



MAJOR GENERAL U.S.A.F. RETIRED

520 ELM STREET
DENVER 20, COLORADO
March 23, 1963.

Mr Charles W. Webb,
Deputy Chief of Staff,
Aero Space Education,
Civil Air Patrol, United States Air Force.

Dear Mr. Webb,

I was certainly pleased to get your letter of March 21st asking me for my permission to establish the John F. Curry Achievement in Phase 1 of the Civil Air Patrol Program. Not only was I pleased but I was honored that the Civil Air Patrol should desire to put my name on Phase 1. The statement of permission is enclosed herewith.

As I look back over the period of the "birth" of the C.A.P. I wonder how we ever survived. All private plane flying was banned on the West Coast and there was a very strong movement to do the same in the rest of the country. Part of this was understandable due to the extreme work load at headquarters of the War Department and the Army Air Force and the ignorance of all branches of the government on what we could do.

I was fortunate in that I knew personally and well many of the heads of sections of the Army Air Force in Washington-also General Arnold- so I could go to all concerned directly, get their interest and enlist their support. However each day we lived in suspense. Finally we proved our worth-spotting German submarines off our East Coast- and from then on continued to prove our value to the national defense.

When I was ordered away from it, I knew the Civil Air Patrol was going to live, and although it had many struggles ahead of it, it continued to be an essential part of our war effort.

I was always very proud that I was with it in the beginning and my thoughts and good wishes have been with it ever since. Occasionally at critical times during the war I was still able to be of help.

Again I wish to express my appreciation of the honor the Civil Air Patrol has bestowed on me.

With my very best regards,

Sincerely,



John F. Curry

JOHN F. CURRY

"I was always very proud that I was with CAP in the beginning."

In his letter authorizing CAP to use his name in the new Cadet Program, Maj Gen Curry gives a glimpse of CAP's early days and the fight to allow volunteer aviators to support the war effort by performing missions that only they could accomplish.