



Borman

Spatz

Eaker

Earhart

Mitchell

Armstrong

Goddard

Doolittle

Lindbergh

Rickenbacker

Wright

Feik

Arnold

Curry

Cadet HERITAGE

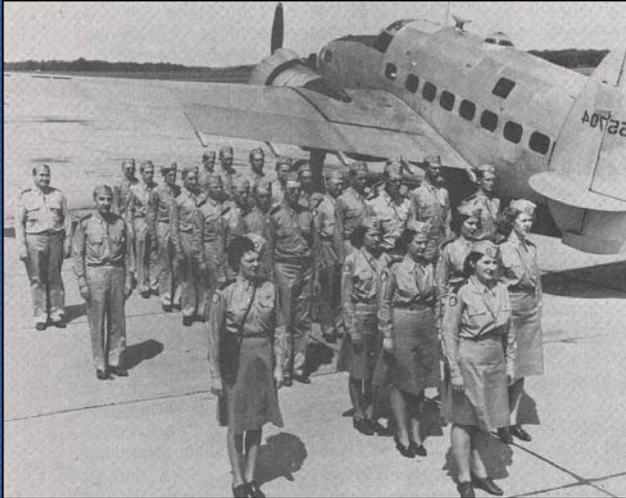
Commemorating the modern Cadet Program's 40th anniversary

Civil Air Patrol | USAF Auxiliary | Maxwell AFB Alabama



Introduction

Personal expressions of support



Since 1942, young people have been serving their communities and developing into responsible citizens through Civil Air Patrol.

But in 1964, CAP leaders decided it was time to reorganize the Cadet Program and begin a new curriculum. To add credibility to their important work and help inspire America's next generation of pilots, engineers, mechanics, and aviation enthusiasts, CAP asked aerospace pioneers for permission to name cadet awards in their honor.

This presentation commemorates the 40th anniversary of the "modern" Cadet Program. Following are images of original documents, signed by the aerospace pioneers or their heirs, each a personal expression of support for CAP's 'modern' Cadet Program.



MAJOR GENERAL U.S.A.F. RETIRED

520 ELM STREET
DENVER 20, COLORADO
March 23, 1963.

Mr Charles W. Webb,
Deputy Chief of Staff,
Aero Space Education,
Civil Air Patrol, United States Air Force.

Dear Mr. Webb,

I was certainly pleased to get your letter of March 21st asking me for my permission to establish the John F. Curry Achievement in Phase 1 of the Civil Air Patrol Program. Not only was I pleased but I was honored that the Civil Air Patrol should desire to put my name on Phase 1. The statement of permission is enclosed herewith.

As I look back over the period of the "birth" of the C.A.P. I wonder how we ever survived. All private plane flying was banned on the West Coast and there was a very strong movement to do the same in the rest of the country. Part of this was understandable due to the extreme work load at headquarters of the War Department and the Army Air Force and the ignorance of all branches of the government on what we could do.

I was fortunate in that I knew personally and well many of the heads of sections of the Army Air Force in Washington-also General Arnold- so I could go to all concerned directly, get their interest and enlist their support. However each day we lived in suspense. Finally we proved our worth-spotting German submarines off our East Coast- and from then on continued to prove our value to the national defense.

When I was ordered away from it, I knew the Civil Air Patrol was going to live, and although it had many struggles ahead of it, it continued to be an essential part of our war effort.

I was always very proud that I was with it in the beginning and my thoughts and good wishes have been with it ever since. Occasionally at critical times during the war I was still able to be of help.

Again I wish to express my appreciation of the honor the Civil Air Patrol has bestowed on me.

With my very best regards,

Sincerely,



John F. Curry

JOHN F. CURRY

"I was always very proud that I was with CAP in the beginning."

In his letter authorizing CAP to use his name in the new Cadet Program, Maj Gen Curry gives a glimpse of CAP's early days and the fight to allow volunteer aviators to support the war effort by performing missions that only they could accomplish.

El Rancho Feliz
Valley of the Moon
Sonoma, California

Sept. 16th. 1963

Dear Mr. Sorenson:

Thank you for sending the information concerning the Civil Air Patrol. I have been intensely interested in reading about the broad program and objectives.

It is with pleasure that the boys and I give permission to have General Arnold's name used in the Achievement in Phase II in the Civil Air Patrol Program.

We feel it is a great honor to have him identified with this wonderful program.

Sincerely

Sharon P. Arnold

(Mrs. H. H. Arnold)



HAP ARNOLD

"The boys and I... feel it is a great honor."

Here, the widow of airpower legend Hap Arnold expresses her support for the CAP Cadet Program.

Gen. Arnold, as Chief of the U.S. Army Air Forces provided vital support to Maj Gen Curry in his efforts to establish a Civil Air Patrol.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
NATIONAL AIR MUSEUM
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 22, 1963

Mr. Charles W. Webb
Deputy Chief of Staff
Aerospace Education
Civil Air Patrol
Ellington Air Force Base
Texas

Dear Charlie:

Thank you for your letter of March 21, 1963.

The revised Cadet program looks great!
Congratulations.

I know of no one to whom you should write
for permission to establish a Civil Air Patrol
award for achievement for your Cadets in the name
of the Wright Brothers.

A number of schools have been named for them.
The NAA annually awards a Wright Trophy at the
December 17th Banquet. The National Aviation Hall
of Fame awarded them a plaque (posthumously) last
year.

If the achievement award is based on merit
and is awarded with dignity, I cannot imagine any-
one objecting to it.

You should, of course, get permission of the
living persons for whom you wish to name awards--as
a matter of courtesy.

Good luck on the new program.

Sincerely yours,

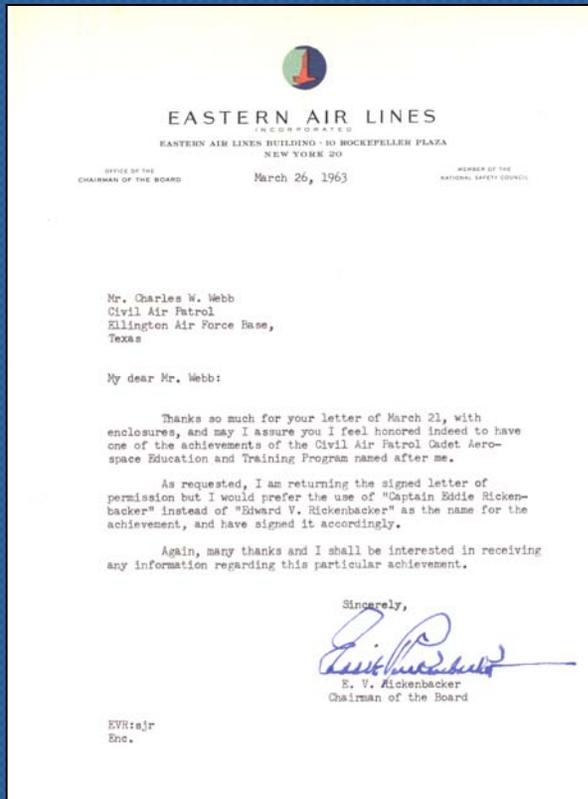


Philip S. Hopkins
Director

THE WRIGHT BROTHERS

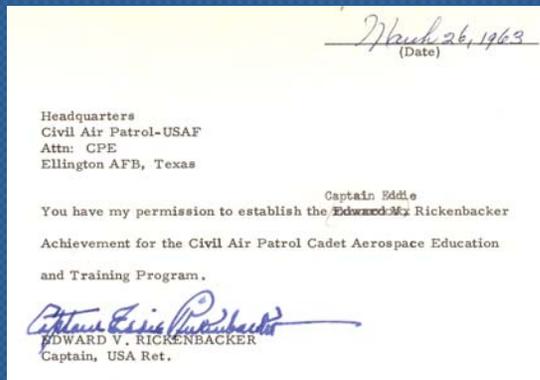
This letter shows that the Smithsonian knew well of CAP's plan to establish a new Cadet Program.

CAP's Charles Webb may have written the Smithsonian because the Wright Brothers died bachelors. Without any widows to turn to, whose permission should CAP seek to name a cadet award in the Wrights' honor?



EDDIE RICKENBACKER

Here, Eastern Air Lines' chairman explains that he wants succeeding generations of CAP cadets to know him as America knew their World War I "Ace of Aces." -- "Eddie Rickenbacker." Notice the edit Rickenbacker made to the official memo (bottom).





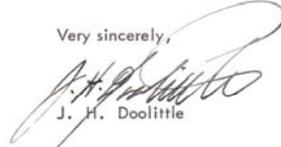
26 March 1963

Headquarters
Civil Air Patrol - USAF
Attn: CPE
Ellington AFB, Texas

You have my permission to establish the James H. Doolittle Achievement
for the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Aerospace Education and Training Program,
provided there is no obligation to me associated therewith.

Every good wish for success in the important work you are doing.

Very sincerely,



J. H. Doolittle

JIMMY DOOLITTLE

Jimmy Doolittle's reply is simple and straight-forward, just what one might expect from the MIT graduate and aerospace engineer who led the heroic mission to bomb Tokyo during the early days of WWII.

One Tallawanda Drive
Worcester 3, Massachusetts

March 27, 1963

Mr. Charles W. Webb, Deputy Chief of Staff
National Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol
Ellington Air Force Base Texas

Dear Mr. Webb:

Thank you for your very kind letter of the 20th, and for the Time and Sequence Chart of your Civil Air Patrol Program, both of which I have read with much interest.

I am deeply moved that your organization is inclined to honor my late husband by creating the Dr. Robert H. Goddard Achievement. He would be very proud indeed of this honor, and I have no hesitation whatever in granting permission for you to use his name in this manner.

With appreciation of your courtesy,

Sincerely,



(Mrs. Robert H. Goddard)



FIRST DAY
OF ISSUE

DR. GODDARD CHECKING ROCKET

HONORING
Dr. Robert H. Goddard
PHYSICIST - ENGINEER

THE WORLD'S FIRST SPACE PIONEER
FATHER OF MODERN ROCKETRY



Mr. Charles W. Webb
Deputy Chief Staff
Aerospace Education
Hqs. Civil Air Patrol
Ellington AFB, Texas

ROBERT H. GODDARD

“I am deeply moved...”

Aerospace enthusiasts know of Dr. Goddard's legacy. But how many young people appreciate him as “the world's first space pioneer?” In this letter, Dr. Goddard's widow thanks CAP for honoring her late husband and perpetuating his memory through the new Cadet Program.

NEIL A. ARMSTRONG



On the dexter and the sinister ends of the ribbon are rectangles of blue which represent the Earth and the atmosphere; bordered to the center are equal strips of white, red and white. The red, white and blue represent the traditional colors of the United States. The final white strip indicates a final barrier to the center of the ribbon which is a large black rectangle and represents the darkness and void of space. In final review, it depicts either from right to left or left to right, an American leaving Earth's boundary, traveling through space and returning to Earth.

I authorize Civil Air Patrol to use my name for the Cadet Program.



NEIL ARMSTRONG

DATE

This document was returned to CAP unsigned, with only a brief explanation provided by Armstrong's secretary:

“Mr. Armstrong has no objection to the use of his name as requested [but] has concluded he will not provide the signed authorization.”

CAP leaders believe Armstrong feared a dishonest person might acquire and then sell the document. Certainly this one-of-a-kind certificate would have great monetary value had Armstrong signed it.

March 7, '64
Charles W Webb
Deputy Chief of Staff
Aerospace Education
Civil Air Patrol - USAF Aux
Ellington Air Force Base
Texas.
Dear Mr. Webb,
I am very grateful
for the large copy of the
etching of my sister Amelia
which I arrived in perfect
condition today.
Please congratulate your
artist who has caught
a characteristic expression
of Amelia, intent yet eager,
against a beautiful and
symbolic background.
I sincerely appreciate your
sending me this award
etching which I shall prize
as highly as, I am sure,
the recipients of the award
prize them.
Best wishes for continued
success in your Air Patrol Cadet
Program. Cordially yours,
Muriel Earhart Morrissey

AMELIA EARHART

“This seems like a very nice thing to do
– the kind of award Amelia would
choose herself. Thank you!”

Ms. Earhart's sister grants CAP
permission to create the Amelia Earhart
Award for cadets. In this handwritten
note, Muriel Earhart Morrissey
compliments the award certificate's
artwork, which is believed to be identical
to the artwork still in use today.

GENERAL CARL A. SPAATZ, USAF RET.
5 GRAFTON STREET
CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND

April 16, 1963

Mr. Charles W. Webb
Deputy Chief of Staff
Aerospace Education
Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol
Ellington Air Force Base, Texas

Dear Mr. Webb:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of 21 March. I have been absent from my desk for some time; hence the delay in answering.

I am glad to grant your request for permission to establish the Carl A. Spaatz Achievement in Phase III of the Civil Air Program.

With best wishes for the program,

Sincerely,



CARL A. SPAATZ

Should the first Chairman of the CAP National Board be jealous that the Cadet Program's Phase III award honors Billy Mitchell and not himself, as Spaatz mistakenly believed in this letter?

Not when you consider that CAP chose to name its ultimate cadet award after the airpower legend, Gen. Carl A. "Tooey" Spaatz.

Over 1,500 cadets have earned the Spaatz Award during its forty-year history.



NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77058

JUN 30 1969

IN REPLY REFER TO: YA

Maj. General Walter B. Putnam
National Commander
National Headquarters
Civil Air Patrol
USAF Auxiliary
Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. 36112

Dear General Putnam:

Thank you very much for your letter informing me of the fact that one of the cadet awards will be named the Frank Borman Falcon Award. I certainly am honored, and appreciate this gesture very much. You may be certain that you have my permission to attach my name to this award.

Sincerely,

Frank Borman
Colonel, USAF
Field Director
Space Station Task Group

FRANK BORMAN

Just three weeks before man's first lunar landing, astronaut Frank Borman, who himself would later visit the Moon, gave his support to CAP's Cadet Program.

The Frank Borman Falcon Award recognized CAP members who continued their study of aerospace after earning the Spaatz Award. The Falcon Award was discontinued in 1979.



THE CADET OATH

I pledge that I will serve faithfully in the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program and that I will attend meetings regularly, participate actively in unit activities, obey my officers, wear my uniform properly, and advance my education and training rapidly to prepare myself to be of service to my community, state, and nation.