

David A. Carter  
1906 Beaver Road.  
Highland Springs  
Virginia, 23075  
February 20 1977

Hi,

I'll bet you thought that by now I would not be sending you the stuff we talked about during the "Instructors Course". Well, a little late in responding but here it is.

I've included some additional stuff that you might find interesting.

Soon as the material is gathered I'll send out the first GSAR Newsletter. Plans are still in the making for a GSAR seminar either official or unofficial at the region conference. The basic format would involve discussion of "Urban" vs Field Rescue, presentations on topics such as hypothermia, EMT aid or hazard or similar topics. Please feel free to send me any ideas you have for topics, and also any additional books, magazines, ectera that might fit into the reference list.

We'll be in touch.

*Dave*

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: Major David A. Carter

12 February 1977

SUBJECT: Training Weekend

TO: Col. L. Morse/Commander

1. I am responding to your verbal request to send information to you concerning the training weekend.

2. Although it was evident that you felt we were wasting our time talking, the group itself did not concur with your opinion. 86% of the attendees had come with the expectations that they would be taught how to teach, approaches, methods, ideas, and of course standards to take home to their units and Wings. This was not the case as you are aware.

3. The course being offered by the folks from Delaware was first of all too basic for the group and secondly followed the pattern of OES light rescue, a urban based type of rescue. The bulk of the rescue work done by the attendees is field rescue and search. Air masks, ladders, 2 inch hose lines, smoke masks, are as alien to most of attendees as apparently compasses, DF locaters, rough terrain crossing were to the Delaware folks. While I do not deny the value of their type of training it is not what the average CAP ground team does.

4. The group spent Saturday morning defining a rough set of standards and training areas. They are included in Lt. Conover's letter to you a copy of which is attached. These standards are above what is required in CAPM 50-15, but are not as tight as some of the group felt they should be.

5. Saturday afternoon was spent in a class on use of the ELT DF location equipment, and the types, prices and use of ELT equipment. A second portion of the afternoon was spent discussing methods of getting equipment, such as donations or sales to raise funds. Finally I taught a class on how to teach map and compass and offered a few ideas how to make the class room work meaningful in the field. Sunday morning we had a class by Lt Conover on victum packaging and movement with a long practice session in the woods not far from the classroom.

6. Col. Hess pointed out that the people who attended this session are doers. They are the folks that interrogate, search, and sometimes rescue. They, not the guys and gals in the airplanes and the radio rooms, they see the victims of those sudden stops from altitude. They carry the folks who do and don't survive out. They endure nasty, wet, cold

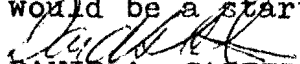
and very uncomfortable conditions. About half of the group also tried to teach skills to others so they could perform, but we all are acutely aware of the need for clear standards of performance, training, and implimentation. Of the six Wings represented only one said that they have Staff members who want, and are aware of the need. The rest indicated thier Wings either ignore the issue or say no need exists.

7. The group agrees with you that Col McNabs Ranger type of super militarism is <sup>NOT</sup> the answer. A functional approach perhaps modified by attachment one is appropriate it would seem.

8. It is true that each operational part of CAP has from time to time expressed a view that it is neglected or left out, but consider that in the last ten years of attending Wing, Region, and National conferncec not once has there been any seminar, training session, or whatever on ground search and rescue. It is usually mentioned in the Operations seminars, but only in passing and normally negatively. The bulk of the time is concerned with aircraft, pilots, and safty of the same.

9. Pilots enter CAP with a certain level of expertize which we add to for our purposes. People interested in ground search and rescue enter with a desire, a willingness to learn, and a want to help. They must learn from books, talking to others, and attending missions. Since no really clear policies exist many feeling the need to do what they read as the intent of the 50-15, over extend thier training and capabllities thus producing a situation which can cause the legal problems that you are familiar with. This also produces the distaste so evident in command channels. The answer I and the group feel is not to deny the existense of the need for ground rescue, but to define policy and set standards which make sense and are appropriate for the rescue mission. People who do and are trained to do should have input just as the pilots, communicators, ectera, have in thier policy.

10. We urge you to consider the standards attached as a begining toward that policy. Perhaps, the begining of a region wide standard is here. The region could best help the Wings by training the insructors to standards set up by the Region. We all are more than willing to help in this regard. We want to share our knowledge, skill, and expierece. Please recosider your denial of our request for a seminar at the coming Region conference, it also would be a start and a first. Thank you for your time.

  
DAVID A. CARTER  
Major CAP

cc; Va. Wing Commander  
Group members  
file

During the CAP Middle East Region training weekend (29-30 Jan. 1977) at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, CAP members from six of the seven MER Wings met to discuss ground search and rescue training. It was mutually agreed that the training outline in CAPM 50-15 is almost useless as far as a basis for a training program due to its lack of detail. It was further agreed that training of the type provided by the Pennsylvania Wing school at Hawk Mountain, while of value, does not provide the type of training necessary for qualification as a CAP Ground Team member at the basic level. The group, after several hours of discussion and deliberation, arrived at the following rough outline of minimum training standards for qualification as a basic Ground Team member.

#### I. GROUND SEARCH

One day of lecture and practical exercise.

- A. Lost person and downed-plane searches and their protocols.
- B. Ground search theory and strategy.
- C. Ground search tactics. (How to run a proper line search, what to look for, etc.)
- D. Urban as well as wildland search. (e.g. lost children.)
- E. Downed-plane search using vehicles.

#### II. SURVIVAL AND WILDERNESS TRAVEL

One day of lecture and practical exercise. Important points are general safety and comfort in the outdoors and overnight bivouacs. Finding food in the wilds is not important.

#### III. LAND NAVIGATION

Approximately two hours of classroom instruction covering:

- A. Topographic and other maps.
- B. Compass use.
- C. Orienteering concepts.

Several hours of practical exercise including:

- D. A "map walk" where students actually locate symbols on a topographic map in the field.
- E. Various types of games and/or exercises to familiarize students with the use of compass techniques.

(Land Navigation continued)

- F. An actual point-to-point orienteering course for students to run.

#### IV. RESCUE

(It was generally agreed by the group that most techniques and equipment used by Civil Defense rescue teams and by urban rescue squads are not generally applicable to CAP rescue situations. CAP Ground Teams must be able to use equipment that is lightweight, inexpensive, and backpackable, and should learn techniques suitable for occasional extrication from light plane wrecks and transportation across rough terrain and in adverse weather.)

Approximately two days of instruction, including classroom and extensive field training.

- A. Basic light extrication tools-- hammers, metal cutters, pry bars, come-alongs, etc.
- B. Extrication-- theory and practice.
- C. Security-- what to do at a crash site.
- D. Evacuation:
  - Proper use of Stokes litters and army stretchers.
  - Use of ropes and tree belays.
  - Procedures such as multiple-pitch ascents and descents, rotation of litter bearers, laddering over obstacles and up steep pitches, etc.
  - Use of improvised long distance carries.

#### V. LEGAL ASPECTS

About two hours of training in the legal aspects of SAR.

#### VI. INTERROGATION AND REPORTING

Approximately four hours or less.

- A. Basic theory and technique.
- B. Use of search patterns in interrogation search.
- C. A practical exercise in interrogation and reporting.

#### VII. CAP MISSION OPERATIONS

A basic introduction to CAP downed-plane search protocol and operations, about two hours of lecture and discussion.

### VIII. FIREFIGHTING

Although this is listed as a training requirement for Ground Team members in CAPM 50-15, the group was unsure as to what type of firefighting was meant and why it is required for ground team members. The following areas were identified as possibly being relevant.

- A. Theory of plane and vehicle firefighting.
- B. Fire prevention.
- C. Extinguishing agents and types of fire extinguishers.
- D. Brush-fire firefighting.

Three other topics (First Aid and Emergency Medicine, Radiological Monitoring and Decontamination, and Communications) were discussed. It was agreed that adequate training in these areas is almost universally available, and they need not be considered here.

It should be noted that this outline is not a recommendation for a training program, but a rough compilation of current ideas regarding ground team training. Much additional work is necessary to formulate a reasonable curriculum or set of guidelines.

Respectfully submitted this  
first day of February, 1977

*Keith Conover*  
Keith Conover (2Lt, CAP)

Vice President and Director of  
Operations, Appalachian Search  
and Rescue Conference, Inc.  
Ground Operations Officer, Task  
Force VI, Virginia Wing, CAP.

## REFERENCE LIST

### Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference Publications:

Search and Rescue Operations Plan, 1st Ed., May 1976 30pp  
Operations Manual (not including SAROP) available March 1 1977  
Training Manual, preliminary edition, Jan. 1977 (cost .75¢, limited amount)  
Basic Mountain Rescue Standards, available for 1977, about 22pp.

(above secured from Keith Conover, 1883C Univ, Circle, Charlottesville Va)

### Emergency Medical Technician Books:

Emergency Care and Transportation of the sick and injured, American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, 2nd Ed. 1977  
Emergency Care, Grant and Murray  
Textbook of Basic Emergency medicine, Miller and Cantrell, C.V. Mosby Co.  
Handbook of Emergency Care and Rescue, Erven, Glenroe Press.  
Mountaineering First Aid, Mitchell, The Mountaineers, Seattle

### Civil Defense Books:

Handbook for Radiological Monitors FG-E-5.9  
Light Duty Rescue Instructors guide IG-14.2  
Publications Catalog MP-20  
( check with your local CD for the above)

### Woodsmanship:

USAF Survival Manual AFM 64-5  
USAF Survival Manual (training edition) AFM 64-3  
Basic Rockmanship, Royal Robbins  
Advanced Rockcraft " "  
Backpack Techniques, Ruth Mendenhall  
Ropes, knots, and slings for climbers, Walt Wheelock  
(these four from La Siesta Press, PO box 406, Glendale Cal. 91209)  
Belaying the Leader, Sierra Club, Mills Tower San Francisco Calif. /  
25 West 45th St. Ny. Ny.  
Boy Scout Handbook and Boy Scout Field book from Local Boy Scout Council  
Frostbite, Bradford Washburn, Museum of Science, Boston Mass.  
Fundamentals of Rockclimbing, MIT Outing Club Rm 409, MIT Cambridge Mass.  
Be Expert with Map and Compass, Kjellstrom  
Winter hiking and camping, Daniels, Adirondack Mtn. Club  
Mountaineering: freedom of the hills. The Mountaineers Seattle Wash.

### SEARCH and Rescue:

Mountain Search and Rescue Techniques, W.G. May Rocky Mtn Rescue PO Box Y  
Group, Boulder Co. 80302  
Mountain Search for the lost victim. Kelley PO Box 153, Montrose Ca. 9120  
Land Search and Rescue by Penn Ranger Hdq, PO Box 3173, Bethlehem, Pa 18017  
Team Commander Handbook, Penn Rangers.  
ELT Search, CAPP Dec 1973  
Inland Search and Rescue, ARRS 30 Apr. 1975

additonal rescources:

National Association for Search and Rescue, PO Box 2123 La Jolla, Ca. 92038 (they have individual memberships \$19.00, a journal and meetings in various places in the US.  
Emergency Product News, PO Box 159, Carlsbad CA. (2008 (Cost \$7.98 a year)