



9 September 2014

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMY ACQUISITION CORPS

On the occasion of the Silver Anniversary of the establishment of the Army Acquisition Corps, I want to offer my congratulations and thanks to each of you – military, civilian and family member. 25 years ago when I signed the letter formally creating the AAC, the Army was faced with an ever-expanding range of challenges in the acquisition field. Procurement systems had grown increasingly complex, demanding that we navigate the labyrinth of regulations, processes and requirements, and our internal organization needed to adapt to respond to these challenges.

By the late 1980s, it had become clear that the Army needed a cadre of professionals – both military and civilian – who were experts in the acquisition process and in all of its ancillary requirements. It was equally clear that these professionals, who were already seasoned in a succession of staff and command assignments, needed a separate and dedicated career track that would hone their skills at increasingly higher levels of responsibility, provide for focused education and development, and keep each individual competitive for selection and promotion with the members of the other branches in the Army. Those circumstances led inexorably to the need for the Army Acquisition Corps, and I was proud to direct the AAC's formal establishment in January of 1990.

Since those first days, the AAC has consistently demonstrated its value to the Army and to the nation. Through the hard work of all of you, the AAC has been instrumental in the continued modernization and sustainment of the Trained and Ready Army of today. Each soldier and civilian in the AAC should take justifiable pride in what the Army Acquisition Corps has achieved in its first 25 years of service. You have served the nation with dignity and honor.

Happy Anniversary.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl E. Vuono'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Carl E. Vuono
General
United States Army (Retired)