

MARINE LIGHT ATTACK HELICOPTER SQUADRON OF THE YEAR



HMLA-369

MAG-39, 3D MAW

For superior performance, meritorious service, and professionalism in support of I Marine Expeditionary Force from 1 January to 31 December 2020. HMLA-369 was forward-deployed for over half of 2020 in support of joint, combined, and Marine Air-Ground Task Force partners throughout Indo-Pacific command's area of responsibility, including supporting multiple bilateral exercises and realistic training evolutions. The deployment involved many firsts in the HMLA community, such as: conducting a 1,500 mile transit with sustained satellite communication ability to Hokkaido, Japan; employing live ordnance in support of Exercise Northern Viper, extreme cold weather expeditionary advanced base operations; and expanding distributed maritime operation tactics, techniques, and procedures with H-1 hot loading on Ie Shima, Okinawa. HMLA-369 maintenance rebuilt nine long-term down aircraft and achieved a sustained rate of 60% mission capable while stateside and deployed. HMLA-369 set the standard with their dedication to duty, constant professionalism, and attention to detail and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

JOHN P. GIGUERE AWARD



Established in honor of Captain John P. Giguere, killed in action during a pilot rescue mission in Grenada, for the most outstanding light attack helicopter squadron.

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