

12/23/1982?

# AN EXAMPLE SEARCH MISSION



*A STEP BY STEP  
LOOK AT A SEARCH  
MISSION*

LESSON PLAN OUTLINE  
MANAGING THE SEARCH FUNCTION

TOPIC: "Example Mission"

SUGGESTED TIME: 60 minutes

OBJECTIVES, A STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

Discuss this particular example mission, and identify the various search phases, and functions that had problems, deficiencies, or omissions that kept it from being successful.

TRAINING AIDS NEEDED:

Example Mission 35mm Slide Series

REFERENCES:

Text, "Search is an Emergency," Chapter 3, Example Mission.

1.0 Discuss the objective for this topic.

\* 1.1 Emphasize: This example mission was chosen because of its extreme complexities, and the fact that everything that could go wrong, did. The purpose is to help provide an overview of the course, by pointing out "What went wrong." We want to avoid the tradition attitudes and mistakes of the past.

2.0 Show the first six (6) or seven (7) slides describing the general area in which this mission occurred.

3.0 Have the students read the example mission narrative from the student text through page - Example Mission 9.

3.1 As they read, have them make notes about problems, deficiencies, questions they see regarding this mission.

3.2 This should take 15 minutes.

4.0 Discuss the notes made by some of the students.

\* 4.1 Encourage an atmosphere of open discussion and comment from the class.

5.0 Show the remainder of the slides quickly, using the information provided in the script provided in this section.

6.0 Summarize the mission, using the critique section found on page - Example Mission 11 - of the student text.

7.0 Referring to page - Example Mission 10, discuss the total cost of the mission.

8.0 During the conduct of the course, refer back to some of the deficiencies in this mission for reinforcement.

\* 8.1 Emphasize: That you hope similiar problems can be avoided by the learning that is taking place in this course.

SCRIPT - SLIDE PROGRAM ON EXAMPLE MISSION FOR MANAGING THE SEARCH FUNCTION COURSE

Slide  
No.

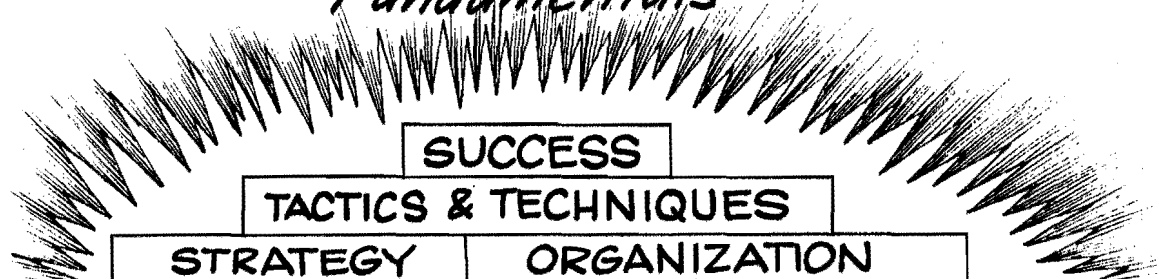
1. Shows the Appalachian Crest from the Cades Cove area. The highest point in the center of the picture is Thunderhead Mountain.
2. A view looking west down the Appalachian Crest from just west of Thunderhead Mountain. The open areas in the center and right center of the picture is Spence Field.
3. Spence Field again in the left center portion of the picture. Angling off the drainages to the right would be the direction to Cades Cove.
4. Cades Cove looking west. The area in the vicinity of the building in the center of the picture is the area typically used for base camp and helicopter operations during SAR missions. Spence Field would be directly to the left of the picture.
5. A closer view of Spence Field. The field itself is between  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile long, stretched along the ridge top. The shelter where the Martin's were camped would have been located just to the left of the open patch in the lower left corner of the picture, slightly down the drainage from the ridge top.
6. A close-up view of Spence Field itself, looking back toward the east. Typical vegetation includes small trees and shrubs, and brush, interspersed among the open areas.
7. An overall view of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The red line surrounding the park is the boundary. The dark line running east and west through the center of the park is the Appalachian Trail. The red arrow indicates the location of Spence Field. The yellow arrow indicates the location of Cades Cove, and the white arrow the location of Park Headquarters.
8. A closer view of the western half of the park, again showing the locations of Spence Field, Cades Cove, and Park Headquarters.
9. Shows approximately the action taken on the evening and early morning of Saturday, June 14-15. Hasty search was conducted of the Spence Field area itself (shown in yellow). The Bote Mountain Road (heavy dark line running north of Spence Field) was covered, as was Ledbetter Ridge Trail (dark line running north on the left-hand side of the picture), which goes into Cades Cove from Russell Field. In addition, the Appalachian Trail between Spence Field and Russell Field was covered.
10. Another view of the coverage of Saturday, June 14.
11. On Sunday, June 15, operations were expanded to include the coverage of several additional trails leading both north and south from the Spence Field/Russell Field area. In addition, the Appalachian Trail east of Spence Field was covered, and the major drainages running north of the Spence Field area (shown in red) were searched.
12. On Monday, June 16, drainage and trail searches were expanded, and a heliport and base camp operation was established in the Cades Cove area.
13. The base camp area in Cades Cove, as the search expanded to its maximum proportion, logistics and parking became a serious problem.
14. In addition, it became a difficult situation to keep track of all of the individuals coming and going from the base camp and search areas.

15. Command and coordination center was established in Cades Cove.
16. As weather permitted, helicopters were used extensively to shuttle people from the Cades Cove area to Spence Field.
17. Several different types of helicopters from several different organizations were involved.
18. Military CH-47 Chinooks were used extensively for transporting searchers.
19. Helicopter refueling became a serious problem in Cades Cove, especially during the periods of bad weather.
20. Extensive media coverage began to lead to serious problems of coordination.
21. The numbers of people who eventually showed up for the search effort created serious congestion problems.
22. Traffic control was necessary. (Note the need to put someone with a good image in the traffic control positions).
23. It was necessary to install signs that were explicit and that could not be misinterpreted in various places to direct searchers to the base camp area.
24. Inevitably, many of the searchers, as well as the equipment, that arrived at the scene were not useful, considering the conditions of terrain, vegetation and weather.
25. Briefing and debriefing became a serious problem.
26. Same as previous slide.
27. Generally indicates the total area covered. That area shaded was supposedly searched "intensively."
28. A different view of the area intensively covered (shaded in yellow).
29. In addition to the area intensively covered, trails and drainages (shown by the darker lines) throughout the entire western one-third of the park were intensively searched. Also, the entire north shore of the Fontana Reservoir (bordering along the southern portion of the park) was intensively searched by boat.
30. A different view of the area of the park intensively covered.
- 31-34. A reason, in our opinion, that Dennis Martin was never found, could be attributed to the overuse of certain resources (such as grid searchers) and the under utilization of other effective resources. For example, a very effective resource, readily available in this part of the country, that was not utilized at all was the local units of the American Search Pig Association. These animals have become highly trained and are very effective in searching for lost people because of their highly developed sense of smell. They may not be quite as mobile as German Shepherd dogs, and occasionally must be assisted over downed timber, etc. As a side benefit, they have been shown to be effective in the additional duty of "rooting" a fireline during fire suppression activities. The only difficulty encountered has been that occasionally one of the animals gets confused when locating the lost victim, and immediately begins putting in a fireline around him or her.

# THE PHILOSOPHY AND CONCEPT OF EFFECTIVE SEARCH MANAGEMENT

## *THE THEORY AND PRINCIPLES OF LAND SEARCH*

*Successful Search is Rooted in Strong  
Fundamentals*



*THEORY of SEARCH*





LESSON PLAN OUTLINE  
MANAGING THE SEARCH FUNCTION

TOPIC: "The Philosophy and Concept of Effective Search Management."

SUGGESTED TIME: 60 minutes

OBJECTIVES, A STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

Discuss the fundamental principles of effective search management.

Understand the six (6) 'Crucials' of search theory.

Know the ten (10) search management course objectives.


TRAINING AIDS NEEDED:

Overheads - numbers: Overview 1 through 55. (also available as 35mm slides)

REFERENCES:

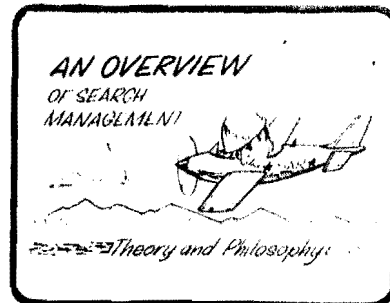
Text, "Search is an Emergency," Chapter 2, The Philosophy and Concept of Effective Search Management.

OVERVIEW ONLY



## 1.0 An overview of Search Management: Theory & Philosophy.

- \* 1.1 Emphasize: "Search and/or Rescue" (SAR) means the searching for or rescue of any person(s) who becomes lost, injured, or killed while in the out-of-doors, or as a result of a natural or man-caused disaster.

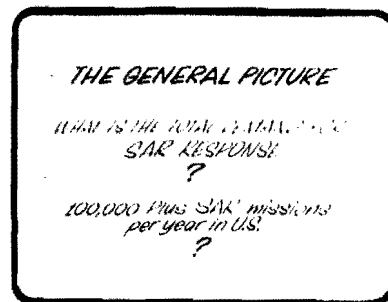


### OVERVIEW 2

## 2.0 What is the total demand for SAR response? How many SAR missions are there per year?

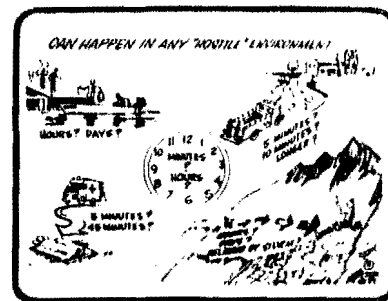
YA.

- 2.1 We really do not know. There is a lack of data and a national reporting system. However, the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR) is attempting to implement a SAR data reporting system. (Refer to chapter on SAR Statistics).



### OVERVIEW 3

## 3.0 SAR can happen in any hostile environment. Urban areas can become a wilderness during storms and disasters. Wilderness SAR techniques have application to any emergency.

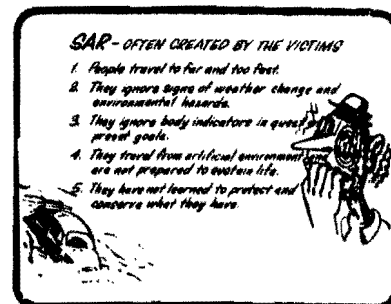


- \* NOTE: Emphasize that the next five (5) slides are an effort to understand why people have problems in backcountry areas, and why there is a need for SAR services.

### OVERVIEW 4

## 4.0 SAR is often created by the subjects themselves.

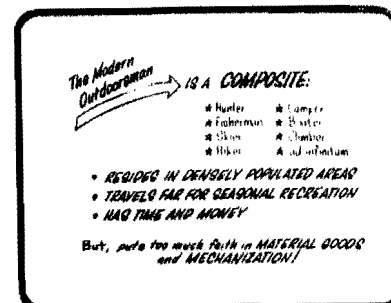
- 4.1 Why? Explain points on Overhead.



## 5.0 The modern outdoorsman is a composite recreationalist.

- 5.1 Explain the points on the Overhead.

### OVERVIEW 5



- \* 5.2 Emphasize: The average person usually does not do any of these activities well, and seldom takes the time to learn recreational skills.

- \* NOTE: Explain that as SAR managers we should attempt to know the kinds of people we will be searching for and why they create SAR problems.

6.0 An average subject profile, or "why we will always have SAR!"

6.1 Review points on these two (2) over-heads with the class.

- \* 6.2 Emphasize: This list represents the most common factors causing SAR incidents.

These factors are usually a lack of knowledge, education, and common sense.

This is an attempt to understand subject behavior.

Usually a combination of these factors have caused the incident.

Most situations could have been prevented by common sense.

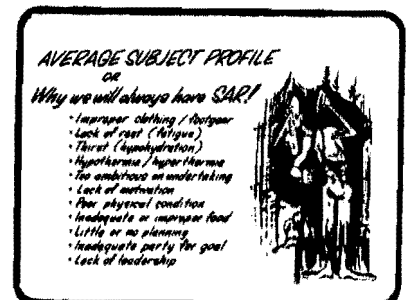
7.0 Most wilderness emergencies last between 24-72 hours.

TFFS

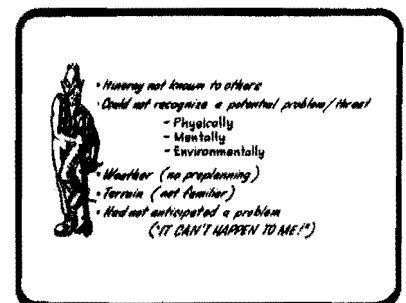
7.1 This is the average period of time that most people will have to be on their own and self sufficient until help arrives.

7.2 The actions that the subject takes (or does not take) during the first six (6) hours will directly influence his survival time frame.

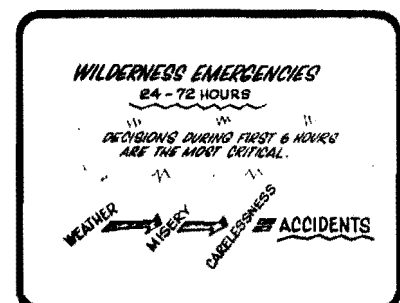
#### OVERVIEW 6



#### OVERVIEW 7



#### OVERVIEW 8



- \* 7.3 NOTE: Refer to formula. Weather (and the inability to cope with it) causes most situations.

## 8.0 Search vs. Rescue.

### 8.1 Define terms.

- \* 8.2 Emphasize: This is not a Rescue Course.

The course will focus on the procedures, techniques, and management of finding lost people.

## 9.0 Why do we search?

- 9.1 The reasons listed on the overhead are all relevant, but the legal aspect is becoming more of a concern.

- 9.2 Lead a short discussion on the legal aspect, based on local or regional incidents of lawsuits, or potential lawsuits against the agency in charge of SAR operations.

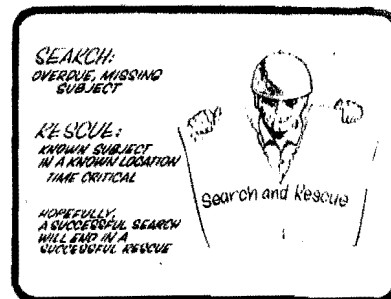
- 9.3 To avoid "legal situations" it is important to manage SAR operations effectively and efficiently.

- This course will help.

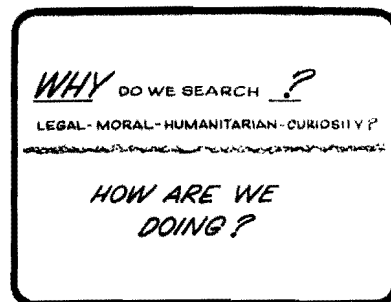
- 10.0 For some SAR operations, the state-of-the-art has progressed to a high level.

- \* 10.1 Emphasize: That rescue techniques, procedures, equipment are fairly well defined and developed.

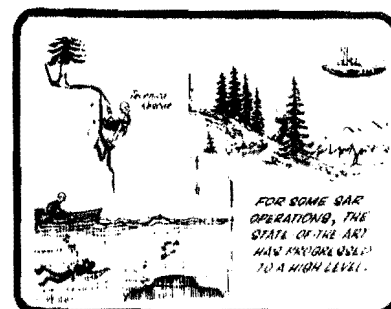
### OVERVIEW 9



### OVERVIEW 10



### OVERVIEW 11



- 11.0 The state-of-the-art for Land Search is currently behind rescue in development, but there are a lot of new things happening.

11.1 This course, for instance!

12.0 Other titles for this course could be:

12.1 Let's now take a look at the components and concepts of search management.

13.0 Remember, it is the function and not the title.

- \* 13.1 Emphasize: The most important component of search management is the effective search manager. And it really does not make any difference what he is called as long as he does the job.

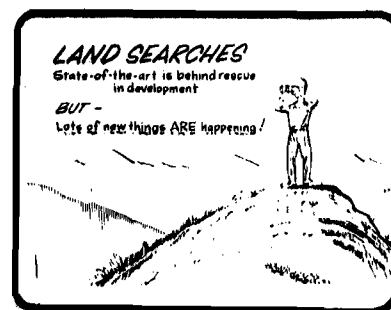
14.0 Why is a search manager needed?

14.1 Refer to Overhead. Discuss the points listed.

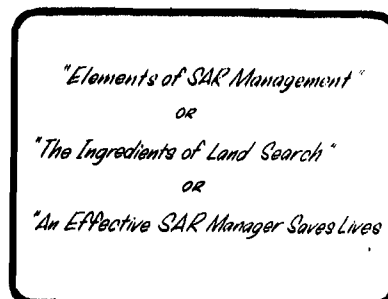
15.0 The Search Management Workshop: purpose, goals, need.

15.1 Why we are here!

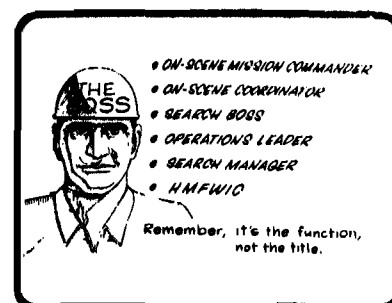
16.0 An effective search manager should be able to:



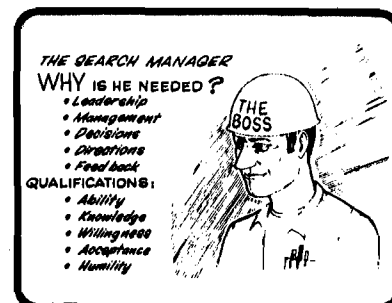
## OVERVIEW 13



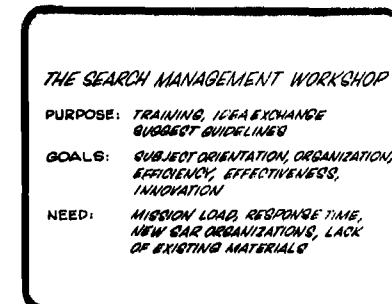
## OVERVIEW 14



## OVERVIEW 15



## OVERVIEW 16



16.1 Discuss points on overhead.

- \* 16.2 Emphasize: A graduate of this course should be able to perform these functions.

17.0 We hope that your attitude toward SAR Operations is better than this!

18.0 Let's take a look at the components of a search mission.

18.1 Also, an overview of topics to be presented during this course.

19.0 The Preplan.

19.1 Among other ingredients a preplan contains: authorities, RCC's, agreements, communications, training, standards, resources, organization, S.O.P.'s.

- \* 19.2 Emphasize: Your preplan is your road-map for a successful search effort.

20.0 SAR Resources.

20.1 You must know how to use each resource for maximum utilization, and to be successful (effective).

21.0 The First Notice.

#### OVERVIEW 17

*Search Manager should be able to*

- ESTABLISH OBJECTIVES
- ESTABLISH PRIORITIES
- EVALUATE RESOURCES
- DEVELOP PLAN OF ATTACK
- DELEGATE RESPONSIBILITIES
- DEVELOP RESOURCES
- COORDINATE EFFORTS
- EVALUATE RESULTS
- DEVELOP NEW PLANS

#### OVERVIEW 18

*A LITTLE PHILOSOPHY*

*"The Unqualified have been coordinating the searching to do the unnecessary with the obsolete."*

*We have been doing so much for so long with nothing, that NOW we can do ANYTHING with NOTHING FOREVER!"*

*or "Need-us-off-at-the-Place" operation.*

#### OVERVIEW 19

*A STEP BY STEP  
LOOK AT A SEARCH  
MISSION*

#### OVERVIEW 20

*THE PREPLAN:*

*AUTHORITY'S; RCC'S; AGREEMENTS;  
COMMUNICATIONS; TRAINING; STANDARDS;  
RESOURCES; ORGANIZATION; S.O.P.'S*

*Your Preplan is  
the key to a  
successful search  
effort.*



#### OVERVIEW 21

*SAR RESOURCES*

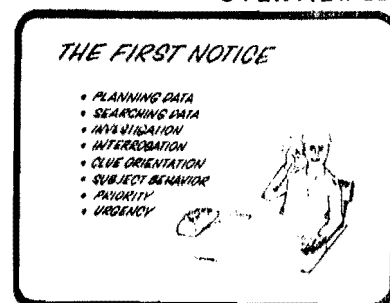
- WHO
- HOW
- WHERE
- CAPABILITIES
- SPECIALTIES

*You must know  
how to use each  
resource for maximum  
utilization.*



- 21.1 Components: Planning data - Searching data - Investigation - Interrogation - Clue orientation - Subject behavior - Priority - Urgency.

- \* 21.2 Emphasize: These are all topics to be presented. You must have this knowledge before the phone rings if you are to develop a successful search plan.



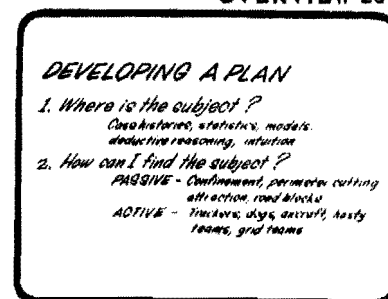
## 22.0 Developing a plan.

- 22.1 Where is the subject? (Strategy)

- 22.2 How can I find the subject? (Tactics)

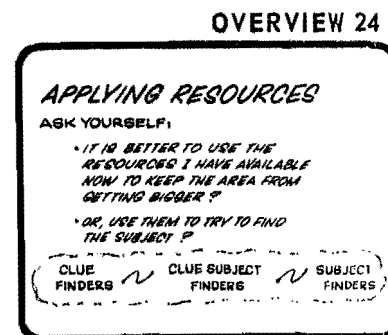
- 22.3 NOTE: This is the definition of strategy and tactics.

- \* 22.4 Emphasize: These decisions must be made by the Search Manager before resources can be committed to the field.



## 23.0 Applying Resources.

- 23.1 Read overhead to class. Stress that they will be able to answer this question better, after they have completed this course.



## 24.0 The Initial Attack.

- 24.1 Which resources should be deployed first? Second?, Etc.



25.0 POS = POA X POD.

25.1 Probability of Success = Probability of Area X Probability of Detection.

\* 25.2 Emphasize: This formula will become your best SAR Management Tool, and you will obtain working knowledge of these concepts.

26.0 The Theory and Principles of Land Search.

26.1 The course content will concentrate on these concepts.

27.0 The Crucials of Search Theory.

27.1 Read the points on the overhead with the class. Mention that each point will now be further discussed in detail.

28.0 Search is an Emergency.

28.1 Read the points on the overhead.

29.0 Search is an Emergency.

29.1 Read the overhead.

30.0 Search is an Emergency.

30.1 This overhead demonstrates that the potential size of the search area

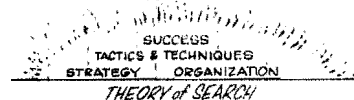
## OVERVIEW 26

$$P_S = P_A \times P_D$$

## OVERVIEW 27

### THE THEORY AND PRINCIPLES OF LAND SEARCH

Successful Search is Rooted in Strong Fundamentals



## OVERVIEW 28

SEARCH THEORY IMPLEMENTATION IS THE REDUNDANCY THAT ASSURES SURVIVAL WHEN SHORT CUTS FAIL

### The crucials:

1. Search is an Emergency
2. Search is a Class: Algorithm
3. Search for clues, not the subject
4. Concentrate on aspects that are
5. Know if the subject has the Search Area
6. Grid Search as a last resort

## OVERVIEW 29

### 1. SEARCH is an EMERGENCY

#### BECAUSE:

- THE SUBJECT MAY NEED EMERGENCY CARE
- THE SUBJECT NEEDS PROTECTION FROM SELF AND ENVIRONMENT
- TIME AND WEATHER DESTROY CLUES
- AN URGENT RESPONSE LESSENS SEARCH DIFFICULTY

## OVERVIEW 30

### 1. SEARCH is an EMERGENCY

OFTEN, IT'S HARD TO JUSTIFY URGENCY

BECAUSE % OF LOST PEOPLE, LEFT ON THEIR OWN, WOULD SURVIVE.

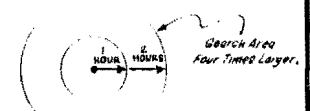
"Let's wait another hour..."

## OVERVIEW 31

### 1. SEARCH is an EMERGENCY

A QUICK RESPONSE MEANS:

Putting searchers into the field to minimize search area size



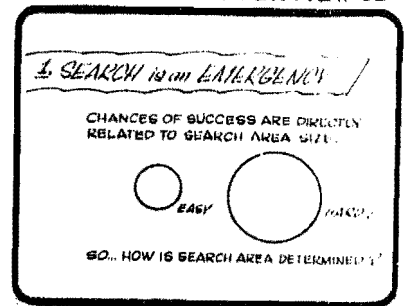


grows larger with each passing hour.  
(assuming a mobile subject)

31.0 Search is an Emergency.

31.1 Obviously, the search difficulty is minimized with a smaller search area.

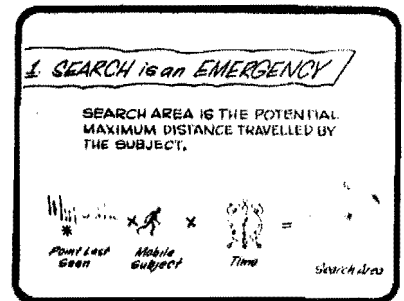
OVERVIEW 32



32.0 Search is an Emergency.

32.1 Refer to the formula on this overhead. This is the method used to define the "theoretical search area."

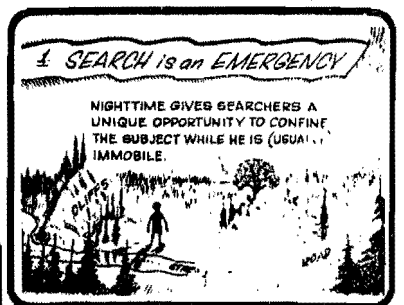
OVERVIEW 33



33.0 Search is an Emergency.

\* 33.1 Stress, that this is a tactic that is seldom considered or used, yet, many initial tactic resources can be successfully used at night.

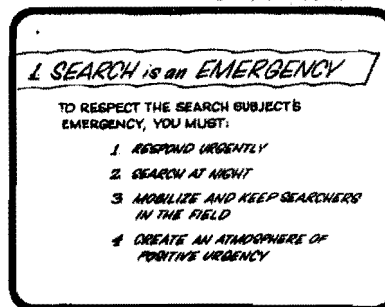
OVERVIEW 34



34.0 Search is an Emergency.

34.1 Conclusion, read overhead.

OVERVIEW 35

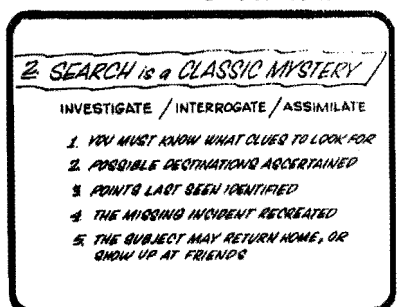


35.0 Search is a Classic Mystery.

\* 35.1 Emphasize: Finding a lost subject is like a plot in a Sherlock Holmes Novel.

A successful search manager must investigate, interrogate, assimilate.

OVERVIEW 36



36.0 Search for Clues, not Subjects.

36.1 Read overhead.

37.0 Search for Clues, not Subjects.

37.1 This overhead shows how finding clues will lessen the search difficulty.

38.0 Concentrate on Aspects that Are!

38.1 Read overhead.

\* 38.2 Emphasize: That it is a waste of time, energy, effort, and money to do otherwise.

39.0 Know if the Subject leaves the Search Area.

39.1 Read overhead.

40.0 Know if the Subject leaves the Search Area.

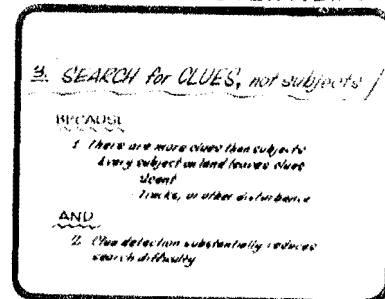
40.1 Assign someone to do the "Bastard Search."

40.2 So that when you find him home in bed - you can send someone over to say "you Bastard."

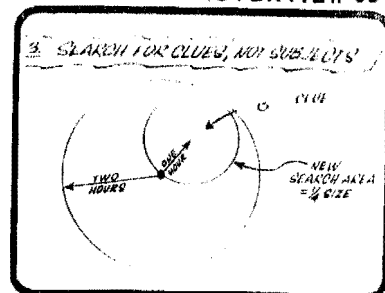
41.0 Know if the Subject leaves the Search Area.

41.1 Overhead demonstrates how perimeter cutting can be used to find clues and eliminate portions of search area.

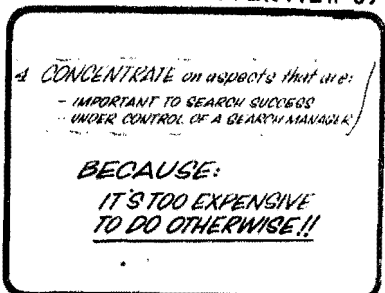
OVERVIEW 37



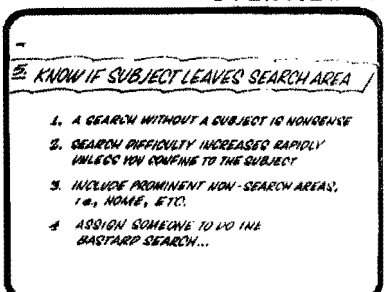
OVERVIEW 38



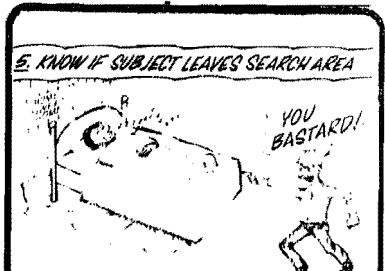
OVERVIEW 39



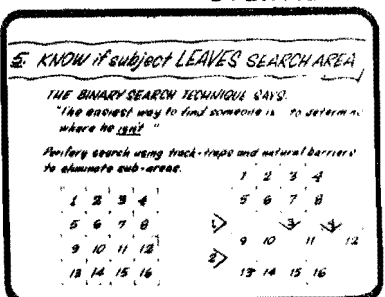
OVERVIEW 40



OVERVIEW 41



OVERVIEW 42



## 42.0 Grid Search as a Last Resort.

42.1 Graph on overhead shows that grid search may not be necessary if you: respond quickly, confine, search at night, and look for clues.

- \* 42.2 Emphasize: Other search tactics should be used first, and these will be presented.

NOTE: We will now highlight the rest of the course topics.

## 43.0 The Organization.

43.1 Think functions, and not people. Use the best person for the job!

- \* 43.2 Emphasize: A good organization plan will help you with: base administration, briefing/debriefing, relatives, press, political, criminal, replacing personnel, and documentation.

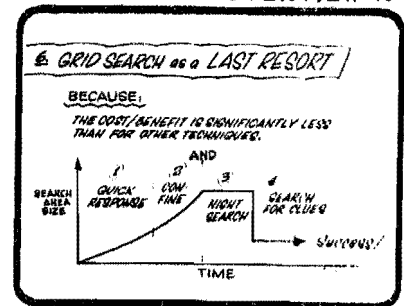
## 44.0 The Organization.

44.1 Read overhead with class - this quote sums up very simply that effective search organization is needed.

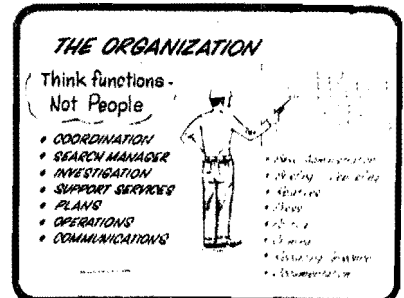
## 45.0 Executing the Plan.

- \* 45.1 Again, Emphasize, that strategy and tactics (and this formula) is the "guts" of the course.

### OVERVIEW 43



### OVERVIEW 44



### OVERVIEW 45

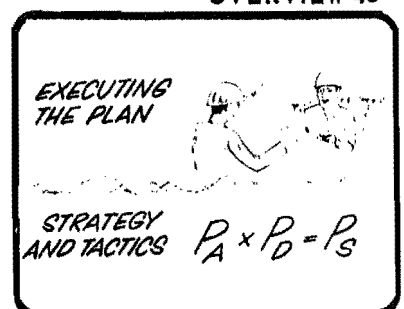
"NOW," said the rabbit. "THIS IS A SEARCH AND I'VE ORGANIZED IT..."

"DONE WHAT TO IT?" said Pooh.

"ORGANIZED IT. Which means... well it's what you do to a search, when you don't all look in the same place at once...."

A. A. MILNE, 1928

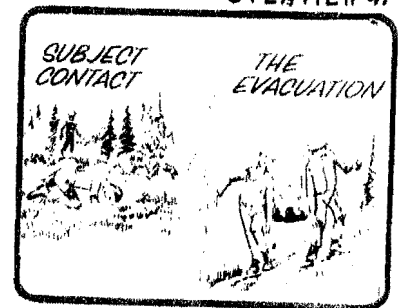
### OVERVIEW 46



46.0 Subject Contact/Evacuation.

- \* 46.1 Emphasize: This is where a search becomes a rescue. These topics are discussed later in the course.

OVERVIEW 47



47.0 Suspending the Mission/Post Mission.

- \* 47.1 Emphasize: A good search manager should be able to smoothly and effectively demobilize and satisfy all after actions necessary.

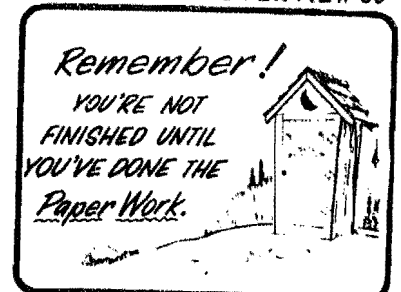
OVERVIEW 49



48.0 Post Mission.

- 48.1 Emphasizes the need to document.

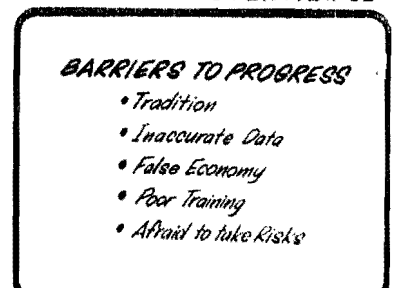
OVERVIEW 50



49.0 Barriers to Progress.

- 49.1 We hope that no one present is guilty of these!

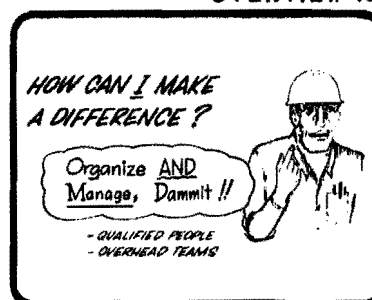
OVERVIEW 52



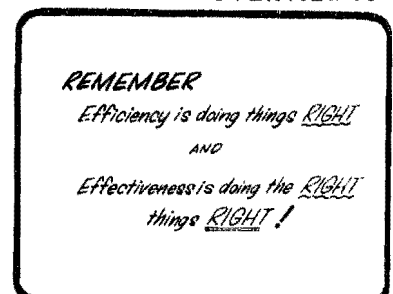
OVERVIEW 48

50.0 How can You make a Difference?

- 50.1 Read overhead.



OVERVIEW 53



51.0 Efficiency is doing things Right.

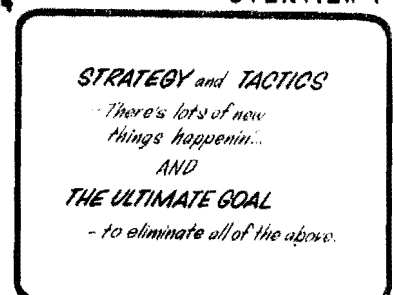
- 51.1 These are traits of a good SAR Manager.

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OVERVIEW 1

52.0 Strategy and Tactics, New Things Are Happening.

- 52.1 A search manager must stay current.



### 53.0 PSAR Motto.

#### 53.1 PSAR: Preventive SAR Education.

#### 53.2 A SAR manager can (should?) promote education.

### 54.0 Search Course Objectives.

#### 54.1 Read and Discuss the objectives with the class.

#### OVERVIEW 51

##### PSAR MOTTO:

*"The most successful  
SAR mission is the one  
that never had to happen."*



#### OVERVIEW 54

##### SEARCH COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. MANAGE A SEARCH
2. DISCUSS ELEMENTS OF A SEARCH PREPLAN, DESCRIBE ITS IMPORTANCE TO SUCCESSFUL MISSION
3. IDENTIFY BASIC SAR RESOURCES, DISCUSS THEIR FUNCTIONS AND LIMITATIONS
4. DESCRIBE TACTICS USED IN SEARCH FOR LOST PERSONS
5. DESCRIBE RESOURCES/SEQUENCE OF INITIAL ACTION IN APPLYING SAR RESOURCES TO FIND MISSING SUBJECT

#### OVERVIEW 55

##### SEARCH COURSE OBJECTIVES

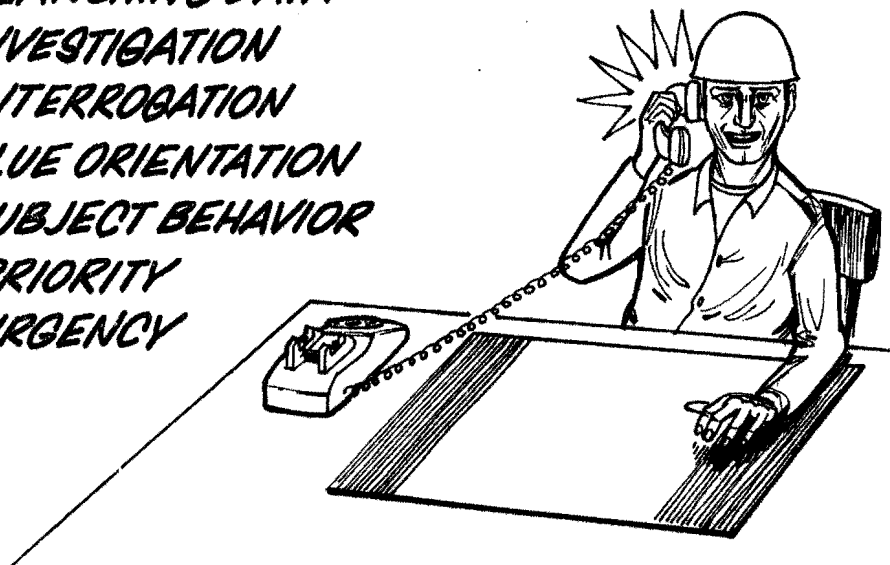
6. DESCRIBE FUNCTIONS OF EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION
7. DEMONSTRATE ABILITY TO ESTABLISH SEARCH AREA IN A GIVEN MAP PROBLEM
8. IDENTIFY KEY FACTORS INVOLVED IN DECIDING TO SUSPEND A MISSION
9. DISCUSS IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTIVE SAR PROGRAMS
10. DESCRIBE FUNCTION OF CLUE DETECTION IN RELATION TO SEARCH THEORY



# FIRST NOTICE

## *THE FIRST NOTICE*

- *PLANNING DATA*
- *SEARCHING DATA*
- *INVESTIGATION*
- *INTERROGATION*
- *CLUE ORIENTATION*
- *SUBJECT BEHAVIOR*
- *PRIORITY*
- *URGENCY*







LESSON PLAN OUTLINE  
MANAGING THE SEARCH FUNCTION

TOPIC: "First Notice"

SUGGESTED TIME: 30 minutes.

OBJECTIVES: A STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO;

Identify the various ways by which the responsible agency is notified of a potential SAR problem.

Create a Lost Person Questionnaire Form that is relevant to the local responsible agency's needs.

Discuss the critical decision making processes relevant to the information gathered during the First Notice phase.

Understand that a continuous investigation process begins with the First Notice.

TRAINING AIDS NEEDED:

ABANDONMENT

Lost Person Questionnaire/Check List.

REFERENCES:

Text, "Search is an Emergency," Chapter 7, First Notice

WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE, 1980, Tim Setnicka

- 1.0 Discuss the objectives for this topic.
- 2.0 How does the report (First Notice) come in?
  - 2.1 Overdue report by relatives or friends.
  - 2.2 Report by member of party.
  - 2.3 You can discover;
    - a. abandoned vehicle.
    - b. registration system.
    - c. deserted camp or equipment.
  - 2.4 Distress signals.
  - 2.5 Emergency Locator Transmitter.
  - 2.6 Other Clues.
- 3.0 Initial contact with the reporting party.
  - 3.1 Proper Attitude.
    - a. Calm, Professional, Inquisitive, Concern, Willingness to help.
  - 3.2 Obtain
    - a. Name, Call back number, Location.
  - 3.3 Talk to the reporting party personally.
  - 3.4 Remember, Search is an Emergency.

#### 4.0 Initial Information.

\* NOTE: Refer students to the Lost Person Questionnaire, page, First Notice 7.

Emphasize: It is better to get more than enough information now rather than to have to go back and dig it up later.  
Saves valuable time in the long run.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Missing how long?

4.2 Activity.

4.3 Equipment.

4.4 Number of Persons missing?

4.5 Age.

4.6 Sex.

4.7 Physical condition.

4.8 Experience/ability.

4.9 General area of search.

4.10 Terrain.

4.11 Weather.

#### 5.0 Evaluation of the Problem.

LPG IN HANDBOOK

5.1 Evaluate the initial information.

- a. Circumstantial.
- b. Second hand.
- c. Eyewitness.

5.2 Evaluate the source of information.

5.3 Consider the facts.

5.4 Consider the probabilities.

5.5 Consider the possibilities.

5.6 Combine the information objectively.

6.0 Getting more information.

~~6.1 Appoint an Information Officer.~~

6.2 Protect ~~scant~~ articles.

PLS ? CLUES, SCANT  
ARTICLES

7.0 Summary

\* Emphasize: "Regardless of how improbable or unfounded the report appears at the time, a compelling firehouse response is essential until SAR personnel have arrived on the scene and determined the accuracy of the information."

- Tim J. Setnicka, WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE, 1980

7.1 Important considerations: Get all the information necessary to determine:

- a. If there is a problem.
- b. How serious is it or could it get.
- c. Where is it.
- d. Who is involved.
- e. How did it happen.
- f. When did it happen.

USE LPQ

7.2 Get all the information necessary to make decision about what to do now.

WITNESS = CLUE -  
HOLD onto IT

- ① MODEL SEARCH
- ② RESEARCH
- ③ HANDBOOK

# DETERMINING THE SEARCH URGENCY

*The combination of urgency factors will help determine not only how quickly to respond, but the level of response.*

*Some kind of response should always happen immediately.*

*SEARCH IS AN EMERGENCY - even if it is no more than stepping up the planning for the increased potential for a more serious problem.*





LESSON PLAN OUTLINE  
MANAGING THE SEARCH FUNCTION

TOPIC: "Determining the Search Urgency."

SUGGESTED TIME: 30 minutes.

OBJECTIVES: A STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

Identify the factors involved in determining the urgency of the search situation.

Describe how these factors help to determine the relative search priority and level of response.

TRAINING AIDS NEEDED:

Overheads - numbers: Priorities/Urgency 1,2,3,4, and 5

REFERENCES:

Text, "Search is an Emergency," Chapter 10, Determining the Search Urgency.

WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE, 1980, Tim Setnicka.

## 1.0 Discuss the objectives for this topic,

## 2.0 FACTORS AFFECTING URGENCY

USE POCKET BOOK  
ON EXAMPLE  
MISSION

2.1 The following factors directly influence the well-being of the subject.

- Subject profile
- Weather profile
- EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE TO SUBJECT
- Subject's experience
- Terrain hazards

2.2 The following factors have no direct influence on the subject, but do influence the decision-making process concerning the urgency of the situation,

- History of Incidents in Area - the frequency of past incidents in the area and their outcomes can be a key in decision-making.
- Time - the time elapsed from the moment the subject actually "went missing" is important in two respects:
  - . time frame for survival
  - . effect of time on clues
- "Political" Sensitivity - the combination of all external influences will affect decision-making. Among these influences are:
  - VIP involved?
  - Interest of politicians
  - Pressure from relatives
  - Pressure from media; publicity

## 3.0 The Urgency Chart

\* **NOTE:** Refer the students to the chart on page Determining Urgency - 2.

\* **Emphasize:** That the numbers are Relative. The totals may be used as a guide.

3.1 The key is to get all these facts on paper, in front of you, so you can put the situation in perspective.

## 26 PRIORITIES/URGENCY 1

### FACTORS AFFECTING URGENCY

- SUBJECT PROFILE
- WEATHER PROFILE
- EQUIPMENT POSSESSED BY SUBJECT
- SUBJECT'S EXPERIENCE
- TERRAIN HAZARDS
- HISTORY OF INCIDENTS IN AREA
- TIME
- "POLITICAL" SENSITIVITY

## 27 PRIORITIES/URGENCY 2

### RELATIVE URGENCY

- THE LOWER THE FACTORS, THE MORE URGENT THE SITUATION

Subject Profile	Factor
AGE	
• Very young	1
• Very old	2
• Other	2-3
MEDICAL CONDITION	
• Known or suspected injured, ill	1-2
• Healthy	3
• Known fatality	3
NUMBER OF SUBJECTS	
• One alone	1
• More than one (unless expected)	2-3

## 28 PRIORITIES/URGENCY 3

### Weather Profile

- EXISTING HAZARDOUS 1
- PREDICTED HAZARDOUS (0 hrs or less) 1-2
- PREDICTED HAZARDOUS (more than 0 hrs) 2
- NO HAZARDOUS WEATHER PREDICTED 3

### Equipment Profile

- INADEQUATE FOR ENVIRONMENT 1
- QUESTIONABLE FOR ENVIRONMENT 1-2
- ADEQUATE FOR ENVIRONMENT 3

- 3.2 In addition, generally speaking, the more serious the previous incidents were, the more time that elapsed since the subject "went missing," and the more "politically" sensitive - the greater the urgency becomes.

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#### PRIORITIES/URGENCY 4

*Subject Experience Profile*  
• NOT EXPERIENCED, COXSWAIN AREA 1  
• NOT EXPERIENCED, KNOWN AREA 1  
• EXPERIENCED, NOT FAMILIAR WITH AREA 1  
• EXPERIENCED, KNOWN AREA 2  
*Terrain/Hazards Profile*  
• KNOWN HAZARDOUS TERRAIN, DENSE 1  
• FEW, OR NO HAZARDS 2  
*History of Incidents This Area*  
• FACTOR IN PREVIOUS INCIDENTS  
*TIME and POLITICAL SENSITIVITY*

#### 4.0 SUBJECT CONDITION ASSUMPTIONS

- 4.1 Usually, after assessing all the initial information obtained, the search boss makes an assumption as to the condition of the subject, in terms of his or her MOBILITY (ability to travel) and RESPONSIVENESS (ability and desire to respond to calls, etc.). Four possibilities exist:

- a. Mobile/responsive
- b. Immobile/responsive
- c. MOBILE/UNRESPONSIVE
- d. Immobile/Unresponsive

} CONFIRMATION!

P.31

- 4.2 The assumption made about the subject's condition should help dictate the type of immediate searching action (tactics) to be taken.

#### 5.0 SUMMARY

- \* Emphasize: The combination of the factors affecting urgency will help determine not only how quickly to respond, but the nature and level of response, as well. Some kind of response should always happen immediately - even if it is only an increase in planning for the higher potential that the problem will become more serious. Remember: SEARCH IS AN EMERGENCY.

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#### PRIORITIES/URGENCY 5

*The combination of urgency factors will help determine not only how quickly to respond, but the level of response. Some kind of response should always happen immediately.*  
*SEARCH IS AN EMERGENCY - even if it is no more than stepping up the planning for the increased potential for a more serious problem.*

- 5.1 Effect of the combination of urgency factors along with the subject condition assumptions should help search manager in assessing response alternatives.

\* Emphasize: "The relative urgency of a reported situation should be established - if it is not immediately apparent - during the first notice and interview phase. Despite the need for a constant firehouse response to all reports of complications of any kind, some latitude for flexibility exists and should be exercised."

- Tim J. Setnicka, WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE, 1980

# CALLOUT PROCEDURES

## *CALL OUT INFORMATION*

- ☆ *Situation description*  
i.e., WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE
- ☆ *Special skills needed*
- ☆ *Who (what other units) are responding*
- ☆ *Number of persons (and/or teams) required*
- ☆ *Current weather forecast*  
ROAD, FLYING CONDITIONS



LESSON PLAN OUTLINE  
MANAGING THE SEARCH FUNCTION

TOPIC: "Callout Procedures"

SUGGESTED TIME: 30 minutes

OBJECTIVES, A STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

Describe the information that needs to be provided to the resources that are being called to provide assistance.

Understand the importance of providing this information.

TRAINING AIDS NEEDED:

Overheads - numbers: Callout 1, 2, 3.

REFERENCES:

Text, "Search is an Emergency," Chapter 18, Callout Procedures.

WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE, 1980, Tim Setnicka.

1.0 Discuss the objectives for this topic.

EARLY

ALERT

CALL OUTS

2.0 INFORMATION TO PROVIDE TO RESOURCES WHEN YOU CALL:

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CALLOUT 1

2.1 When requesting assistance from outside resources, you must provide them with certain information. Information may vary with the specialty of each resource, but generally will include:

- a. Description of the situation (who, what, when, where, how).
- b. Special skills needed from them.
- c. Who (what other units) are responding.
- d. Number of persons (and/or teams) required. Request that they call you back and confirm numbers actually responding before they depart.
- e. Current weather and forecast at the search area.

- . Road conditions
- . Flying conditions

- f. Terrain description.
- g. Elevation range.
- h. Personal equipment needed by searchers.
- i. Group or specialized equipment needed.
- j. Communications procedures; frequencies, etc.
- k. Map quads being used.
- l. Meeting place.

- . Signs
- . Markers
- . Route suggested

- m. Who to report to upon arrival at the search area.
- n. Callback number.
- o. Call off procedures (in case subject is found while they are enroute).
  - . License numbers, vehicle descriptions
  - . Check-in periodically while enroute
  - . Public radio
  - . Their own communication system

PROPER  
EQUIPMENT  
SHOW PAGE

3.0 Summary

- ★ Emphasize: Providing the alerted resources with organized and operationally significant information at the time they are called out will reduce difficulties, unpreparedness and misunderstandings that could diminish efficiency.

CALL OUT INFORMATION

- ★ Situation description  
TO, WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE
- ★ Special skills needed
- ★ Who (what other units) are responding
- ★ Number of persons (and/or teams) required
- ★ Current weather forecast  
KDM: FLYING CONDITIONS

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CALL OUT 2

CALL OUT INFORMATION

- ★ Terrain description
- ★ Elevation range
- ★ Personal equipment needed
- ★ Group or specialized equipment needed
- ★ Map quad
- ★ Meeting place  
SIGN MARKERS ROUTE SUGGESTED

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CALLOUT 3

CALL OUT INFORMATION

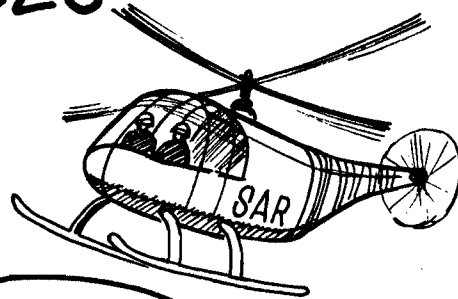
- ★ Whom to report to
- ★ Callback number
- ★ Call off procedures
  - LICENSE NUMBERS, VEHICLE DESCRIPTIONS
  - CHECK-IN PERIODICALLY WHILE ENROUTE
  - PUBLIC RADIO
  - THEIR OWN COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM



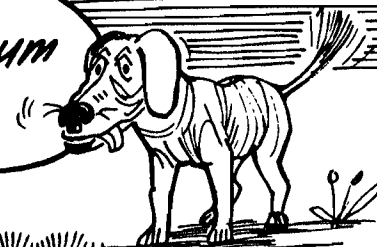
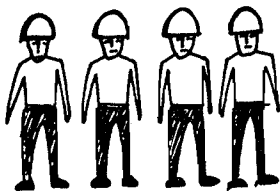
# SEARCH & RESCUE RESOURCES

## *SAR RESOURCES*

- WHO
- HOW
- WHERE
- CAPABILITIES
- SPECIALTIES



*You must know  
how to use each  
resource for maximum  
utilization.*





## LESSON PLAN OUTLINE

### MANAGING THE SEARCH FUNCTION

TOPIC: "SAR Resources"

SUGGESTED TIME: 60 minutes.

OBJECTIVES: A STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

Identify the basic types of search and rescue resources, and discuss their function, limitations, and possible locations.

Understand the importance of identifying and cataloging SAR resources as an important part of the preplanning process.

TRAINING AIDS NEEDED:

SAR Resource 35mm slide series, if available.

NOTE: Instructor should develop his own slide series that is relevant to his geographic area.

REFERENCES:

Text, "Search is an Emergency," Chapter 5, SAR Resources

WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE, 1980, Tim Setnicka

1.0 Discuss the objectives for this topic.

2.0 LOCATED IN THE PREPLAN - Your SAR resource list and Locator is the "heart" of your preplan. The directory of SAR resources must be "manufactured" by you and will be a changing document.

2.1 SAR resources can be categorized in a variety of different ways, such as:

- a. By the type of strategy or tactic capabilities of the unit, or unit members.
- b. By the type of SAR environment, and the special techniques needed for each.

- 1. Air Search.
- 2. Water/River Search.
- 3. Technical Rock.
- 4. Snow/Ice
- 5. Restricted Land Search.
- 6. Open Land.
- ~~7. Desert Search.~~
- 8. Specialized Search - Cave.

c. List human resources by:

- 1. Name.
- 2. Phone numbers.
- 3. Experience of capability.
- 4. Availability.

d. List resources by generic type, i.e., Aircraft, dogs, scuba, Mt. rescue, etc.

\* NOTE: Refer the class to the "Example Format" by Jon Gunson at the end of this chapter, and the paper on the "Search and Rescue Aids Concept" for ideas.

3.0 RESOURCE EVALUATION - You must ask six basic questions to evaluate a resource's usefulness in an operation for a given mission.

3.1 Availability?

- a. Are they ready to respond?
- b. Are there any special requesting procedures or conditions?

### 3.2 Response time after notification?

- a. A measured response?
- b. An emergency response? (It is important to remember that search area size is time dependent).
- c. Are the resources on hand or immediately available? If not, what is the time lag?

### 3.3 Capabilities

- a. Can the resource really perform the task quickly, safely, efficiently?

### 3.4 Limitations

- a. Are they in "shape" mentally, physically?
- b. How proficient or effective is the resource?
- c. Special considerations - language, radios.
- d. Competition - ego?
- e. Will they work with and for you?
- f. Special considerations - communications.

### 3.5 Qualifications

- a. Is the resource really qualified as shown by training, past performances, and work record?

### 3.6 Back-up Resources

- a. More than one plan necessitates more than one resource source,

## 4.0 Some Resource Types

- \* NOTE: If you have a slide series, lead a discussion on resources using them. Otherwise, lead a discussion as follows:

### 4.1 Aircraft

- a. Military
  - 1. Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC), Scott AFB, Illinois,

They have the total responsibility of inland search and rescue coordination; and the responsibility for the dispatch of available military units of Army, Navy, Marine Corps., Air Force and, in some cases, the Coast Guard.

2. Two basic types of assistance available.

Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic (MAST) for rescue of injured subject and other civilian medical emergencies. Includes the transportation of injured persons from point to point.

The search for and rescue of civilians - includes the transportation of search personnel, and other logistical needs.

b. Non-Military

1. Private and government contractees such as for the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, etc. You should have prior rental agreement and check the F.A.A. regulations.

c. Psuedo-Military

1. Civil Air Patrol - organized as a non-profit, volunteer civil corporation chartered by Congress and governed by a National Board. The C.A.P. was established as a volunteer civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. Through agreements, the C.A.P. assists with search activities.

4.2 Multi-skilled Groups (Volunteer and Professional)

a. Mountain Rescue Association (M.R.A.)

Volunteer organizations usually skilled in such disciplines as high angle rock, snow, and ice search and rescue, avalanche search and rescue, mountaineering, E.L.T. work, etc.

b. Explorer Search and Rescue (ESAR)

Part of the national scouting program with people from 14-17 years old who are competent in SAR operations in wilderness areas.

c. Reserve Military Units

May be available if prior agreements have been made. Includes such units as aero-rescue squadrons capable of para-rescue.

d. National Guard

Again, depending on mission and jurisdiction, National Guard may be available for assistance.

e. Volunteer Nordic Patrol

Specializing in cross-country ski search and rescue, these groups are affiliated directly with a ski area and/or through the local county sheriff.

f. National Ski Patrol

Specializing in downhill ski search and rescue as well as avalanche work. These chapters are organized directly in the downhill ski area they are to be associated with. N.S.P. Headquarters is located in Denver to provide policy statements and guidelines.

g. Local Mountaineering - Outdoor Organizations

Can easily provide person-power for large searches. Include college hiking clubs, community groups, etc.

h. Dog Units

Should decide on which of the two basic types are needed, air scenting or bloodhounds. Dog units include Colorado Canine Search Group, Northwest Bloodhounds, American Rescue Dog Association, W.O.O.F., Search and Rescue Dog Association, etc. The air scent trained dogs are especially useful because they can search for both living and deceased subjects up to several weeks after being lost. This ability also makes them useful in avalanche SAR problems.

i. Horse-Equestrian Units

Generally organized as a part of Sheriff Reserve Units. Additional help may be obtained from land managing agencies who have pack stock as well as trained packers and horsepersons.

j. National Jeep Patrol

Organized groups of four-wheel drive vehicles, with drivers trained in search and rescue.

k. Tracking

A highly specialized, individual skill. Local groups may have individual members who specialize in this skill. The largest federal agency involved in this activity is the U.S. Border Patrol and assistance may be obtained by contacting their office direct.

l. S.C.U.B.A.

Local sheriff's offices usually have trained deputies in SCUBA diving or local reserve deputies. Local federal land managing agencies such as U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamations, National Park Service or U.S. Forest Service may have personnel trained in this activity.

m. Assisting Agencies

A broad category often overlooked which comprises the local county sheriff's offices, highway patrol, city police, and adjacent state and local land managing agencies such as State Forest Service and National Park Service. In most situations the local sheriff has jurisdiction and responsibility for managing the search function.

Some federal lands fall into four broad areas of legal jurisdiction.

1. Exclusive - Federal law supercedes all state authority - executive, judicial, and legislative. The Federal government may, however, choose to utilize certain state statutes such as vehicle codes, health and safety, etc. In federal areas state officials have no power or authority unless they are sworn Federal officers as well.
2. Concurrent - Here the State and Federal government occupy an area jointly, each having certain rights and law enforcement authority.
3. Partial - State government grants certain authority to the Federal government. This type of jurisdiction usually relates to matters of taxation.
4. Proprietary Jurisdiction - The Federal government has the right to perform certain functions and enforce certain laws without interference from the state.



#### 4.3 Equipment and Supplies

- a. Oversnow Vehicle - Private clubs and organizations can be utilized, Also, national snowmobile organizations can provide information about local groups as well as snowmobiling information.

Large oversnow vehicles may be rented or borrowed from public utilities commissions, Federal land management agencies (U.S. Forest, Park Services, local sheriff), as well as local ski areas. Prior rental or mutual aid agreements suggested,

#### 4.4 Weather Information

Flight Service Stations, Air Traffic Control Centers, radio and T.V. news, F.A.A. centers, and military bases all can provide weather information especially if you have a local office "Upstream" to check on current as well as predicted weather,

#### 4.5 Food - Housing

Aside from local vendors, State and Federal wildfire fighting organizations may provide field kitchens and base camp accommodations if needed. Other sources include the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, Military or National Guard Units, local Civic or Church groups, and organized SAR Commissary Units,

#### 5.0 Special Resources.

- \* 5.1 NOTE: Refer the students to page, SAR Resources 9.

- \* 5.2 Lead a discussion on the special resources listed:

- a. Attraction devices,

- b. Dogs - SAR dogs

- c. Equestrian Units
- d. Interrogators
- e. Mine Detectors
- f. Noise Sensitive Equipment
- g. Prophets, diviners and seers
- h. Photo - Interpretation
- i. Scuba Search
- j. Sniffers - (Mechanical)
- k. Trackers
- l. Thermister Detectors
- m. Witches

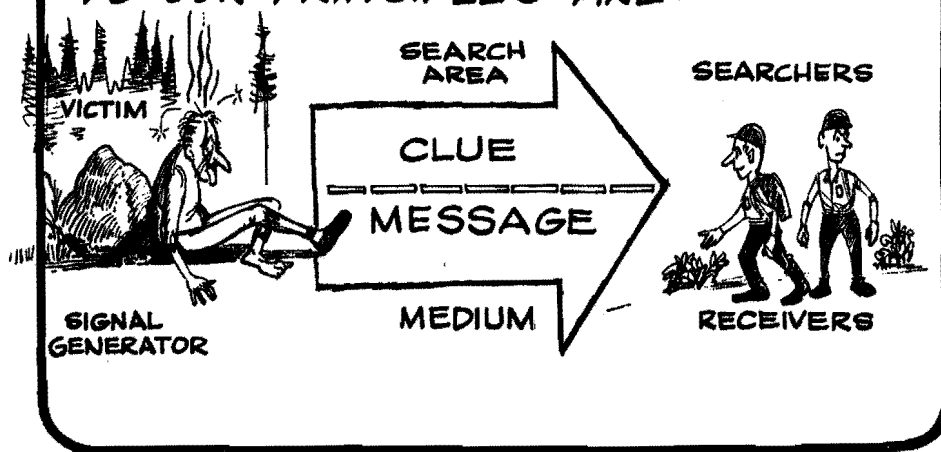
## 6.0 Summary

**\* Emphasize:** "Meeting and Greeting all the resources in the preplan, while not a written requirement, is a fundamental task for the SAR manager. A letter or phone call often substitutes for a personal visit. Knowing who the other person or group is, what it can do, and how it operates often means the difference between successfully putting these resources into play or not."

- Tim J. Setnicka, WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE, 1980

# CLUE ORIENTATION

*SOME SEARCH AND INFORMATION  
THEORY DEFINITIONS APPROPRIATE  
TO OUR PRINCIPLES ARE:*





LESSON PLAN OUTLINE  
MANAGING THE SEARCH FUNCTION

TOPIC: "Clue Orientation"

SUGGESTED TIME: 30-45 minutes.

OBJECTIVES, A STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

Describe the function of clue detection as it relates to search theory.

Identify the four categories of clues.

Discuss the use of signcutting as a major factor in reducing a probable search area.

Identify the major information categories that are crucial to effective search planning.

TRAINING AIDS NEEDED:

Overheads - numbers: Clue Orientation 1-12.

REFERENCES:

Text, "Search is an Emergency," Chapter 14, Clue Orientation.

WILDERNESS SEARCH AND RESCUE, 1980, Tim Setnicka.

MOUNTAIN SEARCH FOR THE LOST VICTIM, 1973, Dennis Kelley.

## 1.0 Discuss the objectives for this topic.

### ★ Emphasize: Clue Seeking

Not only the searching for a subject, but the larger problem of defining characteristics and behavior (clues).

POA = Prior Knowledge + Subjective Analysis + "Intelligence."

## 2.0 Introduce the term "clue seeking."

- 2.1 According to the dictionary, a clue is a fact, an object, information, or some type of evidence that helps to solve a mystery or problem. Referring again to Webster, we find that to "seek" is to try and find, to trace or search for, to track down. Put the two together (clue seeking) and you have the essence of solving the classic mystery: --- finding the lost person. The purpose of clue seeking (gathering all the facts and information possible) is to assist us in our reasoning of the problem and its ultimate solution: --- (finding the lost person). It is important that we devise a method by which we can uncover clues that are relevant to a particular situation. Significant clues may provide the basis for major in-field tactics and actions.

- ★ Emphasize: Clues evaluated through hindsight can be thrown in the "Wait till next time" department, but this isn't enough. Search is a special task with life or death consequences. We must be able to account for our actions.

- Jeff Doran

## 3.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF CLUE SEEKING

- Clue seeking is an on-going process that starts with preplanning, continues through a mission and doesn't end until the critique is over.
- Good clue seeking is a learned skill, and must be practiced to develop a sense of what is minimum information to work with.
- Avoid forming opinions and then gathering information to support that opinion.

## 22 CLUE ORIENTATION 9

### **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- 1. Assemble a complete profile*  
-- LET IT OFFER DIRECTION BUT  
-- DON'T FORM EARLY OPINIONS AND THEN  
COLLECT INFO TO JUSTIFY/SUPPORT YOUR
- 2. Clue seeking is an on-going process*  
-- DOESN'T STOP UNTIL VICTIM IS FOUND
- 3. KNOW - minimum planning/search data  
that is required*
- 4. NEVER - minimize the value of a clue*
- 5. No one person can adequately gather the clues*

- d. Don't immediately form an opinion about the value of a clue.
- e. Gather information from everyone, as no one person can adequately gather all the facts.
- f. Assemble a complete profile of the missing subject and the situation and let it offer direction.

4.0 The modern approach to search is clue oriented. In the past, search efforts were directed entirely toward the lost subject and as a result, overlooked a multitude of clues that were available to point the way. Today, search theory is dependent on clue detection, and is comprised of five basic elements.

- a. The subject or clue generator.
- b. The clues or messages.
- c. The search area.
- d. The searcher or clue seeker.
- e. Time as it relates to a sequence in events.

5.0 Search Theory is Dependent on Clue Detection.

5.1 Lost subjects are signal generators.

- a. They leave clues, prolific clue (signal) generators.
- b. There are usually more clues than subjects.
- c. The subject is the ultimate clue.

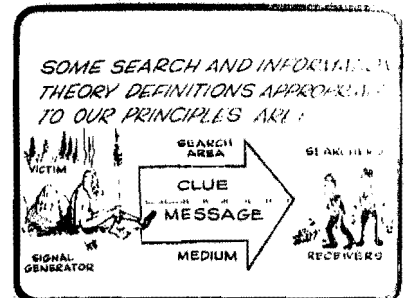
6.0 Trained Searchers are clue receivers.

UNTRAINED " ARE " DETECTORS

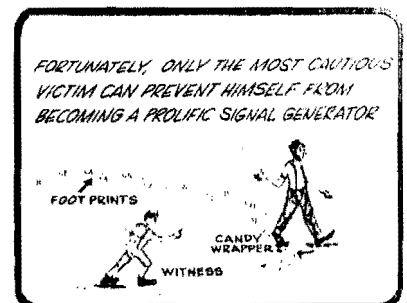
6.1 They are best qualified to recognize and act upon clues.

6.2 Through team work they interpret the message.

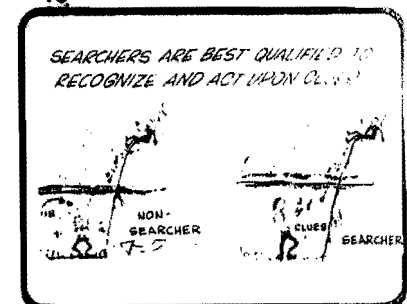
#### 14 CLUE ORIENTATION 1



#### 15 CLUE ORIENTATION 2



#### 16 CLUE ORIENTATION 3



7.0 The search area is the medium.

7.1 The search area must contain clues.

7.2 Some clues are nearly as good as the subject.

7.3 No clues, generally - no subject.

8.0 There are four (4) categories of search clues which searchers should be aware of;

8.1 Physical

1. Footprints
2. Candy wrappers

8.2 Recorded

1. Summit log
2. trail register

8.3 People

1. Witness
2. Persons contacted in the search area

8.4 Event

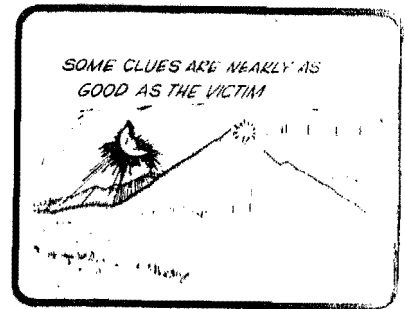
1. Flashing light
2. Whistle

9.0 Clue Detection Resources

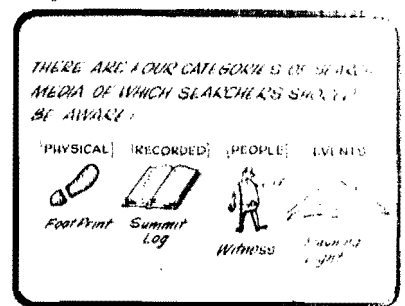
9.1 Clue Finders

- a. tracking dog
- b. visual tracker
- c. investigation team
- d. direction finding (DF) equipment.

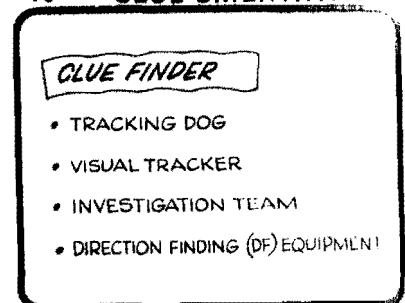
17 CLUE ORIENTATION



18 CLUE ORIENTATION



19 CLUE ORIENTATION





- ★ NOTE: These resources should be mentioned briefly. More details and specifics are covered in section Applying SAR Resources.

## 9.2 Clue/Subject Finders

- search dogs
- hasty team (clue aware)
- D.F. equipment
- grid teams (clue aware)

## 9.3 Subject Finders

- grid searchers
- helicopters

WHAT TO DO WITH A CLUE

FLAGGED  
TAPES

10.0 Signcutting, (Binary search) is an effective search tactic.

10.1 The easiest way to find someone is to know where they aren't.

- Eliminates vast portions of search area.

10.2 The search area circumference is more easily searched than the area itself.

- Selective sampling is efficient.

10.3 The resource effectiveness of signcutting is vastly greater than gridding.

- It utilizes fewer resources.

## 20 CLUE ORIENTATION 7

### CLUE / SUBJECT FINDERS

- SEARCH DOGS
- HASTY TEAMS (CLUE AWARE)
- D.F. EQUIPMENT
- GRID TEAMS (CLUE AWARE)

## 21 CLUE ORIENTATION 8

### SUBJECT FINDERS

- GRID SEARCHERS
- HELICOPTERS

## 23 CLUE ORIENTATION 10

*SIGN CUTTING (Binary Search)  
is an effective search tactic*

"THE EASIEST WAY TO  
FIND SOMEONE IS TO  
KNOW WHERE THEY AREN'T."

## 24 CLUE ORIENTATION 11

*SIGN CUTTING IS IN,  
OTHERS ARE OUT:*



GRID



SIGN CUTTING

## 25 CLUE ORIENTATION 12

*BY ELIMINATION, VAST PORTIONS  
OF SEARCH AREA CAN BE NEARLY  
IGNORED.*

1	2	3	4					1	2	3	4				
5	6	7	8					5	6	7	8				
9	10	11	12					9	10	11	12				
13	14	15	16					13	14	15	16				

## 11.0 SUMMARY

11.1 Search theory is dependent on clue detection.

- a. Search for clues instead of subjects.

11.2 Four categories of clues.

- a. physical
- b. recorded
- c. people
- d. event

11.3 Clue Detection Resources

- a. Clue Finders
- b. Clue/Subject Finders
- c. Subject Finders

11.4 Assemble a Complete Profile

- a. Clue seeking is an on-going process.

11.5 Signcutting is an Effective Search Tactic

- a. The easiest way to find someone is to know where they aren't.

★ NOTE: Refer the students to the narrative beginning on page, Clue 7 entitled "Guidelines for Gathering Clue Information." Stress that they should become familiar with the information.

# LOST SUBJECT BEHAVIOR





LESSON PLAN OUTLINE  
MANAGING THE SEARCH FUNCTION

TOPIC: "Lost Person Behavior"

SUGGESTED TIME: 60 minutes. (90 minutes if you use the problems).

OBJECTIVES: A STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO:

Determine that all facts may be important in predicting lost subject behavior.

Relate the significance of historical behavior data of lost persons in the particular geographic region that a search is being conducted.

Identify those lost subject behavior factors which must be used in overall search strategy.

Describe the need for data collection and its use in determining the most likely area to search.

TRAINING AIDS NEEDED:

None

REFERENCES:

Text, "Search is an Emergency," Chapter 11, Lost Person Behavior.

ANALYSIS OF LOST PERSON BEHAVIOR, 1976: William G. Syrotuck

A STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF LOST PERSONS IN WILDERNESS AREAS, No. 2, 1973:  
William G. Syrotuck.

MOUNTAIN SEARCH FOR THE LOST VICTIM, 1973: Dennis Kelley.

Handout: "STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF LOST PERSONS AND REPORTS," June 1978:  
Al Krevtzer (update on Syrotuck's work).

Handout: "HOW TO ESTIMATE HIKING TIME:" Gordon Waddell.

Handout: "GUIDELINES FOR INFORMATION GATHERING:" Jeff Doran.

## 1.0 Discuss the objectives for this topic:

- \* Emphasize: By analyzing the behavior of past lost persons in similar situations, you might be able to "predict" what the subject you are now looking for might do, where he might go, or where he might be.

This concept is a search planning tool, dealing with generalities, and not absolutes.

## 2.0 GENERAL ASPECTS OF LOST PERSON BEHAVIOR --- Basic to any effective search is a profile of the individual that is being sought. A complete list of all information related to that individual specifically.

Example: The F.B.I.'s ten most wanted list

- a. Physical description in great detail.
- b. Point last seen.
- c. Activities most likely to engage in, interests, hobbies, etc.
- d. M.O. - Method of Operation when committing a crime.
- e. Personality traits - aggressive, loner, dispondent, dangerous, etc.

All this information will help in some way to track down one of these criminals. Lost person incidents actually present the same problems confronting law enforcement officers in criminal investigation.

## 3.0 FACTORS THAT ARE SPECIFIC TO LOST PERSON BEHAVIOR ---Those that could effect search strategy.

3.1 BIOLOGICAL CYCLES: This relatively new area of medical research is not fully understood but has implications of being a significant factor. Biological cycles of the body determine whether any person is in a "high" of being efficient and being able to cope or in a "low" characterized by bumbling and lethargy. Generally those experiencing a "low" are not prone to effective self help. By contrast, those people experiencing a "high" may well perceive their predicament as a challenge and continue their efforts in all aspects of survival.

3.2 GENERAL STATE OF HEALTH: Recent illness, poor physical condition, chronic disease, poor nutrition and lack of sleep can all impair a subject's ability to cope with unusual situations,

especially physical stress. Fatigue usually sets in early and if the individual pushes onward, exhaustion will soon follow. The result is impaired physical and mental capabilities with the possibility of difficult detection by searchers in the area. Trip leaders often precipitate problems of this nature when they become ill just before an outing and go anyway. General health may give some indicator as to the subject's capabilities.

3.3 PAST EXPERIENCES: Previous experiences with challenging situations, strange environments or isolation will improve anyone's ability to deal with the problems brought on by injury, disorientation, or being lost. Studies reveal that those individuals who push out and expand their comfort zones (the sphere of everyday activities that a person feels comfortable with) more readily adapt to adverse situations and may prove to be less of a liability. People who rarely do or try anything new are likely to be more helpless and more of a survival risk.

3.4 PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT: Heat, cold, altitude and precipitation can all have adverse effects on the body and brain causing difficulty in problem-solving ability. Hypothermia (the lowering of the body core temperature) is still known to be the leading cause of death and accidents in the outdoors. During the advanced stages of both heat and cold exposure, individuals become irrational and beyond the ability for self help. Altitude drastically affects exhaustion rates and can be a major factor in unacclimatized persons. Precipitation can cause an individual to seek shelter and thus pose a problem with detectability, as well as an increased risk of hypothermia.

4.0 There are many things that a lost person might do that will affect both the search strategy and their own survivability. An awareness of these points may well prove crucial in revamping a search plan at regular intervals.

4.1 The ability of the subject to either build or seek shelter and get a fire started. Does the subject have the knowledge, skills, and/or resources to do these things? Campsites or fire circles will provide clues as the search pro-

gresses. Fires are also an extremely good signal of distress, while shelters in general, are good camouflages.

- 4.2 Discarding equipment or clothing is very typical of individuals in the latter stages of hypothermia or exhaustion. Although these items provide clues to the subject's whereabouts, they also point to a deteriorating condition with regard to the subject's ability to cope with the environment or situation.
- 4.3 Often times an individual will develop an overwhelming sense of abandonment which results in a "do nothing attitude." They simply refuse to believe that anyone is out looking for them and as a result do not call or make signals of any kind. Some have gone so far as to ignore helicopters flying right overhead.
- 4.4 Whether or not a subject will be detectable is tremendously important to search planning. Visual detectability is generally thought of as being observable at fifty feet. The lost hunter who is dressed in bright clothing and able to respond is a great contrast to the young child who has been instructed not to speak or respond to strangers, and is dressed in dark clothing. Perhaps the child is huddled inside a log or stump to stay warm and dry. Despondents or mentally handicapped individuals can also present very difficult problems in detectability.
- 4.5 Travel aids provide avenues of little resistance for subjects and sometimes will be used extensively. Travel aids are pathways, old railroad beds, abandon roads, game trails, streams, clearcuts, power-line right-of-ways or any area that provides a sense of direction and a path of little resistance. It is important to note that not all subjects will use travel aids even though they are available. For some reason, some prefer not to use them in their particular situations.
- 4.6 Weather and visibility play an important role in determining potential activities of a lost subject. Impending bad weather is obviously a threat to life, but perhaps a more immediate concern to the search manager is the fact that it may force the



subject to stop and seek shelter. This has its positive affect as well as negative. If the subject is no longer mobile, SAR resources may have a chance for confinement. Visibility can have the same effect, i.e., darkness or extreme foggy conditions can immobilize the subject. If the subject does move under these conditions, it will most likely be random wandering that could further complicate the search effort. Attractions such as roads or lights at night would not be effective.

5.0 MENTAL IMPACT ON THE LOST PERSON --- The human animal is social in nature with habits that develop into everyday routine.

Those who dwell in population centers or adjacent areas are dependent upon technology and modern conveniences for the necessities of life. It appears that this dependency is increasing at a rapid rate. Is it any wonder that when separated from people, material possessions, or familiar reference points, many become very confused and disoriented, or at the very least, frightened.

- 5.1 Exactly how a person will react under stress when isolated and alone is unknown. In an attempt to better predict a subject's actions, it is necessary to examine past accounts of subject behavior during actual search missions. After analyzing these missions, it becomes very apparent that a number of factors must be considered when developing an overall search strategy.
- 5.2 The mental impact of being lost or disoriented varies with individuals but is generally characterized by a shock-like behavior and disbelief. Contrary to popular belief, panic is seldom present. It appears that a complete loss of contact with known references results in feelings similar to vertigo (attitudinal disorientation experienced by pilots while flying). The subject often feels that the environment is closing in around him/her and there is an intense urge to run, break out, to find the trail or some familiar reference in that environment.
- 5.3 After a period of time that varies with each individual, all subjects seem to get control of their emotions. (This aspect is true of adults in various categories but not necessarily of children). Personal accounts relate how con-

flicts seem to develop between the conscious and subconscious minds about developing a plan of action appropriate for the situation. Eventually, a course of action that seems to offer the highest degree of probable survival, is decided on. This may or may not be a rationale or logical decision.

- 5.4 If the subject is overcome by a fear of some kind, it is possible that it may over-ride normal behavior and directly impact the outcome of the situation. Basic fears are always with us, and having fears is not abnormal. Everyone is afraid of the dark at some time because it masks one of our five senses. Fear of being alone, animals, suffering, death, and many others all are basic fears about the unknown. How will I react? What will it be like? The impact of these fears tends to be directly related to how well a person handles unknown or unexpected occurrences in daily life.
- 5.5 Many times there will be a fluctuation of thought from a sense of abandonment to a fear about what others will say when the situation is over.
- a. What will all my friends or fellow employees say?
  - b. Who cares whether I am missing? -- Will they tell anyone?
  - c. Who is going to come out here and look? -- I will bet that they have not even started yet!
- 5.6 All of these may lead to poor judgement and ir-rational behavior. It is imperative to investigate a subject's personality, background, experience and recent mood in order to more accurately predict some type of behavior. Mental attitude is critical because despair and despondency may cause a subject to ignore or entirely disregard obvious aids to rescue.
- 6.0 The circumstances by which an individual became lost, and a thorough evaluation of the surrounding terrain are both important to establishing a search plan. In general, there are three major categories of circumstances to consider:

- a. Known location - the individual was at a semi-familiar location such as a home, campground or playground, etc.
- b. Enroute - the individual was traveling a route with one or more individuals and became separated.
- c. No specific location - the individual is in a wilderness area or relatively inaccessible location.

6.1 Map and terrain analysis is useful in predicting subject behavior. Confusion factors on a trail, mazes, minor and major barriers, natural routes or travel aids and attractions should be identified and marked.

**\*** Emphasize: PUT YOURSELF IN THE SUBJECT'S SHOES.  
 Hunter: Where might he have gone?  
 Berrypickers: Where are the best berries?

6.2 Compile a subject profile and update it regularly. Get key people together to go over all the "known" plus any accumulated "unknowns."

## 7.0 GENERAL CATEGORIES OF LOST PERSONS

**\*** Emphasize: There are a number of general categories that lost persons can be placed in combined with the pertinent characteristics that set each category apart. Although each of the groups exhibit specific traits, there are always exceptions, and good search strategy concentrates on the most likely. The exceptions may be useful in planning specific confinement techniques.

### 7.1 Children (1 to 3 years)

- a. Unaware of the concept of being lost.
- b. Navigational skills and sense of direction are practically non-existent.
- c. They tend to wander aimlessly with no specific objective.
- d. They will seek out the most convenient location to lay down and go to sleep.

- Inside a log
- Under a thick bush
- Under an overhanging rock
- Under a picnic table

## 7.2 Children (3 to 6 years)

- a. These children are more mobile and capable of going further than those in the one to three year old category.
- b. They have a concept of being lost and will generally try to return home or go back to someplace they are familiar with.
- c. They have definite interests and may be drawn away by animals, following older children, or just exploring.
- d. When tired, they generally will try to find a sleeping spot.
- e. Some have been instructed to stay away from strangers and as a result will not answer or talk to searchers when called by name.

## 7.3 Children (6 to 12 years)

- a. Their navigational and direction skills are much more developed.
- b. They are generally oriented to their normal familiar surroundings and become confused in a strange environment.
- c. They may intentionally run away to avoid punishment, gain attention, or sulk.
- d. Whether it is intentional or accidental circumstances, they often will not answer when called.
- e. Darkness usually brings on a willingness to accept help and be found.
- f. Children this age suffer from the same fears and problems that adults would, but with a greater sense of helplessness.
- g. The circumstances of loss often reflect their being transplanted into a foreign environment or surroundings by parents or other adults.

## 7.4 Elderly (above 65 years)

- a. Often the person is suffering from senility.
- b. They are easily attracted by something that strikes their fancy.
- c. Their orientation is to past environments rather than the present.
- d. Many pose the same supervision problems that children do.
- e. The more active and lucid ones are likely to over-extend and exhaust themselves rapidly which can result in heart attack or other fatal complications.
- f. They are often hard of hearing or deaf which presents problems with detection.

## 7.5 Mentally Retarded (all ages)

- a. They act and react much the same as children from the age of 6 to 12.
- b. They generally will not respond to their spoken name.
- c. They most often will be hidden from view as a result of fright or seeking shelter from the elements.
- d. Many times they will hold up for days in the same location.
- e. They really have no physical impairments except that they will do nothing to help themselves.

## 7.6 Despondents

- a. Most often they are seeking solitude.
- b. Generally they will not respond to searchers as they feel it is an intrusion on their solitude.
- c. They will generally be within sight and sound of civilization.
- d. They tend to be found near prominent locations
  - lake or scenic hill
  - lookout or area with a view
  - seldom, if ever, found in the underbrush

## 7.7 Hikers

- a. Generally, they will rely on trails with a set destination in mind.
- b. Problems or complications usually arise with navigation when trail conditions change or become obscure.
  - slide over trail
  - trail not maintained
  - trail covered intermittently with snow in the spring
  - poorly defined junctions
- c. Often times hiking parties are mismatched in abilities and one person falls behind, becomes disoriented and ultimately lost.
- d. Cutting switchbacks will many times lead to disorientation or going down the wrong hill or drainage.
- e. They are very dependent on travel aids and trails for navigation.

## 7.8 Hunters

- a. They tend to concentrate on game more than on navigation.
- b. In the excitement of pursuing game, they are often lead into deadfall areas, boulder fields, underbrush, and deep snow with little regard for exhaustion or navigation.
- c. They tend to over-extend themselves into darkness and push beyond their physical abilities.
- d. They are typically unprepared for extremely foul weather (Heavy storms in the fall often signify the movement of animals and consequently an improvement in hunting).

## 7.9 Cone pickers, berry pickers, mushroom pickers, rockhounds, photographers, etc.

- a. Their intentions are to stay in one location.
- b. They usually carry no provisions or survival type gear.
- c. They go in good weather and as a result do not wear anything but light clothing.
- d. Because their attention is focused on or near the ground, they are often misled by subtle terrain changes.
- e. Attempts to return to familiar ground only put them further out of contact because of their complete disorientation.
- f. These circumstances usually put them at a high risk for survival.

## 7.10 Fishermen

- a. Generally, they are very well oriented direction wise because of the directional flow of a river or the position of a lake.
- b. The reason they are overdue is most often accident related such as slipping into the water, falls over cliffs trying to move up or down stream, or swept off of feet in fast moving water.
- c. A very high percentage of this mission category is boat related.
- d. Often this will be a recovery mission.

## 7.11 Climbers

- a. The individuals in this category are generally well equipped and self sufficient.
- b. They tend to remain on or near designated routes.

- c. A primary factor for these incidents is weather or hazardous conditions which limit an individual's abilities.
- d. Other major factors are falling debris and avalanche.
- e. Technical expertise is generally needed both for search and recovery.

7.12 General Information Relevant to the Prediction of Lost Subject Behavior -- The following is a summary of the major points that must be considered when trying to predict an individual's movements or whereabouts.

- a. Category and circumstances of the loss --
  - children are different from hikers, etc,
  - the elements of the loss contribute greatly in prediction,
- b. Terrain
  - flat terrain generally yields different travel distances than mountainous,
  - The area should be examined for barriers, escape routes, confusing drainages or ridges, etc.
- c. Personality
  - Consider the aggressive person versus the ponerer or pessimist.
  - Has a total effect on the person's ability to survive is substantial,
- d. Weather
  - restricts the subject's movements
  - is a principle contributor to hypothermia
  - time criticalness of the situation may call for increased efforts.
- e. Physical Condition
  - are capabilities encumbered or not,
  - a poor condition means an increased susceptibility to hypothermia.
  - has a direct bearing on the distance a subject will travel,
- f. Medical Problems
  - anything that could possibly precipitate abnormal behavior,
  - could have a direct bearing on the distance a subject could travel,
  - weak heart, diabetes, allergies, medication, etc.

## 8.0 Summary.

- \* Emphasize: The information presented here is not going to be 100% right all the time. It merely represents important facts which were pulled from previous case histories. These facts should provide you with tools to make the job of search manager less complex in the decision making process.

- \* 8.1 Refer the students to the charts on pages Lost Behavior 10, 11, and 12. Briefly discuss.

- \* 8.2 Refer the students to the Lost Person Behavior Problems beginning on page Lost Person Behavior 13. Divide the class into groups. Assign each group a problem. Allow at least 15 minutes, then select several groups to present their solution.

- \* 8.3 Mention the two articles ("How Far, How Fast" and "How to Estimate Hiking Time") on pages POA 28 through 32.

- ① THEORETICAL DISTANCE
- ② TERRAIN CORRECTION
- ③ CERTAINMENT



Date: December 23, 1982  
To: Participants of Managing the Search Function courses  
From: Hugh Dougher  
Subject: Refinements of some M.S.F. course concepts

This memo addresses some important and recent refinements to Managing the Search Function theories.

### Computers

Perhaps the most exciting idea to be exchanged at the recent M.S.F. workshop held at Grand Canyon was the increasing utilization of computers in search management. Professor John Bownds, University of Arizona, is currently developing a computer complex that will allow very exact planning and documentation. Meanwhile, he has written three search programs that can be used in the Texas Instrument programmable calculator TI-59. They are:

- DSAR-01 (computes consensus POA),
- DSAR-02 (computes cumulative POD)
- DSAR-03 (computes shifting POA).

I have obtained tapes of each program, and will share with interested individuals.

The TI-59 can also be used to determine biorythems. Biorythems may want to be considered when trying to determine the lost person's behavior.

### Cumulative POD

The theory behind cumulative POD assumes independence. That is, every search effort must be non-biased. However this is difficult as subsequent teams are influenced by knowledge that the area has already been searched. This knowledge influences the searchers to be less efficient. Some suggestions to minimize biases:

1. explain tactics fully, and strategy behind multiple search,
2. plan subsequent searches to minimize bias (have second team move through area in different pattern, use different resources each search, etc.),
3. consider not including the fact the area has already been searched in the briefing. Be careful however, as this can cause problems if the searchers discover this information through other means and misunderstand the reasons involved.

### Probability of Success (POS)

Probability of Success should be considered solely as a planning tool, and needs to be minimized when expressing results. Determining POS can help when deciding how to apply resources different ways. Once these resources have completed their assignments however, POS can only be one of two numbers: 1.0 POS (indicating the subject was found), or 0.0 POS (indicating the subject was not found).

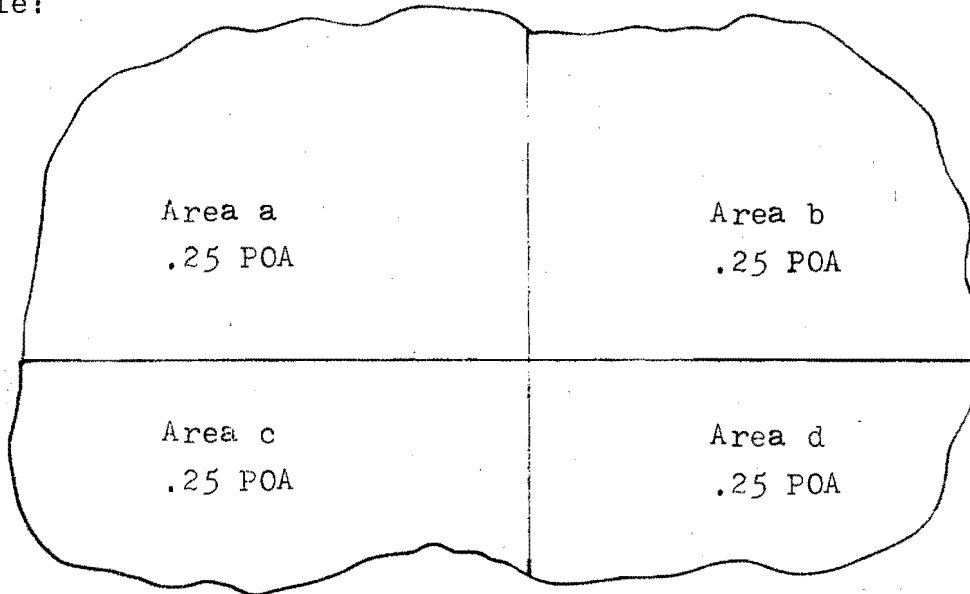
### Distributing Probability of Area (POA) into Segmented Search Areas

See following pages.

Refinement of Search Segmentation/POA Distribution  
Closed System vs Open System

A useful tool in search management is to segment the search area, and then assign probability of area (POA) to each segment. POA can be assigned based on group consensus (formally known as the Mattson System), subject behavior statistics, or other means. The total of the POA's must equal 1.0. Previously the technique involved dividing the total POA only among those areas to be searched.

Example:



This is referred to as a "closed system" as everything outside the search area is ignored. This distribution of POA thus completely ignores the possibility the subject may be outside the defined search area. If we work our computations within the confines of this closed system we end up chasing our tails. The following example problem demonstrates this point.

Example Problem - Adjusting Probabilities within a Closed System.

Segment a search area into four parts and assign each a POA of 0.25, as shown in the above example. Search each with a resource that will accomplish a desired probability of detection (POD) of 0.7. (this problem is also described on page 63, Search is an Emergency Field Coordinator's Guide).

	Area a:	Area b:	Area c:	Area d:
Original POA's	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

After area a has been searched with a POD of 0.7, the probabilities of area change. POA of Area a decreases, and POA's of the other

three areas increase. The exact amount of change can be determined by the formulas:

to determine the new POA of the area just searched:

$$POA = \frac{Pa \times Pm}{(Pa \times Pm) + Pn} \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{array}{l} Pa \text{ is the original POA} \\ Pm \text{ is the probability the subject} \\ \text{was missed (or } 1 - \text{POD)} \\ Pn \text{ is the probability the subject} \\ \text{was not there (or } 1 - \text{POA)} \end{array}$$

to determine new POA's of the other segments:

$$POAb = \frac{1 - \text{new POAa}}{1 - \text{old POAa}} \times \text{old POAb} \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{array}{l} POAb \text{ is the area being} \\ \text{determined} \\ POAa \text{ refers to the area} \\ \text{just searched; old POAa} \\ \text{new POAa is the number} \\ \text{obtained from the above} \\ \text{formula} \end{array}$$

So, to determine the new POA of Area a after it has been searched with a POD of 0.7:

$$POAa = \frac{0.25 \times 0.3}{(0.25 \times 0.3) + .75} = \frac{0.075}{0.825} = 0.09 \text{ POA}$$

To determine new POA of Area b after Area a has been searched:

$$POAb = \frac{1 - 0.09}{1 - 0.25} \times 0.25 = \frac{0.91}{0.75} \times 0.25 = .303$$

Same for Areas c and d.

Now we have:

	Area a:	Area b:	Area c:	Area d:
Original POA's	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
POA's after Area a searched (0.7 POD)	0.09	0.303	0.303	0.303

Now search Area b with a POD of 0.7.

$$POAb = \frac{0.303 \times 0.3}{(0.303 \times 0.3) + .67} = 0.115 \text{ POAb}$$

$$POAc = \frac{1 - 0.115}{1 - 0.303} \times 0.303 = 0.384$$

Etc.

This gives us:

	Area a:	Area b:	Area c:	Area d:
Original POA's	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
POA's after Area a searched	0.09	0.303	0.303	0.303
POA's after Areas a and b searched	0.115	0.115	0.384	0.384

Search Area c, then Area d. Note the final POA's after all four areas have been searched. They are identical to the original POA's! We have committed manpower, resources and time, and yet are right back where we started, with little learned.

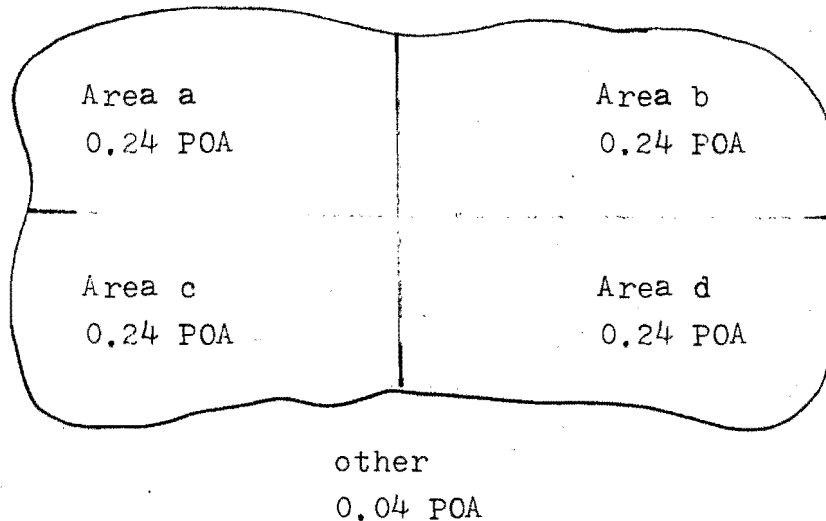
	Area a:	Area b:	Area c:	Area d:
Original POA's	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
POA's after Area a searched	0.09	0.303	0.303	0.303
POA's after Areas a and b searched	0.115	0.115	0.384	0.384
POA's after Areas a, b, and c searched	0.157	0.157	0.157	0.525
POA's after Areas a, b, c and d searched	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

If the above problem had been worked with unequal POA's, and various POD's, the final POA's after each area had been searched would not have been identical to the original POA's. This is because the unequal POD's would have tended to resuffle the numbers. Nevertheless, while not as apparent, the concept would still be legitimate. We'd be chasing all the numbers around a closed area without an escape valve, (ie. the possibility of the subject being outside the areas being searched).

On the other hand, if we had initially assigned some number (no matter how small) to the area not being searched - the rest of the world, mine shafts, the planet Venus, whatever (We'll refer to it as "other") - this number would increase as each area was searched unsuccessfully. Ultimately, a point would be reached where the "other" POA becomes the largest fraction. This can be important when considering search expansion or suspension.

# Example Problem - Adjusting Probabilities, Open System

Segment a search area into four parts. Assign each a POA of 0.24. Assign all other possible subject locations a POA of 0.04.



Search each area with some resource that will accomplish a desired probability of detection (POD) of 0.7.

$$POAa = \frac{0.24 \times 0.3}{(0.24 \times 0.3) + 0.76} = 0.086$$

to determine how searching Area a effects the POA's of the other areas:

$$POAb = \frac{1 - 0.086}{1 - 0.24} \times 0.24 = 0.289$$

$$POAc = \frac{1 - \text{new POAa}}{1 - \text{old POAa}} \times \text{old POAc}$$

etc.

The adjusted probabilities, after each area has been searched, are:

	Area a:	Area b:	Area c:	Area d:	other
Original POA's	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.04
POA's after Area a searched	0.086	0.289	0.289	0.289	0.048
POA's after Areas a and b searched	0.108	0.108	0.362	0.362	0.06
POA's after Areas a b, and c searched	0.145	0.145	0.145	0.485	0.08
POA's after Areas a, b, c, and d searched	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.12

Notice the "other" is slowly increasing. If we were to continue to search Areas a, b, c, and d enough times, we would reach a point where the "other" POA becomes the largest fraction. At this point the search manager has an important tool which he can use to justify decisions such as increasing the search area, increasing the emphasis on investigation, or mission suspension.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>
Brooke Holt	Dogs East	4 Orchard Way No Rockville, Md. 20854	301-762-7217
Marian Hardy	Dogs East	4 Orchard Way No Rockville, Md. 20854	301-762-7217
Jim Bunch	Albemarle County Sheriff's Dept.	Court Square Charlottesville, Va.	804-296-2112
Bill Blake	NPS	Shenandoah Natl. Park	O -804-985-7293 H -703-298-1675
Bill Pierce	NPS	Luray, Va. 22835	703-999-2243 (Emerg.) 703-999-2227
John Birch	SMRG	2108 Dashiell Road Falls Church, Va. 22042	W - 703-631-0218 H - 703-533-3668
Gene Harrison	SMRG	Box 1584 Leesburg, Va. 22075	H - 703-777-6111 W - 800-424-8503 X42
Keith Conover	SMRG	1417 Key Blvd. #308 Arlington, Va. 22208	W - 202-342-4279 H - 703-522-2844
Cady Soukup	SMRG	3 Pooks Hill Rd. #103 Bethesda, Md. 20814	W - 301-520-9226 H - 301-493-9623
John Sun	BRMRG	715A Country Green Mountain Wood Charlottesville, Va. 22903	
Harry N. Blummer	BRMRG	316 Alderman Road Charlottesville, Va. 22903	H - 804-979-2000
Dean Wampler	BRMRG	312-B Amelia Drive Charlottesville, Va.	971-1728
Greg Shea	BRMRG	2583 Colonnade Dr. Charlottesville Va. 22901	H - 804-977-1044 W - 804-924-6784
Harold A. Driscoll	SMRG	5421 31st St. N.W. Washington, D.C. 20015	H - 202-966-9091 W - 301-443-6110
Bill Dotson	BRMRG	Rt. 2, Box 122 Ruckersville, Va. 22968	H - 804-985-3893 W - 804-971-3959
Gary Mechtel	BRMRG	403-B Valley Rd. Charlottesville, Va. 22903	804-296-7276



<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>
Paul W. Demm	OEES	7700 Midlothian Tnpk. Richmond, Va. 23235	804-323-2300
Albert M. Baker	ASRC/BRMRC	128 Observatory Ave. Charlottesville, Va. 22903	804-977-4947
Bill Dickerson	VSRDA	Box 141 Thornburg, Va.	H - 703-972-7687 O - 703-860-6336
W. R. Britton Jr.	OEES	P. O. Box 705 Appomattox, Va.	H - 804-352-2554 O - 804-352-8268
Buford B. Belcher	USFS	Rt. 1 Box 97 Newport Va. 24128	H - 703-544-7732 O - 703-552-4641
Steve Davis	VAURS SW Va. SAR	Rt. 1 Box 51-A 24136 Pembroke, Va. (Giles Co. Sheriff's Ofc - 703-921-3842	H - 703-626-3362 O - 703-921-1111
Linda Dickerson	VSRDA	Box 223 Locust Grove, Va. 22508	703-972-7687
Henry St. Clair	ASRC	P. O. Box 7814 Roanoke, Va. 24019	H 703-992-5666 703-992-1800
Alice and Doug Stanley	ARDA	Rt. 1, Box 161-K Woodford, Va. 22580	703-582-5708
Emily Keck	OEES	7700 Midlothian Tnpk. Richmond, Va. 23235	804-323-2300