

## **CIVIL AIR PATROL, USAF**



### **MISSION**

Support America's communities with emergency response, diverse aviation and ground service, youth development and promotion of air and space power. Civil Air Patrol provides operational capabilities in support of aerial and ground search and rescue, disaster relief and counterdrug and homeland security missions. It conducts 90 percent of all inland search-and-rescue missions tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Fla. It builds strong citizens for the future by providing leadership training, technical education, scholarships and career education to young men and women, ages 12 to 21, in the CAP cadet program. It promotes and supports aerospace education, both for its members and the general public, and conducts a national school enrichment program from K-12.

Civil Air Patrol is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation with a national headquarters that oversees:

Eight regions

52 wings (each state, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C.)

1,566 squadrons

### **LINEAGE**

Civil Air Patrol established, 28 May 1943

Activated, 1 Jun 1943

Redesignated National Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol, 15 Sep 1944

Redesignated Civil Air Patrol, USAF, 28 Aug 1948

### **STATIONS**

500 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY, 1 Jun 1943

Texas & Pacific Building, Fort Worth, TX, 1 May 1945

Bolling AFB, DC, 12 Feb 1946

Ellington AFB, TX, 8 Aug 1959  
Maxwell AFB, AL, 15 Jun 1967

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

HQ, Army Air Forces (AAF), 1 Jun 1943  
AAF Training Command, 1 May 1945  
HQ AAF, 12 Feb 1946  
Air Defense Command, 1 Aug 1947  
HQ USAF, 1 Feb 1948  
Headquarters Command USAF, 19 Jan 1949  
Continental Air Command, 1 Jan 1959  
Headquarters Command USAF, 1 Aug 1968  
Air University, 1 Jul 1976

### **COMMANDERS**

Col Joe L. Mason, #1966  
Brig Gen William W. Wilcox, 1967  
Col Russell D. Hogkins, #2008  
Maj Gen Amy S. Courter, #2010

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

World War II, American Theater

#### **Campaign Streamers**

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards  
1 Jan 1979-31 Dec 1980  
1 Jan 1986-31 Dec 1987  
1 Jan 1992-31 Dec 1993  
1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1996  
1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2004  
1 Jul 2004-30 Jun 2006  
1 Jul 2006-30 Jun 2008

### **EMBLEM**

Approved, 3 Sep 1981

### **MOTTO**

### **OPERATIONS**

The Civil Air Patrol was created by Executive Order in December 1941 under the Office of Civil Defense. Its first mission, coastal patrol, helped counter the WWII submarine threat to shipping in US coastal waters, and later included border patrol, target towing, and airlift of mail, cargo, and personnel. In 1946, CAP became a federally supported, nonprofit, public-benefit Corporation under a charter granted by Congress, and on 26 May 1948, it became the Auxiliary of the Air Force. Although not a Federal entity, CAP continues to serve as the Air Force Auxiliary today. On 30 Oct 2000, Congress created the CAP Board of Governors, a body of 11 senior Air Force, CAP, and aviation industry executives.

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USAF Unit Histories  
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Sources  
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.