

South Dakota

WING ROUNDUP

CIVIL AIR PATROL • SUMMER 2004 • UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY



From left, South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds talks with Wing Commander Col Mary F. Donley about homeland security capabilities of the more than 350 South Dakota Wing members, both in the air and on the ground.

- Photo by LtCol B.T. Marking, SDWG

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All photos are CAP photos unless otherwise indicated.

State Leaders Meet With Civil Air Patrol

By 1st Lt Michael Odle, SDWG/PA

PIERRE — Senior Civil Air Patrol officials from South Dakota meet with Governor Mike Rounds to discuss new technologies now available in South Dakota and to provide the Governor with a general status of CAP programs in his state.

Wing Commander Col. Mary Donley told Rounds March 12 that CAP volunteers can rein in the costs of state security. "It costs about \$90 per hour to keep one CAP Cessna aircraft airborne, compared with anywhere from \$350 - \$4,100 an hour for a military jet, helicopter or transport plane, said Donley. "CAP aircraft fly 'low and slow,' and they offer the state a cost-effective alternative to other reconnaissance methods.

With more than 350 members across South Dakota, CAP, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, already has aircraft and trained personnel set up to handle security missions. CAP has successfully completed a number of such missions since "9/11."

Director of Operations, LtCol Mike Beason stressed the point that the Wing owns and

operates five static operation facilities at airports in Custer, Pierre, Sioux Falls, Spearfish, and Yankton. The wing also manages six aircraft which are strategically located throughout the state for rapid response assistance.

The meeting with Rounds was an effort by CAP leaders to highlight the Wing's "CAPabilities" in light of new technology and concerns about homeland security.

This was the first time Rounds met directly with CAP leaders since becoming Governor, but Rounds was familiar with CAP from his tenure as a former CAP Earhart Cadet in the late 1980s.

A follow-on meeting was held with the State Director of Homeland Security and the Chief, Office of Emergency Management, setup by the Governor to explore ways to better utilize CAP.

Joining Rounds for the meeting was Wing Commander Col Mary F. Donley, Vice Commander LtCol B.T. Marking, Director of Operations LtCol Mike

Continued . . .

CORRECTIONS

The Wing Roundup strives to ensure all articles, quotes, ideas, and names are conveyed professionally and accurately. We apologize if we have 'goofed.' Please let us know if you see an error that needs to be corrected in the next issue.

Cadet 2nd Lt. Tonia Foster was left out of the awards section for wing conference of the fall issue. She was awarded her Mitchell Award and a Commander Commendation.

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Helen Keller



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State Leaders Meet With CAP

Continued . . .

Beason, Director of Homeland Security Maj Leo Becht, Government Relations Officer LtCol Myra Christensen, and US Air Force State Director LtCol Greg Meier (ret).



One of five static operation facilities in South Dakota, the Mountain Training and Operation Center (MTOC) opened at Custer Airport on December 22, 2002. The building was host to the 2003 Air Force Evaluated Search and Rescue exercise. The facility received high marks from Air Force staff.

Photo by C/Capt Susanna Marking SDWG/PA

STATISTICS (FY03)

1260.5	Total flying hours
36.4	Total Counter Drug Missions (Actual/Training)
5 sorties/20.1	Total fire missions for Wildland Fire Suppression Division
250.1	Search and rescue training hours
3.4	National Weather Service (NWS) support
407.2	Support to the State of South Dakota under Memorandum of Understanding
95.5	Total search & rescue mission flight hours
	8 Missing aircraft/helicopter missions
	2 Missing person missions

SOUTH DAKOTA WING RESOURCES

Number of Ground Teams	5
Number of Incident Commanders	7
Number of Qualified Mission Pilots	30
Number of Qualified Mission Observers	43
Number of Qualified Mission Scanners	54
Total number of Aircraft	8
Number of Corporate Aircraft	5
Number of other Aircraft Available	3
Number of Vehicles	13

Training Highlighted By Two-Day Hike

Maj Ron Mele, LMCS/DCCP & SrMb Chase Adams, LMCS/PA

SPEARFISH - The Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron hosted a search and rescue exercise from September 26 - 28. Though only a small number of training flights were conducted, several senior members of the unit received training in the CAP pilot, mission observer, and mission scanner positions.

Other members of the South Dakota Wing, mostly cadets from the Spearfish unit, participated in the exercise as well, receiving training and certifications on flight line marshalling and mission staff assistant duties. Other local members used the time together to discuss ways to integrate local procedures into a new member information management system.

“Five rugged miles and five hours later . . .”

The highlight of the SAREX was the two night ground team training supervised by Maj Ron Mele, Deputy Commander for Cadets, and conducted by C/1st Lt Brittany Ray, C/SSgt Kris Klunder and C/AIC Cody

Continued . . .

★

CAP Serves As Eyes of the South Dakota Skies

1st Lt Michael Odle, SDWG/PA

Auxiliary Tasked to Spot Fires for State

RAPID CITY – The fire season has started and the State Wildland Fire Suppression Division has once again asked the South Dakota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol to fly fire spotting missions.

CAP flew its first mission on June 14 and will continue to fly when tasked through November, said Director of Operations LtCol Mike Beason.

CAP, the official auxiliary of the US Air Force took on the role of fire spotters in summer of 2002, flying more than 150 hours and spotting 43 fires in the Black Hills area. Without CAP in 2002, these fires may have turned disastrous in the Black Hills.

Public Information Officer

Beth Adams from the Wildland Fire Suppression Division explains that they choose to utilize

emergency service vehicles into the area to battle the blazes.

Besides aerial reconnaissance, communications and dispatch, CAP can transport, as needed, materials across the region as well as transporting people.

CAP used digital technology to provide pictures of blazes engulfing forests in South Dakota and Wyoming. Video stills are downloaded to a ground unit and then transmitted to managers for analysis.

CAP squadrons assigned to the fire spotting missions include Rushmore Composite Squadron at Ellsworth AFB, Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in Spearfish and Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer.



A picture of one of the 'smokes' spotted by South Dakota Wing aircrews in summer 2002.

Photo by LtCol Mike Beason SDWG/OPS

CAP because of the similarity of fire spotting to their search and rescue mission.

When a fire is spotted, pilots relay location to the Wildland Fire Dispatch Center. Pilots also can identify access routes for



Training Highlighted By Two-Day Hike

Continued . . .

Silvernagel. After a night at the squadron headquarters and a delicious "field" breakfast served up by SrMb Rick Goeringer, thirteen CAP members were transported to a trailhead near Nemo, for a hike along the Centennial Trail.

Five rugged miles and five hours later; which included nu-

merous stops at scenic points along the trail for training classes; the unit unpacked their backpacks for an overnight stay in the Black Hills National Forest. After rising early the next day for physical fitness training, breakfast and more training, the group loaded up their gear and met CAP transportation for the

trip back to Spearfish.

By the end of the exercise, six emergency services specialty qualifications were awarded and over a dozen ground team member qualification tasks were certified or refreshed for most of the 13 members in the ground team training.

★

Table For 130 - 119th Strengthens Future Leaders

1st Lt Michael Odle, SDWG/PA

CAMP RAPID, SD – With temperatures soaring into the high 90's and creeping into the low 100's, eight airmen of the 119th Fighter Wing were busily preparing meals for inbound CAP cadets during the 2003 Joint Dakota Emergency Service Encampment, Camp Rapid, SD.

Tacos and all of the fixings; lettuce, tomatoes, onions, cheese and sour cream; it may be a simple meal for a typical family, but SrA Adam Lund and the rest of the team are cooking for 130. That's 130 starving young men and women ages 12 to 21, their stomachs empty and growling after hours of emergency service training.

CAP is the auxiliary of the Air Force with 63,000 members nationwide. In addition to its emergency services programs, CAP operates the cadet youth program for young people interested in aviation, leadership, and search and rescue skills. The cadets, as well as their adult leaders participating in the encampment, are all unpaid volunteers.

The 119th services squadron has volunteered for this assignment, which satisfies members' two weeks of annual training. "We all picked this assignment for a number of reasons," according to TSgt Ken Wolsick. "The chance to get away, meet new people, and have a bit of fun too."

SSgt Travis Bader, agreed, saying, "You have the opportu-

nity to work with a diverse group of people. It also fits into my school schedule." Bader is attending North Dakota State University in Fargo and chose the CAP encampment duty because of its timing.

Whatever the reasons may be, all of the airmen agree that the assignment is just fun.

CAP is the auxiliary of the Air Force with 63,000 members nationwide.

1st Lt Michael Odle, SDWG/PA

The CAP cadet program seeks to produce well-rounded young people by addressing five critical areas of growth in young people from ages 12 to age 21. The program contains educational challenges in leadership skills, aerospace education, physical training, emergency services and moral leadership.

Cadets completing their General Billy Mitchell test and successful completion of the training encampment are eligible for the rank of CAP cadet 2nd Lieutenant. If they choose to enlist in the Air Force, they receive an advanced pay grade of E-3.

The CAP encampments are held every year, alternating between Camp Grafton, North Dakota and the South Dakota National Guard's Camp Rapid, South Dakota. The encampment



SrA Adam Lund, preparing a Chicken dinner

Photo C/CMsgt Christine Flatt, 119th ANG Cadet Squadron



C/Amn Jonathan Cunningham gives the thumbs up on the food.

Photo C/SMSGt Seth Huntington, Bismarck Squadron

drew 130 cadets from 10 states, as far away as Missouri, Texas, and Washington.

"They're good people," said Wolsick, who has selected the CAP encampment as his annual training for 5 of the last 10 years. In 1994, the 119th requested it be the sole supporters of the annual encampment.

Lund, dishing out generous

Continued . . .

Table For 130 - 119th Strengthens Future Leaders

Continued . . .

portions of beef to the cadets, said, "This is a great experience for the cadets. If the cadet's don't get what they need [to eat], they aren't going to be able to do their stuff."

"We look forward to each meal," said A1C Jonathan Cunningham, a 17 year old Rapid City, S.D. cadet, as he stuffed his mouth with a large juicy taco, smothered in cheese. Cunningham praised the cooks and added, "These meals need to give me the energy to make it through the day. . . I'm confident they will."

South Dakota Wing Commander, Col. Mary F. Donley, who visited the training encampment, got a taste of the 119th's cooking skills and said appreciatively, "each meal is like eating at a restaurant — less the décor."

The encampment food isn't as extravagant as local restaurant. However, Bader said he does do what he can to live up to the Air Force's recipe standards.

"You have a standardized recipe," he said. "It's a guideline. You use herbs and spices to enhance existing menus." He laughed. "Actually, we only have salt, pepper, and garlic at this encampment, but that works too."

Of course, tacos, hamburgers and lasagna don't compare to Bader's favorite foods of strudel, phleifleishk (it's German) and sirloin steak.

Bader, Lund and Wolsick

BACK TO AMERICA PARADE

*By Maj Rone Mele,
LMCS/DCCP*

Lookout Mountain is leader of the pack

SPEARFISH - Three cadets from the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, in Spearfish led the "Back to America" parade held in that city recently. Hand picked as color guard members, C/SSgt Kris Klunder, C/A1C Cody Silvernagel and C/A1C John Mele proudly marched in the late summer heat. The cadets were the leaders of the pack in front of a long line of fire fighting and other public service vehicles, marching bands, club floats, and other participants. Often called upon to lead local parades, the local CAP color guard proudly led the way once again. Already, the color guard has been asked to lead the Black Hills State University Homecoming Parade in Spearfish in early October.

and the rest of the airmen clearly enjoy themselves in the kitchen, but providing hot, tasty meals for hard-working cadets is a job they're committed too. Cadets in the dining facility, devouring their tacos and all the fixings, means a job well done for the 119th, but Lund is already in the kitchen getting started on dinner — Chicken! ★

CADET TESTS: Cheating In The 21st Century

*Curt LaFond, NHQ Program
Manager & Instructional
Systems Designer*

MAXWELL AFB, AL - Remember high school when enterprising classmates would hide crib notes in their pocket? Tucked inside their belt? Written in ink on the palm of their hand? Or stupidly try to cough answers to one another in code?

Unfortunately we have cause for some concern about the potential for members to compromise tests using more modern technology.

Beginning with the next time you administer a test, please ensure the student does not have access to a cell phone, digital camera, PDA / "Palm Pilot," or any other electronic device.

Also, at your next opportunity, please review CAP's policies regarding test security found in CAPR 50-4, Test Administration & Security, which is available at www.cap.gov.

The vast majority of our cadets and seniors proudly live up to our Core Values. For a dishonest few, there's no substitute for the watchful eye of the TCO. Thanks for your cooperation.

Civil Air Patrol Named Champion Of Public Benefit Flying

Melanie LeMay, NHQ Public Affairs Specialist

National Aeronautic Association Honors Air Force Auxiliary

SIOUX FALLS — Civil Air Patrol, made up of more than 64,000 volunteer members nationwide, of which 350 are based in South Dakota, has been named the National Aeronautic Association's Champion of Public Benefit Flying for 2003.

The award is one of only five given by NAA and the Air Care Alliance to recognize outstanding service to the community. This is the first year the awards have been presented.

NAA will present the awards Sept. 10 at a special Capitol Hill ceremony called "Above and Beyond" in Washington, D.C. Among those expected to attend are a number of congressmen, aerospace executives and members of the media.

"Civil Air Patrol is honored to be one of the first recipients of this award," said Al Allenback, CAP executive director. "Our organization has promoted aviation for more than 60 years as a way to serve our country. It's gratifying for our members to see the positive impact of their dedication and hard work."

First formed in 1941 during World War II, CAP continues to support a variety of homeland security and humanitarian efforts. For several years CAP personnel have supported fed-

eral, state, and local agencies in counterdrug missions. Since becoming involved in the war on drugs, CAP has assisted law enforcement agencies in taking billions of dollars in illegal drugs off the street.

"We continue to serve South Dakotans in a variety of missions," said South Dakota Wing Commander Col. Mary F. Donley. "This leadership in not only proud of our effectiveness, but also the safety with which we carry out our missions."

After the events of Sept. 11, 2001, CAP personnel took some of the first damage assessment photos, manned critical positions in several FEMA regional operations centers, and transported thousands of pints of blood and tissue samples that otherwise would have spoiled due to transportation problems throughout the country. Last year, South Dakota CAP flew almost 200 hours of air support for the state Wildland Fire Suppression Division, and was the only volunteer organization providing full-time aviation support for dozens of federal and state agencies represented in the aviation task force.

So far this year, CAP has flown more than 15,000 hours and has been credited with saving 115 lives. In South Dakota,

QUALIFICATION EXPIRATION

Be aware, much of the previously entered data in MIMS is beginning to expire. This includes much information that National entered for members two years ago. As it expires, members will begin losing qualifications they once had on their 101 cards.

For pilots, items required to-do annually to keep current with the FAA and CAP must be imputed into MIMS.

Ground base staff and search teams must impute exercise participation into MIMS. When you go to an exercise that participation will keep you current. Remember, **ALL QUALIFICATIONS need 2 participation events at least every two years.**

air crews have flown 360 hours and conducted search and rescue efforts for 12 missing aircraft and persons. Through a partnership with AOPA and the Transportation Security Administration, CAP has become an active participant in the AOPA Airport Watch Program.

"CAP volunteers are definitely making a difference," said CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Richard Bowling. "Every day we improve our technology, resources and training so we can continue to provide cost-effective, professional services for many years to come."

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Excuse Me Officer, Do We Have A Problem Here?

LtCol Mike Marek, SDWG/PA

Scanners and CAP Radios

ABERDEEN – In a story that cleared AP's wire service September 25, Aberdeen, police chief Ken Schwab says scanners can be used to disobey the law. Hence, he plans to use a 1965 state law to seize what he calls "illegal scanners" from vehicles and businesses. The Brown County state's attorney says there are no penalties other than the device being seized and forfeited.

CAP radios can tune in frequencies about which Chief Schwab is concerned and are capable of scanning.

Of particular note is the section 23-4-4 of South Dakota codified law exempting amateur radio license holders. The law does not address radios that are federally authorized and regulated by the NTIA but do not fall under the FCC, such as CAP's radios.

If contested, this state law would almost certainly be overturned because it violates the federal Communications Act of 1934, as amended, but lo-

cal law enforcement officials are not likely to be briefed on that matter.

CAP members all need to be prepared to explain to law enforcement officers that CAP radios are state or federal inventory, licensed by the NTIA to operate on federal and military frequencies. CAP members should also be prepared to explain that headquarters has a Memorandum of Agreement with State Radio and that other law enforcement and government frequencies are programmed in to our radio because of interoperability requirements of the Incident Command System.

It would be advised to carry a copy (not the original) of all applicable radio authorizations with you when you go out in public with a radio authorized to send or receive on CAP frequencies.

For more information, contact South Dakota Wing Communications Officer LtCol Alan Nedved at (605) 589-3091.

South Dakota Codified Law

Chapter 23-4: Safeguard of Law Enforcement Radio Communications

Sect: 23-4-2 No person who has been convicted of a felony in this state or elsewhere within the past ten years shall possess any frequency modulation receiving equipment capable of being so adjusted or tuned as to receive messages or signals on frequencies assigned by the federal communications commission to local or state law enforcement officers, or to the state or any of its agencies. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any radio station licensed by the federal communications system.

Sect: 23-4-3 At the discretion of the attorney general or the legal licensee of each county or municipality, a permit to monitor said assigned frequencies may be issued. Such permit will apply to fixed monitors in authorized places of business. Application for such permit will be made in writing to the attorney general for frequencies assigned to the state of South Dakota and to the sheriff or fire chief for frequencies assigned to various counties and to the chief of police and fire chief of the various municipalities.

Sect: 23-4-4 This chapter does not apply to any holders of a valid amateur radio operator or station license issued by the federal communications commission.

Sect: 23-4-5 The possession of any receiving set or converter described in Sect: 23-4-2 in any vehicle or business establishment, without permission pursuant to Sect: 23-4-3, will constitute prima facie evidence of possession for unlawful purposes, and such receiving set shall be confiscated by any peace officer of this state and delivered to the attorney general for disposition.

Civil Air Patrol Trains For Hazardous Flying

1st Lt Michael Odle, SDWG/PA

SPEARFISH – Search and rescue mission pilots from all across the wing received two full days of training during this year's Mountain Flying Clinic, held October 18 and 19, in Spearfish.

Spearfish's Clyde Ice Field Airport played host to the course that was designed for search and rescue mission pilots to improve their mountain flying skills.

"This clinic combines classroom and practical instruction of techniques provided by our highly experienced pilots, according to Major Rodney DeWeese, Coordinator for the Clinic. "Mountain flying is very hazardous, but we don't get to choose where we rescue someone. The clinic has been designed to train our pilots on mountain and canyon operations while on a search and rescue missions," he added.



1st Lt Randy Rhoads (left), and Maj Buck DeWeese develop a flight plan for a mock rescue during the 2003 Mountain Flying Clinic.

The program included information on mountain weather; density altitude aircraft loading; pilot and aircraft performance; flying in mountainous terrain; and emergencies and survival.

Spearfish was chosen for the Mountain Flying Clinic because of its location to the Black Hills.

"Our pilots are some of the best-trained in the world, as reflected by our safety record for the past few years," said Director of Operations LtCol Mike Beason. ★

Civil Air Patrol Officer Recognized With National Award For Keeping History Alive



LAS VEGAS, NV - Colonel Lester W. Snyder of Rapid City was recognized as the Civil Air Patrol's National Historian of the Year at the groups National Board and Annual Conference in Las Vegas August 27, 2003. He recently received his award during a presentation at Ellsworth AFB on November 21.

Col. Snyder is a retired USAF lieutenant colonel and professor emeritus at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. He wrote "History of CAP – 2nd Air Force Courier Service in the South Dakota Wing in World War II" in 1987 and was appointed as South Dakota Wing historian in 1988. He continues to serve in this capacity.

Col. Snyder began teaching aerospace education workshops in 1963 and joined the Civil Air Patrol as an aerospace education member in 1969. He served as the South Dakota director of aerospace education from 1971 to 1974 when he was

Continued . . .

B is for Batteries

By LtCol Don Barbalace SDWG/DP

I can remember when the only piece of CAP equipment that used batteries was a flashlight. Even the airplanes lacked batteries — had to be hand propped. Now, it seems we can't even function without batteries. We need them for ground team DF equipment, intra-squad radios, hand held radios, cell phones, GPS units, cameras, and many others things.

It is essential to our mission that we carry spare batteries at all times. If you cannot do your assignment without them, they had better be in your kit. When I, as an Incident Commander, send someone out to do a job, I don't want some poor soul lay on the cold ground with broken bones while a member tells me "I couldn't do it because my batteries went dead." That's as lame as "The dog ate my homework."

Check your equipment NOW and put in a supply of whatever spare batteries you need — two 9-volt batteries for the DF, three AA batteries for the intrasquad radios, whatever your GPS needs, and so on.



CAP Searchers Help Locate Missing Gyroplane

Continued . . .

appointed as wing commander, a position held until 1977.

In 1971 Col. Snyder attended National Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, and in 1974 he was an escort for the International Air Cadet Exchange. He served on the National Aerospace Education Committed from 1978 to 1992 and was the South Dakota Wing director of aerospace education a second time from 1994 to 2000. In 1999 he was awarded the North Central Region Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Education Award.

Col. Snyder is a CAP senior pilot and has earned 16 decorations and awards in the USAF and another 22 in CAP, including the Distinguished Service Medal and CAP's highest award, Gill Rob Wilson award. ★

Rescue Mission Moves To AFSOC

HURLBURT FIELD, FL (AFPN) — A ceremony held at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., Oct. 1, marked the official transfer of Air Force combat search and rescue to Air Force Special Operations Command.

The transfer is a result of an Air Force chief of staff direction to align the CSAR mission and assets under one command — Air Force Special Operations. AFSOC now controls continental U.S.-based rescue units in the active duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve. The result is a transfer of 7,000 people and more than 100 fixed-and-rotor wing aircraft from Air Combat Command to AFSOC.

"CSAR as a professional community, and special operations as a professional community, have joined on the battlefield to produce combat power and combat professionalism for our combatant commanders," said Lt. Gen. Paul Hester, AFSOC commander.

Along with the transfer of units at Moody, active-duty rescue units at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.; and Nellis AFB, Nev., moved to AFSOC. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Langley AFB, Va., also transferred to AFSOC. Air Force Reserve Command's rescue units at Patrick AFB, Fla.; Portland International Airport, Ore.; and Davis-Monthan, as well as Air National Guard rescue units at Gabreski Field, N.Y.; and Moffett Field, Calif., are included in the transfer.

"The introduction of CSAR to AFSOC will mean little change to the organizations or individuals of these units," Hester said. "This realignment will be transparent, outside of the patch change on uniforms. There will be no change on how forces are presented to combatant commanders."

The command's CSAR units provide worldwide peacetime and combat search and rescue operations supporting humanitarian and U.S. national security interests. CSAR units are responsible for inland search and rescue in the 48 contiguous states. (Courtesy of AFSOC News Service). ★

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things
You have not dreamed
of – wheeled and
soared and swung
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silence. Hov'ring
there
I've chased the shouting
wind along and flung
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footless halls of air
Up, up the long,
delirious burning blue
I've topped the
windswept heights
with easy grace
Where never lark or
even eagle flew
And, while with silent,
lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed
sanctity of space
Put out my hand and
touched the face of
God.*

Wing Tests Homeland Security Readiness In 'Operation WestSafe'

1st Lt Michael Odle SDWG/PAO

RAPID CITY - If the war or attacks should happen to move onto U.S. soil, the CAP will play key role in Homeland Security. Saturday November 15 and 16 was a training exercise for the South Dakota Wing, but they treat it like a real mission. The wing tested its capability in providing both rapid and sustained search-and-rescue and reconnaissance missions involving disaster and terrorist scenarios. CAP conducted the homeland security exercise dubbed 'Operation WestSafe' at the states second largest airport, in Rapid City.

The objective of the exercise, "Was to assess team proficiency and readiness in reconnaissance, photography, use of the Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) systems, transmitting images, and performing base staff functions for coordination, communications and control," said Director of Operations LtCol Michael Beason. "That's exactly what we did."

In one scenario, an emergency locator transmitter was placed in a Rapid City police car. The wing launched several aircraft in search of the car. The police cruiser ran, but it could not hide. Aircrews tracked the signal and sent aerial photo-

graphs back to the mission base. From there, they coordinated the mission with other agencies.

Air and ground crews began their intense training at 8 a.m. Saturday morning and continued operation the next morning terminating around 4 p.m. Sunday evening.

Other emergency service activities included; fire reconnaissance, mapping, and photos, a night search for an Emergency Locator Transmitter as well as an assisted Emergency Locator Transmitter ground search in Rapid City.

Additional homeland security missions included; photo reconnaissance of an electrical sub-station, Mt. Rushmore and Lake Pactola, various road surveys and high bird radio relays.

Even though the U.S. Air Force has placed CAP under its Homeland Security Directorate, homeland defense is not a new role for CAP volunteers. CAP flew over 87-thousand anti-submarine and border patrol sorties during the Second World War, earning its members the nickname, "The Flying Minutemen". CAP aircraft and crews across the state routinely respond to search-and rescue and disaster relief needs.

★

Cadet Brittany Borg Named Custer Booster Club's Student Of The Week

C/Capt Susanna Marking SDWG/PA

CUSTER – Cadet/1st Lt Brittany Borg is the only senior on the Knowledge Bowl team, she has a background in certain categories that other members do not - such as chemistry and American literature survey. She excels in all she does and thus it's no surprise she was named Custer High School Booster Club Student of the Week.

"When the team competes against other schools," Borg said "everyone has a chance to discover their strengths and weaknesses." However, as Borg

explains, the competition is also when the hardest and best aspects comes about.

"When it's a close game and you know the answer to a question, the other team will buzz in because you weren't fast enough," said Borg. "But, the best thing is when you don't think you know an answer, but you spout off some odd answer and it turns out to be right."

According to Borg, knowledge bowl teaches people teamwork and how to listen to others. Borg was chosen Custer Booster



Club's Student of the Week during 3 – 7 November 2003.

After graduation, Borg plans to attend Purdue University in Indiana to major in aerospace engineering.



Steppan Honored As One of 10 Outstanding Young South Dakotans

1st Lt Michael Odle SDWG/PA

SIOUX FALLS – South Dakota CAP member Captain Timothy Steppan of Sioux Falls was honored by the South Dakota Jaycees as one of the 2003 Ten Outstanding Young South Dakotans at an awards ceremony November 8 at the Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center in Sioux Falls.

Begun in 1998 as a spin-off of the National Jaycees' Ten Outstanding Young Americans, the annual Ten Outstanding Young South Dakotans Awards Program recognizes young people who are the best, bright-

est, and most inspirational leaders the community has to offer. Past recipients of this award have included local television personality Nancy Naeve and Olympic Bronze Medallist Lincoln McIlravy.

"Being an American means being free to be whatever it is the Lord would have me be, and having the responsibility to do whatever I can to help preserve the liberties I enjoy," said Steppan.

Steppan has worked for the past 16 years for John Morrell & Company and is a very active

member of both his church and his community. As a member of the Empire Baptist Temple, he has held many offices and participated in a wide variety of activities. Steppan is also a member of the Marine Corps League, a Captain and Commanding Officer of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron of the CAP, a classroom volunteer for Junior Achievement and a mentor at Edison Middle School.

Steppan lives in Sioux Falls with his wife of 14 years, Tina, and their 3 sons, Eddie, Kevin and Mark.

Civil Air Patrol Flies Aerial Support For Thunderbirds

By *LtCol Mike Beason, SDWG/OPS*

ELLSWORTH AFB, SD – South Dakota CAP recently provided the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds with an aerial survey of Ellsworth Air Force Base so the team could resume its 2003 air show schedule.

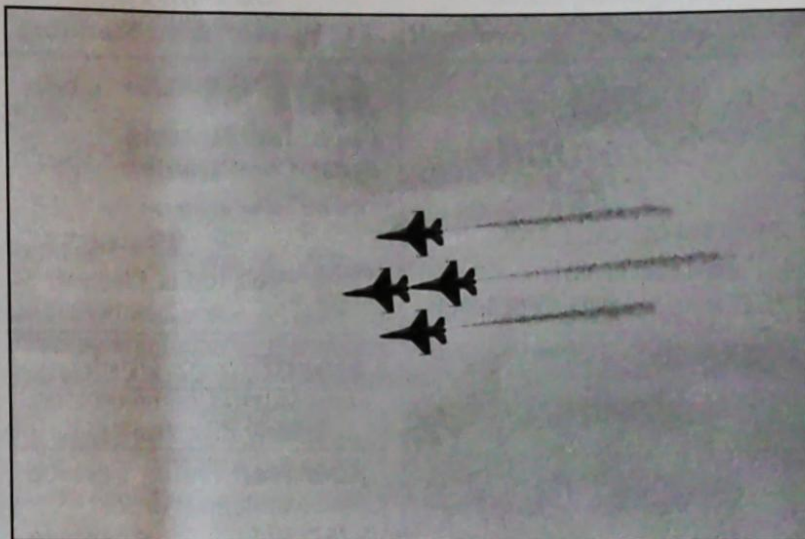
The Air Force's Air Demonstration Squadron came to South Dakota for recertification after one of the team's aircraft crashed during an air show Sept. 14 at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho.

CAP 1st Lt Dean Henderson of Rushmore Composite Squadron along with Air Force Thunderbird Commander Lt. Col. Richard McSpadden, lead solo pilot Capt. Todd Canterbury and opposing solo pilot Capt. Chris Stricklin boarded the Cessna 182 on Tuesday, October 7 just shortly after twelve o'clock.

"We flew the survey flight at 1,000 feet above ground, parallel to the show line, for four passes," said Lt Henderson. "We then descended to 150 feet above the show line so the commander and solo pilots could survey each checkpoint." The flight took just under two hours.

The Thunderbirds have stringent Air Force direction pertaining to recertification and aerial survey's before each event.

"The aerial surveys are critical to ensure the safety of our people and equipment," said Air



Thunderbirds in Diamond patter over Ellsworth AFB during the recertification demonstration.



Thunderbirds and CAP recertification aircrew and support team.

Force Thunderbird Commander Lt. Col. Richard McSpadden.

The Thunderbirds completed their aerial demonstration and were granted recertification by Gen. Hal Hornburg, Air Combat Command, and the offi-

cial responsible for granting recertification. The Thunderbirds resumed their 50th anniversary season with an air show October 11 – 12 at the Fort Smith Regional Air Show in Arkansas.



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MEMORANDUM FOR ALL CAP VOLUNTEERS

6 Mar 04

FROM: CAP/CC

SUBJECT: Air Force Assigned Missions

1. Due to guidance recently received from the Air Force Legal Services Agency, I have found it necessary to issue the following, effective immediately. It is our understanding that only the following CAP missions meet the legal criteria for an Air Force assigned mission:

- a. Search and rescue missions issued by AFRCC (A1)
- b. Disaster relief missions issued by AFNSEP (A2)
- c. Missions approved by the AF through the National Operations Center (NOC) (A3, A4, A18, B9, B10, B11, B13, B14, B18, B99, 911T)
- d. Training missions approved by CAP-USAF LR on a CAP Form 10 (A5 except 911T, A7)
- e. AFROTC orientation flights approved by the CAP-USAF State Director (A6)
- f. Mission pilot proficiency flights and other training on a written training schedule approved by the CAP-USAF State Director (B12, B17)

2. Until further guidance is received from the Air Force, all other flights (B8, B15, B16) will be flown as corporate missions. However, for purposes of CAPF 18 reporting, missions will continue to be reported as stated in CAPR 60-1.

3. Corporate missions do not provide coverage for members under the Federal Employee Compensation Act (FECA). Therefore, if an injury or death occurs during a corporate mission, the only medical or death benefits available to the member or his/her family are corporate benefits as discussed in CAPR 900-5, namely a \$10,000 death benefit and up to \$6,000 medical expenses, subject to a \$50 deductible. There is no Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) coverage on a corporate mission. If a non-members' property is damaged, or a non-member is injured during a corporate mission, CAP's liability insurance will cover CAP and the member in the event of a lawsuit against CAP or the member.

4. We understand this is a significant change in the way we have been doing business, and we are working diligently to resolve these issues. If you have any doubt or questions about mission status, please contact the NOC at (888) 211-1812.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard L. Bowling".

RICHARD L. BOWLING
Major General, CAP
Commander

CAP Phone Home: Aircraft Receive Satellite Phone Systems

By LtCol Mike Beason SDWG/OPS



North Central Region Director of Operations Col. Tom Weston and provides training on the new satellite phone system.

Photo by LtCol Mike Beason SDWG/OPS.

SPEARFISH – Mission pilots, observes, scanners, and support personnel from around the state met at Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron March 13 to participate in training on CAPs satellite phone system. The new technology, mounted on search and rescue aircraft will allow aircrews to take a picture with a digital camera, transfer the pictures to a tablet computer, and then email the picture using the satellite communications system to any location on the ground. This will allow pictures to be widely distributed and not require a separate ground receiving station like previous photo

systems.

The training was provided by North Central Region Operations. Supplemental training was also provided on the use of digital cameras.

With the new satellite system, the South Dakota Department of Wildland Fires is extremely excited to see this “tool” in use to assist in locating fires in the Black Hills. It will allow aircrews to take pictures of fires and email them to fire dispatchers who will be able to view the fire and then accurately determine the resources they need to task to control the incident.

“Your Call!”

This is the transcript of the ACTUAL radio conversation of a US naval ship with Canadian authorities off the coast of Newfoundland in October 1995. Radio conversation released by the Chief of Naval Operations 10-10-95.

Canadians: Please divert your course 15 degrees the South to avoid a collision.

Americans: Recommend you divert your course 15 degrees the North to avoid a collision.

Canadians: Negative. You will have to divert your course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision.

Americans: This is the Captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, divert YOUR course.

Canadians: No. I say again, you divert YOUR course.

Americans: This is the Aircraft Carrier USS Lincoln, the 2nd largest ship in the United States’ Atlantic Fleet. We are accompanied by three destroyers, three cruisers and numerous support vessels. I demand that you change your course 15 degrees north; I say again, that’s one five degrees north, or counter-measures will be undertaken to ensure the safety of this ship!

Canadians: This is a lighthouse. Your call!

★

New Cessna Added to South Dakota Fleet

LtCol Mike Beason SDWG/OPS

SIOUX FALLS - The Wing has taken possession of a new Cessna 182. The new aircraft, tail number N832CP, was picked up by wing members at the Cessna factory in Kansas.

The aircraft, one of more than 20 recently purchased by CAP, incorporates some of the latest technologies for CAP searches. It is installed with the new Becker DF tracking system, a system that picks up emergency signals and gives a direct bearing to the signal. The aircraft also has a new digital radio that will enable the aircrew to communicate with South Dakota state officials and other CAP members across the state. The C182 has a fuel injected engine, a new Apollo GPS system integrated with onboard radios and a three blade propeller. Pi-



New Cessna 182 sitting at the airport in Pierre.

lots in the state will be required to have one orientation ride with a qualified instructor before flying the aircraft on their own.

“The C182 fuel injected engine, a new Apollo GPS system integrated with onboard radios and three blade propeller.

LtCol Mike Beason, SDWG/OPS

The aircraft will initially be based in Rapid City.

Making the trip to bring home the aircraft was Maj Leo Becht, 1st Lt Randy Rhoades, and SM Rick Goeringer of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and 1st Lt Eric Hineman from Rushmore Composite Squadron. ★



Becker Direction Finding display. Photos by 1st Lt Rick Goeringer RCS.

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“Who Packs Your Parachute?”

Sometimes in the daily challenges that life gives us, we miss what is really important. We may fail to say hello, please or thank you, congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a compliment, or just do something nice for no reason.

Charles Plumb, a U.S. Naval Academy graduate, was a jet pilot in Vietnam. After 75 combat missions, his plane was destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy lands. He was captured and spent six years in a communist Vietnamese prison. He survived the ordeal and now lectures on lessons learned from the experience.

One day, when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said, “You’re Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier, Kitty Hawk. You were shot down!”

“How in the world did you know that?” asked Plumb.

“I packed your parachute,” the man replied. Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said, “I guess it worked!” Plumb assured him, “it sure did. If your chute hadn’t worked, I wouldn’t be here today.”

Plumb couldn’t sleep that night, thinking about that man. Plumb says, “I kept wondering what he might have looked like in a Navy uniform: a white hat, a bib in the back, and bell bottom trousers. I wonder how many times I might have seen him and not even said good morning, how are you or anything because, you see, I was a fighter pilot, and he was just a sailor.” Plumb thought of the many hours the sailor had spent on a long wooden table in the bowels of the ship, carefully

weaving the shrouds and folding the silks of each chute, holding in his hands each time the fate of someone he didn’t know.

Now, Plum asks his audience, “Who’s packing your parachute?” Everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day. Plumb also points out that he needed many kinds of parachutes when his plane was shot down over enemy territory - he needed his physical parachute, his mental parachute, his emotional parachute, and his spiritual parachute. He called on all these supports before reaching safety.

His experience reminds us all to prepare ourselves to weather whatever storms lie ahead. As you go through this week, this month, this year . . . recognize people who pack your parachute! ★


By Lt. Courtney Walsh, Valkyrie Cadet Squadron
Reprinted from Colorado CAP’s *Peaks & Planes*

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# Squadron Practices Cave Rescue at Wind Cave National Park

*C/Capt Susanna Marking SDWG/PA*

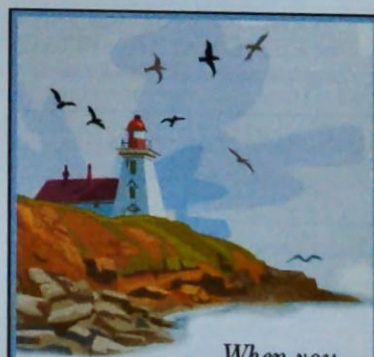
WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK, SD - Crazy Horse Composite Squadron held a cave rescue training exercise at Wind Cave National Park in cooperation with the Department of Interior. The exercises also facilitated removal of multiple 50-pound bags of dirt from deep inside the cave. The bags simulated injured victims as well as additional weight to be carried on rescuers shoulders. Members face fears, dark cramped spaces, and poor lighting, in addition to practical exercise with the extraction of victims from within a cave. Park employees also provided the rescue teams with information about cave formations and how they are explored.



From left to right: 1Lt Debra Davis, Cadets Dan Campbell, Tonia Foster, Susanna Marking, Ryan Foster, and Lewis Hachmiester. Not picture: Captain Dan Foster.



The training wasn't all serious. Search crews had an opportunity to mess around. 1Lt Deb Davis helps C/Capt Tonia Foster in a mock rescue as C/MSgt Ryan Foster does a little dance. C/Amn Lewis Hachmeister and C/Capt Susanna Marking doesn't know what to do to help any of the crazy bunch as C/MSgt Dan Campbell listens to the cave floor for sound inflections caused by the different movements.



*When you  
get into a tight place and  
everything goes against  
you, till it seems you could  
not hold on a minute  
longer, never give up then,  
for that is just the place  
and time that the tide  
will turn.*

- HARRIET BEECHER STOWE -

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# From the MAILBAG

The Editor reserves the right to edit letters for brevity, clarity, good taste and accuracy; to reflect letters and prevent libel or slander.

Just wanted to share with you both the Oregon EVAL success in PA. We earned an outstanding rating from the USAF EVAL Team. I attribute the success in large part to the contributions of you (LtCol Michael Marek & Lt Michael Odle) both have made available on PAO-TALK over the past few months. Thank You!

**Tom Traver**  
Chief, Public Affairs  
Oregon Wing

• • • •

We just completed the model rocketry program here in Brookings, and have tons of pictures, so I'm thinking that might make a good story!

**Maj Corey Bonk**  
Big Sioux Composite Squadron

• • • •

Nice article and nice memorial for the SD Wing patch. Glad we're up there!

**Capt Debra Newcomb**  
Sioux Falls Composite Squadron

• • • •

As a cadet, Mike Rounds had told the Pierre Squadron Commander at that time, LtCol Lois Schmidt that he was going to be Governor some day. He already had his goals set at that time.

I just think it is good for CAP and its leadership training, when a former cadet achieves a high level position.

**LtCol Myra Christensen**  
Pierre Composite Squadron

**1st Lt Michael R. Odle**  
Chief, Public Affairs  
South Dakota Wing



I wholeheartedly agree the need to recruit new cadets and retain the talent we have. The cadet program at the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron (Spearfish) program is growing by leaps and bounds, largely because we have built a program that gives the cadets reason to join, stay and actively participate in the program.

**Maj Ron Mele, USAF (Ret)**  
Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron

• • • •

Wanted to tell you all that KOTA radio in Rapid City gave me a 15 minute interview on March 4 concerning CAP and the Search and Rescue we had on Feb 29.

**LtCol Mike Beason**  
Director of Operations  
South Dakota Wing

• • • •

A friendly reminder, Tach sheets and 99s come to me. Email is preferred. Last resort is mail to the following:  
5172 Ridgeview Rd, Rapid City, SD 57701  
Van paperwork goes to Wing.

**LtCol Mike Beason**  
Director of Operations  
South Dakota Wing

• • • •

It has been a pleasure working with each and every one of you. Semper Vigilans - Always Vigilant!

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# Model Rocketry Big Sioux Style

*C/SMSGt Thomas Clark BSCS*

"T minus 3 . . . 2 . . . 1 . . . Whoa!" Everyone yelled out when one of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron rockets shot off of the launch pad just north of Brookings. Cadets from Big Sioux Composite Squadron had spent countless hours in rocketry classes and spent many more hours preparing their rockets for launches in Fall of last year.

"Everyone was psyched to get our model rocket kits and get going on what would be the one of the coolest things we've ever done in Civil Air Patrol thus far," said C/SMSGt Thomas Clark.

During the first class at Big Sioux's weekly CAP meeting cadets were introduced to the model rocketry program and all the mandatory safety requirements that are an essential part to any CAP program. Then the moment they all had waited for, Cadets were given their first rocket, "The Viking." Throughout the next few weeks worth of classes cadets discussed the physics and math involved to determine how high, how fast, and how long their rockets would be defying gravity.

"It's amazing to think back and see how those dreaded math problems were so helpful when it came time to record all the information during a launch sequence," said Clark.

Every cadet needed to paint their rockets and apply decals to them. Designs ranged from purple to gold and payloads ranged from a cadets own rank to little action figures.

After weeks of preparation, launch day finally came. Cadets met at Big Sioux Composite Squad-



Loading his rocket on the launch platform, C/SMSGt Thomas Clark then proudly poses by his multistage



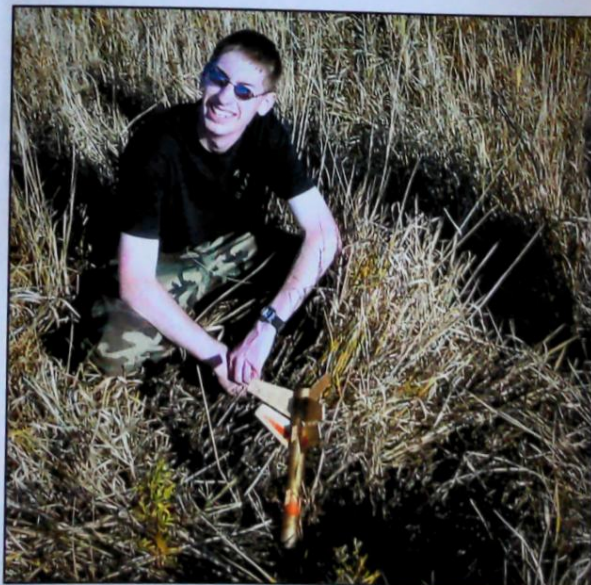
C/SMSGt Thomas Clark (left) and C/Maj Chris Nedved load the engines in their Viking Class Rockets.  
*Photo by Maj Corey Bonk, BSCS*

ron and departed to the model airplane airstrip just north of Brookings. With rockets in hand cadets all walked up to the launch site and proceeded to send them to the sky, which would soon be filled with trails of smoke.

Events cadets competed in included; spot landings, flight duration, drag races with multiple rockets, and an altitude contest. The winner out of these events would be awarded an X-Wing fighter rocket.

Time after time eyes looked to the sky as rockets streaked into the atmosphere and often disappeared in the distance. As they fell to the ground

*Continued . . .*



rocket after a hard crash landing.

*Photos by Maj Corey Bonk, BSCS*

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## Model Rocketry Big Sioux Style

*Continued . . .*

cadets would run to retrieve them and loaded another engine for another event. Simultaneously someone else would be in the process of getting their rocket ready to launch and the process started all over again.

As the day wore on and the engine numbers decreased and there was just enough for one last launch. With the final countdown a cadet pushed the ignition button and with that, the rocket shot off the launch pad and all eyes looked up in amazement following the white streak as it soared in the sky.

"Whoa!" said Clark.

**Cadets that earned the model rocketry badge:**  
C/Maj Chris Nedved, C/SMSGT Thomas Clark,  
C/MSgt Nick Genger.

**Cadet participant that did not complete all the requirements for badge:** C/Amn Josh Butler.

**Senior members in attendance to facilitate and assist:** Maj Corey Bonk, 1st Lt Derek Meyer, 2nd Lt Dan Thibault, FO Jacob Ness.



**Making last minute adjustments for timing and height, C/Maj Chris Nedved is determined to have a perfect launch.** Photo by Maj Corey Bonk, BSCS

# APPLICATION FOR CAP LICENSE PLATE DECAL

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill out this form completely and return to:  
SDWG/FM, PO Box 84626, Sioux Falls, SD 57118-2626

## VALIDATION INFORMATION

|                                              |                    |                                 |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>CAPID:</b> _____                          | <b>RANK:</b> _____ | <b>CAPID EXP (mm/yy):</b> _____ |
| <b>Squadron Commander's Signature:</b> _____ |                    | <b>Date:</b> _____              |

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(last) (first) (M.I.)

**Physical Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(street number) (city) (zip)

**Ship to Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## SIGNATURE FIELD

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read the regulations pertaining to the use of the CAP decal on a POV (privately owned vehicle) and by placing my signature below abide by all CAP and South Dakota State rules, regulations and laws governing the use of the decal and plates.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date (mm/dd/yyyy):** \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Decals (2) for each vehicle costs \$10. Make checks payable to:  
SDWG Civil Air Patrol. In the MEMO section write: Public Affairs. No CASH.

EXAMPLE: 3 vehicles @ \$10.00 = \$ \$30.00

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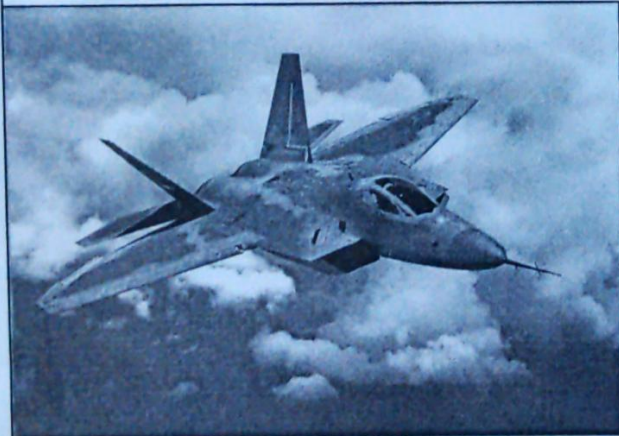


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