

**MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY
ADMINISTRATION
AND THE
CIVIL AIR PATROL**

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this agreement between the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is to establish a program whereby Civil Air Patrol will assist the Federal Highway Administration in operating a viable high frequency (HF) radio emergency backup communications system. This agreement supersedes all previous agreements between these two agencies

II. RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Federal Highway Administration, an agency of the United States Department of Transportation, provides financial assistance and technical expertise to the states in support of planning and constructing the Nation's highway transportation system. The FHWA professional staff is trained primarily in engineering, right of way, financial management, transportation planning and environment. A minor but important function of the FHWA is to maintain the ability to communicate between its field offices and headquarters in the event of an emergency that disrupts normal means of communications. This capability is presently carried out with a system of HF radio stations located at or near sixty FHWA field offices nationwide. FHWA employees do not always have required expertise or time resources to ensure the readiness of this communications equipment nor maintain operator proficiency.

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is the civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force, and was federally chartered in 1946. During World War II, CAP was primarily a coastal patrol, helping guard American waters from the threat of enemy submarines. Other missions included boarder patrol, courier services, target towing for aerial gunnery practice, recruitment and other noncombatant aviation related activities. Today, CAP provides public service through three main missions: Emergency Services, Aerospace Education and the Cadet Program. Emergency services includes search and rescue, disaster relief and emergency communications. CAP operates a nationwide communications network consisting of over 32,000 airborne, mobile and fixed radio stations. CAP members receive formal training in the operation of communications equipment prior to being certified as radio operators.

III. RECOGNITION:

The Federal Highway Administration recognizes that the Civil Air Patrol, because of its organized emergency communications capability and trained radio operators, can be of invaluable assistance to the FHWA in maintaining a viable emergency communications capability.

The Civil Air Patrol recognizes that the Federal Highway Administration is the primary federal agency designated to manage the Nations Defense Highways, and requires an emergency communications capability in order to discharge these responsibilities.

IV. PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION:

In order that the communications expertise of the CAP can be utilized to the fullest advantage in preparation for or during emergencies, the FHWA and CAP agree to the following:

- A. This project will include all FHWA facilities nationwide. The FHWA will provide a list of those facilities to the CAP's National Headquarters/DOK.
- B. The CAP will nominate to the FHWA certain members as candidates to be FHWA radio operators.
- C. The FHWA will notify CAP which radio operators have been selected, and issue them appropriate identification cards.
- D. CAP members so selected will, upon request of FHWA personnel:
 1. Provide technical assistance to FHWA personnel on the proper operation of the communications equipment installed at their assigned FHWA site.
 2. Operate the FHWA equipment in accordance with a jointly developed schedule to insure its operational readiness.
 3. Make recommendations to FHWA personnel in developing net operating procedures, frequency selections and associated actions.
 4. Make recommendations on equipment maintenance procedures.
 5. Operate radios during scheduled tests and exercises.
 6. Perform other activities and make evaluations that would contribute to the professional and reliable operation of an emergency radio system.
- E. The CAP National Headquarters will disseminate this agreement to its regions/ wings and appoint a representative as a Liaison Officer to each FHWA Field Office.
- F. The FHWA will disseminate this agreement to its field offices and appoint a point of contact for each CAP Liaison Officer. This Memorandum of Understanding will take effect upon signature by the authorized officials of both agencies and remain in effect until terminated upon written notice by either party.



BARNA JUHASZ
Emergency Coordinator
Federal Highway Administration

1/31/96
Date



RICHARD L. ANDERSON
Brigadier General, CAP
National Commander
Civil Air Patrol

23 Feb 96
Date