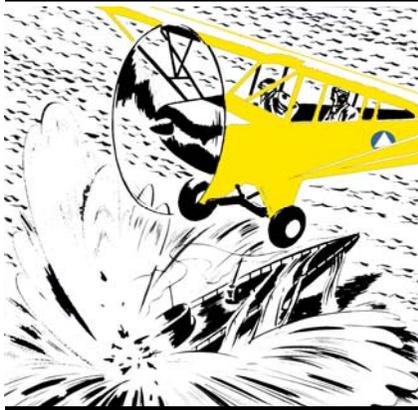


## Chapter 2

# History of the Civil Air Patrol



### Chapter Goal

It is not the intent of this chapter to make members a historian of Civil Air Patrol, but rather have an appreciation of all those who served prior to them and the great credit upon which others brought to the Air Force and the United States. Students should leave this chapter with an understanding of the deep history of the Civil Air Patrol and where the Civil Air Patrol is today. They should understand that their role is to carry on with the tradition of professionalism, commitment, and dedication to serving our communities, states, and nation.

### INSTRUCTION

#### History of the Civil Air Patrol

*Suggested Teaching Method:* Lecture Method

*Instruction:* The instructor should have the students read over the material prior to the class session. The student should have a clear knowledge of who Gill Rob Wilson is and a familiarization about the start of the Civil Air Patrol.

*Tips:* History may be a dry subject for some students. None-the-less, it is your job to teach them the roots of the organization in which they are about to step in. Doing this effectively depends on your students, thus no one “trick” may apply.

#### 1941 – Realization of a National Civil Air Patrol

*Suggested Teaching Method:* Lecture Method

*Instruction:* The instructor should have the students read over the material prior to the class session. The student should be familiar with this section.

#### Early Days and War Time Activities

*Suggested Teaching Method:* Lecture Method

*Instruction:* The instructor should have the students read over the material prior to the class session. The student should be familiar with this section. Specifically, students should understand the importance of our early member’s contribution to the war effort, especially during coastal patrol operations.

#### The First “Kill”

*Suggested Teaching Method:* Lecture Method

*Instruction:* The instructor should have the students read over the material prior to the class session. The student should be familiar with the success of coastal patrol operations, resulting in the actual destruction of foreign military war vessels.

#### Other War Time Activities

*Suggested Teaching Method:* Lecture Method

*Instruction:* The instructor should have the students read over the material prior to the class session. The student should be familiar with the many war time activities Civil Air Patrol members were involved in.

### **Pilot Training and the Cadet Program**

*Suggested Teaching Method:* Lecture Method

*Instruction:* The instructor should have the students read over the material prior to the class session. The student should be familiar with the inception of the cadet program and early pilot training.

### **Rewards for Service**

*Suggested Teaching Method:* Lecture Method

*Instruction:* The instructor should have the students read over the material prior to the class session. The student should be familiar with the acknowledgements made to the Civil Air Patrol for their war time efforts and how these acknowledgements would set the future course of the Civil Air Patrol.

### **The Post War Period – Search for a New Role**

*Suggested Teaching Method:* Lecture Method

*Instruction:* The instructor should have the students read over the material prior to the class session. The student should understand the significance of Public Law 476 and 557.

*Handout:*

Crossword puzzle (for cadets)

### **Recent Past and Today**

*Suggested Teaching Method:* Lecture Method

*Instruction:* The instructor should have the students read over the material prior to the class session. The student should understand and be able to talk about the recent past roles the Civil Air Patrol has played in our communities. This understanding will assist our organization the proper “selling” of what we do, rather than telling “fish tales”.

## **PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES**

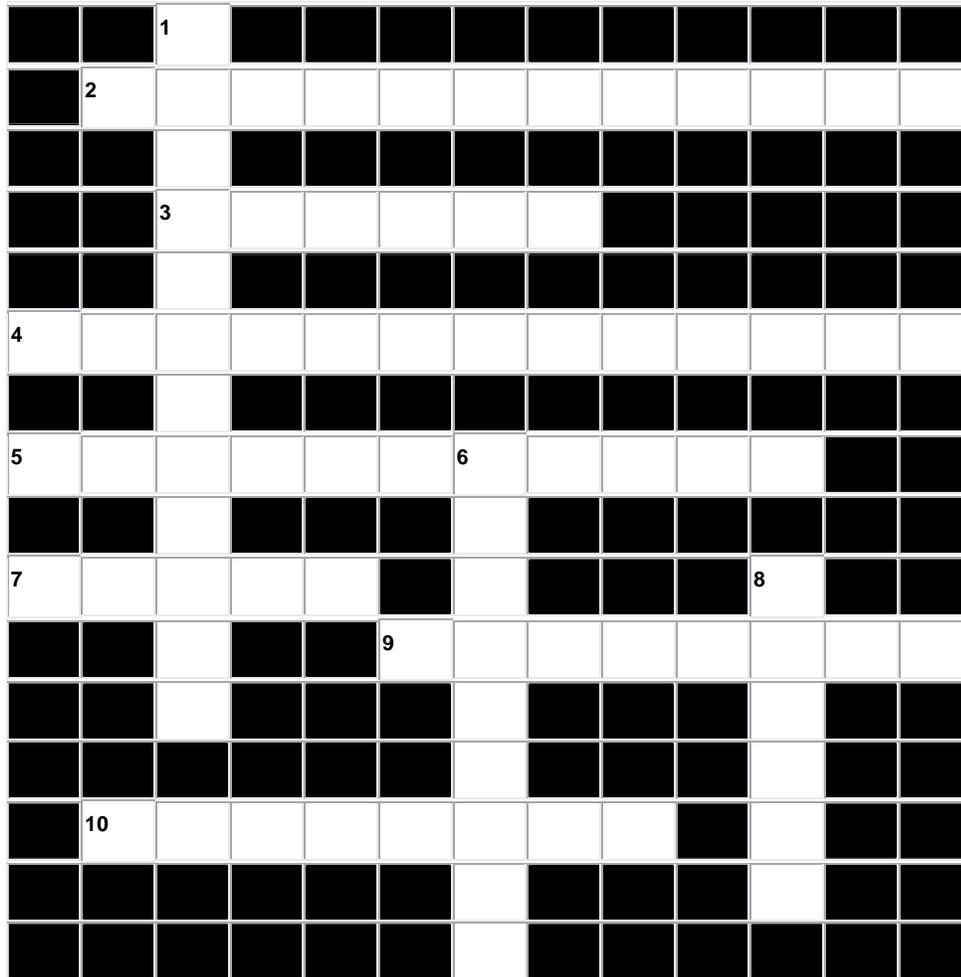
CAPP 6, *CAP Oral History Self-Study Guide*

CAPP 50-5, *Introduction to the Civil Air Patrol*

<http://www.caphistory.org/>

Summary Exercise Answer Key

## Civil Air Patrol History Crossword



**Across:**

**Down:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>2 Southern U.S. operation that guarded our nation from illegal entry.</p> <p>3 _____ Towing was another World War II mission for the CAP.</p> <p>4 Founder of the Civil Air Patrol</p> <p>5 The CAP was formed just six days before he attack on _____.</p> <p>7 First National Commander of the CAP</p> <p>9 The CAP is an auxiliary to the _____</p> <p>10 CAP assists with _____ security.</p> | <p>1 A 90 day experiment that defended the east coast from German u-boats.</p> <p>6 The CAP is the _____ of the U.S. Air Force</p> <p>8 President who signed both public laws affecting the CAP.</p> |
|--|--|

## **CROSS WORD PUZZLE – ANSWER KEY**

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### **Across**

2. BoarderPatrol
3. Target
4. GillRobWilson
5. PearlHarbor
7. Curry
9. AirForce
10. Homeland

### **Down**

1. CostalPatrol
6. Auxiliary
8. Truman

## SUMMARY EXERCISE – ANSWER KEY

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1. The founder of the Civil Air Patrol is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Answer – c. Gill Rob Wilson  
Reference – 2-2
2. Civil Air Patrol began on \_\_\_\_\_.  
Answer – 1 December 1941  
Reference – 2-4, Military Approval
3. The first National Commander of the Civil Air Patrol was \_\_\_\_\_.  
Answer – b. Gen John F. Curry  
Reference – 2-4, Early Days and War Time Activities
4. What was the purpose of Costal Patrol?  
Answer – To patrol eastern boarder of the United States looking for German U-Boats.  
Reference – 2-7, Costal Patrol Authorized
5. Other than Costal Patrol, name three other types of World War II operations the Civil Air Patrol was charged with.  
Answer – (*Any Three*) Target Towing, Boarder Patrol, Cargo and Courier Flights, Search and Rescue, Wolf Patrol, Installation Guards  
Reference – 2-9, Other War Time Activities
6. Who were the first two Civil Air Patrol officers to perform the first confirmed sinking of a German U-Boat during Costal Patrol operations?  
Answer – Capt Johnny Haggins and Maj Wynant Farr  
Reference – 2-8, The First “Kill”
7. The 79<sup>th</sup> Congress, 2<sup>nd</sup> Session and President Harry S. Truman signed into law Public Law 476, which incorporated the Civil Air Patrol as a benevolent non-profit organization.  
Answer – a. True  
Reference – 2-15, Civil Air Patrol Incorporated
8. Public Law 557 made the Civil Air Patrol the official \_\_\_\_\_.  
Answer – Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force  
Reference – 2-16, Permanent Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force
9. Before being transferred to the War Department, the Civil Air Patrol was first placed under the Department of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Answer – c. Civil Defense  
Reference – 2-13, Rewards for Service
10. In Florida, “Glade Buggies” were used for \_\_\_\_\_.  
Answer – b. Ground Rescue  
Reference – 2-10, Other War Time Activities