



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL
United States Air Force Auxiliary
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112-6332

1 December 2011

Dear CAP Officers and Cadets,

Congratulations to you, the more than 61,000 members of Civil Air Patrol, on the occasion of our 70th anniversary. On this historic day, I am reminded of the sacrifices of the founding members of CAP's Coastal Patrol, who – propelled by duty and love of country – quickly proved their worth during World War II by conducting aerial patrols that discouraged and eventually stopped deadly German U-boat attacks along America's shores.

These members helped save lives and preserve our nation's freedom. Plans are under way to honor these early pioneers. Legislation is pending in both houses of Congress that, once passed, will award a single Congressional Gold Medal to CAP for these members' unusual and extraordinary wartime service.

I encourage each of you to help us secure support for CAP's Congressional Gold Medal legislation. You can do this by contacting your federal legislators, both senators and representatives, and asking them to cosponsor the pending bills – S. 418 and H.R. 719. This is important because two-thirds of the membership in both houses must sponsor a bill before it can be brought up for a vote. Sample letters and other details, including a list of current cosponsors, are available at www.capmembers.com/goldmedal.

Anyone with information on adult CAP members who served the organization during World War II is encouraged to upload their information into the World War II Congressional Gold Medal database at www.capmembers.com/goldmedal. This will help us properly honor them when the time comes.

Congratulations to each of you who continue CAP's legacy of selfless sacrifice and service to country and community. Like those who have gone before us, you make a profound difference. With your help, Civil Air Patrol truly has evolved into a world-class public service organization. Thank you for your contributions to CAP's 70 years of service.

Semper Vigilans!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles L. Carr Jr.".

CHARLES L. CARR JR.
Major General, CAP
Commander