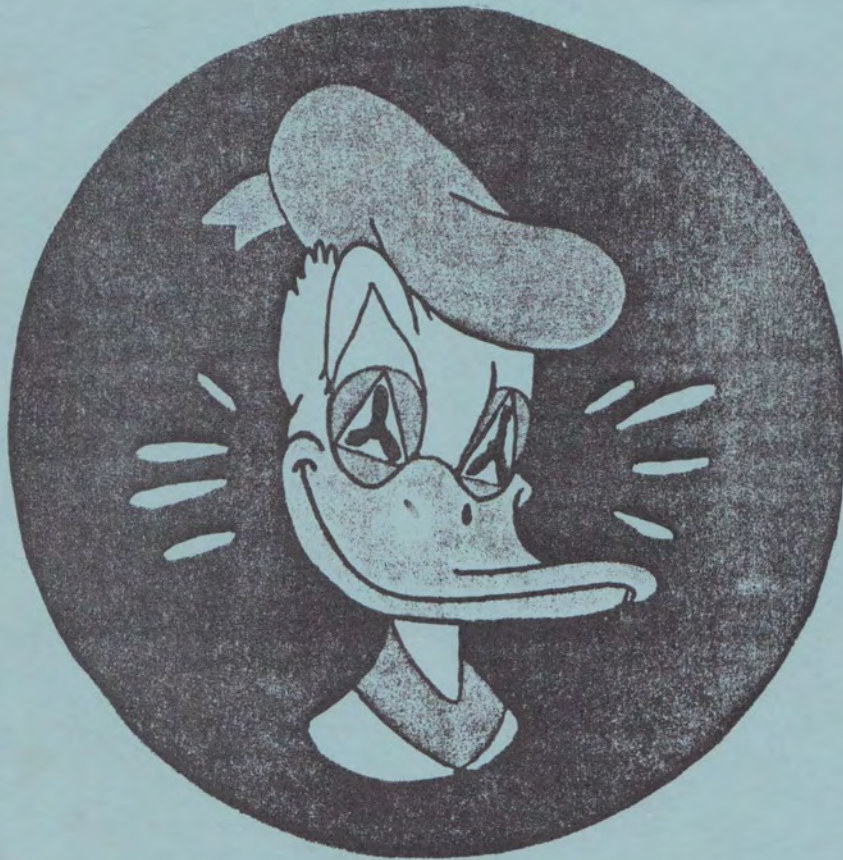


**CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNIT PATCHES
VOL. ONE**

by
Major Lee Ragan, CAP



**NATIONAL
HISTORICAL
COMMITTEE
Headquarters CAP**

CIVIL AIR PATROL UNIT PATCHES
VOLUME ONE

BY
MAJOR LEE RAGAN, CAP

NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMITTEE
Headquarters CAP

FOREWORD

Once again it is my pleasure to prepare the Foreword for the work of a valued colleague and personal friend.

The author's current work is the product of many hours of serious research into the origin and use of unit insignia within the Civil Air Patrol. More specifically, it is the first known attempt to codify CAP units' use of patches.

Major Ragan's personal background as a professional illustrator and lifelong collector of military insignia makes him uniquely qualified for this compilation. His personal dedication and desire for accuracy are evident at first reading. Given time, this work should prove as valuable a reference as is his earlier "The Collectors Catalog of Civil Air Patrol Insignia, 1942-1985."

LESTER E. HOPPER
COL CAP

PREFACE

Unit insignia have been with Civil Air Patrol almost from the beginning. These pieces of printed or embroidered cloth have served the same purposes within this organization as similar insignia of the Armed Forces - to provide unit identification and promote esprit de corps. Sometimes beautiful, sometimes crude, the purpose is still the same: to promote comradery and quick identification. Every patch shown in this book has an interesting story behind it. Some were designed by one person, others were a "team effort" by members of the unit. A few were "borrowed" from Armed Forces insignia. Several were designed by famous cartoonists, such as Col. Zack Mosely, CAP, Milton Caniff, and the Walt Disney Studios. Some were never adopted by the units they represent.

All of these patches were made in relatively small numbers. Many of the older designs are no longer in existence in their original form, but through photographs and old drawings have been preserved. Several are illustrated as drawings in this book. All too many have disappeared forever, so it is with this in mind that the author, along with several other Civil Air Patrol members and historians, has attempted to record some of the unit insignia in this book. It is hoped that this will be the first of several volumes that will record the images of these unit insignia.

Now for a few words about this book. I would like to have been able to illustrate this volume with color photographs, showing each patch full size. I would like to have included all the background information on each patch, i.e. who designed it, when it was approved, etc. Unfortunately, that was impossible. What I did try to do was to make a photocopy of each patch so that you, the reader, would know that these units had (or have) an emblem. At least we can record that much information. Some patches are shown full size, but most have been reduced by varying degrees to conserve space. Because several people donated photocopies, the images were made on machines of variable quality. In each case I have tried to use the best possible reproduction. You will notice that a few patches are almost totally lacking in detail - they appear as not much more than black silhouettes. This is caused by the use of dark colors throughout the design, and these just do not photocopy well in black and white. My apologies for this flaw, but I did the best I could under the circumstances.

State wing patches and region tabs, worn on the left shoulder, as well as the old national shoulder patches have been omitted purposely from this book. They are documented in THE COLLECTORS CATALOG OF CIVIL AIR PATROL INSIGNIA 1942-1985, which is available through the Civil Air Patrol Bookstore at National Headquarters. Some region shoulder patches, which were overlooked when preparing the COLLECTORS CATALOG, may be found in this series of monographs.

This book also contains several "Commemorative" type patches, such as those for Search and Rescue Competitions. These are worn with the same pride as the group and squadron patches.

All insignia are arranged in either numerical order, for units that

are numbered in the same manner as Armed Forces units, or alphabetically. Group designations may fall into either category. The "G" section will have several "Group" patches, but other group patches will be scattered throughout the book. I should explain to those readers who are not familiar with Civil Air Patrol practice of unit designation, that in the case of numbered groups, the word "Group" precedes the unit number, i.e. Group 7. This is the reverse of the Armed Forces practice, which places the number first and the title second, i.e. 8th Air Force. The five digit numbers on some patches are "charter" numbers. Each unit in Civil Air Patrol has a five digit code number assigned to it, which designates the wing or region, with the last three digits designating the unit within the wing. This charter number may or may not be used in the "name" designation of a unit. For example, the charter number for Group 16, Texas Wing, is 42197. Texas was the forty-second wing, alphabetically, when charter numbers were first assigned, and Group 16 is unit number 197 within the Texas Wing. The name "Group 16" was assigned by the Texas Wing Headquarters.

Civil Air Patrol units are organized at the local level much in the same way as National Guard units. It is very rare for a squadron or flight to move from one town to another, but a group headquarters can be moved to any city or town within that group's geographical boundaries. There have even been a few cases where a group headquarters was not physically within the group's boundaries. This home town, local flavor is often evident in the design of a unit patch.

Some modern Civil Air Patrol units have adopted patch designs from World War Two active duty C. A. P. units, and thus establish a link or "lineage" with those wartime units. Civil Air Patrol has no formal program to pass on lineage and honors from an old unit to a modern unit, as is practiced in the U. S. Air Force and the U. S. Army. However, a Civil Air Patrol unit may adopt, with the Wing Commander's approval, the insignia of another C. A. P. unit which preceded it in the same local area and, in this unofficial way, perpetuate the original unit.

As with any book of this type, mistakes are going to occur. If you find an error, or can verify any unit designation that contains a question mark (?), please contact me at the address given below.

If you know of any Civil Air Patrol unit insignia not contained in this book, please send the author a good quality photocopy of that patch. If you prefer, I will buy examples of Civil Air Patrol unit patches, if you will notify me of the price. I would like to have at least two hundred additional patches to include in Volume II of this series, as well as to correct any mistakes made in this first volume.

I sincerely hope each one of you who reads this book will enjoy and appreciate the colorful history of Civil Air Patrol, represented by the unit patches contained herein.

27 February 1988

Major Lee Ragan, CAP
4219 Durango Ave.,
Odessa, TX 79762

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This monograph is the result of years of collecting Civil Air Patrol insignia and the combined efforts of several fine people who shared unit patches with the author. No book like this can be a "one-man-show." My apologies to those who may have contributed if I either forgot their names or have overlooked them in these acknowledgments. My thanks go to all of you.

First and foremost, my appreciation must go to S/M Carl W. Soule, Jr., of the Massachusetts Wing. Carl was first in Civil Air Patrol back in the 1940's, and recently rejoined after being away from the organization for about thirty years. During the past two years, Carl has written to every Civil Air Patrol unit in the country in hopes of collecting patches from each unit that had one. During the research phase of this book, Carl kept me supplied with photocopies of all the Civil Air Patrol unit patches he had collected. Over half of the patches pictured in this book were supplied by him. Thanks, friend!

Col. Lester E. Hopper, CAP National Historian
Col. Louisa S. Morse, CAP National Historical Committee
Col. Tom Todd, CAP Texas Wing Commander
Col. Dottie Warren, CAP Headquarters Southwest Region
Lt. Col. Kathy Burton, CAP Headquarters Southwest Region
Lt. Col. Lawrence F. Lis, CAP Illinois Wing
Lt. Col. Allan F. Pogorzelski, CAP New York Wing, Nat. Hist. Comm.
Lt. Col. Lib Sedita, CAP Florida Wing, Nat. Hist. Comm.
Maj. Gregory F. Weidenfeld, CAP New Jersey Wing
Capt. Al Korzan, CAP New Mexico Wing
Capt. William L. Kidney, CAP Ohio Wing
Capt. Calvin Lowrie, CAP Florida Wing (formerly Texas Wing)
Capt. John B. Sparling, CAP Florida Wing
Capt. Jack Wendt, CAP Texas Wing
1 Lt. Jim Barbee, CAP Texas Wing
1 Lt. C. E. "Tex" Stone, U. S. Army Reserve
2 Lt. Janet Lingeback, CAP Texas Wing
S/M Tracy A. Wood, CAP New York Wing
Mr. Peter L. Buoneto

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3rd SAR Composite Squadron
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22nd Tow Target Squadron
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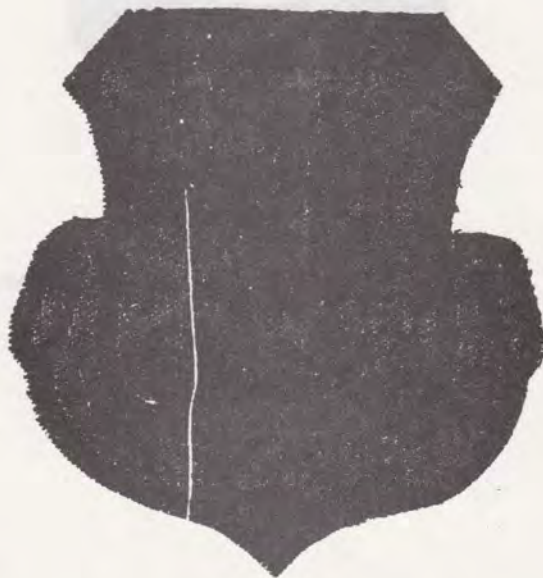


76th Cadet Squadron
(Hickam AFB) Hawaii Wing



76th Senior Squadron
Colorado Wing

(Right) 111th Search and Rescue
Squadron, Illinois Wing





221st Group
New Jersey Wing



221st Field Mess (?)
New Jersey Wing



286th Composite Squadron
Illinois Wing



399th Composite
Squadron
Connecticut Wing

405th

It is not known if this patch is for a squadron or a group, nor to what wing this unit was assigned.



616th Composite Squadron
(?) Wing



901st Support Squadron
(?) Wing



Abilene Composite Squadron
Texas Wing



Accretion Senior Squadron 11-7
Michigan Wing



Air Search and Rescue
It is not known if this patch is for a squadron or a group, nor to what wing this unit was assigned.



Albuquerque Senior Sqd. 2
New Mexico Wing



(Right) Almogordo Composite Squadron
New Mexico Wing



Alconbury Cadet Squadron
Overseas Unit, United Kingdom



Amelia Earhart Composite Squadron.
New York Wing



Antelope Valley Cadet Squadron 15
California Wing



Arvada Cadet Squadron
Colorado Wing



Ashland '69
Nebraska Wing

It is not known if this is a unit patch or a commemorative patch.



Atlanta Senior Squadron 1
Georgia Wing



Augusta Composite
Squadron
Virginia Wing



Bayamon High School Cadet
Squadron 3
Puerto Rico Wing



Bayamon High School Cadet
Squadron 4
Puerto Rico Wing



Bayamon High School Cadet
Squadron 6
Puerto Rico Wing



Bellows Composite Squadron
Hawaii Wing



Bessemer Composite
Squadron, Alabama
Wing



Birchwood Composite Squadron
Colorado Wing

(Right) Broomfield Squadron
Colorado Wing



Blacksheep Senior Squadron
Colorado Wing





Burbank Angel Cadet Sqd. 63
California Wing



Butler Senior Squadron 712
Pennsylvania Wing



Cable Composite Squadron 25
California Wing



California Wing Flight Examiner



Camp Curtis Guild Comp. Squadron
Massachusetts Wing



Central Miami Cadet Squadron
Florida Wing



Chesapeake Composite Sqd.
Maryland Wing



Chillicothe Cadet Squadron 1403
Ohio Wing



Citadel Composite Squadron
South Carolina Wing



Civil Air Patrol, Italy
Patch used by a Cadet Squadron at
an American military installation
in Italy.



(Left) Civil Air Patrol 1984
Olympics. Commemorative
patch, California Wing.



Clover Field Composite Sqd. 51
California Wing



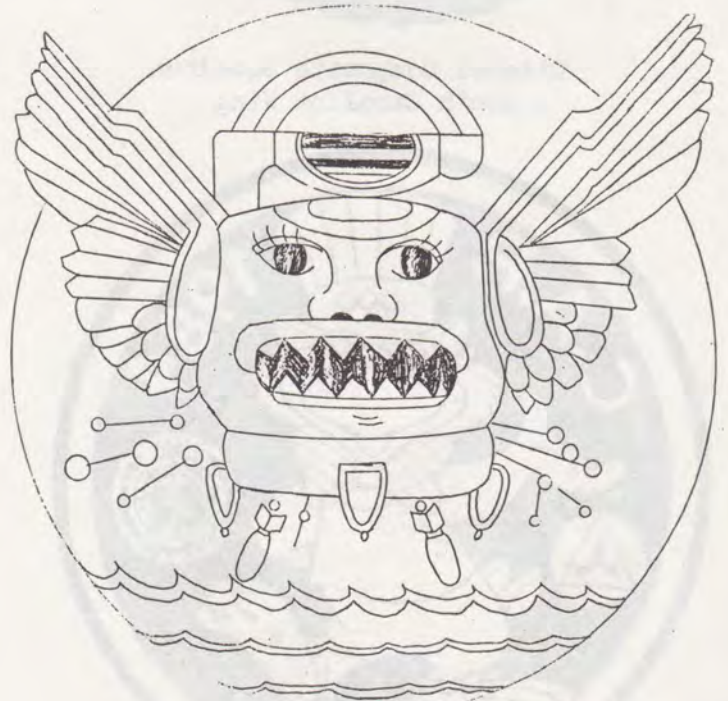
Coastal Patrol Base 1 (A.K.A 1st
Patrol Force) Atlantic City, New
Jersey. 1942-1943

(Left Center) Coastal Patrol Base 2
Rehoboth, Delaware. 1942-1943



(Left Bottom) Coastal Patrol Base 3
(A.K.A. 3rd Task Force) Latana,
Florida. 1942-1943. See Latana/ Lake
Worth Cadet Sqd. Florida Wing patch.

(Right Bottom) Coastal Patrol Base 5
Flager Beach Florida. 1942-1943





Coastal Patrol Base 9
Grande Isle, Louisiana
1942-1943



Coastal Patrol Base 10
Beaumont, Texas
1942-1943



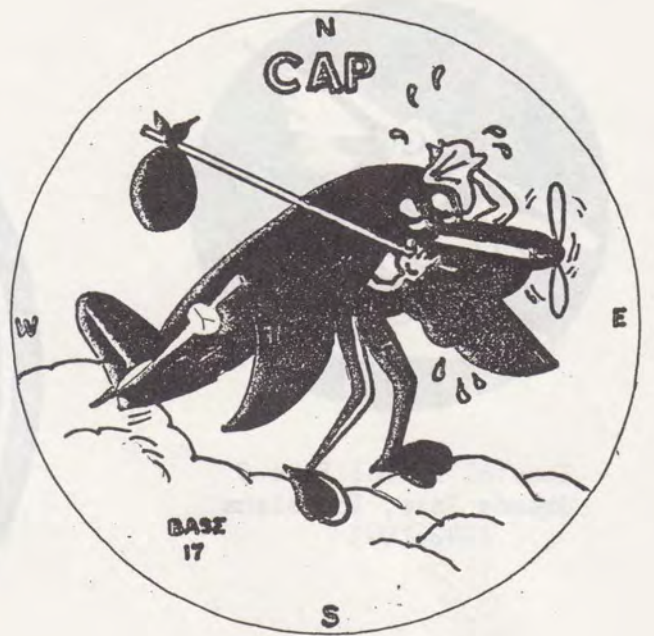
Coastal Patrol Base 11
Pascagoula, Mississippi
1942-1943



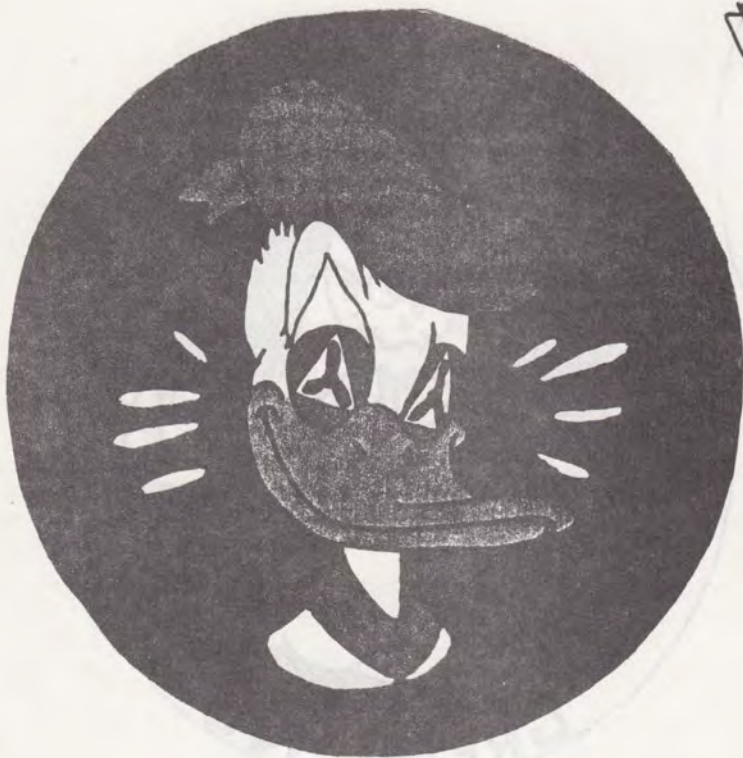
Coastal Patrol Base 12
Brownsville, Texas 1942-1943



Coastal Patrol Base 14
Panama City, Florida
1942-1943



Coastal Patrol Base 17
Suffolk, New York
1942-1943



Coastal Patrol Base 18
Falmouth, Massachusetts
1942-1943



An unidentified patch design from one of
the WWII Coastal Patrol Bases.



Comanche Eagle Comp. Squadron
Oklahoma Wing



Comanche Springs Squadron
Texas Wing



Composite Squadron 603
Pennsylvania Wing



Continental Military Institute
No other information available



Crusader Composite Squadron
Texas Wing



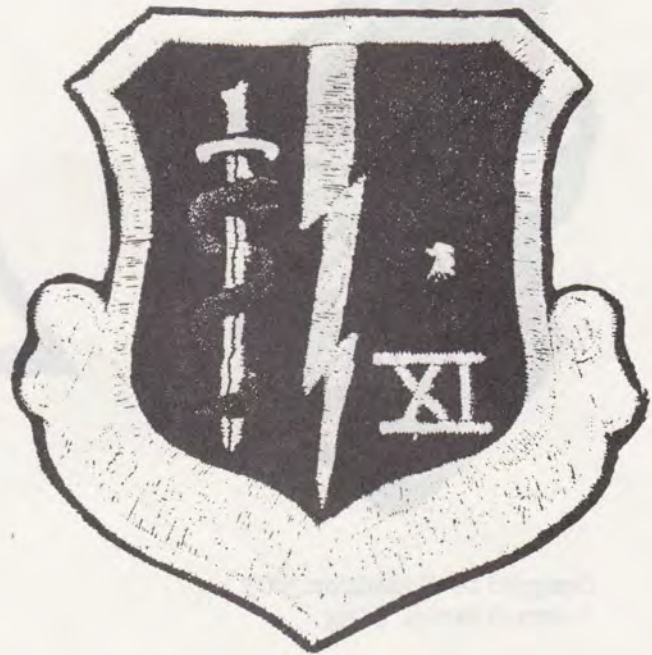
Dan Kenny Composite Squadron 201
 Second Design
 Formerly Flagstaff Comp. Sqd. 201
 Arizona Wing



Dell Valley Composite Sqd.
 Texas Wing



Diamond Bar Cadet Flight 94
 California Wing



Dover Bay Cadet Squadron 1107
 Ohio Wing



(Left) Eagle Senior Squadron 96
 California Wing



East Bank Composite Squadron
Louisiana Wing



Elmendorf Cadet Squadron
Alaska Wing



Emergency Services Disaster Agency
A State of Illinois patch worn by
qualified Civil Air Patrol personnel
in the Illinois Wing.



El Monte Senior Squadron 21
California Wing



El Paso Composite Squadron
Texas Wing



Falcon Cadet Squadron (3rd design)
formerly Lakes Region Cadet Squadron
New Hampshire Wing



Falcon Composite Sqd. 305
Arizona Wing



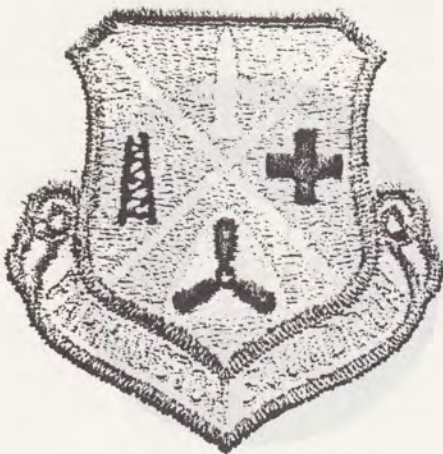
Falcon Composite Sqd.
Missouri Wing



Falcon Senior Squadron 40
California Wing



Falcon Squadron
New York Wing



Farmington Squadron
Michigan Wing



Flagstaff Composite Squadron 201
(1st design, later to become Dan
Kenny Comp. Sqd.) Arizona Wing



Flying Castle Composite Squadron
Oklahoma Wing



Foothill Composite Sqd. 85
California Wing



Ft. Yukon Composite Sqd.
Alaska Wing



General Carl A. Spaatz Sqd.
Pennsylvania Wing



(Left) Goldsboro Composite Squadron
North Carolina Wing



Goodyear Composite Sqd.
Arizona Wing



Green River Comp. Sqd.
Washington Wing



Green Valley Composite Sqd.
(1st design, later became
Mercer County Comp. Sqd.)
West Virginia Wing



Greenwich Cadet Squadron
Drill Team
(?) Wing



Group One
Ohio Wing



Group One Search and Rescue
Task Force
California Wing



Group Two
Missouri Wing



Group Three Headquarters
Minnesota Wing



Group Three SAR
Awarded after 10 search and
rescue missions.
Oregon Wing

(Right)
Group Seven, Illinois Wing



Group Five
Kentucky Wing





Group Seven
Ohio Wing



Group Seven (Variation)
Ohio Wing



Group Seven
Texas Wing



Group 12
Wisconsin Wing



(Left) Group 16
Texas Wing
Prototype patch,
only 2 were made.

(Right)
Group 17
Michigan





Group 19
Texas Wing



Group 23 "Hellcats"
California Wing



Group 30
Michigan Wing
(Prototype patch design, only 2 were made.)



Group 30
Michigan Wing



(Right)
Hendersonville Composite Squadron
("Blacksheep")
North Carolina Wing



Illinois Wing. A proposed wing
shoulder patch that was not adopted.
May have been used as a pocket patch.



Independence Cadet Sqd.
Michigan Wing



Isla Grande Composite Squadron
Puerto Rico Wing



Jamestown Group
New York Wing



(Left)
Jersey Village High School
Cadet Squadron
Texas Wing



Kenosha Composite Squadron
(Flying Bloodhound Sqd.)
Wisconsin Wing



K.I. Sawyer A.F.B. Squadron
Michigan Wing



K.I. Sawyer A.F.B. Sqd.
Ground Team Patch. (Mich. Wing) An old
Emergency Services with yellow background.



Knoxville Senior Sqd. One
Tennessee Wing



Kona Composite Squadron
Hawaii Wing



Lafayette Squadron
Louisiana Wing



Lakes Region Composite Sqd.
New Hampshire Wing



Lancaster Squadron 39
California Wing



Latana/Lake Worth Cadet Sqd.
Florida Wing
(See Coastal Patrol Base 3
patch)



Lapeer Squadron
Michigan Wing
(Identification may not be totally
correct)



(Left) Las Curces Composite
Squadron
New Mexico Wing



Lewis and Clark Cadet Sqd.
Illinois Wing



Lewis and Clark Cadet Squadron
Crest
(U.S. Army Aviation School distinctive insignia)
Illinois Wing



Levittown Cadet Squadron 101
Pennsylvania Wing



Licking County Composite Sqd. 1005
Ohio Wing

(Left) "Littleton"
It is not known if this patch is for a squadron or a group, nor to what wing this unit is assigned.





Long Beach Group Seven
California Wing



Los Alamos Composite Sq.,
New Mexico Wing



Los Angeles Cadet Squadron 138
California Wing



Louisiana Wing Emergency Services



Lubbock Composite Squadron
Texas Wing



Manistee Composite Flight 17-6
Michigan Wing



Maryknoll Squadron
Hawaii Wing



Maxwell A.F.B. Comp. Squadron
Alabama Wing



Mercer County Comp. Squadron
2nd design, formerly Green
Valley Composite Squadron
West Virginia Wing



McChord

It is not known if this patch is for a squadron or a group, nor to what wing this unit is assigned.



(Left)
Midland Composite Squadron
Texas Wing

This is a prototype design that was not adopted by the unit. Only two patches were made.



McCamey Composite Squadron
Texas Wing

The patch at left was worn on the right breast or right shoulder. The large patch below measures 7½ X 10 inches and was for wear on the back of flight jackets.



(Right)
Mid-Pacific Institute Cadet
Squadron
Hawaii Wing





Milwaukee Composite Sqd. 5

Wisconsin Wing



Milwaukee Emergency Services Sqd.
Wisconsin Wing



Misawa Cadet Squadron
Japan



Misawa Cadet Squadron
Japan

Tab worn on baseball or fatigue
caps.



Montgomery Senior Sqd.
Maryland Wing



Moses Lake Composite Squadron
Washington Wing



Mount Rainer Senior Squadron
Washington Wing



Mount Vernon Squadron
Ohio Wing



National Search and Rescue
Competition 1986



New Britian Cadet Squadron
Connecticut Wing



(Left)
New Jersey Wing pocket patch



Ranger tab - worn by Ground Team personnel of New Mexico Wing from 1976 to 1979. Red border, yellow background, white letters. Worn above the NM Wing patch on all uniform combinations except utilities, flight clothing.

New Mexico Wing
Ranger Patch and Tab



Ranger Qualification patch - Worn by NM Ground Teams on flight/utility clothing from 1976 to 1979. Five members of the NM Wing Ranger School staff were military paratroopers, hence the "jumping frogs" seven-color patch.



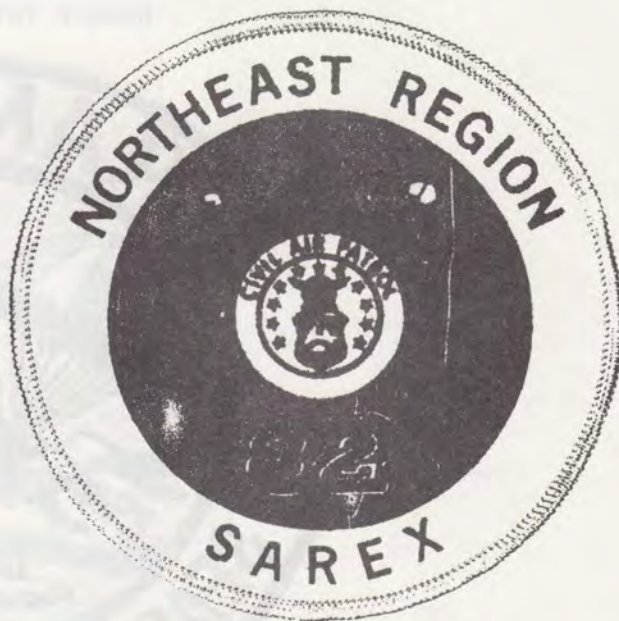
Niagara Falls Composite Sqd. 1
New York Wing



Northeast Philadelphia Composite
Squadron 104
Pennsylvania Wing



Northeast Region
(pocket patch)



Northeast Region Search and Rescue
Exercise 1982



(Left)
North Central Region
Used as a shoulder patch, but now
obsolete.



North Central Valley Group 25
California Wing



Northern Kentucky Comp. Sqd.
Kentucky Wing



New York Search and Rescue Task
Force
New York Wing



Odessa Composite Squadron
Texas Wing



(Left)
Odessa Composite Squadron
Ground Team Flash. Worn on
orange berets. No longer in
use.



Okinawa Cadet Squadron
(first overseas chartered unit)



Okinawa Cadet Squadron



Olympia Composite Sqd.
Washington Wing



Palatine Composite Squadron
Illinois Wing



Paine Field Composite Squadron
Washington Wing



Palm Springs Squadron 11
California Wing



Pegasus Cadet Squadron
Texas Wing



Pennsylvania Ranger School
patch and staff tab
Pennsylvania Wing



Peoria Cadet Squadron
Illinois Wing



Philadelphia Cadet Sq. 102
Pennsylvania Wing



Pineland Composite Sq.
New Jersey Wing



Pinellas Senior Squadron
Florida Wing



Point Pleasant Composite Sqd.
West Virginia Wing



Polaris Group
Alaska (?) Wing



Polaris Squadron
Alaska (?) Wing



Quincy Composite Squadron
Massachusetts Wing



(Left)
Ramstien Cadet Squadron
Ramstien Air Base, West Germany



Randolph Composite Sqd.
North Carolina Wing



Reno Composite Sqd.
Nevada Wing



River Park Squadron
Illinois (?) Wing

ROCKLAND COUNTY GROUP



Rockland County Group
New York Wing



Saddleback Comp. Sqd. 68
California Wing



San Antonio Composite Sqd.
Texas Wing



Sand Point Cadet Squadron
Washington Wing



San Francisco Cadet Sqd, 86
California Wing



San Fernando Senior Squadron 35
California Wing



Sanford-Springvale Composite
Squadron
Maine Wing



SAN-VAL 22

It is not known if this patch is
for a squadron or a group, nor to
what wing this unit is assigned.

MASTER

ADVANCED

BASIC



Search and Rescue Ground Team
 Proficiency Patch with three
 Proficiency Grade Tabs.
 Maryland Wing



Seacoast Squadron
 New Hampshire Wing



Selfridge Composite Sqd. 3-5
 Michigan Wing



Sequatchie Valley Squadron
 Tennessee Wing



Sequim Valley Composite Sqd.
Washington Wing



Shasta Composite Squadron
California Wing



Shelbyville Composite Sqd.
Indiana Wing



Singing River Composite Sqd.
(See Coastal Patrol Base 11)
Mississippi Wing



South Hills Composite Sqd. 613
Pennsylvania Wing



South Long Beach Senior Sqd. 150
California Wing



South Macomb Cadet Sqd. 3-2
Michigan Wing



Southern Frontier Liaison Patrol
World War Two



Southwest Region (pocket patch)
first design, Region Headquarters
in Oklahoma City



Southwest Region, second design,
Region HQ in Dallas



Southwest Region Search and
Rescue Competition 1985



Southwest Region Search and
Rescue Competition 1986



St. Louis Squadron 7
Missouri Wing



Stephen Mills Composite
Squadron
Washington Wing



Stratford Eagles Composite
Squadron
Connecticut Wing



Suffolk Squadron 5
New York Wing (?)



Suncoast Senior Squadron
Florida Wing



Sussex Warren Composite Squadron
Tab worn above Group 221 patch
New Jersey Wing



Tactical and Technical Senior Sqd.
This patch was worn by the Nassau Senior Squadron, Long Island Group, New York Wing during mid 1960's.



Tahoe-Truckee Composite Sqd.
Nevada Wing



Tawas Bay Senior SAR Squadron 10-5
Michigan Wing



The Bird Sanctuary
It is not known if this patch is for a group or a squadron, nor to what wing this unit was assigned.

(Left)
Three Rivers Composite Squadron 602
Pennsylvania Wing





Thunderbird Composite Sqd.
New Mexico Wing



Thunderbird Squadron 4
New Mexico Wing



Thunderbolt Sqd.
Massachusetts Wing



Thunderbolt Composite Sqd.
Texas Wing



Triad First Flight Composite
Squadron
North Carolina Wing



Tri Cities Composite Sqd.
Washington Wing



Tri County Squadron
Missouri Wing



Tucson Squadron 104
Arizona Wing



Twin City Composite Squadron
Missouri Wing



Twin Lakes Composite Squadron
Arkansas Wing



Utica Composite Sqd.
New York Wing



Waldo F. Field Composite Sqd. 18
California Wing



Washington Wing, Athletic jacket patch. Reported used in the 1950's. The author would like confirmation of this designation.



Waukesha Composite Sqd.
Wisconsin Wing



Weber Minuteman Squadron
Utah Wing



Wenatchee Composite Squadron
Washington Wing

(Right)
West Bay Composite Squadron 192
California Wing





West Broward Composite Squadron
Florida Wing



Westchester Group
First Design
New York Wing



Westchester Group
Second Design
New York Wing



Westchester Group
Third Design
New York Wing



Westchester Group Headquarters
Staff Tab
New York Wing



(Right) Westchester Group Cadets
New York wing. May also be worn
by former cadets and senior members
who work in the cadet program.
From 1956 to 1967, this was the
patch for the New Rochelle Cadet
squadron, New York Wing.



West Orange Composite Sqd.
Florida Wing



Westover Squadron, (Westover AFB)
Massachusetts Wing



West Richmond Cadet Sqd.
Virginia Wing



Wheeler Composite Sqd.
(Wheeler AFB)
Hawaii Wing



(Left)
Wichita Falls Composite Squadron
Texas Wing



Worcester Cadet Squadron
Massachusetts Wing



Yakima Composite Squadron
Washington Wing