



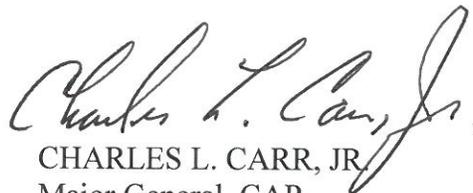
OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER
CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112-6332

23 April 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: ALL REGION/WING COMMANDERS

SUBJECT: Towbar Incidents

1. There continues to be an increasing number of incidents involving failure to remove the towbar before taxi and in some cases, flights. Over the past four (4) years, we have recorded nine (9) such incidents where aircrews have either taxied or flown CAP aircraft with the towbar still attached. One such flight involved cadet orientation. We have been extremely fortunate there has been no property damage, injury or death resulting from these incidents; however, these unprofessional actions must stop.
2. Effective immediately, any aircrew member involved in the failure to remove a towbar before engine start will automatically be grounded from all flight activities for a minimum of 120 days. Any subsequent involvement in such an incident could result in a permanent loss of all Civil Air Patrol flying privileges.
3. As soon as practical, the following actions will take place:
 - a. "Remove Towbar before Engine Start" placards will be prominently displayed on all aircraft instrument panels. Placement and description of the placard will be added to CAPR 66-1.
 - b. All checklists will have, "Towbar Removed and Stowed" added in the *External Preflight* section. NHQ will update the standardized online aircraft checklists with this information. CAPR 60-1, paragraph 2-1n coordination is not required for this change.
 - c. A reminder will be added to the FRO Checklist.
4. We simply will not tolerate injury, loss of life or damage to property due to complacency.



CHARLES L. CARR, JR.
Major General, CAP
Commander

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