





- **Stimulate Discussion**
- Look at and possibly change our current paradigm about how we gather information and how we apply it.





Debriefing





Purpose of DEBRIEFING

- Interview and Collect <u>ALL</u> information necessary to develop a complete and accurate understanding of that resource's activities
- Use the information for planning future search strategy. Without thorough information the subsequent planning may
- be unrealistic, misdirected, inadequate or incomplete

Purpose of DEBRIEFING A tool for evaluation success, completeness, a foundation for future plans or to demobilize. Effective Debriefing - leaves no stone unturned, is timely, focuses on individual belief, is written, includes

recommendations.

TRADITIONAL DEBIEFING

All Field Personnel

- Small Incident as they return form the field
 Large Incidents only team leaders, who have debriefed their team members
- Real Large Division supervisors
- Done individually to prevent joint opinion if possible

Who Should be doing the

Debriefing?

- Those trained in interviewing and
 gathering information
- The "Clue Meister" the advocate for clues.
- Someone who can put the whole picture together from the information gathered.







Debriefing

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When you send searchers to the field, make sure they know what's expected when they return.





- ✓ Spacing
- Search difficulties and hazards
- Gaps or areas unable to cover
- Vuse maps (individual), sketches, photos



- Clue locations, no matter how insignificant. Verify with Clue Report and Log
- Field interviews who, what, when Field Interview Form
- Problems with communications.
- Suggestions, ideas, recommendations for future searching efforts.





Several Forms to use: Currently being updated and revised

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| Ask Good Questions |
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| Route Search Assignment (Type I) |
| Single file or spaced? |
| Calling subjects name? How often? |
| ✓ Would they have heard a response? |
| How far off trail could they see? |
| How easy would it be to get off trail? |
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Ask Good Questions

Area Search Assignment (Type II/III)

- How many times did you cross the search area?
- Did you have enough time to search the area?

✓ Were you rushed towards the end of your assignment.



The "trouble" with area search dog handler debriefings

- ☞In training and testing, they always find their "victims."
- ☞So, they are conditioned to think that when they search an area, they will always find the missing subject, if the subject is
- in their area.
- Beware of the phrase "Cleared the Area"

Ask Good Area Dog Questions

- ☞ How were the scent conditions?
 ✓ Temperature, Wind, Humidity, etc.
- How far away would the dog detect a subject in these conditions?
- Subject in these conditions?
 The subject in these conditions?
 How far did your dog range?

-

✓ Could you see your dog most of the time?





| Lin | e Width on Map | Sweep Width a 1:24,000 Scale |
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| \sim | 0.6mm Fine Point Staedtler Lumocolor Pen | 14.4m 48 ft. |
| \sim | 1.0mm Fine Point Expo Vis-a-Vis Wet Erase Fine Point Sharpie Permanent Marker | 24m 80 ft. |
| \sim | 2.1mm | 50m 165 ft. |
| ~ | 3.1mm | 75m 248ft. |
| | 4.2mm | 100m 330ft. |



Search Result Maps

- Map Makers Tool Kit
- Why can't we do this on a computer
 - system yet?
- Why don't we routinely download GPS tracks from teams?
- Why don't we use Automatic Position Reporting Systems (APRS – Ham Radio)

Plans will Process the Info:

- Debriefings should be processed as soon as the are completed:
- Transfer debriefing map info to Segment Coverage Map Overlay. ✓ Add new coverage to Cumulative POD Map
- Overlay
- ✓ Update clue logs and reports with new clues. Make specific notes on relevant info

Analyzing The Search Effort - Subjective vs. Objective

- **Determining POD**
- Currently Determined Subjectively: ✓ Teams best guess
- Based on perceived experience and training
- "If there are a hundred things out there how many would you have found" = % Only broken into:
- > Live Subject
- Unresponsive Subject
- > Clues

Determining POD

- The Problem With Subjective:
- The Teams best guess is just that a guess, usually based on a consensus of each men and does not take into account that some members may have been paying closure attention to their work then others.
- In the search area vegetation, terrain, physical structures (i.e. buildings, big rocks, cliffs, etc.) which means visualization will vary widely.







Determining POD

P Objective:

 Doing the Math based on actual path traveled One searcher traveling at one mile an hour
 Can visualize 25 feet either side of their path (50 feet total)

- total) I none mile can search 264,000 sq ft (50x5280) In four hours 1,056,000 sq ft * % square mile = 6,969,600 sq ft Calculated coverage for one searcher 15% > Team of three = 45% of the % sq mile segment

- **Determining POD** The Problem With Objective POD: Assuming a standard Standard visual width Everything in that width was visualized
 Constant speed? Need a calculator and maybe a Ph.D to be motivated to work on it.
- Sweep Width Estimation
- for Ground Search and Rescue
- Koester, Cooper, Frost, Robe ☞ December 2004













So...What's a Debriefer to Do?

If you expect your subject is still mobile and/or responsive...

Use containment techniques.

 Search all of your segments using rapid search techniques with a high POD for responsive subjects.

Hasty route-of-travel searches
 Sound Sweeps

> Area searches with wide spacing

 Favor expanding the search area rather than researching existing segments.

So...What's a Debriefer to Do? If you suspect your subject is unresponsive... Use repeated applications of search resources to increase the Cumulative POD for high probability segments. Focus subsequent resources on areas where you would expect lower PODs

- Stay vigilant for gaps in search coverage and for uncompleted assignments.
- And for uncompleted assignments.
 Train debriefers to detect these problems.

So...What's a Debriefer to Do?

- ∽ Avoid using numerical PODs
 ✓ The input values vary too much to be useful.
- Assign subjective PODs based on type of resource and search
- technique used
- ✓ Subjective POD can be either Low or Medium
- All PODs are for Unresponsive Immobile subjects.

So...What's a Debriefer to Do? • Track Cumulative PODs for each search segment. • 2-3 Low POD searches result in a Medium CumPOD • 2-3 Med POD searches result in a High Cum POD





| | Contact Information: |
|-----|----------------------------------|
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| 100 | Lafayette, California 94549-5424 |
| 1 | cell (415) 760-3117 |
| | csy1492@comcast.net |
| | |

Thank You For Your Valuable Attention

| TEAM D | EBRIEFIN | G | | 2. OPERATIONAL PERIOD | 3.ASSIGNMENT NUMBER |
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| 4. RESOURCE TY | (PE | | | | |
| 5. ASSIGNMENT S | SUMMARY | | | | |
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| 6. DESCRIBE SEA | ARCH EFFORTS IN | ASSIGNMENT | | | |
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| 7. DESCRIBE POP | RTIONS YOU WERE | UNABLE TO SEARCH | | | |
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| 8. DESCRIBE ANY | CLUES, TRACKS | , OR SIGN LOCATED, OR A | NY F | PERTINENT TRAIL INTERVIEWS | |
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| 9. DESCRIBE ANY | HAZARDS OR PRO | DBLEMS ENCOUNTERED | | | |
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| 10. SUGGESTION | S FOR FURTHER S | EARCH EFFORTS IN OR NE | EAR | YOUR ASSIGNMENT | |
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| 11. TIME ENTERE | D 12. TIME EXI | TED 13. TIME SPENT | 14. | P.O.D. SUMMARY | |
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| 5. SEARCH TH | ECHNIC | QUE | 6. SW | EEP SPACING | 6 | 7. PC | DD | | | | | |
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| 8. AREAS WH | IERE D | OG SHO | OWED | INTEREST | | | | | | | | |
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| 9. SHOULD P | ORTIO | NS OF T | THE AR | REA BE RESEA | RCHED | DURI | NG BETTER | SC | CENT CONDIT | IONS | | |
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| 11. SUPPORT | ING E | /IDENC | E FOU | ND (TRACKS, | SIGN, CL | UES) | | | | | | |
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| 12. WHY AND | WHER | ETHE | SCENT | TRAIL ENDE | D | | | | | | | |
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| 13 DESCRIBE THE SCENT ARTICLE, ITS QUALITY AND USABILITY | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 14. DESCRIBE | 14. DESCRIBE THE CURRENT LOCATION AND USABILITY OF THE SCENT ARTICLE | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 4. NUMBER OF SEARCH | HERS | 5. TIME SP | PENT SEARCHING | 6. SEARCH | SPEED | 7. AREA SIZE (AC | TUALLY SEARCHED) |
| 8. SPACING | 9. VISI | | TANCE | | | | |
| 10. HOW WAS VISIBILIT | Y DIST | ANCE DETE | RMINED | | | | |
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| 11. TYPES OF AREAS S | KIPPED | OVER (IE I | HEAVY BRUSH, WE | FLANDS, CL | IFFS) | | |
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| 13. COMMENTS FOR A | | NAL AREA S | EARCHING OF THIS | S ASSIGNME | NT | | |
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| 4. DESCRIBE AREAS YOU WERE UNABLE TO SEARCH DUE TO TERRAIN CONDITIONS OR HAZARDS |
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| 5. COULD THESE AREAS BE BETTER SEARCHED WITH A DIFFERENT TYPE OF RESOURCE? |
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| 6. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER FOUESTRIAN SEARCH EFFORTS IN OR NEAR YOUR ASSIGNMENT |
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| 5.DISCUSS LIKELIHOOD OF FINDING TRAC | KS OR SIGN OFF TRAIL | | |
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| 6. DESCRIBE THE LOCATION AND NATURE | OF EXISTING TRACK TRAPS | | |
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| 7. DID YOU ERASE ANY EXISTING TRACK | TRAPS | | |
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| 8. DID YOU CREATE ANY NEW TRACK TRA | PS | | |
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| 9. DESCRIBE THE ROUTE TAKEN BY ANT I | TRACKS TOO FOLLOWED | | |
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| 10. WHY DID YOU DISCONTINUE FOLLOW | NG THESE TRACKS | | |
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| INDIVIDUAL TRACK SKETCHES ATTA | CHED | | |
| TRACK TRAP SUMMARY SKETCHES | ATTACHED | | |
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| 5. DESCRIBE YOUR EFFORTS TO ATTRAC | T A RESPONSIVE SUBJECT | | |
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| 6. DESCRIBE ABILITY TO HEAR A RESPON | ISE (BACKGROUND NOISE) | | |
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| 7. DESCRIBE THE TRAIL CONDITIONS | | | |
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| 8. DESCRIBE OFF-TRAIL CONDITIONS | | | |
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| 9. DOES THE MAP ACCURATELY REFLECT | T THE TRAILS | | |
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| 10. DID YOU LOCATE FEATURES THAT WO | OULD LIKELY CONTAIN THE SU | BJECT | |
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| 11. HOW ARE THE TRACKING CONDITIONS | S | | |
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| 12. DESCRIBE ANY HAZARDS OR ATTRAC | TIONS YOU FOUND | | |
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| SAR BASARC | 134 | | • | • | | | |

| CLUE REPORT 1. INCIDENT N | | IAME | 2. DATE | 3. INCIDENT NUMBER | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 4 CLUE NUMBER | 5.DATE/T | IME LOCATED | 6. TEAM THAT LOCATED CLUE | | |
| 7. NAME OF INDIVIDUAL THAT LOCATED CLUE | | | | | |
| 8. DESCRIPTION OF C | CLUE | | | | |
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| 9. LOCATION FOUND | | | | | |
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| 10. TO INVESTIGATIO | NS | | | | |
| | PLY NEED | ED, TEAM STA | NDING BY TIME | | |
| | ON ONLY | | | | |
| | O TEAM | | | | |
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| CLUE & SEGMENT PR | ROBABILIT | IES TO BE CON | IPLETED BY PLANS | | |
| 12. CLUE PROBABILIT | ٦Y | | 13. SEGMENT PROE | BABILITY | LIST SEGMENTS |
| | Y A GOOD | CLUE | VIRTUALLY 100% CERT SUBJECT IS IN THESE | AIN CLUE MEANS SEGMENTS | |
| | A GOOD C | LUE | VERY STRONG CHANC SUBJECT IS IN THESE | E THAT CLUE MEANS SEGMENTS | |
| MAY BE A G | OOD CLUE | | STRONG CHANCE THA SUBJECT IS IN THESE | T CLUE MEANS SEGMENTS | |
| PROBABLY | NOT A GO | OD CLUE | BETTER THAN EVEN C MEANS SUBJECT IS IN | HANCE THAT CLUE | |
| | VERY LIKELY NOT A GOOD CLUE NO INFORMATION FROM THE CLUE TO SUGGEST SUBJECT IS OR IS NOT IN THESE SEGMENTS | | | т | |
| DON'T KNOW BETTER THAN EVEN CHANCE THAT CLUE MEANS SUBJECT IS NOT IN THESE SEGMENTS | | | | | |
| COPIES | | | STRONG CHANCE THA SUBJECT IS NOT IN TH | T CLUE MEANS ESE SEGMENTS | |
| PLANS | | ACH TO CLUE | VERY STRONG CHANC SUBJECT IS NOT IN TH | E THAT CLUE MEANS ESE SEGMENTS | |
| | | TAIN CLUE MEANS ESE SEGMENTS | | | |
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| SAR 135 ^{14.} BASARC 3/98 | PREPAREL | אר <u>אר</u> | | 15.CLUE & SEGME | NI PROBABLITIES PREPARED BY |

Backcountry Witness Questionnaire

Write legibly! Use continuation page if necessary.

| Incident Name | Team Name | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Interview Location | Date Time | | | |
| Party Member #1: (1 | ermit holder if applicable) Gender M F Age (Physical Description on continuation page.) | | | |
| Name | E-mail | | | |
| Home Ph. | Work Cell | | | |
| Address | | | | |
| Date arrive home | How contact prior to home (dates, lodging, #'s) | | | |
| | | | | |
| Party Member #2: | Gender M F Age (Physical Description on continuation page.) | | | |
| Name | E-mail | | | |
| Home Ph. | Work Cell | | | |
| Address | | | | |
| Other Party Membe | rs: (Physical descriptions on continuation page.) | | | |
| Name | Gender Age Home Phone Work Cell | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Party's Vehicle: Ye | ar/Make/Model/Color | | | |
| Lic.# | State Where parked | | | |
| Party's Map: (Be spe | cific) | | | |
| Itinerary: Include en | ire route unless otherwise instructed. If necessary, draw route on interview map. | | | |
| Date | Exact trail segments taken Campsite location | | | |
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| Subject Observation | s: Has party seen subject description? Yes No Subject Photo? Yes No | | | |
| Did party see anyone | resembling the subject? Yes No Maybe Give details below. | | | |
| Other Observations | List by date/time/place: Weather, trail, and stream conditions; camps and parties seen. | | | |
| Describe number in p | arty, gender, age, appearance, date, time, location, direction of travel. Describe | | | |
| conversations potentia | ally relevant to the search. | | | |
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| Photos of trip availa | ble? Yes No Film Digital Who? | | | |
| Continuation page? | Yes No Interviewer Name | | | |

Backcountry Witness Questionnaire

Continuation Page

Yosemite Search and Rescue

| Incident Name | Team Name | |
|--|-----------|------|
| Interview Location | Date | Time |
| Party member #1 (from page 1): Name | | |
| List continuation entries by topic headings on page 1. | | |
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