FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nicole Regele, 703-527-0226 awards@naa-usa.org

February 28, 2003

CAP Wins Aerospace Education Trophy

Arlington, VA - The Civil Air Patrol (CAP), the U.S. Air Force auxiliary best known for its search and rescue duties, has been selected to receive the National Aeronautic Association’s (NAA) prestigious Frank G. Brewer Aerospace Education Trophy for 2002. Established in 1943, the award recognizes “significant contributions of enduring value” in the field of aerospace education. CAP won the Brewer Trophy for more than a half-century of leadership in educating the nation’s young people on the many opportunities available to them in the fields of aviation and space flight.

In announcing the winner of the Brewer award, NAA President Donald Koranda said “this trophy bears witness to the ability of CAP’s people and programs to make a difference in the aerospace education field and to our society. They provide teachers with exceptional educational materials and inspire young people with the opportunities for aviation and space careers. Their efforts are helping create aerospace-minded citizens who will be prepared for the challenges of the future.” Since CAP’s inception by Executive Order on December 1, 1941, its mission has included emergency services to help Americans in distress, an aviation-oriented cadet citizenship development program and an aerospace education program.

Of special importance, Koranda said, are CAP’s efforts over the last five years to reach out to CAP cadets, high schools and colleges, with a new textbook entitled Aerospace: The Journey of Flight, and with a six-volume aviation and space curriculum, entitled Aerospace Dimensions, for middle schools. CAP prepared these materials largely with volunteer assistance, saving American taxpayers an estimated $350,000. Federal funding for CAP has been reduced significantly since the end of the Cold War.

Koranda noted additional CAP programs that made the organization a natural choice for the Brewer Trophy. These include the Aerospace Education Excellence Award Program for CAP Units and K-12 Schools, the Aerospace Education Membership Program for Teachers, and the new Aerospace Educational Packets and Opportunities for Schools initiatives. These programs are reaching a broad range of teachers and students
through the persistent efforts of CAP’s staff and volunteer coordinators. CAP’s conferences and workshops reach over 10,000 teachers annually, who in turn touch over 300,000 students.

This is the second time CAP has been selected as a Brewer winner. The Trophy was given to the organization in 1952 for development of the CAP Cadet and Teacher Training Program. This year’s award will be presented to CAP at a luncheon in Cincinnati, Ohio at the National Congress on Aviation and Space Education (NCASE) conference on April 4, 2003.

Frank G. Brewer established the Brewer Trophy in 1943 in honor of his two sons, Frank Jr. and Robert, and the million and a half other young people who were put into the air to serve our country during World War II. A distinguished panel of NAA members and aerospace educators, assembled each year by the NAA president, selects the winner.

NAA is a non-profit, membership organization devoted to fostering opportunities to participate fully in aviation activities and to promoting public understanding of the importance of aviation and space flight to the United States. For more information about our programs, please check our Web site www.naa-usa.org

-NAA-