



Connecticut Wing Safety Alert!

21 March 2003

To All,

Merriam-Webster dictionary defines an Accident:

1 a : an unforeseen and unplanned event or circumstance b: lack of intention or necessity : CHANCE <met by accident rather than by design.

2 a : an unfortunate event resulting especially from carelessness or ignorance.

Let's think about definition 2.

On a daily basis we see so called devastating "accidents" as they are referred to in the media. It is alarming and everyone should take notice to this. I have seen statements such as "It was a horrible thing that happened - and it was an unfortunate accident " . This statement and others alike are difficult to understand and should make you think of what is going on.

I have seen my share of so called accidents over the years and there is one thing that stands out is how people classify these as just one of those things that happen. It comes down to one thing, someone or a group of individuals were not being careful and were not safety conscious. Yes there are some circumstances that are beyond our control and are truly accidents but for the most part someone was the cause. In our society today we all tend to be pushed for time. We seem to always be in a hurry. With this we overlook the obvious and many times take short cuts which can have devastating results. We stress safety and awareness in all that we do at home, work or in our duties for CAP. Let's not forgot that.

Our National Commander has requested the 2003 Safety Pledge become an integral part of the start of every CAP gathering and is as follows:

" I pledge to do my part to foster a safe environment during all CAP activities, to be a responsible steward of CAP resources and to fully prepare myself for the challenging missions that serve America. "

This pledge should be a part of our daily lives. Safety is everyone's responsibility.

Here are something's to think about:

AN ACCIDENT IS NOT JUST ONE OF THOSE THINGS.

ACCIDENTS ARE PREDICTABLE AND PREVENTABLE EVENTS.

When most of us are careless, try to hurry, take a risk, we rarely think of the consequences of our actions. The last thing that we think about is the what if ? What if something goes wrong? What could go wrong? Who else could be affected? What would be the long term effects?

Take time to think before you act. Think Safety.

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