

Now if you were going to enter a similar photo into the contest, you would need to expound on the historical component of the photo, including make of car, location of 9th precinct, etc. The photo lists the date as 1921, but Detroit Dispatch went live continuously from 1928. This was the first vehicle equipped with a receiving-only radio. Notice the unique antenna configuration, a series of seven wires stretched across the roof of the car.

If you or your chapter has a unique photo like this one, the Historical Committee urges you to submit it for the photo contest. There is a lot of APCO history available and we need your help to discover it. You don't need to attend the conference in New Orleans, where the judging will be held. Just submit your entries to photocontest@apcointl.org. Entry Deadline is July 1, 2014.

~RICH RYBICKI, Historical Committee chair

CPRA CHAPTER MEETING

Drones Visit CPRA

The November meeting of the CPRA (southern Calif.) chapter featured a special presentation of the MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper given by the 163rd Reconnaissance Wing from March Air Reserve Base (ARB) in Riverside, Calif. The presentation of the Air Force's global unmanned aerial system highlighted the Predator's unprecedented role in fighting the Rim Fire that scorched 257,314 acres in California's Sierra Nevada region in August 2013.

Launched from March ARB, two Predators flew three hours to the fire site to provide alternating 24-hour coverage transmitting real-time electro-optic and infra-red video to Cal Fire command staff. While the Predator's mission includes unarmed humanitarian efforts, special permission from the secretary of defense and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) was required before its first flight on Aug. 28. The Rim Fire threatened iconic natural preserves such as Yosemite National Park, and water supply

facilities critical to the San Francisco peninsula, hastening the special permission request.

The Predator's role in the Rim Fire allowed ground crews to quickly identify and act on spot fires. What normally took hours to complete by hiking the rough terrain was now displayed in real-time as the Predator circled the fire's perimeter every two hours. The hovering Predator was credited with enhancing the safety of ground crews by allowing the incident commander to keep tabs on their locations.

~ERNEST GALLO, RCDD, CPRA member

AWARDS PROGRAM

PSAP Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2014 APCO International Public Safety Communications Awards Program and the Technology Leadership Award.

Do you know an outstanding individual who works in public safety? If you do, honor their contribution by nominating them for a PSAP award. The APCO Public Safety Communications Awards Program (PSAP Awards) submission time runs from Jan. 1 through April 1. With seven nomination categories, we hope that each agency and chapter will nominate at least one well-deserving individual for this recognition program. Winners in each category (director, telecommunicator, supervisor, info technologist, RF technologist, trainer and team) will receive VIP treatment at APCO 2014, APCO's Annual Conference & Expo in New Orleans. Nominations are also open for the Technology Leadership Award, which recognizes the technological advancements of small and large communications centers across the nation. Visit www.apcointl.org/awards for more information on how to nominate your shining star.

RPL

Become a RPL

Whether you are the leader of a work team in your agency, a volunteer task force or committee, or an entire organization, there are certain things you need

to know and skills you need to develop to be successful. If you're willing to work at developing your leadership potential, The APCO Institute Leadership Certificate Program will allow you to earn the professional designation of Registered Public Safety Leader (RPL).

The APCO Institute Leadership Certificate Program is a comprehensive 12 month online program leading to the professional designation of RPL. RPL recipients receive a certificate of acceptance into the APCO Institute Registry of Public-Safety Leaders, a formal and prestigious acknowledgment of excellence within our industry.

Matt Stillwell, RPL, ENP, director of public safety communications and emergency management for the city of Edmond, says, "Being recognized as professional in public safety has always been important to me. Being an RPL satisfies part of this issue for me personally and certainly has a positive impact on public safety communications as a whole."

Gary "Bud" Gray, deputy coordinator/operations manager for North Little Rock Emergency Services in Arkansas, has been an RPL for more than a year.

"All of the information from the course has helped me with the management of my agency as well as helping me grow professionally. To future students I would say concentrate on the information. The skills learned can be used with everyday activities. Learn from other students and stay engaged with the group by posting additional comments to other students' posts."

"With the skills learned, I was able to improve my speaking abilities and therefore make presentations before the Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police, the Arkansas Sheriffs' Association, the Arkansas Municipal League and even before committees at the Arkansas State Capitol. This helped ensure that a training bill for 9-1-1 telecommunicators passed with no opposition."

"I am honored to be a part of the elite group of individuals that strive to improve 9-1-1 services in their communities and abroad." ||PSC||