



...a journal of  
CAP history,  
feature articles,  
scholarly works,  
and stories of  
interest.

# CIVIL AIR PATROL

## CAP National Historical Journal

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The Civil Air Patrol National Historical Journal is published quarterly by professional volunteer staff. As academic historians by trade, we recognize the demand for quality publications reflecting a variety of interests to Civil Air Patrol readers, and strive to offer the best in feature and thought provoking articles. We trust you will enjoy what the e-journal has to offer and will consider contributing to the mission of our staff in providing a forum for the great traditions of our organization.

**Editors Note:** The 70th anniversary celebrations of the 6 June 1944 invasion of Normandy coupled with the events falling not long after Memorial Day have recently been featured in the print, social, and broadcast media to the point of educating even the reluctant historian. The CAP NHJ features two stories related to World War II—one highlighting the CAP Congressional Gold Medal award conferred upon CAP volunteers, and the other, a personal story shared by the CAP NHJ editor, K.J. Efinger. These pages will bring remembrance to the many sacrifices service members, as well as volunteers, have made over the years.

## A Bridge Not So Far

K. J. Efinger

It often comes down to the so-called “curveballs” that life delivers from time-to-time. These unexpected events may be negative or positive. Sometimes they just give us pause, and then we move forward with little reflection. Conversely, the circumstance may be so impacting that we never see things quite the same as we once did. One thing is for certain, they either alter how we perceive our world at that moment, or they have a lasting impact. The following story reveals a connection with a faraway place in time that would otherwise have been only part of a story I once heard many years ago.

Though I received the message at the end of August a few years back in a social networking inbox, I really did not pay much attention to it. The fact is

I decided to put off reading any of my messages until the weekend. A year or so prior, I created a networking page for the families of veterans who were affiliated with the 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment—a “bastard” unit attached to the 82d and 17th airborne divisions during World War II.<sup>1</sup> Only recently has there been a greater interest coming from relatives of former troopers. For the most part, the activity has originated with re-enactors—Belgian, Norman, and British—who are involved not only with preserving the history surrounding the events of



Photo: Gustav J. Efinger, Efinger family archives©

<sup>1</sup> Russell Weigley articulates a not so often recognized fact that Billy Mitchell was among one of the first to propose the use of, and integration of airborne troops (paratroopers) in warfare. The war ended before his theories on air-assault could be put into practice. Germany would fundamentally succeed where others did not in proving the efficacy of an airborne assault force in war. For more information, see *Hunters from the Sky: The German Parachute Corps 1940-1945*, by Charles Whiting. Russell F. Weigley, *The American Way of War: A History of United States Military Strategy and Policy* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1977), 224.

Normandy, but the memories of those who flew, jumped, and came ashore as part of *Operation Overlord*. When I saw the surname on the latest request (Vertenten), I concluded it was likely a Belgian who was asking to join the group. For all their involvement, attention to detail, and respect for the many who sacrificed their lives during that spectacular event in history, I am thankful. The downside, however, was that I received numerous requests per week and had to filter through them when time permitted. I assumed this particular message was just one of those many requests. Needless to say, I was surprised when my wife asked me about an email she received a day or two afterwards. My response to her was that this person must be desperate to join the group, and I would address the issue in a few days. Her reply took me aback, when she said “no, it’s something about your father, I think you need to take a look at this.” I read the message, and soon realized it was from a Belgian national who said he found an artifact he believed belonged to my father. That still small voice told me that I needed to go back and read the message in *my* inbox. I was correct about the correspondence coming from a Belgian who was in fact interested in WWII and the Allied invasion of Normandy. I was wrong, however, about his sending a request to join the networking page established for the 507th.

As the young man, Robin Vertenten, tells the story, he was excavating an area in close proximity to the foot of the stone bridge going over the Merderet River at La Fièrre and happened upon an object buried nearly

a foot below the surface among several German shell casings. Most interesting is that the spot is roughly 200 feet north of where the hallowed “Iron Mike” monument stands.<sup>2</sup> The bridge crossing the



Merderet was no small objective when it came to holding back the German response to the Allied invasion.

As a military historian, I knew of the battle that took place there, but by *no* means consider myself an expert. There was not the least bit of skepticism that he had found something—*rather*

*that it could definitively be identified with my father.* It took longer to process this, and often I shake my head and blink a few times marveling as to the incredible nature of the find. There is much skill involved with using a metal detector—in *particular knowing what to pursue and what to let lie so as to avoid digging up an acre-sized plot of land in the process.* As it turns out, Robin is part of a unique culture of men and women who—as well as being consummate “treasure-hunters”—are also keen to return to families or veterans the objects whose provenance is known. In this instance, the artifact in question was a canteen cap marked “G Efinger” with the last four digits of my father’s Army Serial Number (ASN) stamped clear as day.<sup>3</sup> “Interesting” was my first reaction. Were he alive, my father’s response would likely have been something to the effect of, “Oh, that’s where I lost it.”

My brother Glen and I have spent countless hours attempting to substantiate 507th troop movements and locate families of troopers for nearly eighteen years. *Continued on page 5*



Photo: Robin Vertenten©

<sup>2</sup> Robin Vertenten, email to author, 20 June 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Access to Archival Databases (AAD), (The National Archives), <http://aad.archives.gov/aad/> (Electronic Army Serial Number Merged File, ca. 1938 - 1946 (Enlistment Records); accessed June 10, 2014).

# Recognizing and Verifying the Pioneers: Explaining the Congressional Gold Medal Database

*Frank Blazich, Jr., Chief Historian*

For the uninitiated, accurately providing detailed information for Civil Air Patrol's (CAP) Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) database may seem like an unusual requirement to enable a CAP veteran from World War II to receive a bronze replica of the CGM. Having managed the database along with Mr. Joe Hall at National Headquarters since April 2013, I have been privy to numerous inquiries from various historians, public relations officers, the general public, and the national commander. This short article is intended to explain the requirements for eligibility, verification, and what steps to take when needing to update entries in the database.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian award which can be bestowed by Congress. The CAP medal, a design unique for this singular honor, is dedicated to the service of all senior and cadet members who served in an array of capacities during World War II. CAP National Headquarters began its CGM database in 2010 for the purposes of assembling the names of verified World War II CAP veterans, living and deceased, who served between 7 December 1941 and 2 September 1945, and for the living to feature their service with the media effort pertaining to the legislative effort and then the promotion of the award.

Unfortunately for the Civil Air Patrol, personnel records from World War II have been lost to the annals of time. For the senior members, those who served on active duty (coastal patrol, courier, border liaison, tow target, forest patrol) can almost entirely be verified from databases of Air Medal recipients and belligerency certificates. Beyond these records the verification process rests entirely on the records of the individual veterans and their families, or from wing and squadron records, if the latter still exist. There are no personnel files on any World War II CAP member in the possession of the Chief Historian or National Headquarters.

This problem is especially acute for World War II CAP cadets. Squadrons, *and not National Headquarters*, bore responsibility for maintaining cadet personnel records.

With the lack of archival personnel records, the verification process has gradually involved into its present form. Prior to even adding anyone to the database, it is highly recommended that the submitters gather requested information prior to entry. Once an entry is placed into the database, the submitter cannot make changes. They can contact the Chief Historian and other staff at National Headquarters to change aspects of the information internally, but depending on time, this can be a slow process. It is recommended that the following be first collected and checked for accuracy:

1. Full name (last, first, middle initial, suffix)
2. Date of birth and/or date of death
3. Rank as a CAP member (if known)
4. CAP identification number (if known)
5. **Current mailing address, phone number, and email address:** If deceased, the hometown and state of CAP service is most desired. Otherwise use the last known mailing address for the person. You can enter nine zeroes for the phone number if necessary. If you are the sponsor or next-of-kin, you can enter your contact information on the form, but where possible, please do not use it for the veteran if they are deceased.
6. **Documentation:** This is the most essential piece of the required information and the difference between a quick confirmation or a lengthy research effort. Files can now be uploaded into the database to document a person's CAP wartime service. If you are sponsoring an individual, please note if they are still living should you be unable to locate their birth date.
7. **Contact information for next-of-kin or sponsor:** Please make sure your phone number and email address are correct. Errors have resulted in bounced emails or awkward phone calls. If you are a sponsor and the veteran is deceased, you must locate the next-of-kin for the veteran. Even if the deceased veteran is clearly eligible, the replica medal will not be provided to the sponsor unless the sponsor is next-of-kin. Otherwise, the entry will be removed from the database entirely or

marked ineligible until the next-of-kin and other family is located. This step is very important in the process.

The documentation portion of the verification process is unquestionably the most important part of the verification process. Just what exactly counts as evidence encompasses an array of material. Archival documents listing a person's name, date, and direct reference to the CAP is preferable. This can take the form of promotion or assignment paperwork, letters of thanks, unit rosters, even scrapbooks. Newspaper articles listing a person's name and service with the CAP are also solid pieces of evidence, as are photographs of the veteran in their CAP uniform from the war. In the most extreme cases, verification has been achieved by family locating uniform insignia and items in conjunction with collaborating information regarding former unit commanders, unit names and locations, and experiences.

What if there is no documentation? No photographs? The options are as follows. In several cases the *Chief Historian* has turned to microfilm and archival records to verify the details of veteran reminiscences, either directly from the veteran or from their next-of-kin. Here is where oral history can be extremely useful, and if need be recordings or statements of a veteran's experience, provided the information can be corroborated, will be accepted as verifying evidence. If you or someone you know is ever having difficulty with locating evidence, contact the Chief Historian, and he will provide guidance and advice to further your search while checking his own records to see if the evidence is already in hand.

Once all the required pieces of the puzzle are assembled, the actual verification process is extremely quick, taking little more than five minutes. If the documentation is missing, the process can take as long as six months, predominantly via email or telephone correspondence. The goal is to ensure that everyone, cadet and senior, who served in the CAP during World War II, a group that numbers over 200,000, is properly recognized for their service. If you know someone who qualifies, please check the database, available at the following web address: <http://www.capgoldmedal.com>

and see if they are listed. If not, follow the steps outlined above and please enter the veteran's information. Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Chief Historian or National Headquarters.

*Col Frank A. Blazich, Jr., PhD is the Chief Historian at NHQ, and serves as Historian, U.S. Navy Seabee Museum, Port Hueneme, CA.*

#### **Links associated with the CAP CGM:**

The entry form for the CGM database. Documentary evidence can now be uploaded. Please note if you are the sponsor, particularly if the veteran is deceased, please list their wartime hometown and state at the top. Place your contact information in the sponsor section. The form can be obtained at <https://www.capnhq.gov/CAP.WorldWarII.web/WWII.aspx>

The CGM database listing those confirmed or awaiting confirmation. You can visit this page to see if the person(s) you have entered are confirmed. <https://www.capnhq.gov/CAP.WorldWarII.web/WWIIReport.aspx>



#### **Staff & Acknowledgements**

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(continued from page 2)

The historiography involved is exhaustive, and sources must be credible and verifiable. In all that time, we have mostly been disappointed to discover that many of the veterans passed away before we could establish contact. I spoke with only three veterans who knew my father, and each had the same attitude as he: *it was a long time ago, and the memories were not so good*. The discovery of the canteen cap was something tangible—a marker along the way, an object that spoke loudly to “he was here.”

As a professional historian, I hold to the idea that objects have stories. They are the physical evidence of someone’s whereabouts, or something that happened at some specific point in time. There is little mystery as to where my father was and exactly what he was doing—that is not the remarkable aspect. The finding of the canteen cap after so many years, the fact that it confirms his movements, and the incredible story behind how my family ended up with it nearly seventy years later, is where the real magic happens.

Dad was a trooper in the 507th PIR F Co. under the command of Capt. Paul F. Smith when airborne units began their plunge into occupied France on 6 June 1944.<sup>4</sup> Though not listed on the jump rosters for Normandy, we are presented with two other possibilities—he was on one of the twelve missing rosters, or he came ashore with the amphibious landings on Utah Beach early that morning.<sup>5</sup> Whatever the case may be, and to what extent it can be determined, is fundamentally the irrelevant minutia of

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<sup>4</sup> The objectives were simple on paper. As Geoffrey Perret puts it, “Bradley and Ridgeway shifted the 82nd eastward, so it would drop near the town of Ste.-Mère-Église. It was to take the town and the nearby crossings over the Merderet River. Its primary mission was to block Germans trying to reach Utah and Omaha.” Isolating German forces so as to facilitate a successful invasion was a must. Geoffrey Perret, *There’s a War to Be Won* (New York: Random House, 1991), 317.

<sup>5</sup> Conversation with Capt. Smith’s daughter Sandra, who has been the de facto preservationist for the 507th histories for many years. Capt. Smith is 98, and lives in Melbourne, Florida. He retired a Maj. Gen. from the U.S. Army.

his arrival in Normandy. Incontrovertible evidence puts him at La Fièvre—exactly when, and under what circumstances may never be known. The division commander, Gen. James Gavin himself, was present in the early morning hours on 6 June.<sup>6</sup> It stands to reason that over the next few days troopers from the 82d Airborne would pass through the area in the midst of violent firefights and periods of eerie calm until the objective of securing the bridgehead was met.<sup>7</sup>

At the time of *Operation Neptune*, Dad’s Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was either 745 Rifleman, or 506 Light Machine Gunner.<sup>8</sup> In the final days of the war, he was happily assigned to a mortar division attached to the 17th Airborne<sup>9</sup> shortly after his return to base from Normandy in mid July 1944.<sup>10</sup> He remained in Europe until late 1945 after serving out his days with the 82d Honor Guard outside *Allied Headquarters* in Berlin with one thought in mind—wooing my mother into marrying him.

The battle that took place from 6-9 June was a bloody one. The idea that the German forces were realistically ill-prepared to launch counteroffensives should not be accepted under the pretext that they were *incapable* of it.<sup>11</sup> There is a difference.<sup>12</sup> German commanders—in

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<sup>6</sup> Stephen E. Ambrose, *D-Day June 6, 1944: The Climactic Battle of World War II* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1994), 309.

<sup>7</sup> Shelby L. Stanton, *World War II Order of Battle* (New York: Galahad Books, 1991), 153.

<sup>8</sup> It is nearly impossible to determine with any degree of certainty as to when the assignments were made. Only the duration of each MOS assignment was specified on the Separation Qualification Record. Army of the United States, *Separation Qualification Record ps-70* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1945), WD AGO 100 1 JUL 1945.

<sup>9</sup> 81-mm mortar, HQ Co. 2d Bn., 507th PIR

<sup>10</sup> The 507th PIR was attached to the 17th Abn. Div. on 27 August 1944. Stanton, *Order of Battle*, 264

<sup>11</sup> Max Hastings can be quite controversial, and we may not always agree with his various assessments; however, I often find his conclusions to be thought provoking enough that he gives pause to some of the pre-conceived notions we may have about some of the greatest and most successful military campaigns. It is denigrating

particular Erwin Rommel—attempted to stress the possibility of an invasion taking place elsewhere along the French coastline other than the Pas de Calais. Rommel insisted that in spite of the military fortifications along the coast having been strengthened from late 1943 through early 1944 that armored divisions would in fact play a decisive role in repelling an Allied attack, but Hitler and others thought differently.<sup>13</sup> The grave miscalculation on the part of Germany's political leaders was the positive externality experienced by the Allies—that the Germans would be wholly unprepared for an attack on Normandy.<sup>14</sup>

The story of my father is not unique. As a soldier, he likely did nothing more or less than what was expected. He shunned the accolades after the war and rarely spoke of events until a short time before he passed away. There was no mention of ever having lost a canteen cap. The only time he smiled, recalling the past, was when he related how he made a parachute from a small section of a discarded panel for one of the carrier pigeons he jumped with during combat. Still, it is difficult to not find some significance in the discovery of

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to American soldiers who took to the beaches and skies beginning 6 June 1944 to assert that the Germans posted "second-rate" soldiers along the western corridor. Hastings backs the position held by many afterwards, that regardless of the "quality" soldier defending the annexed coastline, they were formidable. He states that "in the days following 6 June, the American forces in Normandy faced few German opponents of the quality and determination of those who were already moving into battle against the British Second Army." Max Hastings, *Overlord: D-Day & the Battle for Normandy* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1985), 152.

<sup>12</sup> In his classic work, Goerlitz articulates what historians for the last seventy years have parroted concerning Germany's defenses in the West. Perhaps they may not have been as fortified as those along the Pas de Calais, and not as strong as some in the East, but neither were they anything for the Allies to take lightly. , *History of The German General Staff 1657-1945*, trans. Brian Battershaw (New York: Praeger, 1954), 459.

<sup>13</sup> Stephen Badsey, comp., *Atlas of World War II Battle Plans: Before and After* (New York: Helicon Publishing Ltd, 2000), 68-69.

<sup>14</sup> Goerlitz states that the "German command was taken completely by surprise, and it was not until 5 a.m. that the first counter-measures could be taken." Goerlitz, *German General Staff*, 458.

that small aluminum cap that lay buried for so many seasons after war's end.

That story begins with the 28 year old Belgian who found it while in Normandy in 2011 while making one of his pilgrimages to that sacred land so many preserve in honor of the men who fought and died there. Robin began collecting WWII artifacts at a young age and in 2007 purchased a second-hand metal detector. He states that his "biggest motivation" is to find identifiable artifacts related to the military campaign in Normandy, and whenever possible, to return those items to veterans or their surviving family members. Since his first encounter with an American veteran in 2004, Robin has made part of his life's mission to support veterans. His particular interest is with the airborne divisions. His passion for finding artifacts brought him into contact with James "Pee Wee" Martin when he found a complete canteen belonging to a fellow trooper of Martin's from the 506th PIR of the 101st Airborne Division.<sup>15</sup>



Photo: Robin Vertenten (L) James Martin (R) courtesy R. Vertenten©

<sup>15</sup> Jim "Pee Wee" Martin was recently featured in a CNN broadcast and interview when he jumped as part of the 70th anniversary celebrations in Normandy. He served in the 506th PIR, with Harvey Jewett whose canteen Robin found nearly five years ago. Robin went to great lengths to contact Mr. Jewett, and finally met him in the summer of 2013 after which he told Robin to keep the canteen. To this day the two are good friends. Jim Bitterman and Greg Botelho, "70 Years Later, D-day Vet Jim 'Pee Wee' Martin Jumps Again," *CNN*, June 6, 2014, <http://www.cnn.com/2014/06/05/world/europe/d-day-paratrooper-jumps-again/> (accessed June 10, 2000).

Robin's efforts in finding artifacts have perhaps been more successful than one would initially suppose, however, the 506th trooper's *canteen*, and my father's *canteen cap* have been the only items where a tangible connection has been made. He is quick to underscore that when possible, he offers the items to family with no caveats and, in some cases, has made donations of finds to establishments who proudly display the artifacts as part of the local history. This type of enthusiasm—the interest among European youth fascinated by the stories they have heard from their parents and grandparents—is foreign to my own experiences. I was born nearly a quarter of a century after the war's end. My only connection is through the study of history and those things I have belonging to my father and vague recollections of his stories whose details fade with my own youth. I have never visited Normandy, and when in Germany, was far from where the crucial battles took place. Neither was it anything I discussed with relatives in Germany for obvious reasons. The disbelief I sometimes have that anyone outside the United States has such a keen interest in WWII and American forces, is difficult to absorb—even accept as “real” or genuine until I follow the activities of young men like Robin on social networking sites and forums. The attention they give to the past events is humbling, and convicting. To realize that these individuals—men and women—have such a tender place in their heart for veterans is demanding of my respect.

Normandy was not kind to Dad. It wasn't kind to anyone, really. On the return trip across the channel—far away from the mazes of hedgerows, burning German panzers, and fallen troopers—Dad pitched his rifle overboard into the calming waters where it was swallowed-up along with his month-long memories of the ordeal.<sup>16</sup> He and a couple of other men from Fox Company took their three-day passes and redefined the 72 hour period on their own terms. When

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<sup>16</sup> Mr. William “Bill” Maginn (former patrolman with the Nassau County Police Department, Long Island, NY, and patrol-partner of Gustav Efinger) conversation with author, June 2014. Bill Maginn served with the 82d Abn. Div. during the Korean War.

they returned to base, no one said a word. They were ordered to barracks, and soon after, attended the divisional memorial service on 6 August at De Montfort Hall in Leicester. From that point forward, he fought hard. He cared less about his feelings, and more about getting the job done, and going home. Perhaps it wasn't a healthy attitude, but it helped him to survive. He did.

Again, Dad was like any other soldier—he performed his duty, and like others who survived, he came home. To have received a small remembrance of his time in Normandy is a big reminder of the freedoms we so often set aside as storybook memories and the sacrifices made to secure them. Thank you, Robin and those like you, and thank you to all veterans and those who served in the armed forces of the United States and the Civil Air Patrol as well.

*Capt Efinger is the outgoing Deputy Chief of Staff for A5 (Plans, Programs and Requirements) at Southeast Region HQ. He is a full-time teacher of Economics and Adjunct Professor of History at Indian River State College in Ft. Pierce, FL.*



## Editor's Note

The views expressed in the *Civil Air Patrol National Historical Journal* are those of the authors only and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Journal Staff or Editorial Board, the Civil Air Patrol, its officers or members, nor the United States Air Force.

## Researchers Sought

The CAP National History Program is currently standing up a project to build a database of every member lost in the line of duty from World War II to the present (1945 – 2014). Lt Col Barry Sullins, Rocky Mountain Region historian, is the lead on this project. If interested in assisting, please contact Lt Col Sullins at the following address: [Sullins13450@comcast.net](mailto:Sullins13450@comcast.net).

# Author's Corner:

*Richard Mulanax*

## ***Eyes on the Home Skies: Seventy-Five Years of the Civil Air Patrol***

*Edited by Richard Mulanax, assisted by, Frank Blazich and Kurt Efinger*

As Civil Air Patrol (CAP) approaches its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2016, it is a time to reflect on the contributions of the hundreds of thousands of members who have served in the organization, from the dark days at the beginning of World War II to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

This book is being written by historians with a link to Civil Air Patrol. Some have been members for decades, while others have volunteered to serve more recently. They include the grand-daughter of Gill Rob Wilson, who will write the chapter on the foundation of Civil Air Patrol, the sons of World War II veterans, retired Air Force officers, graduate students in History, and college professors with Master's and PhD degrees in History. All have a common link – a bond with Civil Air Patrol and the United States Air Force through CAP membership and an interest in CAP.

### **The book will be organized chronologically, as follows:**

**Chapter 1** - The foundation of Civil Air Patrol by Gill Robb Wilson, working with the Director of Civil Defense, Fiorenzo LaGuardia, and others.

**Chapter 2** - World War II service in support of Civil Defense and the Army Air Forces, including important and dangerous wartime missions such as the anti-submarine patrols.

**Chapter 3** - Establishment of CAP as the official auxiliary of the newly created United States Air Force and definition of its peacetime mission in support of search and rescue and similar support of the nation and the Air Force.

**Chapter 4** - The changing mission of Civil Air Patrol in response to America's role in the war in Vietnam and continuing Cold War tensions.

**Chapter 5** - The evolution of Civil Air Patrol toward more internal management by the membership and the expansion of flying operations through CAP expansion of aircraft acquisition and management.

**Chapter 6** - The changing mission of Civil Air Patrol as the Cold War ends. This results in new and refined missions such as Counter Drug Operations and Hurricane relief.

**Chapter 7** - Expansion of Civil Air Patrol involvement in Homeland Security as a result of the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks. CAP assisted the Air Force and the Army immediately after these attacks and continues to do support them on a continuing and permanent basis. CAP also assisted in domestic emergencies such as the Gulf Oil Spill.

*Civil Air Patrol has a near 75 year legacy of supporting the United States Air Force and its mission. This book will demonstrate how this was done in the past and how CAP will continue to provide essential services to Air Force and nation.*

*Lt Col Richard Mulanax, PhD:*  
[richmulanax@gmail.com](mailto:richmulanax@gmail.com).

### **Call for Submissions**

The Civil Air Patrol *National Historical Journal* (NHJ) welcomes articles, essays, and commentaries not exceeding 2,000 words on any topic relating to the history of the Civil Air Patrol, or military aviation history. CAP's history extends to the present day, and the Journal seeks accounts of on-going activities and missions, as well as those of earlier years.

All historiographical works and essays must be submitted in Chicago Manual of Style (CMS), or they will be rejected. We encourage authors to submit digital photographs (minimal resolution of 300 dots per inch) and illustrations for publication. All content should be the work of the author or open source. Adjustments to pixel saturation, color and size will be made according to the editorials staff's recommendations. Please note that when submitted to the editor at the Civil Air Patrol National Historical Journal, all works and related media are released from copyright infringements if published.

Editorial changes are at the sole discretion of the editorial staff, but will be discussed with the author prior to publication, and require a signed release from the author.

*The CAP NHJ editorial staff reserves the right to refuse, any work submitted. All submissions must be sent as MS Word attachments and mailed to the editor at [kefinger@sercap.us](mailto:kefinger@sercap.us).*