

MARINE HEAVY HELICOPTER SQUADRON OF THE YEAR



THE KEITH B. McCUTCHEON AWARD

Presented by THE MARINE CORPS AVIATION ASSOCIATION to

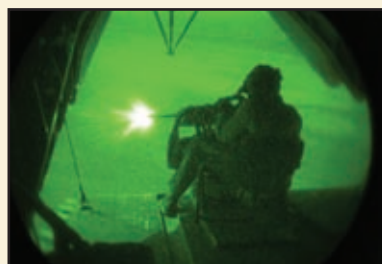
Established in Memory of the Pioneer Marine Corps Helicopter Pilot, General Keith B. McCutcheon, a Visionary in the Development of Marine Corps Aviation Doctrine.

In Recognition of The Most Outstanding Heavy Helicopter Squadron in Marine Aviation.

HMH-463



SIKORSKY AIRCRAFT
UNITED TECHNOLOGIES
CORPORATION



2009 HMH-464	1996 HMH-462
2008 HMH-362	1995 HMH-361
2007 HMH-465	1994 HMM-268
2006 HMH-466	1993 HMM-164
2005 HMH-769	1992 HMM-265
2004 HMH-465	1991 HMLA-369
2003 HMH-462	1990 HMM-163
2002 HMH-465	1989 HMM-261
2001 HMH-461	1988 HMLA-169
2000 HMH-464	1987 HMM-261
1999 HMH-466	1986 HMLA-269
1998 HMH-462	1985 HMM-163
1997 HMH-361	1984 HMM-261



Award Citation

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 sustained superior performance, meritorious service and professional achievement while conducting training and combat operations from 1 January 2009, to 31 December 2009. Through unselfish and aggressive support to the Marine Corps assault support community, III MEF, and combatant commanders in Operation Enduring Freedom, Pegasus Marines successfully attacked the most difficult missions in an austere, demanding environment. Their determination and focus enabled the fielding of critical engine upgrades, enhanced threat detection, defensive capabilities and improved tactical level Command and Control concepts. HMH-463 immediately cemented their superb reputation in Afghanistan by executing a combat assault mission on the day of their transfer of authority. Pegasus was consistently selected to lead the most challenging operations with both 2nd MEB and Special Operations Forces. During this year, HMH-463 safely flew 4170.8 hours, transported 17,248 passengers and moved 1,552,592 pounds of cargo, surpassing any previous HMH in total combat hours and assault support requests completed in the entire eight years of war in Afghanistan. By their professionalism and unfailing devotion to duty, the Marines and sailors of HMH-463 reflected great credit upon themselves and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.



22 May 2010