



# Civil Air Patrol

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**Winchester Composite Squadron**  
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## **News Release**

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### **VAWG Cadets Soar in Air National Guard Simulator**

Winchester, VA – Cadets and Senior Officers from the Winchester Composite Squadron had the rare opportunity to take flight in an Air National Guard C5. While they may never have left the ground they logged over two hours of seat time in the C5 simulator, the same one used to train today's military pilots.

"The C-5 flight simulator is used by pilots, flight engineers, loadmasters, and maintenance personnel who perform engine runs to receive quality training without having to use an actual airplane," said Colonel Richard Robichaud, 167<sup>th</sup> Operations Group Commander, Martinsburg ANG Base. Robichaud is also a Lt Colonel with the Winchester Composite Squadron where he serves as an Aerospace Education and Testing Officer.

Each member could choose an airport anywhere in the world to fly in and out of. Some chose a hometown airport while others chose exotic locals such as Honolulu, Hawaii so they could fly over a three dimensional image of Pearl Harbor. To round out the evening, the members received aerospace lectures from base personnel and were able to tour a maintenance hangar where a C5 was going through its annual inspection.

The Civil Air Patrol provides disaster relief during hurricanes, floods, wildfires, earthquakes, tornados and countless other emergencies. In addition, members perform homeland security and counterdrug missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies.

CAP plays a leading role in aerospace education and mentors more than 23,000 young Americans through its cadet program. By partnering with 900 educators nationwide, members nurture the talents of generations of the nation's sons and daughters with cadet programs that stress leadership and moral responsibility and teach aviation and emergency response skills.

For more information about the Winchester Composite Squadron, please visit [merva040.org](http://merva040.org).

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