

NEWS BULLETIN

MARINE TOYS FOR TOTS FOUNDATION



Washington, DC – January 30, 2006 – The results of the 58th annual U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Campaign, conducted during October, November and December 2005, have been tabulated. The results are: U.S. Marines distributed 18.4 million new toys to 7.4 million needy youngsters throughout the nation. This was the second most successful campaign in the 58 year history of Toys for Tots. This is a noteworthy accomplishment during a year in which the benevolence of the American public was tested to the fullest by the Indian Ocean tsunami, the hurricanes of the summer/fall of 2005 and the earthquake in Pakistan and Afghanistan in October. Despite the outpouring of support for these natural disaster relief efforts, the American public and corporate America were able to find ways to support Toys for Tots. For that support, everyone associated with Toys for Tots is eternally grateful.

Toys for Tots began with a single local campaign in Los Angeles in 1947 and was increased to campaigns in 74 communities in 1948 (the year Toys for Tots was expanded nationwide). Fifty-eight campaigns later in 2005, local Toys for Tots campaigns were conducted in 520 communities covering all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico – the most extensive coverage in the history of the program.

The success attained during the 2005 Toys for Tots campaign is the result of outstanding efforts on the part of the 520 local Toys for Tots campaign coordinators, the Marine Forces Reserve staff and the staff of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation plus the outstanding support of a broad sector of corporate America and millions of caring Americans.

Toys for Tots, the U.S. Marine Corps' premier community action program and one of the nation's flagship Christmas charitable causes, is dedicated to "delivering a message of hope and bringing the joy of Christmas" to America's needy children.

For further details contact LtGen Matthew T. Cooper, USMC (Ret), Major William J. Grein, USMC (Ret) or Major Brian A. Murray, USMC (Ret) at (703) 640-9433 or visit the TFT website at www.toysfortots.org.