



Behind the 8 Ball



Blue Beret National Cadet Special Activity Oshkosh, Wisconsin

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What it means to be a Blue Beret

To wear the blue beret is a great honor. As part of National Blue Beret, cadets are pushed to excel in their leadership, teamwork, and time management skills. Also, Berets exemplify CAP's core values of integrity, volunteer service, excellence, and respect. C/Lt Col Gary Dollinger, who attended NBB in 1997, did a good job explaining what it means to be a Beret. Dollinger, who served as India Flight Commander, said, "Being a Blue Beret is a special feeling. It is more than the rank on your shoulder, the ribbons on your chest, or even the beret on your head. It is a feeling inside." I understand what this cadet meant because there is a great deal of pride that comes with serving others and being part of a



team that accomplishes so much.

Dollinger continued "We are mentally tough. We are physically strong. We wake up each morning with a desire to get the job done. There is nothing that stands in our way. We put our mission ahead of ourselves and give our all to succeed." While some things change, others do not. At any given day at NBB we don't know what the mission will be but we must be ready to do what is needed. The amazing thing is that this has not changed in 13 years. "I could easily be a Blue Beret without any of the symbols that make me stand out, for being a Beret is not what is on the surface, but rather what is beneath. We strive to better ourselves, to push ourselves to our full potential." Cadet



Dollinger meant we are defined more by our actions than the clothing we wear. He said "We can do anything we put our minds to. We develop a team, a strong bond between us that lasts throughout life. The friends we make along the way are our future companions all wanting the same thing--success." It should be clear from the few days we have spent on the compound that teamwork is necessary at NBB. "We cannot succeed alone", Dollinger said, "We are a mighty unit, each with a function that is intertwined with the whole." While we only spend only two weeks in Oshkosh, we communicate and support our fellow Berets all year long. Friendships made in the cadet program last a lifetime. The Beret Creed states, "We are Blue Berets, we are what our country and Civil Air Patrol expects us to be, the best of American youth, an example of leadership for today and the future. Never will we fail that trust."



Tradition is important here at Beret. The rocks around the flag pole are a great example of this. The white rocks stand for the bonds that hold us together as a family. The rocks in the middle represent Berets past, present, and future. The large rock is a memorial for the fallen Beret's Dollinger explains what made a Beret different from every other cadet in 1997. Those same traditions and standards still apply today. Take the next step to look beyond yourself and even your flight to see how you can improve the well-being of the activity and the community. Remember the mission comes first... but why stop there? In the words of C/Lt Col Dollinger and the Beret Creed, "I am a Blue Beret, Follow Me."



**C/Col Mitch Edwards
Cadet Commander**

Safety (IMSAFE)

As we prepare for our mission and the big airshow event, I would just like to remind everyone about the IMSAFE checklist. IMSAFE stands for Illness, Medication, Stress, Attention, Fatigue, and Eating. The purpose of this checklist is it allows you to evaluate yourself and ask, am I mission ready? If you are Ill, not taking your medication (If needed), or extremely stressed error rates can rise and your personal safety as well as the safety of the mission is compromised. The Attention part of the checklist is a little harder to evaluate and is more of a reminder that you need to stay alert and keep your head on a swivel especially when working the flight line.

The Fatigue and Eating portion of the IMSAFE checklist in some aspects are interrelated. When it comes to Fatigue, we have two types. The first is acute which can be described as tiredness felt after a long period of physical and /or mental strain. An examples of this would be working long hours in the kitchen or working long shifts out on the flight line. This type of fatigue is usually overcome by a good nights rest. The second type is chronic fatigue. According to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), chronic

fatigue occurs when there is not enough time for a full recovery between episodes of acute fatigue.

An example here would be not getting enough sleep for several days. The big issue with fatigue is that the more tired you become, the more errors/ mistakes you will make. With Fatigue you can put yourself and the mission at risk.

The last item on the IMSAFE checklist is Eating. If you don't have a proper diet and/or skip meals you will find yourself feeling weak and tired. Not having the proper diet will increase the likelihood of fatigue. My recommendation is to rundown the IMSAFE checklist before every mission. Doing this gives you the opportunity to ask, am I mission ready? Am I a risk to the mission and others? If you answer yes to either of the two questions then you should NOT participate in that mission/activity.

2010 Blue Beret

- Illness
- Medication
- Stress
- Attention
- Fatigue
- Eating



Eric Shappee, Lt Col
Safety Officer

Safety Word Search

- Safety
- Incident
- Attention
- Illness
- Hazard
- Mishap
- Dehydration
- Stress
- Eating
- Sunburn
- Accident
- Fatigue
- Medication
- Insafe
- Sunscreen

s	t	e	s	t	s	d	n	g	e	n	d	n
c	t	n	a	h	i	e	n	a	u	c	o	r
s	g	o	c	n	h	i	e	e	a	i	i	u
h	e	a	c	c	i	d	e	n	t	e	s	b
c	e	d	e	h	y	d	r	a	t	i	o	n
d	r	a	z	a	h	s	c	s	e	s	m	u
n	e	t	t	a	h	i	s	n	n	i	l	s
m	i	n	c	i	d	e	n	t	t	s	p	a
d	h	c	n	e	n	e	u	g	i	t	a	f
r	n	i	m	l	n	g	s	f	o	r	h	e
n	i	s	l	c	i	s	d	t	n	e	s	t
i	n	i	c	c	b	t	e	i	i	s	i	y
a	s	o	t	n	e	t	e	f	a	s	m	i

Sleep

Every evening at 2115 Tatoo plays over the speakers at Beret base. This is a fifteen minute warning before lights out at 2130. Lights out is when you hear Taps. When the lights go out, its time to sleep. Sleep is very important and the NBB schedule provides for 8 hours per night. All cadets are expected to be in their racks, dressed in PT gear, and quiet once the lights are out. Sleep deprivation is a safety hazard. Please go to bed on time and do not get up before First Call.

Joy

Many cadets have very important and sometimes stressful jobs here at NBB, but there is one cadet whose job it is to just make a few people smile. C/2d Lt Kylene Eagle of Echo flight was assigned a very important position this year at Blue Beret. She was simply told to remind the cadet commander and DCC to smile. With her very cheery attitude and always happy mood, she does a great job at making their jobs a bit more relaxed during the more stressful times. She said "They just need someone to remind them to laugh." She also had some suggestions for the others,

Featured Flight: India



Flight Commander:
C/2d Lt Lucas Hayas

Flight Leader:
C/Cmsgt Erik Vandenberghe

TAC Officer:
1st Lt Quentin Laws

Featured Flight:



Flight Commander:
C/Maj Matt Campbell

Flight Leader:
C/Capt Blaise Loughman

TAC Officer:
Maj Kyle Zablocki

Aviation, it's in the Air

There's no doubt that AirVenture is the largest gathering of aircraft in the world. Just a brief walk outside the compound gives one an opportunity to see all sorts of different aircraft from heavy transports to small amphibians. There are aircraft from every time period in aviation history. But aircraft are not the only attraction at AirVenture. There are also great opportunities to learn the art of homebuilt aircraft from experienced EAA veterans. Various booths and tents teach sheet metal workings, fabric workings, control linkage, instrumentation, and airframe construction. Most of you brought a decent amount of spending money to NBB, and there are plenty of places to use it wisely, but also be sure to look for activity booths that EAA volunteers put on for free. From sponsored places like "The Cessna Store," to small salvage pawn shops run by individuals, there's something for everyone. So on your slotted free time or air show time, be sure to go out and enjoy a wonderful experience at AirVenture 2010.



"You guys need to keep yourselves and the ones around you positive." Lt Eagle just wants to spread esprit de corps and positive thinking amongst the cadets. She finished by stating, "The stress might be overwhelming, but charisma is stronger. Find that thing that makes you happy and never forget it, and you will be amazed by the results."

**Ehren Rauch, C/Maj
Kylene Eagle, C/2d Lt**



Emergency Services Training

More than 138 Civil Air Patrol (CAP) cadets from various wings all across the country participated in this year's National Blue Beret (NBB) special activity at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, honing their Emergency Services skills. One of the many emergency services classes put on during three days of training was map reading, compass, and land navigation skills. The objective of the mapping skills class was to apply land navigation skills including latitude and longitude, plotting an azimuth, triangulation, and reading a road and sectional aviation map. The next part of the class was learning how a compass works and how you can use a compass to find a location on a map.



Bill Campbell, 1st Lt



In the Action

Berets assisted the EAA today by pre-positioning golf carts for the exhibitors and volunteers. These vehicles provide transportation and ensure the event is running smoothly and proficiently.



*"Do I look cool on this?"
Lt Col Peace*



EAA allocates golf carts every year to CAP for use by Emergency Services, Command and Staff.

2009 Interesting Facts of Airventure

- **2009 Attendance:** 578,000 – an increase of 12 percent over 2008
- **Total Aircraft:** More than 10,000 aircraft arriving at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh and other nearby airports.
- **Commercial exhibitors:** 750
- **Total estimated campers (fly in and drive in camping areas):** 41,000 +
- **Media Representatives on site:** 907 from five continents
- **Total show planes:** 2,662 (highest total since 2005)
- **Homebuilt aircraft:** 1,023
- **Warbirds:** 355
- **Ultralights:** 116
- **Seaplanes:** 99
- **Aerobatic aircraft:** 36
- **Rotorcraft:** 26
- **Registered International Visitors:** 2,182 from 75 nations

Photos by Bill Campbell