



**Eugene L. Carnahan**  
**Cadet Squadron 85**  
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## NEWS RELEASE

POC: Aaron Yanagihara, 2Lt., USCAP  
Public Affairs Officer  
Phone: (916) 257-2815, FAX: (916) 939-2345  
E-Mail: [paocap85@sbcglobal.net](mailto:paocap85@sbcglobal.net)



**George Alleman, owner of the Stinson SM8A, gives a historical biography of his aircraft and the role it played as a Civil Air Patrol aircraft from 1943 -45 along the Gulf of Mexico.**

*(Photo courtesy of A.Yanagihara, 2Lt. USCAP)*

### CADETS GET A CIVIL AIR PATROL HISTORY LESSON

PLACEVILLE, CA –

Cadets and Senior members were treated to a unique experience of learning about a CAP aircraft that played a vital role in “Homeland Security” along the Gulf of Mexico during World War II.

George Alleman, owner of the Placerville Airport based Stinson, briefed members of Eugene L. Carnahan Cadet Squadron 85 about the history of his restored 1930 Stinson SM8A. Between the years 1943 to 1945, the aircraft was in service by CAP for border patrol and sub-searches along the Gulf of Mexico, and based out of Beaumont, Texas. It was outfitted to carry 2- 100 lbs bombs or 1-230 lb depth charge. After its tour of duty with CAP, it was stationed at San Jose Army Airfield (now Moffett Field NAS) and utilized to pull airborne targets for gunnery practice. After World War II, it was utilized in various capacities, including a crop sprayer and had a cameo appearance in the movie “The Rocketeer”.

“The record of the [CAP] Coastal Patrol – all volunteer civilians, with little or no formal combat training – is most impressive: it began with three bases and was operating from 21 bases at the conclusion of the program. It had reported 173 U-boat sightings, sunk two, and dropped a total of 83 bombs and depth charges upon 57 of these – with several other “probables.” Its aircrews flew 86,865 missions over coastal waters for a total of 244,600 hours – which approximates to 24 million miles. The patrols summoned help for 921 ships in distress and for 363 survivors of submarine attacks. It sighted and reported 17 floating mines, and, at the request of the U.S. Navy, flew 5,684 special convoy missions.” *(excerpt from CAPP 50-5 1 Aug 2002)*

U.S. 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](http://www.cap.gov) or call 1-800-Fly-2338.

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