



Eugene L. Carnahan
Cadet Squadron 85
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NEWS RELEASE

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Cadets and Senior members from Sq.85 and Sq. 92, pose with their Coast Guard flight crew after their two hour HC-130 flight (photo courtesy of William Wetzel, 1Lt, CAP)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SQUADRONS TAKES U.S. COAST GUARD HC-130 FLIGHT

CALIFORNIA- Cadets and Senior members from the Auburn Composite Squadron 92 and Eugene L. Carnahan Cadet Squadron 85 had a rare opportunity to fly with the United States Coast Guard aboard their HC-130, the same type of aircraft the Coast Guard uses for its own rescue and recovery missions.

In all, 13 cadets and 6 seniors had a two hour tour, taking in the breathtaking sites of California and Nevada, flying over and through the Yosemite Valley, the Sierra Mountains and Lake Tahoe. In addition, the pilots altered their flight plan to take the HC-130 past both Squadron Headquarters, so the respective members could get a bird's eye view of their meeting places.

The aircraft was temporally outfitted with airline style seating, which safely secured the cadets and seniors during take-off and landing. Once safely airborne, the CAP members were free to roam throughout the aircraft, taking in the sights through the cabin windows. In addition, all members were allowed into the cockpit to spend some time with the pilots to discuss the avionics, the Coast Guard and whatever sparked their own interests.

The trip was coordinated through Squadron 92, by Gerry Hartmann, Capt., CAP, also a United Airlines pilot. Although not on this flight, concurrently Capt. Hartmann was on his own flight for United Airlines and did a radio call in on a pre-coordinated frequency to wish the all crew members a safe and enjoyable excursion.

The Civil Air Patrol, the official Air Force Auxiliary, is a nonprofit organization. It performs more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions in the continental United States as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. Volunteers also take a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to America's youths through CAP Cadet Programs. For more information about Civil Air Patrol programs, visit their website at; www.cap.gov or call 1-800-Fly-2338.

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