



*Escondido Cadet Squadron 714*  
**Cadet Basic Training**  
**Independent Study Guide**

This study guide contains some basic knowledge needed to be successful as a Cadet in the Civil Air Patrol. It is your responsibility to study and know the material in this guide, along with all of the information in your weekly Cadet Basic Training (CBT) packets.

***Cadet Memory Work***

Aside from being a promotion requirement, memory work not only serves as that, but also in helping to provide good discipline, judgment and habits gained from the messages contained in these pieces. Below are the necessary bits of memory work required as part of your promotion review-boards.

**Civil Air Patrol 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.

**California Wing Cadet Honor Code**

On my honor as a Civil Air Patrol cadet of the California Wing, I will not lie, cheat, steal, or commit any act of intentional dishonesty or tolerate those who do.

**Definition of Leadership**

Leadership is the art of influencing and directing people in a way that will win their obedience, confidence, respect and loyal cooperation in achieving a common objective.

**Definition of Military Discipline**

Military discipline is that mental attitude and state of training which renders obedience instinctive under all conditions. It is founded upon respect for, and the loyalty to properly constituted authority.

**Value of Drill and Ceremonies**

On the Drill field the individual learns to participate as a member of a team, to appreciate the need for discipline, that is to respond to authority, to follow orders promptly and precisely and to recognize the effects of his actions on the group as a whole. Learning to follow is the beginning of leadership.

**Air Force Core Values**

Integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do.

**Civil Air Patrol Motto**

Semper Vigilans (Always Vigilant)

**Escondido Cadet Squadron Motto**

Infensus et Fidelis (Ready and Faithful)

**Escondido Cadet Squadron Charter Number**

PCR-CA-803

***Some important dates and events in the history of the Civil Air Patrol:***

The predecessor of the Civil Air Patrol was the New Jersey Civil Air Defense Services.

***December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1941***

Civil Air Patrol was founded. The formal order was signed by Fiorello H. LaGuardia, three term mayor of New York, NY), Director of Civil Defense. Fiorello LaGuardia also served as a three-term mayor of New York City.

***December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941***

The Japanese attack American naval forces at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and America enters WWII. "A date which will live in infamy." - President Franklin D. Roosevelt

***December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1941***

Administrative Order #9: Formal order signed by Fiorello H. LaGuardia, outlined proposed organization of the Civil Air Patrol. U.S. Army Air Corps Major General John Francis Curry is appointed the first National Commander; Mr. Gill Robb Wilson is appointed the first Executive Director.

***March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1942***

CAP Coastal Patrol authorized:

Initially a 90-day experiment at the first three CAP bases:

- Atlantic City, New Jersey (Base 1)
- Rehoboth, Maryland (Base 2)
- Lantana, Florida (Base 3 - still in operation)

The first civilian combat flight:

- Coastal Patrol out of Rehoboth, MD, flew distances in excess of 150 miles out to sea.
- First CAP "kill":
  - Captain Johnny Higgins and Major Wynant Farr, out of Atlantic City, NJ.

***March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1942 - August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1943***

18 months of Coastal Patrol service saw 26 CAP pilots and observers killed in action. CAP is credited with sighting 173 German U-boats, attacking 57 and successfully sinking 2.

***Other important CAP wartime activities:***

***July 1942 - April 1944***

CAP Southern Liaison Patrol operates.

***March 1942***

Gunnery target towing - over 500,000 hours of missions.

***May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1943***

Memorandum W95-12-43 assigned the U.S. Army Air Corps the primary responsibility of directing the activities of the Civil Air Patrol.

***Other important dates:***

***July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1946***

Public Law 476 (PL476) is signed by President Harry S. Truman during the 79<sup>th</sup> Congress, second session. CAP is incorporated as a benevolent, non-profit corporation.

***May 26<sup>th</sup>, 1948***

Public Law 557 (PL557) is signed by President Harry S. Truman during the 80<sup>th</sup> Congress, second session. CAP is designated as the official Auxiliary of the United States Air Force.

***January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1959***

CAP jurisdiction is changed from Headquarters, USAF, to the Continental Air Command (CAC).

***July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1968***

The Continental Air Command (CAC) is abolished and CAP jurisdiction changes to Headquarters Command, USAF.

***1976***

CAP is placed under the Air Education & Training Command, USAF.

***Some important facts:***

CAP's services to our nation and the United States Air Force are:

- 1) Voluntary
- 2) Benevolent
- 3) Non-combatant

The letters **ROTC** stand for:

**Reserve Officer Training Corps**

***July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1947***

President Harry S. Truman signs into law the National Security Act. This formed the National Military Establishment and established the United States Air Force.

**1949**

The National Security Act was amended, and the National Military Establishment becomes the Department of Defense. The Departments of the Army, Navy, and the Air Force are established and the President of the United States appoints Secretaries to head them.

(The Marine Corps falls under the Department of the Navy. The Coast Guard falls under the Department of Homeland Security, except during a time of declared war, when command is assumed by the Department of the Navy.)

***Some of the USAF chain of command is:***

- Secretary of the Air Force
- Chief of Staff, USAF (presides over Air Staff)
- Vice Chief of Staff, USAF
- USAF Field Organizations
  - Report to Chief of Staff
  - Major Commands
  - Separate Operating Agencies

**The Organization of the Civil Air Patrol**  
*(Ref. CAPR 20-1)*

**National Board**

Highest governing body in the Civil Air Patrol.

**National Commander**

CAP Officer  
Chairman of the National Board as the civilian CAP corporation.

**National Vice Commander**

CAP Officer

**Executive Director**

Non-uniformed civilian  
Reports to the Board of Governors

**Commander, CAP-USAF**

USAF Officer  
Reports to the Commander, Air University (AETC, USAF)  
Direct liaison between CAP and the Air Force

**National Chief of Staff**

CAP Officer

**Region Commanders (8)**

**Wing Commanders (52)**

**Group Commanders (California Wing has 7 Groups)**

**Squadron Commanders**

**Flight Commanders**

***Liaison officers from the U.S. Air Force are assigned to:***

Escondido Cadet Squadron 714  
California Wing, Civil Air Patrol  
United States Air Force Auxiliary

- *National Headquarters*
- *Region Headquarters*
- *Wing Headquarters*

***CAP's Command Structure:***

**National Headquarters** (NHQ/CAP is located at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama)

**Region Headquarters** (Pacific Region - PCR)

**Wing Headquarters** (California Wing - CAWG)

**Group Headquarters** (South Coast Group 7)

**Squadron Headquarters** (Escondido Cadet Squadron 714)

**Eight Regions**

Northeast (NER)

Middle East (MER)

Great Lakes (GLR)

Southeast (SER)

North Central (NCR)

Southwest (SWR)

Rocky Mountain (RMR)

Pacific (PCR)

**Fifty-two Regions**

The 50 States

District of Columbia

Puerto Rico

**Three Squadron Types**

Cadet

Composite

Senior

## *Civil Air Patrol Rank Structure*

The Civil Air Patrol rank (grade) structure parallels the rank of the United States Air Force. Members who join between the ages of 12-18 are considered Cadets. Cadets can hold the title until their 21st birthday, when they will transfer to the Senior Member ranks. When a member transfers after their time as a cadet (or joins the program after their 18th birthday) they are appointed to the Senior Member ranks. Within the Cadet rank structure, all Cadets start off as Cadet Airman Basic and can work their way through the rank of Cadet Colonel. Senior Member ranks are based off of professional development achievements, with the exception of the ranks of Colonel, Brigadier General and Major General, which are based off of billet.

Under Title 18, Part I, Chapter 33, § 702 of the U.S. Code, it is illegal to impersonate any member of the armed forces or their auxiliaries. (See here.) While this is fact, officers of the Civil Air Patrol hold no authority over any member of the armed forces and are not subject to disciplinary action through the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

### Cadet Enlisted Ranks

Airman Grades

Cadet Airman Basic  
**C/AB**



Cadet Airman  
**C/Amn**



Cadet Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class  
**C/A1C**



Cadet Senior Airman  
**C/SrA**



Non-Commissioned Officer Grades

Cadet Staff Sergeant  
**C/SSgt**



Cadet Technical Sergeant  
**C/TSgt**



Senior  
Non-Commissioned Officer Grades

Cadet Master Sergeant  
**C/MSgt**



Cadet Senior Master Sergeant  
**C/SMSgt**



Cadet Chief Master Sergeant  
**C/CMSgt**



### Cadet Officer Ranks

Company Grade Cadet Officer Grades

Cadet Second Lieutenant  
**C/2d Lt**



Cadet First Lieutenant  
**C/1st Lt**



Cadet Captain  
**C/Capt**



Field Grade Cadet Officer Grades

Cadet Major  
**C/Maj**



Cadet Lieutenant Colonel  
**C/Lt Col**



Cadet Colonel  
**C/Col**



### Flight Officer Ranks

Flight Officer  
**FO**



Technical Flight Officer  
**TFO**



Senior Flight Officer  
**SFO**



### Senior Member Officer Ranks

Company Grade Officers

Second Lieutenant  
**2d Lt**



First Lieutenant  
**1st Lt**



Captain  
**Capt**



Field Grade Officers

Major  
**Maj**



Lieutenant Colonel  
**Lt Col**



Colonel  
**Col**



General Officers

Brigadier General  
**Brig Gen**



Major General  
**Maj Gen**



Lieutenant General  
**Lt Gen**



General  
**Gen**

