



**The Official Magazine of California Wing Civil Air Patrol
Spring 2006**

*The Air Force Flight Orientation
Program Serves Both CAP and
the Country. Here's How YOU
Can Help!*

**BIRD'S EYE VIEW:
Support Our FOP**

*By Lt. Col. Mike Prusak, USAF
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Support Our (No Wisecracks!) FOP

By Lt. Col. Mike Prusak, USAF • California Wing Liaison Officer

The Air Force Flight Orientation Program Serves Both CAP and the Country

Most of us know and understand how and why CAP manages its cadet flight-orientation program (popularly known as O-rides). Did you also know that CAP is integrally involved in another flight-orientation program that introduces some of the future leaders of the U.S. Air Force to aviation?

The primary objective of the AFROTC Flight Orientation Program (FOP) is to help provide a complete and well rounded education in all aspects of the Air Force to AFROTC cadets. The program exposes AFROTC cadets to flight operations—and to pilots of CAP serving in their role as USAF Auxiliary officers. This interaction should benefit the USAF by providing motivational training and experience to America's youth and future leaders.

The program benefits both the Air Force and CAP. It provides a low-cost solution to introducing AFROTC cadets to flying, some of which may not consider a career in

aviation otherwise. An additional bonus, of course, is that FOPs are another avenue of Air Force funded flying and continued proficiency for CAP pilots.



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Like cadet O-rides, certain conditions or states of readiness preempt AFROTC O-flights. Actual search-and-rescue or Homeland Security readiness missions precede over the FOP. Unlike the CAP Cadet O-ride program, only those pilots with 300 hours PIC and possessing a

commercial license with a current Class II medical qualify. Because AFROTC limits ferry time to 1 ½ hours there are geographical restrictions to who can support this program. Qualified pilots may contact Lt. Col. Jim Crum, CAWG chief of staff and AFROTC coordinator, to see where they may support this program.

If your unit operates near a college with AFROTC that is not taking advantage of the FOP, or for further information, please contact me at (916) 564-1605 or prusakmi@earthlink.net. With CAP's help, I'm confident that this program will help inspire tomorrow's Air Force leaders.

