And We Must Prepare Our Young Men for a Flying Start in the U.S. Air Force

One of the peace-time missions of Civil Air Patrol (perhaps the most important mission) is the training of American youth in the fundamentals of aeronautics . . . theory of flight, meteorology, navigation, map reading, airdraft structure, engines, instruments, crash procedure and Civil Air Regulations. Military subjects also are included in the CAP curriculum — military discipline, infantry drill, safeguarding military information, guard duty and organization of the United States Air Force. This comprehensive program is being taught to almost 50,000 CAP Cadets from 15 to 18 years old in the 52 CAP Wings, covering the 48 States, District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico — BUT IT DOES NOT TEACH THEM TO FLY!

We in the Michigan Wing CAP have observed, in giving orientation flights to hundreds of cadets, that our teen-agers want to fly—BUT... the cost of dual flying instruction (averaging \$115.00 to the first solo flight) is financially beyond the reach of most youngsters. The Michigan Wing has established a unique Flight Scholarship Fund in a sincer attempt to help CAP cadets get in the air. During the past four years, because many companies, organizations and individuals have donated generously to this fund, 314 flight scholarships have been awarded to deserving Michigan cadets, selected throughout the State on a basis of proficiency and merit. Many of these cadets have since joined the Air Force where they are doing a more outstanding job for America because of their pre-enlistment flight training.



Our Air Force needs more and more young pilots for America's Defense Program. USAF records show that only 9% washed out who had soloed in our cadet program, while 49% of those without such an advantage have been unable to qualify as Air Force pilots.

The Farmington Squadron meets every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Groves - Walker Post, American Legion Home

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