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MARTIN R. STEELE LtGen USMC (Ret) President

December 6, 2002

Mr. Alan J. Weiss, President Marine Helicopter Squadron 361 Veterans Association, Inc. PO Box 429 Cutchogue, NY 11935

Dear Mr. Weiss:

I am writing this letter to acknowledge the important efforts of your organization in helping to preserve a piece of our nation's history. The Sikorsky UH-34D helicopter has participated in many important events ranging from NASA's space program to the conflict in Vietnam, where it was instrumental in saving lives.

The completed restoration of this helicopter will provide a moving educational experience for the youth of our nation. The efforts of the volunteers towards this goal will certainly be of great value when the project is finished. By preserving this important piece of history, our youth along with future generations will greatly benefit.

Once again I commend your efforts.

Sincerely,

Martin R. Steele LtGen USMC (Ret)

President