



## GENERAL IRA C. EAKER AWARD FACT SHEET

### Cadet James Jones, CAP

The **General Ira C. Eaker Award** denotes successful completion of all of the achievements of the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program. This is CAP's newest award for cadet achievement, implemented in December 1995. This award honors the late Air Force General Ira C. Eaker, aviation pioneer, career military officer, and one of the chief architects and visionaries of the US Air Force.

Civil Air Patrol, the official Auxiliary of the United States Air Force, has three missions: Aerospace Education of the American people, Emergency Services, and the Cadet Program. The Cadet Program provides opportunities for the learning, maturing, accepting, and nurturing of leadership to nearly 25,000 young Americans from 12 to 20 years of age. With the advice and assistance from CAP Senior Members and the US Air Force, cadets are exposed to a structured program comprised of aerospace education, leadership, special activities, physical fitness, and moral and ethical values through group and individual activities.

This structured Cadet Program is divided into sixteen segments called achievements, involving study and performance in the five program areas. Upon completion of each achievement, the cadet earns increased responsibility, decorations, awards, eligibility for national and international special activities, and opportunities to apply for both flight and academic scholarships.

The **General Ira C. Eaker Award** is the third milestone in the Cadet Program. This award is earned after the receipt of the Amelia Earhart Award, completing all of the achievements in the cadet program, completing the Cadet Officer School (or equivalent), and passing a writing and speech requirement. Approximately 200 cadets per year receive this Award.

In recognizing the accomplishments of cadets who receive the **General Ira C. Eaker Award**, CAP recommends that it is presented by a CAP Region Commander (or higher), or a state or federal government elected official. Once this award is earned, the cadet is promoted to the grade of Cadet Lieutenant Colonel and is then eligible to test for the General Carl A. Spaatz Award. To further highlight the difficulty in achieving this goal, as of the 1st of **month 200x, XXXX** awards have been earned since the awards inception in December 1995.