OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER
CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112-6332

4 Nov 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL WING AND REGION COMMANDERS

FROM: HQ CAP/CC

SUBJECT: Rapid Response Capability

1. We are working hard to promote CAP's extensive Homeland Security (HLS) capabilities at the federal, state, and local level. We must be ready to accept these new missions as soon as they are requested, so it is extremely important that all our wings/regions begin training for these missions now. A vital aspect of HLS, as well as other "normal" CAP missions, is a rapid response capability. The need for this capability was highlighted by the events of September 11, 2001 and the concept was approved at the November 2001 NEC meeting. It is now time for rapid response to become an integral part of CAP mission capability. This means standardized air and ground crew training, mission equipment, and to some degree aircraft configuration. Standardization is the ultimate goal but for now it is more important that each wing and region develop a rapid response capability.

2. To assist with this task we have developed the Rapid Response Training Operations Plan. It covers the general rapid response training items our personnel should be conducting on a regular basis. HQ CAP-USAF has already approved it. Therefore, when it comes time to conduct the training, all the wings and regions will need to do is fill in the blanks and submit it with a CAPF 10. This should greatly simplify the planning and approval process. Unfortunately, there are currently no additional funds to accomplish this training. Rapid response training must be funded out of the region's normal Air Force training fund distribution.

3. I want each wing and region to make establishing a rapid response capability a high priority for the coming year. Please identify your team members and have your staff submit their names and contact information to the National Operations Center by 3 Jan 2003. This information can also be submitted online like each wing did for the HLS resource report and alert roster. The web address for data input is https://data.ntc.cap.gov/ntc/login.htm Suggestions and/or questions should be addressed to Col Tom Herndon, Rapid Response Coordinator, (tomherndon@juno.com) or Col Bob Bess, HLS Director (bobbess@usa.net). Thank you for your support of this important initiative.

RICHARD L. BOWLING
Major General (Sel), CAP
Commander

Attachment:
Rapid Response Training Operations Plan

cc:
HQ CAP/CV/CS/EX/DO/IG/GC
HQ CAP-USAF/CC/CV/XO/IG
All CAP-USAF LR/CCs
All CAP-USAF State Directors