

CAP To The Rescue



How to find and rescue a downed flyer is part of the training of Civil Air patrol cadets and last week end members of the Medford squadron conducted a training demonstration in the Sams Valley area. The Civil Air patrol, an official civilian auxiliary to the United States Air Force, has the groups conduct such training projects to increase their proficiency. Part of the Medford squadron, which has about 30 cadets and about 20 senior members, met at the Medford airport and the cadets hiked to TouVelle park carrying 20 pound packs as the first part of the project. Cadets are from 14 to 18 or 21 years of age. Tents and shelters were erected, and at noon the group ate lunch around a small fire.



Leaders for the CAP search and rescue project last week end were Warrant Officer Richard Chapman, commandant of cadets, and First Lt. (Mrs. O. J.) Miller, a senior adjutant and first aid instructor. This week CAP will celebrate the 17th anniversary of passage of the bill in congress which set up the organization, formed to give wings to the nation's civil defense agency and dedicated to the advancement of aviation. The Medford squadron has been in operation about 10 years.



"Victim" for the project, Irvin Goodroad, was taken to a spot remote from the camp site. When "found" by the rescue team, he was judged to have a broken arm and leg and other injuries and the rescue team of Mike Hartley, Bob Greer, Clarence Pugh and Jim Reneau prepare a traction splint for the injured leg.



Arriving at the site of the imagined crash and injured flyer, cadets remove the brush and prepare the victim for moving; one returned to the camp for a stretcher. All cadets have taken standard and advanced first aid, and their leaders and senior members are also experienced in first aid work. Rescue team members removed their coats, although the day was chilly, and covered the "victim."



With the subject's arm and leg properly splinted and now covered with a blanket, his teammates start the trek back to the base of operations. The Medford squadron is assigned a small L16 plane and one Jeep to use in training; the plane is undergoing repairs at present and one belonging to John Gregory, senior member, is being used. There are four licensed pilots in the squadron who take other members on flights.



Donna Dell, captain of the base rescue team, and Mike Hartley, given the task of making a shelter for the victim, are shown here lashing a pole to a tree. Canvas was stretched between trees and poles for makeshift roof.



Kerry Kesterson, Rod Hanley, Dorothy Freeman and Jim Reneau, team captain, check the contents of one of the large first aid kits owned by the squadron. When in the field, each cadet also carries a small kit attached to belt. Heavy clothing, boots and helmets are required for such training projects.



Jim Reneau gave Jeannette Verneulen a boost with her pack at one time during the day. The squadron is inspected periodically by the commander of the Oregon wing, and Col. Charles Chick is expected here in the near future.



After lunching on K rations and other food easily prepared outdoors, Charlene Erickson (at left) and Ann MacManama relaxed over cups of hot chocolate. Next month the squadron's training calls for a snow trip which will be made to Four Mile lake, in the vicinity of Fish lake.