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HYSTERICAL NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME II, NUMBER 9  
SEPTEMBER 1984

EDITORIAL

Based on the premise that what is past is prologue, we should have a 1985 Historical Seminar to end all seminars. Our 1984 one certainly was a good one. In all we reached about 60 members based on the sign in sheets slightly inflated for those who failed to sign in. Reaching out to non-committee members and others not actively involved in the history program is an important step of our missionary activity. We need to use every opportunity to make converts. Our program is not like many others where only the "learned" are welcome. We seek nor desire pedigree papers for CAP Historians, so let's continue our missionary work on a day to day basis. Incidentally, in response to the request of several, attached is a copy of the sign in roster.

Of course, appreciation is due to all for the preparation done in presenting their material in a professional manner.

Bill's view of Courier Service operations exposed many hours of preparation which when coupled with his personal in-depth knowledge resulted in a truly outstanding presentation. It goes without saying that Louisa's handling of a normally dry subject was superb. She certainly did remove any doubt as to who the first chairman of the board was. The end product of the study she has undertaken will be a significant addition to our recorded history. As would be expected, Merie's committee report was well thought out and presented in her usual rapid fire manner. So! Thanks to all.

Special thanks to Len for relieving me of the responsibility of running the recording equipment. In addition to providing a record of the meeting the tapes are quite helpful to those who were unable to attend. As a matter of information Dr. Ken Ragsdale's presentation was made at no expense to the corporation in that they were borne by him personally. Of course he was promoting his book but I honestly felt his acceptance of our invitation more related to his appreciation for our support than anything else. In either event, attached is a flyer of the book which although not stated has a significant chapter on Southern Liaison Patrol Operations.

Aside from the seminar I need to also express my appreciation to all for the excellent spirit of cooperation and many good ideas involved in our committee meeting. The meeting will go a long way in providing us with a sense of direction for future operations hence we'll plan for another one at the 1985 Board Meeting. Louisa's sub-committee report on finances is attached for everyone's guidance. I feel it appropriate to comment on the recommendation that we have no fund drive at this time. I wholeheartedly endorse this recommendation. However, the establishment of the fund via Louisa's personal contribution provides us with the media to accept donations from others who may not otherwise donate to CAP. These should be handled by having the donee issue a check payable to National Headquarters, CAP/Historical Fund and mail it to the National Administrator. I would appreciate being advised so that my knowledge of such transactions will be current. Requests for expenditures should be directed to me so that after appropriate consultation the appropriateness of the expenditure may be evaluated in light of available funds.

Les

## ABOUT THE COVER

Instructor, ----1944. This female senior member without grade is wearing the ladies version of the officer's "Pinks and Greens". She holds no rank but is appointed as a CAP Instructor, which entitles her to wear the CAP officer's uniform. The braid on her lower sleeves, the shoulder straps and the piping on her overseas cap are all red. Collar insignia is of the all silver type worn by CAP officers, and the shoulder patch is the first design of the Instructor's patch. The Instructor's patch was a standard senior member patch with a white tab below the blue disc, and the word INSTRUCTOR in red. An Instructor could be someone who because of special qualifications, would be appointed in an Instructor status, but could also become a Commissioned Officer at a later date. This basic uniform combination was the female winter counterpart of the male uniform worn at the time.

## WELCOME JIM MITCHELL

As can be seen on the attached Committee Membership List, we have a new addition to the Committee. At the Atlanta meeting Colonel James J. Mitchell, CAP joined us. Jim brings with him a depth of personal knowledge which runs back to his early 1940's experience and includes such jobs as Illinois Wing Commander. Again, Jim, welcome aboard!

## PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION

Just returned from a visit to the "Head Shed" for the purpose of, among many other things, was the nailing down the publication of our regulation. From a regulation point of view we're in good shape as can be seen by examination of the attached proof copy. With the exception of very minor type setting changes it is ready to go, so it should hit the field shortly. In my opinion, it will do the job. Should you see anything which you feel needs to be changed, let me know. However, please understand that timeliness dictates that unless the issue is extremely pressing it can not be resolved prior to initial issue but will be included in future revisions.

A few comments relating to the overall plan would be in order since we have previously only loosely discussed them. They are;

1. This document represents the policy portions of the program and as such is devoid of "how to" information. Incidentally this approach is being used in the revision of the Air Force Regulation which when reissued will have the policy matters in AFR 210-1 and the Instructional material in AFR 210-3.
2. This will be followed shortly by the publication of the referred to "Historians Handbook" which will be our counterpart to AFR 210-3. While visiting with Dr. James Morse, the author of 210-3, I was fortunate enough, to pick up a copy of the AFR in final draft state. This will necessitate an extensive rewrite of portions of the Handbook to include the latest information. It is my intention to accomplish this within the next week or two and submit to XR with our recommendation for publication. This handbook includes instructional information on both the written and oral history aspects of the program. Target date for final publication is prior to the end of the year.
3. To complete the program guidance there remains the publication of "File Indexing" and Oral History Self Study Guide". These documents are in reasonably good shape but need some clean up work prior to submission to XR. As relates to the content of the regulation I offer the following:

1. The specific intent of paragraph 1-3 is to insure program control by the National Historical Committee with the National Historian acting as their spokesman.

2. Paragraph 1-4b requires the submission of Region and Wing Annual Histories. It is not anticipated that this will be effective until the 1986-87 time frame. I have been informally assured of the possibility of emphasis via CAP-MAP.

3. It does not appear practical to make the Historian of the Year award prior to 1987.

4. Where possible we should use our local influence to insure the appointment of people, to Region and Wing Historians who meet the general requirements of Paragraph 2-1 but more importantly are willing to work.

5. Judicious use of the provisions of paragraph 2-2d will expedite much of our activity.

Further, in connection with program development, attached is a copy of the letter to Region and Wing Commanders requesting the appointment of their command historians. As these individuals are identified you will be advised of their appointment via this newsletter.

Also attached for your information is a copy of the recently issued study guide for historians.

#### RECORDS ACCUMULATION

The material listed in last month's HNL has now been placed in file at AFHRC where it will be microfilmed and made available for use by you and other qualified researchers. Access to it is quite simple since it is all included under index number 270 (see listing for further breakdown). Within the next 6 months it should be available in microfilm form. An additional copy has been placed in a locked four drawer file cabinet at Headquarters. To gain access to this file contact Mark in his office (XR). Also placed in these two locations were copies of the following Oral Histories:

William Fandison - A mechanic at CP 9  
Thomas McBrayer - An early Texas member  
Bill Madsen - Wartime Courier Operations Officer  
Bob Neprud - Author of Flying Minute Men  
George Haddaway - Base Commander, CP 10  
Marion Parkinson - Engineering Officer, CP 10

At AFHRC both tapes of the interview and final transcripts are available with only the latter being available at Headquarters.

Thanks to Hal Bacon cleaning out his AE files, a considerable amount of early cadet program material has surfaced and made available to us. This will be processed and a listing provided in a future issue of HNL. The same applies for a couple of boxes of miscellaneous items "captured" for us by Mark. The real acquisition, though, was the acquisition of bound volumes of the CAP Times and News which, with the exception of 1971-74 are complete subsequent of 1969. Credit here goes to Don Thweatt for finding this second copy which was surplus to his needs. Incidentally, I was saddened by the news that Don will be retiring shortly. He has been a real friend and supporter in many areas.

TAPING FOR THE BLIND

This program took another step forward in that I can now announce the availability of SANK SAME and MINUTEMEN OF THE AIR on standard audio cassettes (5 in all). As is the case with FLYING MINUTE MEN if you will let me know of any sight impaired individuals who desire a copy of any of them, I will be happy to mail them either direct to the individual or provide them to you for presentation.

PUBLISH OR PERISH

Although not original, arrangements have been made with Willard Kopf to reprint SANK SAME so as to make available this fine little piece of contemporary CAP history which has long been out of print. Distribution will be handled in the same manner as the reprint of FLYING MINUTE MEN.

GOALS

Included with this mailing are our 1984-85 Goals. To avoid redundancy your attention is directed to the preface of the enclosed booklet.

Les  
September 1984

DISTRIBUTION:

Members NHC  
Selected Individuals

ATTENDANCE ROSTER  
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 4 AUGUST 1984

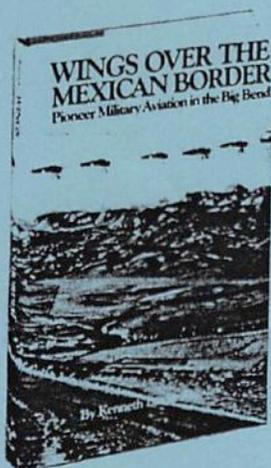
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Sedita, Lib Lt Col	1660 Rochelle Pkwy. Merritt Island, Fla. 32952	Wing Historian
Baker, Bill	94051 NAWAAKOA ST WAIKAPU HI 96797	Wing Historian
GIBBENS, ROY CAPT	RT 5 Box 1039 ASHEVILLE, N.C. 28503	Wing Historian
LOWMAN, JOHN D. LT	25 E BRANDON RD, RADFORD, VA 24141	Wing Historian
O'Connor, Thomas J Lt Col	16515 Fraser Way Rosemount Mo 65068	Wing Historian
DAVIS LALAN E 2/L	1529 Briarwood Lane Leeds, Ala 35094	Wing Historian
Gilmore, Janet SM	4909 Circle Dr Cheyenne, WY 82009	Wing Historian
MADSEN, W. D LTC	1327 Kern St. Palo Springs, Okla 74045	Wing Historian
BERTIEAU, D. 1LT	RT. 1 BOX 174 GONZALES, LA 70737	Wing Historian
Thompson, Sandra Maj	906 Pineburr Rd Jamestown, NC 27282	Wing Historian
Clark, Wilson CAPT	2185 SPALDING DR. NE, ATLANTA, GA. 30338	Wing Historian
Maria G. Wilson Lt.	" " " " " "	Wing Historian
VHATTA, R. H. LT	23802 WARTHEN RD SELMA, CA 95737	Wing Historian
VIN, PAUL, Lt Col	23822 Denton Rd. Florida OR 97137	Wing Historian
WANNING, W. D.	700 N. MANNING AVE HAINESVILLE, GA 31025	Wing Historian
MORSEYER, T. H. LTC.	BOX 0325 LORENA TEX 75050	Wing Historian
CARTER, FRED LT.	2561 Rocky Ridge Pkwy. Columbus, GA 31906	Wing Historian
BREWER, DONALD LT	6152 N. 53RD ST PHOENIX AZ 85018	Wing Historian





## Wings over the Mexican Border

PIONEER MILITARY AVIATION  
IN THE BIG BEND  
KENNETH BAXTER RAGSDALE



Against a backdrop of revolution, border banditry, freewheeling aerial dramatics, and World War II comes this compelling look at the rise of U.S. combat aviation at an unlikely proving ground—a remote airfield in the rugged reaches of the southwestern Texas borderlands. Here, at Elmo Johnson's Big Bend ranch, hundreds of young Army Air Corps pilots demonstrated the U.S. military's reconnaissance and emergency response capabilities and, in so doing, dramatized the changing role of the airplane as an instrument of war and of peace.

Kenneth Ragsdale's gripping account not only sets the United States squarely in the forefront of aerial development but also provides a reflective look at U.S.-Mexico relations of the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s, particularly the tense days and aftermath of the Escobar Rebellion of 1929. The author paints a vivid picture of the development of the U.S. aerial strike force; the character, ideals, and expectations of the men who would one day become combat leaders; and the high esteem in which U.S. citizens held the

courageous pilots. Particularly noteworthy is the author's portrait of Elmo Johnson, the Big Bend rancher, trader, and rural sage who emerges as the dominant figure at one of the most unusual facilities in the annals of the Air Corps. *Wings over the Mexican Border* tells a stirring story of the American frontier juxtaposed with the new age of aerial technology.

Kenneth Baxter Ragsdale, an Austin-based writer and historian, received his Ph.D. in American studies at the University of Texas in 1974; he directed educational services for the Texas State Historical Association from 1969 to 1977. His research for *Wings over the Mexican Border* took him to Mexican battlefield sites and the almost inaccessible Johnson's Ranch airfield and brought him into contact with many Air Corps personnel, now retired, who had served at the Big Bend site.

November  
6 × 9 in., 288 pp., 24 b&w photos, 1 map  
ISBN 0-292-79025-2, \$24.50

## University of Texas Press

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## NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

8 August 1984

The Finance Sub-Committee of the CAP Historical Committee met in Atlanta at noon on 4 August 1984. Present were: Col. Louisa S. Morse, Chairman, Col. James J. Mitchell and Maj. Axel Ostling.

Col. Morse reported that a fund has been established at National Headquarters specifically for the purpose of covering expenses of the Historical Committee. Requests for reimbursement will be made to the National Administrator. Checks will be dispersed by the Comptroller at National Headquarters. A total of \$1,000 is currently available.

Mr. Willard Kopf has been requested to advise Col. Morse how much profit has been generated from the Bookstore sales of the insignia books and monographs.

Col. Jim Hannan, National Controller, has agreed to include the Historical Committee in future CAP budgets. The amount must be requested by the Chairman of the Historical Committee and should be based on actual expenses of the next few months. Budget requests will be due early in 1985 for FY 86.

The sub-committee decided that no drive for funds should be conducted at this time, and that any future efforts should be coordinated with CAP corporate officials in advance to avoid conflicting solicitation.

It was suggested that the Historical Committee could better serve as motivators and advisors in connection with such things as Coastal Patrol markers. The Committee should not undertake to raise funds for and/or erect such markers, but might encourage others to do so.

*Louisa S. Morse*

LOUISA S. MORSE, Col., CAP

NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Col. L. E. Hopper, Chairman  
3530 Mimosa Court  
New Orleans, La. 70114

Col. Thomas Handley  
National Headquarters, CAP  
Maxwell AFB, Alabama 36112

Col. James J. Mitchell  
53 Brams Point Road  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Col. Louisa S. Morse  
2507 West 17th Street  
Wilmington, Delaware 19806

Lt. Col. L. A. Blascovich, Vice Chairman  
100-30 Elgar Place  
Bronx, New York 10477

Lt. Col. William D. Madsen  
1327 Kern Street  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80915

Lt. Col. A. F. Pogorzelski  
2 Virginia Place  
Pleasantville, New York 10570

Lt. Col. Elizabeth J. Sedita  
1660 Rochelle Parkway  
Meritt Island, Florida 32952

Major Carol P. Hopper  
3530 Mimosa Court  
New Orleans, La. 70114

Major Axel I. Ostling  
20 Old Middletown Road  
Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

Major Nelson L. Ragan  
4219 Durango  
Odessa, Texas 79762

Capt. Hellemmerie Walker  
Oregon Wing Historian  
#16 1515 SW Jefferson  
Portland, Oregon 97201

Mr. Mark Marsh  
National Headquarters CAP/XR  
Maxwell, AFB Alabama 36112

31 August 1984

### THE CIVIL AIR PATROL HISTORICAL PROGRAM

This regulation states the objectives of and implements the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program. It serves as a guide for preparing histories, assigns responsibilities, and lists the qualifications of a historian.

	Paragraph	Page
<b>Chapter 1 - Historical Program Policies and Procedures</b>		
Purpose and Objectives of the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program .....	1-1	1
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National Historical Committee Responsibilities .....	1-3	1
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<b>Chapter 2 - The Military Historian</b>		
Qualifications .....	2-1	4
Duties and Responsibilities .....	2-2	4

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OPR: XR

Distribution: 1 each region, wing, Historical Committee Member

## Chapter 1

**HISTORICAL PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**1-1. Purpose and Objectives of the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program.** The purpose of the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program is to collect historical data systematically and prepare accurate and useful accounts of the organization, development, administration, operations and other features of the Civil Air Patrol and its antecedents. The program's principal objectives are to provide historical data for Civil Air Patrol planning, operational and educational purposes; to preserve and disseminate the history of Civil Air Patrol; and to prepare and publish scholarly books and studies that keep the public informed about Civil Air Patrol and its Cadet Program, Aerospace Education and Search and Rescue Missions.

The Civil Air Patrol Historical Program is designed to:

(1) Prepare annual National, Region and Wing Histories and encourage their preparation at the Group and Squadron Level.

(2) Assemble and maintain copies of Civil Air Patrol historical documentation.

(3) Prepare historical material for orientation purposes and building esprit de corps.

(4) Assist and advise military personnel and qualified civilian concerning research; preparing lectures, papers, and staff studies; and other activities that require historical knowledge or the use of historical materials.

(5) Arouse and develop increased interest in and an improved understanding of military history among Civil Air Patrol personnel, historians, and students.

(6) Develop an Oral History Program as an adjunct to the traditional written one.

**1-2. Explanation of Terms.** The following apply to Civil Air Patrol Historical Program:

a. National, Region and Wing histories are fully documented historical narratives of significant events and actions during the calendar year. The histories should emphasize a command's mission and operational activities, and the role of the headquarters in those activities. Using the Historians Handbook, the histories should be prepared from primary sources obtained from a thorough research of key files of the headquarters. Secondary sources, such as section and staff histories and feeder reports, may be used as research guides, filed as reference material, or appended to the history. They should not be used to prove statements in the narrative. If primary documents cannot be obtained, secondary

sources may be cited, although such usage is not desirable. The histories should consign, as much as possible, administrative detail, such as statistics on personal strength and rosters of key personnel, and organizational changes to appendixes, and other appropriate charts. Avoid repeating unnecessarily.

b. A monograph is a separate narrative account of a particular subject or finite topic. As a rule, it is not fixed by an arbitrary period, as in the case of annual histories. Rather, its intended use dictates in part the scope, period of coverage, and length. Supporting documents are desired. All manuscripts must be reviewed and coordinated with the Civil Air Patrol National Historian (CAP/NH) before publication.

c. Special studies are special efforts undertaken to meet the specific requirements of an official or agency, usually on a short term basis. Special studies may be narrative in form, special collection of pertinent documents, or a combination. If published or distributed outside the immediate headquarters of the originating historical office, review and coordination by NH is required.

d. Oral Histories are special efforts undertaken to preserve the experiences of individuals as they relate to Civil Air Patrol History. They shall be conducted in accordance with The Historians Handbook.

e. Supporting documents to a history should include copies of significant correspondence, staff studies and reports, operations orders and after action reports, organizational charts, rosters of all key personnel and unit commanders, and all orders issued by the unit. A compilation of all individual awards and decorations shall be included.

**1-3. National Historical Committee Responsibilities.** The National Historical Committee (NHC) is chaired by the National Historian and staffed by volunteers, who by virtue of their background and/or desires, are in a position to positively contribute to the overall program. The National Historian, guided by the NHC:

a. Formulates policy and directs the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program.

b. Establishes and carries out a program for publishing general and special histories, monographs, studies and similar works for distribution within the Civil Air Patrol, to other government agencies and to the public. Also issues bibliographies, catalogs and abstracts that have information about the publications, both internal and external, of the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program.

c. Represents the Civil Air Patrol at meetings of

historical and other learned societies to encourage interest by educational and professional institutions in military aerospace history.

d. Coordinates the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program with similar programs in federal government agencies.

e. Sets up procedures and assigns responsibilities for oral history and end-of-tour documentation programs.

f. Sets Civil Air Patrol standards for all activities that prepare monographs, special studies, unit narratives and documentary compilations.

g. Coordinates on recruiting and selecting of qualified historians to make sure that they meet the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program requirements.

h. Coordinates on documentation disposition recommendations to make sure that important historical material is preserved.

i. Acts as the coordinating agency with the Air Force Historical Research Center (AFHRC) for the receipt, cataloging, microfilming and storage of documents relating to the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program. This function will be governed by the requirements of AFR 210-1 and AFR 12-40 as amplified in the historians handbook.

j. Solicits personal papers of retired or deceased key Civil Air Patrol personnel as well as non-Civil Air Patrol members whose activities directly influenced Civil Air Patrol History.

**1-4. Region and Wing Responsibilities.** At each Region and Wing, the Historical Program is conducted under the guidance of the Region/Wing Historian. This special staff officer shall utilize whatever resources are available in order to:

a. Supervise all historical activities and monitor the histories and studies prepared by lower echelons.

b. Prepare Region or Wing histories on a calendar year basis. Send HQ CAP/NH, Maxwell AFB AL 36112 the original narrative plus a copy with two complete sets of supporting documents no later than 31 July. Also send two copies of a detailed letter of transmittal (inventory) that lists all materials by name and shows the number of copies of each item. One copy of the wing narrative plus the supporting documents will be provided the Region. Histories are sent through command channels.

c. Prepare monographs and special studies as directed. NHC must coordinate on schedules and review the final product before publication.

d. Prescribe procedures for obtaining significant historical data from units under its control.

e. Perform special research as required by the commander and other Civil Air Patrol elements, other military agencies, and nonmilitary agencies and individuals.

f. Conduct oral history interviews in coordination with NHC.

g. Collect and preserve copies of documentation of historical significance.

h. Coordinate on recruiting and selecting qualified historians within the command to make sure they meet the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program requirements.

i. Encourage the preparation of periodic histories at the Group and Squadron level. NOTE: "Original Narrative" in the context of paragraph 1-4b is defined as the narrative portion of the history typed with a good ribbon and clear type on heavy stock white bond paper. A good permanent copy from a copying machine or printing operation is also satisfactory, provided the copy is black print on white bond paper and does not have ink or toner spots.

**1-5. Access to Material.** Commanders and staff officers must give historians access to all information which they need for accurate and complete histories of Civil Air Patrol activities. It is particularly important that the historian (as a member of the commander's staff), attend staff conferences, meetings and briefings that are considered important for preparing histories.

**1-6. Retention and Disposition.** Retention period for historical material is indefinite.

**1-7. Wing Historian of the Year Award:**

a. **Award Plaque.** HQ CAP/NH awards a plaque to the historian of the wing judged to have produced the best history covering the preceding calendar year.

b. **Nominations.** By 1 June, each Region determines its candidates for the award and sends a letter to HQ CAP/NH naming the unit, designating the history, and providing reasons for the choice.

c. **Selection Procedure.** The National Historical Committee reviews the histories and select the winner. This selection will be complete in time for award presentation at the National Board Meeting.

d. **Selection Criteria.** Histories are judged on how successfully they meet the standards in paragraph 1-2 and the Historian's Handbook. Greater value is given to content and coverage than to matters of format, covers, photographs, typing and so forth.

**1-8. Supplements to This Regulation.** Regions and Wings may supplement this regulation or prepare guides for unit historians so that the functions, administration, and operations peculiar to their units can be covered properly at all levels of command. Any supplements or guides must not conflict with this or other Civil Air Patrol directives.

## Chapter 2

## THE MILITARY HISTORIAN

**2-1. Qualifications.** A successful historical program depends on having well-qualified historians at all levels. Although some formal training in history could be helpful, it is not mandatory for a successful military historian. However, certain basic characteristics are necessary and apply at all levels.

**a. Personal Requirements.** Historians should have enough native curiosity to want to know what is happening in their units and enough initiative to go out and get the facts, they:

(1) Must be constantly alert for new sources of information.

(2) Should have such innate honesty that they can approach and handle research and writing objectively and critically.

(3) Should have a personality that (coupled with enthusiasm for the program, tact in dealing with people, and discretion in handling delicate situations) enables them to enjoy the confidence of their associates.

**b. Professional Requirements.** The historian should be:

(1) Trained and/or experienced in history, social science, or comparable fields that involve disciplined research and writing, and knowledgeable in the techniques of locating, analyzing, evaluating, and maintaining other documents that apply.

(2) Able to present and interpret data in a written narrative, properly organized and documented.

(3) Able to plan and direct a sound program.

**2-2. Duties and Responsibilities:**

**a. General Information.** At each level of preparing a narrative history, historians are responsible for acquiring documents and writing histories and monographs that tell an accurate story of the unit's planning, programming, operational, administrative and other activities. They must collect, organize, analyze and interpret documents and use them (together with data from interviews, staff meetings and other sources) to record and preserve the history of the unit. They must strive for constant objectivity, critical evaluation, and a full appreciation of the importance of factual data, as against hearsay evidence, prejudice, and propaganda.

(1) Historians must bear in mind that their work is designed to have both immediate and long-range use by Civil Air Patrol elements as "guides to Civil Air Patrol actions." Historians must help the Civil Air Patrol understand the past, evaluate the present, and plan for the future. Thus, plans, changes, problems, failures and deficiencies must be presented as completely and objectively as achievements. The historian should bear in mind that researching assignments and answering questions can be a real service to the commander and the commander's staff.

(2) Whether historians are writing a history or preparing a special paper for the commander, they must be objective and accurate. Failure to write about errors, operational lapses, and so forth, does the commander, the unit, and the Civil Air Patrol a disservice.

**b. Specific Obligations.** The duties and responsibilities of historians are outlined in chapter 1. These duties and responsibilities are not all inclusive or rigid. They are subject to interpretation and expansion in terms of local conditions, needs of higher echelons, and changes in the overall historical program.

**c. Other Duties.** In addition to carrying out specific duties, historians must:

(1) Conduct a continuing research program in the working files of their organization to obtain the primary documentation (messages, letters, memos, staff studies, briefings, and so forth) necessary for accurate historical narratives.

(2) Arrange for periodic reports, manuals, regulations, orders, and so forth, produced within the organization to be sent to them automatically from the office of origin.

(3) Request that no documents be destroyed until after they have been consulted to determine that the document is no longer of historical importance.

(4) Classify and file all historical documentation as covered by the Historian's Handbook and Historical Document Indexing.

(5) Attend meetings so they are aware of plans and policies and appreciate the conditions which led to decisions.

(6) Supplement their documentary research with interviews and personal contacts.

(7) Identify historical items to make sure they are preserved for future generations. These items are not restricted to documents, but include artifacts. (Items of possible historic value such as unique uniforms or insignia or equipment associated with a

specific event or individual are just a few examples. Such items should be reported to HQ CAP/NH.)

d. **Direct Communication.** Consistent with command policy, direct communication between historical offices is authorized to exchange information and data.

OFFICIAL

JOHN T. MASSINGALE, JR., Col, USAF  
Executive Director

*Michael D. Duto*  
MICHAEL D. DUTO, Lt Col, USAF  
Director of Administration



CIVIL AIR PATROL  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY  
Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama 36112

COL LESTER E. HOPPER, CAP  
NATIONAL HISTORIAN  
3530 Mimosa Court  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70114

1 September 1984

SUBJECT: Appointment of Region/Wing Historians

TO: Region and Wing Commanders

1. Civil Air Patrol Pamphlet 223 "Study Guide for Historians" was issued on 31 July 1984. It contains a position description for a historian which will later be incorporated in CAP Manual 20-1. In the near future CAP Regulation 210-1 "Historical Data and Properties Regulation for Civil Air Patrol Historians" will be issued.

2. The proposed regulation calls for the appointment of a historian at your level of command. There are many benefits to be gained in the morale and public affair area by the establishment of a sound historical program throughout Civil Air Patrol. Accordingly you are encouraged to do so upon identification of a qualified individual.

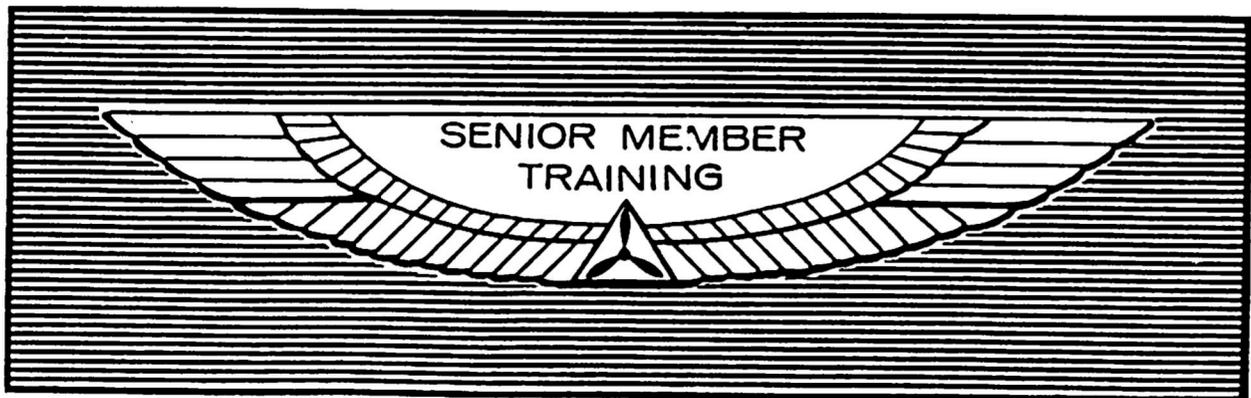
3. In order to assist in the professional training of your appointee and to provide technical support to your program you are requested to provide this Headquarters/National Historian with the name of the individual who you appoint.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lester E. Hopper".

LESTER E. HOPPER  
COL CAP  
National Historian



# Study Guide for HISTORIAN



**CIVIL AIR PATROL  
SENIOR MEMBER TRAINING PROGRAM  
SPECIALTY TRACK STUDY GUIDE**

**HISTORIAN**

**Foreword**

The recording of events is significant. Compilation of facts that tell of events combine to create a history. A comprehensive history is of considerable value for research purposes and to serve as a documentary. Since a history is objective and it describes in an accurate fashion activities that happened, it enables others to use the data for research, planning, and to portray activities of individuals and groups during specified times. Histories not only tell of success, they cover failure and defeat, explain problems encountered and solutions attempted.

The Historian Study Guide is for individuals to use in progressing from the entry level of technician to the intermediate level of senior and to the highest rating of master. The technician level provides the individual with basic information to use in performing duty as a historian at unit level. The senior level prepares the historian to serve as a functional historian and also in an expanded role as an advisor to the commander. The master level provides for a person to advance to the highest level by gaining extensive knowledge of all phases of the historian field. The historian will then be qualified to serve in any historian capacity in the Civil Air Patrol.

## HISTORIAN TRAINING GUIDE

### TECHNICIAN RATING

**1. Position Description.** (Reference Source: CAP Manual 20-1) Assists the Commander on all historical matters. Implements a historical program to include:

a. Publication of general and special histories, monographs, studies and similar works.

b. Publication of material of a general nature to inform the public relative to CAP history.

c. Collection and preservation of material of historical significance.

d. Collection and publication of oral histories of individuals who have made a significant contribution to CAP.

e. Attendance at meetings of historical and other learned societies.

**2. Objectives.** To develop an understanding of the basic concepts of the National Historical Program of the Civil Air Patrol. To prepare a person to manage a CAP unit historical program under guidance provided by the National Historian. To prepare a person for entry into the senior level of historian training.

**3. Functions and Responsibilities:**

a. Knowledge Requirements:

(1) Attain a broad understanding of the his-

torian function.

(2) Understand CAPR 210-1, Historical Data and Properties Regulation for Civil Air Patrol Historians.

(3) Understand CAPM 20-1, Organization of Civil Air Patrol.

b. Performance Requirements:

(1) Complete a six-month internship.

(2) Complete Level I, Senior Member Training Program.

(3) Display ability to perform assigned duties with minimum supervision.

c. Training:

(1) Historians are encouraged to take correspondence courses from the USAF Extension Course Institute.

(2) Historians should begin a self-development program that includes general areas of history and creative writing.

(3) Historians should review existing histories and maintain close contact with other elements of the organization.

## HISTORIAN TRAINING GUIDE

### SENIOR RATING

**1. Position Description.** Serves as the special assistant to the Commander on historical matters. Implements and monitors a historical program that includes:

- a. Publication of general and special histories, monographs, studies and similar works.
- b. Publication of material of a general nature to inform the public relative to the CAP History.
- c. Collection and preservation of material of historical significance.
- d. Collection and publication of oral histories of individuals who have made a significant contribution to CAP.
- e. Attendance at meetings of historical and other learned societies.
- f. Supervision of the preparation of the history of the unit.

**2. Objectives.** To teach the CAP Historian the principles and functions of the Civil Air Patrol Historical Program, including policies and procedures. Provide opportunity so the historian develops skills and abilities leading to serving as an advisor to the Commander on matters involving the historical function. Assist the historian to gain expertise in coping with historical problems and communicating authoritatively with members of history elements.

### 3. Functions and Responsibilities:

#### a. Knowledge Requirements:

- (1) Read any three of the following publications:
  - (a) "CAP Uniforms and Insignia, The First Ten Years (1941 - 1951)", by Colonel Louisa S. Morse, CAP.
  - (b) "CAP Uniforms and Insignia, The Second Ten Years (1952 - 1961)", by Colonel Louisa S. Morse, CAP.
  - (c) "CAP Uniforms and Insignia, The Past Twenty-Two Years (1962 -1983)", by Colonel Louisa S. Morse, CAP.
  - (d) CAP Historical Monograph Number 3, "Propwash", by Robert E. Neprud with Foreword by Colonel Lester E. Hopper, CAP.
  - (e) "Sank Same", William B. Mellor, Jr., Howell, Soskins Publishers, New York, 1944.

(f) "Jeeps in the Sky", Lt Col Andrew Ten Eyck, USAF, Commonwealth Books, Inc., New York, 1946.

(g) "Minutemen of the Air", Carroll V. Glines and Gen Gurney, Random House, New York, 1966.

(h) "Hero Next Door", Frank A. Burnham, Aero Publishers, Inc., Fallbrook, California, 1974.

(i) "Brave Coward Zack", Zack Mosley, Valkyrie Press, Inc., St. Petersburg, Florida, 1976.

(j) "This Is Your Civil Air Patrol", C.B. Colby, Coward-McCann, Inc., New York, 1958.

(k) "I Walked With Giants", Gill Robb Wilson, Vantage Press, New York, Washington, Hollywood, 1968.

#### b. Performance Requirements:

- (1) Serve one year as a historian.
- (2) Complete technician rating requirements.
- (3) Complete the "Civil Air Patrol Oral History Self Study Guide".
- (4) Conduct (or assist in conducting) one oral history interview, including final publication.
- (5) Prepare an item of historical information for inclusion in a newspaper, periodical, monograph or special study and be totally familiar with the CAP Oral History Program.
- (6) Complete Level II, Senior Member Training Program.
- (7) Be familiar with and apply governing directives.
- (8) Display ability to perform assigned duties without supervision.

#### c. Training Requirements:

- (1) Historians are encouraged to enroll in courses offered by the USAF Extension Course Institute.
- (2) The historian should remain abreast of current happenings, review histories of other units and maintain close contact with other staff elements of their unit.

## HISTORIAN TRAINING GUIDE

### MASTER RATING

**1. Position Description.** Assists the Commander on all historical matters. Implements a historical program to include:

a. Publication of general and special histories, monographs, studies and similar works.

b. Publication of material of a general nature to inform the public relative to CAP History.

c. Collection and preservation of material of historical significance.

d. Collection and publication of oral histories of individuals who have made a significant contribution to CAP.

e. Attendance at meetings of historical and other learned societies.

f. Supervision of the preparation of the history of the unit.

**2. Objectives.** To provide historical program support to the Unit Commander, promote Civil Air Patrol programs through historical publications, serve other staff sections as an advisor, perform as the historical coordinator for the unit, stay involved with all matters related to or dealing with the historical program, and provide necessary guidance to other staff sections on historical matters.

**3. Functions and Responsibilities:**

a. Knowledge Requirements:

(1) Be thoroughly familiar with all CAP directives.

(2) Read any six of the publications listed under paragraph 3a of the Senior Historian Rating requirements. (NOTE: Future CAP Historical Monographs may be substituted for the listed publications.)

(3) Read any three non-fiction books relating to the history of the United States Air Force.

b. Performance Requirements:

(1) Serve at least 2 years in the historical

field to earn the master rating and must be knowledgeable of all areas of the CAP Historical Program.

(2) Conduct and publish one additional oral history interview.

(3) Publish at least one article in a newspaper or periodical.

(4) Publish at least one book, monograph, or special study.

(5) Direct or assist in the publication of a unit annual history.

(6) Be capable of interpreting CAP policies and procedures and applying them as necessary in the unit of assignment and subordinate units.

(7) Maintain proficiency in all aspects of the historical program in order to perform independently.

(8) Advise and instruct subordinate personnel, both in the practical and theoretical aspects.

(9) Exhibit flexibility and versatility in overcoming funding deficits within the unit that pertain to the history program.

(10) Display willingness to perform beyond requirements of the position to achieve higher goals.

(11) Complete Level III, Senior Member Training Program.

(12) Display ability to perform assigned duties under all conditions.

c. Training Requirements:

(1) Historians should take advantage of correspondence courses of the USAF Extension Course Institute. Additionally, historians should participate in a self-development program involving history and creative writing.

(2) In addition to reviewing newly published histories, the historian should review all facets of the unit's operation and maintain currency in the CAP Oral History Program, along with developing historical material for publication.