had the privilege to serve in the U.S. Army. They will continue to inspire future generations.

On this, the 230th birthday of the Army, I say "Happy Birthday" to the United States Army.
And, in the great rich tradition of the U.S. Army and as a proud U.S. Army veteran, I proclaim my annual Senate floor ..... "HOOAH!"

Thank you.