

# United States Marine Corps



## LINEAGE

OF

MARINE MEDIUM TILTROTOR SQUADRON 261

1951 - 1962

ACTIVATED 5 APRIL 1953 AT CHERRY POINT, NORTH CAROLINA, AS MARINE HELICOPTER TRANSPORT SQUADRON 261  
AND ASSIGNED TO AIR FLEET MARINE FORCE, ATLANTIC

REASSIGNED DURING JUNE 1952 TO MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 26, 2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

RELOCATED DURING JULY 1954 TO NEW RIVER, NORTH CAROLINA

REDESIGNATED 31 DECEMBER 1956 AS MARINE HELICOPTER TRANSPORT  
SQUADRON (LIGHT) 261

RELOCATED DURING JANUARY 1959 TO IWAKUNI, JAPAN, AND REASSIGNED TO  
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 16, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

RELOCATED DURING JULY 1959 TO FUTEMA, OKINAWA

RELOCATED DURING MAY 1960 TO NEW RIVER, NORTH CAROLINA, AND REASSIGNED TO MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 26,  
2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

RELOCATED DURING JUNE 1961 TO FUTEMA, OKINAWA, AND REASSIGNED TO  
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 16, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

REDESIGNATED 1 FEBRUARY 1962 AS MARINE MEDIUM HELICOPTER SQUADRON 261

PARTICIPATED IN EXPEDITIONARY DUTY IN THAILAND, MAY-JUNE 1962

RELOCATED DURING JULY TO NEW RIVER, NORTH CAROLINA, AND REASSIGNED TO  
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 26, 2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

1963 - 1969

RELOCATED DURING JUNE 1963 TO DA NANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, AND REASSIGNED TO MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 16,  
1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

AFLOAT ON BOARD USS IWO JIMA IN WESTERN PACIFIC, OCTOBER 1963 - APRIL 1964

RELOCATED DURING APRIL 1964 TO FUTEMA, OKINAWA

RELOCATED DURING JUNE 1964 TO NEW RIVER, NORTH CAROLINA, AND REASSIGNED TO MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 26,  
2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

RELOCATED JUNE 1965 TO DA NANG, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, AND REASSIGNED TO  
MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 16, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

**PARTICIPATED IN THE WAR IN VIETNAM, JUNE-SEPTEMBER 1963 AND JUNE 1965 – MAY 1966**

**OPERATING FROM**

**DA NANG  
MARBLE MOUNTAIN  
USS VALLEY FORGE  
CHU LAI**

**RELOCATED DURING JUNE 1966 TO NEW RIVER, NORTH CAROLINA, AND REASSIGNED TO MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 26,  
2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING**

**1970 – 2014**

**PARTICIPATED AS PART OF MULTINATIONAL PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN LEBANON,  
AUGUST-OCTOBER 1982 AND OCTOBER 1983 – FEBRUARY 1984**

**PARTICIPATED IN LANDINGS IN GRENADA – CARRIACOU, OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1983**

**PARTICIPATED IN OPERATION SHARP EDGE, LIBERIA, MAY-SEPTEMBER 1990**

**PARTICIPATED IN OPERATIONS DESERT SHIELD AND DESERT STORM, SOUTHWEST ASIA, JANUARY-APRIL 1991**

**PARTICIPATED IN OPERATION NOBLE OBELISK, SIERRA LEONE, APRIL-OCTOBER 1997**

**PARTICIPATED IN OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, AFGHANISTAN, JUNE-AUGUST 2002, OCTOBER 2007,  
NOVEMBER 2009 – JULY 2010 AND JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2014**

**PARTICIPATED IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, IRAQ, FEBRUARY-AUGUST 2004,  
DECEMBER 2005 – FEBRUARY 2006 AND SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2007**

**PARTICIPATED IN OPERATION SEA ANGEL II, BANGLADESH, NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2007**

**REDESIGNATED 11 APRIL 2008 AS MARINE MEDIUM TILTROTOR SQUADRON 261**

28 APRIL 2015

DATE

  
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

# United States Marine Corps



## HONORS

### AWARDED

MARINE MEDIUM TILTROTOR SQUADRON 261

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION STREAMER WITH ONE BRONZE STAR

VIETNAM

1965 – 1966

AFGHANISTAN

2009 – 2010

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION STREAMER WITH ONE SILVER AND THREE BRONZE STARS

VIETNAM

1963

1965

1965 – 1966

LEBANON

1982

1983 – 1984

LIBERIA

1990

SOUTHWEST ASIA

1991

IRAQ

2004 – 2005

AFGHANISTAN

2010

**MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION STREAMER WITH THREE BRONZE STARS**

1974  
1986 – 1987  
1997  
2000

**MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY STREAMER WITH TWO BRONZE STARS**

**NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE STREAMER WITH THREE BRONZE STARS**

**ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY STREAMER**

**VIETNAM SERVICE STREAMER WITH THREE BRONZE STARS**

**SOUTHWEST ASIA SERVICE STREAMER WITH THREE BRONZE STARS**

**AFGHANISTAN CAMPAIGN STREAMER WITH THREE BRONZE STARS**

**IRAQ CAMPAIGN STREAMER WITH FOUR BRONZE STARS**

**GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY STREAMER**

**GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM SERVICE STREAMER**

**VIETNAM CROSS OF GALLANTRY WITH PALM STREAMER**

28 APRIL 2015  
DATE

  
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS