



HOMELAND SECURITY CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

HLS CONOPS 2002

**CIVIL AIR PATROL (CAP)
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In order to prepare for, prevent, and respond to attacks or domestic emergencies within the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Civil Air Patrol, operating as the United States Air Force Auxiliary, will increase its participation in Department of Defense (DoD) Homeland Security operations by conducting Civil Support and Homeland Defense missions.

Utilizing highly-trained volunteers and its large fleet of aircraft, the CAP will rapidly respond to requests from military, federal, state, and local agencies requiring training, emergency management, low-cost, high-technology reconnaissance or transport of personnel or cargo. In addition to the training support the CAP can provide, it will also support civilian law enforcement, domestic relief operations, and domestic consequence management activities in response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or high-yield explosive (CBRNE) situations.

Civil Air Patrol assistance in conducting these Homeland Security operations acts as a force multiplier for DoD and other governmental and non-governmental agencies by conserving financial resources, allowing first responder forces to conduct higher priority taskings and freeing defense personnel for more critical national security needs.

This CONOPS has been reviewed by personnel at the Air Force Doctrine Center, Air University's College of Aerospace Doctrine, Research and Education (CADRE), Air Education and Air Training Command's Plans and Programs Requirements section (AETC/XPR), as well as the Civil Air Patrol's National Executive Committee.

INTRODUCTION

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is the civilian Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. CAP has more than 1,700 units with over 60,000 members. The federally chartered CAP Corporation owns more than 500 light aircraft, and CAP members own hundreds of other aircraft that can be used to support assigned missions. Additionally, CAP maintains and operates an extensive national communications capability. For more than 60 years, CAP has aggressively performed its congressionally mandated missions in service to America.

This concept of operations (CONOPS) outlines the initial, near term, and future role of CAP in supporting Homeland Security operations (HLS). Through existing and future capabilities CAP will augment and support national capabilities to increase and enhance HLS operations. This CONOPS provides the construct that guides our corporate investment and organizational decisions to address emerging mission demands within the dynamic HLS environment.

CAP provides a ready capability to enhance Civil Support and Homeland Defense operations within the HLS arena, and can, with increased participation, provide leveraged benefits. Utilizing highly-trained volunteers and its large fleet of aircraft, the Auxiliary can rapidly respond to requests for support from military, federal, state, and local agencies requiring emergency management services, integrated, multi-layered communications, low-cost, high-technology reconnaissance, or transport of personnel or cargo. The Auxiliary can provide support to civilian law enforcement, participate in Domestic Relief Operations (DRO), and aid domestic consequence management activities in response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or high yield explosive (CBRNE) situations. Increased Air Force Auxiliary assistance in conducting Homeland Security operations acts as a force multiplier for the Department of Defense and other governmental and non-governmental agencies. By providing additional personnel and critical equipment, CAP gives first responders the flexibility to conduct higher priority taskings; and frees defense personnel for more critical national security needs.

BACKGROUND

Although a National Response Plan had been in-place since April 1999, the terrorist attack of 11 September 2001 taxed the efforts of the nation in responding to this emergent threat. As the nation begins to understand the scope of the task it faces, it is becoming clearly evident that existing human, financial, and material resources are inadequate to conduct HLS operations on the scale required.

CAP is a substantive resource in the HLS role and through increased participation, can significantly enhance Civil Support and Homeland Defense operations. CAP has a ready capability that can be increased to provide capabilities far in excess of the additional cost. Largely due to its proven competence, nationwide presence, and wide distribution of personnel and equipment, the Civil Air Patrol, working as the Air Force Auxiliary, can provide increased support to Homeland Security efforts at the national, state, and local level. Working through established agreements and longstanding relationships, CAP already conducts operations and exercises with agencies ranging from the separate services of the Department of Defense to state or local emergency management or law enforcement agencies. Although traditionally perceived

as a Search and Rescue (SAR) or Disaster Relief (DR) organization, the Auxiliary can utilize those same skills and equipment required for SAR and DR to fill communication, reconnaissance, transportation, or emergency management needs. By using CAP and its dedicated, highly trained force of volunteers, agencies at all levels can increase their training and effectiveness in preparing for, preventing, and responding to attacks or domestic emergencies.

To prepare for Homeland Security operations, CAP can assist military and law enforcement organizations with training of personnel to defend the nation. Activities ranging from active participation in exercises and evaluations to transporting personnel to training locations can provide organizations with greater flexibility and reduce their own resource requirements. Prevention missions will usually involve active reconnaissance or patrol of potential targets or lines of communication. Response, whether training or actual, will involve virtually every aspect of the organization, but communication capabilities and trained emergency management personnel will play key roles in addition to those filled by CAP air and ground teams.

By increasing the number of trained personnel and low-cost high-technology equipment available to full-time first responders, CAP can leverage those organizations' abilities to provide capable, multi-level security. Specifically, to enhance detection and prevention requirements, the Auxiliary can provide reconnaissance and transportation capabilities not usually available to local security forces. CAP emergency management personnel can deliver much needed continuity and will often round out staffs normally manned with people whose primary duties may not involve crisis or consequence management. Air Force Auxiliary communications personnel can establish critical redundancy in areas often overwhelmed with communication demands in commercial frequency spectra.

The Auxiliary's cost effectiveness has been demonstrated time and time again. By using volunteer personnel and low-cost, off-the-shelf aviation assets CAP provides critical, extremely cost effective support in the place of more expensive, scarce assets.

STATEMENT OF WORK — The “What and Why”

CAP's objective is to increase its level of mission support and expand its mission capabilities in support of DoD and civilian agencies engaged in HLS operations. Through increased and expanded operations in Civil Support and Homeland Defense, CAP can increase national capability and enhance HLS operations at the local, state, and national levels in support of military and civilian organizations.

To increase emergency services capabilities at federal, state, and local levels, CAP will increase the number of its Emergency Services personnel. CAP will seek to fill specific positions within emergency management organizations to increase integration quality and Auxiliary support opportunities.

To enhance Homeland Defense and Civil Support operations the Auxiliary will integrate with and augment national command and control systems with multi-layered communication capability during exercises and in crisis and consequence management situations.

To enhance Homeland Defense and Civil Support operations, CAP will provide emergency airlift capability with clearly established transportation policies and a command and control structure capable of supplying short-notice airlift of passengers and cargo for authorized agencies.

To enhance Homeland Defense and Civil Support operations, CAP will supply low-cost, high-technology reconnaissance services to agencies and units that do not ordinarily maintain those assets. The Auxiliary will continuously strive to improve its ability to perform reconnaissance with airborne platforms to meet national security mission demands. Auxiliary assets will also be used to augment agencies whose own airborne reconnaissance assets are limited or unavailable. Reconnaissance service will be used to aid law enforcement agencies, conduct domestic relief operations, provide security patrols, and fill damage assessment requirements.

To provide greater response capability to Civil Support operations the Auxiliary will aid domestic consequence management activities in response to a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or high yield explosive (CBRNE) situation.

ASSUMPTIONS

Strategic Assumptions

State of National Emergency -- A state of national emergency has been established and will likely last an extended period of time, possibly a decade or more.

Potential for Future Hostile Acts -- Terrorist attacks are highly likely within any of the fifty states or territories. Due to the increased security requirements for air travel, U.S. land and maritime borders are the most likely lines of communication that terrorists will use to enter the country to conduct future hostilities.

Potential Targets -- Symbols of national significance (large structures, monuments, etc), mass gatherings, and critical infrastructure are especially vulnerable to attack by explosives, whether conventional, or nuclear.

Timing, Scale, and Intensity -- Hostile acts will likely range from short duration (single bombing incident) to sustained events (repeated attacks over a set period of time) and will range in intensity from low (small explosive bombings) to potentially very high (weapons of mass destruction). Simultaneous attacks against multiple targets are likely.

Expansion of Security Operations -- HLS operations will require a robust capability consisting of military and civilian organizations. Expanded security operations will be required to deter and/or detect attackers before they strike. Additional security operations will be conducted for all elements of U.S. society. These operations will cover all U.S. territory and must include the borders with Canada, Mexico, and all coastlines. Operations will consist of a variety of security support options. Expanded security operations will be very manpower intensive. Operations at every level will need augmentation in order to be accomplished effectively and can be better/best done through use of volunteer professionals. The nation will continue to build and refine Homeland Security capabilities.

Response and Recovery Operations -- Virtually every response and recovery operation will need to be augmented in order to be successful and will benefit from the use of trained volunteers. Other security operations will continue during response and recovery operations and may require additional support during an emergency response.

Augmentation -- Security and defense operations will need assistance or augmentation to ensure adequate security.

Participation by National Population -- CAP will be able to satisfy new support requirements by recruiting new members.

Operational Assumptions

Threats -- Attacks by air, sea, and land are likely.

Locally Based Resources -- Locally based Auxiliary resources, both personnel and equipment, will likely be among the first assets called upon to prevent or deal with attacks or emergencies. Other Auxiliary assets throughout the nation may also be called on as needed but will require synchronization to achieve economy of force.

Counter-Drug Operations -- Air Force Auxiliary support to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies involved in counter-drug (CD) and counter-narcoterrorism operations are highly likely to continue as an essential mission of the HLS program.

ENABLERS — “What we Have” and “What we Need”

People — 60,000 volunteers are the foundation of the AF Auxiliary. Successful Auxiliary HLS operations hinge on recruiting and retaining a motivated volunteer force of qualified professionals, consistently operating with low turnover and a high state of readiness. Recruiting and retention are the critical factors in maintaining our capability-based volunteer force.

To respond to the increased demand for HLS support, the Auxiliary will need to increase its membership by at least 20 percent. Additionally, membership turnover will have to decrease by the same amount. Recruiting for the Auxiliary will be addressed primarily through targeted marketing to attract technically qualified and competent professionals to lead, manage, and execute the Auxiliary's HLS mission. Much like the Air Force, retention for the Auxiliary is based primarily on issues that affect the member's quality of life. Improving Auxiliary members' quality of life depends primarily on leveraging information technology systems to make the most effective use of the member's time.

Multi-layered Communications — In order to command auxiliary forces during routine and contingency operations the Auxiliary has and will continue to require, a dense, multi-layered, fully integrated communication infrastructure -- without it, the full potential of CAP capabilities cannot be realized. Dense communications refer to the coverage and capacity of a particular communications network. Multi-layered communications offer the ability to cross spectra either through a human-in-the-loop relay or a multi-frequency capability. Fully integrated means that the system can communicate with all the participants, civil and military, in a particular event.

The auxiliary is transforming its communication capability and its reliability daily but the demands on bandwidth and connectivity are growing exponentially. Pending changes to frequency assignments, mandated by reorganization of federal frequency bands, will require the Auxiliary to replace much of its communication system within the next six years. Progress is being made in this effort using existing funding but the current rate of modernization will not meet the mandatory conversion by 2008. The completion of this conversion will require additional funding.

Command and Control — Current command and control procedures are inadequate to meet the demands of expected HLS tasking. Presently, the majority of Auxiliary operations are conducted between requesting agencies and the CAP unit actually executing the mission. While permitted under existing MOUs, this process is not capable of producing the synergistic effects that could be realized through a coordinated and integrated operation. While adequate for most requests for support at the local level, this process is cumbersome and inefficient for any operation on a regional or national level. Auxiliary success in conducting HLS tasks will depend on the ability to obtain and process accurate information in order to direct the right resources to the right location at the right time to create the right effect. The digital age presents many options for improvements to command and control. The current command and control process for the Auxiliary must be updated to achieve maximum flexibility and efficiency.

Today the Auxiliary operates its National Operations Center (NOC) on a limited basis. It is responsive during normal duty hours with a small staff of Auxiliary corporate operations personnel. After normal duty hours, an experienced duty officer is available via cell phone to work operations issues or place the caller in touch with a subject matter expert. With increases in HLS missions, the NOC must be expanded to ensure timely, appropriate, and accurate responses to requests for support at all hours. An expanded and modernized NOC operation is critical to the success of CAP operations in increased support to HLS operations. Considering the wide distribution of units from Maine to Hawaii and Alaska to Puerto Rico and the vast array of potential requests for support from military and civil agencies; a 24-hour operations center manned by full-time operations specialists is essential.

Infrastructure — The facilities currently used by the Auxiliary are fundamental to its aerospace capabilities and ability to operate. Most Auxiliary units operate from a variety of simple facilities, the best of which are similar to those used by a general aviation fixed based operator at a municipal airport. Much of the Auxiliary's fixed infrastructure is controlled by and shared with a diverse mix of non-government organizations and local governments. As such, they often provide limited access for Auxiliary personnel and standards of physical security inconsistent with governmental operations. Additionally, these facilities offer little capability for expansion. Despite these limitations, the current Auxiliary infrastructure is sufficient for most elements of the traditional Auxiliary missions.

In the event the Auxiliary is required to conduct emergency management response or recovery activities in areas with damaged facilities or infrastructure, the Auxiliary will need the ability to rapidly deploy and conduct operations with minimal support. This quasi-expeditionary capability will likely require rapidly deployable sets of mobile facilities and equipment.

Low cost, High-tech Airborne Reconnaissance — The marriage of low-cost aerial platforms with leading edge sensor technology gives the Auxiliary a unique capability to deliver cost effective reconnaissance and monitoring service. The ability to provide near real-time imagery downlink via limited access Internet sites is a core competency of the Auxiliary and comprises its most often requested capability. The Auxiliary will apply this capacity in HLS operations during daylight hours. Its value to law enforcement and security operations has been proven time and again. Its utility in conducting patrol, surveillance, reconnaissance, and detection missions will form the backbone of Auxiliary HLS operations and can be used in both the Homeland Defense missions for DoD and in the Civil Support arena.

Advances in sensor capabilities will continue, and CAP must continue to upgrade and modernize equipment as well as ensure doctrine and training keep pace with technological advances. The Auxiliary will continually explore available technology and operational concepts, and identify those ideas that offer potential for evolutionary or revolutionary increases in capability. The Auxiliary will seek every opportunity to participate in experimentation to advance detection and location capabilities of both people and material. Additionally, the Auxiliary will aggressively manage programs to replace obsolescent or failing equipment with emerging technologies that have true potential to develop into the next generation of advanced mission-focused aircraft and equipment.

Information Technology Equipment — Just as new sensor technology will revolutionize the Auxiliary HLS mission, state of the art information technology equipment will streamline every phase of our organization administration. Web-based information systems will be utilized to the fullest extent to transmit information and records and will ultimately contribute to the Auxiliary member's quality of life (and leverage retention efforts in the bargain). The Auxiliary is embarked on a strategic effort of integrating current resource, mission, and administrative management data into a national database. In addition, the processes associated with that management and customer/interagency coordination are being evaluated and automated to provide a web-based system of decision support and resource management tools. The primary focus of this development is to promote responsive employment of Auxiliary forces in its HLS and other missions, and enhance overall Auxiliary resource accountability.

Funding — Current policies for approving military assistance and support to civil authorities (MACA and MSCA) are adequate to ensure proper validation of requests for support. Presently, the funding provided to the Auxiliary is adequate to provide the full-time staff and pay for those costs necessary to meet the Auxiliary's traditional missions of cadet programs, aerospace education, and emergency service missions. Increased participation in national HLS operations will require new CAP training programs, new specialized equipment, and enlarge CAP management requirements--all of which will require additional funding.

Funding policies for increased CAP involvement in HLS missions must be clearly established at the outset. Depending on the nature of any particular HLS mission, funding may be provided through the existing Air Force Cooperative Agreement or may come directly from the agency requesting support. Some agencies have the ability and are clearly willing to provide funds for the cost of any HLS mission provided to them by the Auxiliary. Other agencies, especially those at the local level where financial resources are scarce, cannot reimburse the Auxiliary for mission

support. At this point there is no single designated source of funding for Auxiliary HLS support. The desired effect of any funding process should be to keep the numbers of funding sources to a minimum and whenever possible apply those funds from within the federal system through both the Air Force and the Department of Defense.

The following illustrates the cost of a potential HLS operation to conduct security patrols over the nation's top twenty seaports. At an average cost of \$88 per hour, 24 hours per day CAP support for three days would cost \$6,336. If this level of support were required for a full year it would total approximately \$329,000. Applying this level of support to the top 20 seaports across the nation yields a total cost of around \$6.5 million. A more likely level of effort would involve approximately 12 hours of random patrols per day for 3 days per week. This level of support would cost \$3.25 million for year-round security. Costs would increase due to associated per diem expenses if other support were required from neighboring Auxiliary units. These same simple calculations can be applied to virtually any other HLS employment of the Auxiliary.

Legal Leverage — The legal basis for the Civil Air Patrol to operate as the Auxiliary of the Air Force is codified through federal law. These laws were last revised in 2000, prior to the events of September 11th, 2001. As the HLS mission evolves, changes to existing laws may become necessary. Legal reviews of CAP involvement in HLS should consider the Stafford Act, the Posse Comitatus Act, and evolving statutory guidance.

The most likely legal issue to effect the role of the Auxiliary in any HLS mission is the Posse Comitatus Act (18 USC 1385 and 10 USC 371-78). The Posse Comitatus Act is a post Civil War era criminal law prohibiting the use of the Army and, later, the Air Force, to "execute the laws" except where expressly authorized by Constitution or Congress. It limits the use of the military (and, by extension, the AF Auxiliary) in matters of civilian law enforcement. In December 1981, 10 USC 371-78 was enacted further clarifying permissible military assistance to civilian law enforcement agencies to combat drug smuggling into the United States. Posse Comitatus clarifications emphasize supportive and technical assistance the military can provide (e.g., use of facilities, vessels, aircraft, intelligence, tech aid, surveillance, etc.) but still generally prohibits direct participation of DoD personnel in law enforcement (e.g., search, seizure, and arrests). Interpretations of the act up to this time have consistently prohibited military surveillance in the form of continuous monitoring after detection. It is highly possible that the Auxiliary could, during a dually authorized reconnaissance or patrol mission, detect an imminent threat requiring continued surveillance. A clear illustration of this revolves around an incident during World War II when a Civil Air Patrol aircrew monitoring the U.S.-Mexico border observed a suspicious vehicle in a remote area. As a result of their maintaining constant observation of the vehicle an enemy espionage cell and its clandestine communication station were discovered. Under current Air Force General Counsel interpretations of the act, this operation would be illegal. In order to enable the Auxiliary to freely operate and provide the level of security required, the Posse Comitatus Act should be reviewed and, if necessary, amended to enable the Auxiliary to detect and conduct surveillance of any potential HLS threat until relieved by competent authority.

By law, the Secretary of the Air Force may provide support to the Auxiliary to enable it to carry out Air Force-assigned missions. While the Civil Air Patrol is the Auxiliary of the Air Force, it is not a military service. The Air Force has limited authority and control but has responsibility for

policy and oversight over the Civil Air Patrol when acting as the Auxiliary of the Air Force. As the HLS mission evolves, current legislation may need to be altered to provide the necessary authority to take full advantage of the Auxiliary's important capabilities.

Another potential enabler for Auxiliary HLS support would be new legislation providing employment protection of Auxiliary members participating in operations for a continuous, extended period of time similar to that now afforded Reservists and National Guardsmen. While we do not foresee this provision being used often, various large scale emergencies might require Auxiliary participation for lengthy periods. We envision its use on a limited scale and frequency, primarily to maintain the availability of members with extensive training or experience in critical skill areas.

Command Relationships — Pending establishment of the DoD's Northern Command and the President's Council for Homeland Security, command relationships external to CAP will remain much as they exist today. Domestic relief operations will largely be tasked by AFNSEP and AFRCC. Requests for support from law enforcement and military requests will be validated through the CAP National Operations Center.

As HLS doctrine, policy and guidance evolve, the AF Auxiliary will be an integral part of the planning process.

Attachment 1 describes the command structure of the CAP.



MISSION AREAS

The Department of Defense conducts Homeland Security operations under two main areas; Homeland Defense and Civil Support. Homeland Defense operations are those combat missions of the DoD that detect, deter, and defend against threats to the United States or its interests. Civil Support is DoD support to US civil authorities for natural and manmade domestic emergencies and law enforcement activities for the purposes of this CONOPS.

Homeland Defense

For CAP, Homeland Defense missions will primarily be those missions dedicated to preparing DoD forces for their Homeland Defense combat roles. The majority of these missions will consist of training missions or exercises. For example, CAP aircraft and crews can be used to train air-defense interceptors and radar intercept personnel to detect and intercept small general aviation aircraft and escort them to land.

Civil Support

Civil Support operations can be conducted with military and civilian organizations to prepare, prevent, and respond to attacks, natural disasters, or national security emergencies. CAP units may support civil and military units simultaneously under these conditions. Generally, when federal monies are used to fund civil support operations, the Auxiliary is bound by the guidelines that apply to Military Assistance to Civil Authorities (MACA) and Military Support.

There are three broad categories of Civil Support; the Auxiliary can conduct them all individually or simultaneously.

- Support to domestic relief operations (DRO)
- Support to law enforcement agencies (LEA)
- Assistance to domestic consequence management operations in response to a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high yield explosive (CBRNE) situation

Domestic relief operations are those which respond to or mitigate the effects of manmade or natural disasters and are usually conducted in support of a lead federal agency (LFA). When appropriate, the President may direct the military, including the Civil Air Patrol, to supplement local, state, and federal in order to save lives, protect property, public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of catastrophe in any part of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Territory of Guam, the territory of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of Palau, and U.S. territorial waters.

Domestic relief operations include, but are not limited to:

- Natural disasters or emergencies such as:
 - Earthquakes
 - Floods
 - Hurricanes
 - Wildfires
 - Emergency animal disease eradication

- Manmade disasters or emergencies such as:
 - Oil spills
 - Chemical spills

The Civil Air Patrol has conducted these types of operations for most of its history and has adequate funding, equipment, and trained personnel in place throughout the country to continue to prosecute this mission. CAP can provide its emergency management, transportation, communications, and low-cost, high-tech reconnaissance capabilities to assist with domestic relief operations.

Law Enforcement Agency support includes but is not limited to:

- Support to counterdrug operations
- Support for combating terrorism
 - Antiterrorism
 - Counterterrorism
- General support
 - Training support to law enforcement agencies
 - Critical asset monitoring

CAP will continue to maintain its active counterdrug support program. It will maintain its active MOUs with the Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Customs Service and the U.S. Forest Service plus provide support to numerous other State and local law enforcement agencies. Support provided primarily consists of airborne reconnaissance to identify illegal border crossing areas and suspicious agricultural growth plots, transportation of agents and evidence, and communications capability.

Support for combating and countering terrorism can be provided to the U.S. Customs Service, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the U.S. Border Patrol and other regional and local agencies responsible for securing the nation's borders. CAP reconnaissance, communication, and transportation capabilities can be utilized to patrol maritime lines of approach to identify unknown or unscheduled vessels. Security patrols of harbors, bays and seaports can provide critical detection and deterrence presence. Land border security operations will closely resemble those already conducted for counterdrug operations.

General support to law enforcement agencies can increase substantially as CAP begins to transport agents to and from investigations and operations. Critical asset monitoring will primarily consist of critical infrastructure patrols but may extend to support for special events such as Olympic games, Presidential inaugurations or, at the local level, college and professional football games.

Auxiliary response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high yield explosive (CBRNE) situations will come primarily in the form of consequence management operations. The CAP maintains close relations with numerous federal, state, and local emergency management organizations and will augment their staffs in a CBRNE event. Additional detection, communication, and transportation support may be provided to assist agencies with detection or management of a CBRNE situation. The Auxiliary has a limited capability to conduct radiological monitoring with its airborne assets.

SUMMARY

It is important to understand that this CONOPS is about the present and the future. Although the Auxiliary's traditional roles will look much like the last in the decade ahead, they will differ significantly where they seek to meet the challenges revealed by the events of September 11th, 2001. In response to this now more evident threat, a trained, equipped, and ready volunteer civilian Auxiliary can provide significant support for operations at the federal, state, and local level. The Auxiliary's congressionally chartered Emergency Services, Aerospace Education, and Cadet Programs tasks will continue as its traditional search and rescue and disaster relief missions, but, to accommodate HLS tasking, the Auxiliary will also undergo significant change. Organizational transformation of the Air Force Auxiliary will occur as the HLS mission becomes the primary focus and as the Auxiliary evolves to more effectively respond to the humanitarian and national security challenges inherent in HLS.

Attachment 1

CIVIL AIR PATROL COMMAND

The Civil Air Patrol is the volunteer civilian auxiliary of the Air Force under Public Law 80-557, Title 10 United States Code, Section 9441. Although chartered as a non-profit corporation by Congress, the Civil Air Patrol is neither a government entity nor a federal corporation. The Secretary of the Air Force has no authority over the Civil Air Patrol in its operations as a civilian, volunteer, non-profit corporation but does have authority over those aspects of the Civil Air Patrol that relate to its performance of the non-combat missions assigned by the Air Force. The Secretary may delegate this authority as appropriate.

The Secretary of the Air Force has authority over the actual conduct of the Air Force missions assigned to the Auxiliary. The Air Force Director of Aerospace Operations, HQ USAF/XO, on behalf of the Secretary of the Air Force, is responsible for Auxiliary matters, including policy, resource advocacy, and Air Force support. The Air Force Office of Personnel Recovery, AF/XOOP, is responsible for oversight of the Auxiliary, including policy approval and political interface. HQ CAP-USAF, a subordinate unit of Air University and Air Education and Training Command, is the Air Force agency charged with providing day-to-day advice, liaison, and oversight to the Auxiliary. HQ CAP-USAF is responsible for establishing and executing Auxiliary support programs and identifying their operational requirements. HQ CAP-USAF coordinates or approves use of the Auxiliary to carry out the non-combat missions of the Air Force. Approval of Auxiliary programs, policies, or activities, including coordination between the Auxiliary and the Air Force is accomplished through HQ CAP-USAF.

Mission tasking authority currently sits with numerous agencies. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) and the Air Force National Security Emergency Preparedness (AFNSEP) office are currently authorized to task Auxiliary units directly to conduct search and rescue and disaster relief missions. Requests for Auxiliary support for Homeland Security operations are also administered through the Air Force National Security Emergency Preparedness (AFNSEP) office or by direct request to HQ CAP-USAF. Additionally, CAP-USAF has delegated that authority through various Memoranda of Understanding to other federal and state agencies. With the expansion of the National Operations Center (NOC) this authority will be consolidated within the Civil Air Patrol NHQ and all requests for support will funnel through the NOC to provide much needed unity of command.