



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
3000 MARINE CORPS PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-3000

IN REPLY REFER TO:

2100
ACMC
1 Oct 07

TIME Magazine Letters
Time & Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York, N.Y. 10020

Dear Editor,

Mark Thompson's "V-22 Osprey: A Flying Shame," published Sept. 28, 2007, unfortunately serves up a one-sided, sensationalistic view of the V-22 program, full of inaccuracies, and misleading to Time's readers.

The Osprey has taken a long time to move from a concept to extensive developmental and operational testing and now to its first combat deployment. It is sad that Time's story failed to include the fact that in the past six years the V-22 program had the most extensive technical and programmatic review in the history of aircraft. The cover and the story, including dated material, were neither balanced nor accurate.

The MV-22B's first combat squadron deployed last month for operations in Iraq. The MV-22B aircraft have been rigorously tested and found to be ready and relevant for combat operations. The Osprey tilt rotor aircraft will provide our forces an unprecedented increase in speed and range as well as critically needed troop lift, medevac, and cargo capabilities. We have no doubts that the Marine Corps' MV-22B Ospreys are ready for their most important mission: carrying our most precious assets, Marines and Sailors into combat.

Sincerely,

Semper Fidelis —

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Magnus".

R. MAGNUS
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Assistant Commandant of the
Marine Corps