Mission Observer Task Book

Extracted from the Civil Air Patrol Aircrew and Flightline Tasks Manual Dated 17 March 2004

Mission Observer Task Book
Errata Sheet

The following errors have been found in the *Civil Air Patrol Mission Observer Specialty Qualification Training Record* and *Aircrew and Flightline Task Book*:

Under “Advanced Training”

“Complete Task O-2014 Assist in ELT Searches” should read “Complete Task O-2108 Assist in ELT Searches”

Task O-2014 is not in the Task Book. Use Task O-2108.

“Complete Task O-2111 Assist in Planning and Performing a Creeping Line Search” should read “Complete Task O-2115 Assist in Planning and Performing a Creeping Line Search”

Task O-2111 is not in the Task Book. Use Task O-2115.

SPECIALTY QUALIFICATION TRAINING RECORD (SQTR)
Mission Observer

NAME (Last, First, MI)	CAPID	DATE ISSUED

Prerequisites

Item	Date Completed
Qualified Mission Scanner	
At least 18 years of age	

The above listed member has completed the required prerequisite training for the mission observer specialty.

_____ _____
UNIT/WING/REGION COMMANDER OR AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE'S SIGNATURE DATE

Familiarization and Preparatory Training

Task	Evaluator's CAPID and Date Completed
Complete Task O-2010 Use In-Flight Services	
Complete Task O-2013 Plot a Route on a Sectional Chart	
Complete Task O-2107 Prepare for a Trip to a Remote Mission Base	
Complete Task P-2007 Discuss Mission Observer Duties and Responsibilities	
Complete Task P-2008 Discuss the Dangers of Icing	
Complete Task P-2009 Discuss the Dangers of Reduced Visibility Conditions	
Complete Task P-2010 Discuss the Dangers of Wind and Thunderstorms	
Complete Task P-2011 Discuss the Effects of Density Altitude on Aircraft Performance	
Complete Task P-2012 Identify Controlled and Special Use Airspaces on a Sectional	

The above listed member has completed the required familiarization and preparatory training requirements for the mission observer specialty qualification and is authorized to serve in that specialty while supervised on training or actual missions.

_____ _____
UNIT/WING/REGION COMMANDER OR AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE'S SIGNATURE DATE

Advanced Training

Task	Evaluator's CAPID and Date Completed
Complete Task O-2002 Operate the Aircraft Radios	
Complete Task O-2011 Operate the VOR and DME	
Complete Task O-2012 Operate the GPS	
Complete Task O-2014 Assist in ELT Searches	
Complete Task O-2109 Assist in Planning and Performing a Route Search	
Complete Task O-2110 Assist in Planning and Performing a Parallel Search	
Complete Task O-2111 Assist in Planning and Performing a Creeping Line Search	
Complete Task O-2112 Assist in Planning and Performing Point Based Searches	
Complete Basic Communications User Training	
Complete the appropriate portion of CAPT 117, *Emergency Services Continuing Education examinations*	

Exercise Participation

The above listed member satisfactorily participated as a mission observer trainee under my direct supervision on mission number _____.

_____ _____

QUALIFIED SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE DATE

The above listed member satisfactorily participated as a mission observer trainee under my direct supervision on mission number _____.

_____ _____

QUALIFIED SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE DATE

Unit Certification and Recommendation

The above listed member has completed the requirements for the mission observer specialty qualification and is authorized to serve in that specialty on training or actual missions.

_____ _____

UNIT/WING/REGION COMMANDER OR AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE'S SIGNATURE DATE

Mission Observer
Task Book

Familiarization and
Preparatory Training

O-2010
USE IN-FLIGHT SERVICES

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must discuss and use in-flight services.

OBJECTIVES

Discuss and use in-flight services.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, knowing how to obtain in-flight services is very helpful. Observers may use in-flight services in order to reduce pilot workload, and being able to get this information may be very useful during emergencies.

2. *Flight Service Stations*. Provide assistance for preflight and in-flight briefings, scheduled and unscheduled weather broadcasts, and weather advisories. Selected FSSs provide transcribed weather briefings. Enroute weather information can be obtained from the Enroute Flight Advisory Service ("Flight Watch") by tuning 122.0 MHz into the radio and calling “Flight Watch.” It mainly provides actual weather and thunderstorms along your route. Additionally, Flight Watch is the focal point for rapid receipt and dissemination of pilot reports (PIREP'S). Other flight service frequencies are indicated on the sectional charts.

3. *Scheduled Weather Broadcasts*. All flight service stations having voice facilities on radio ranges (VOR) or radio beacons (NDB) broadcast weather reports and Notice to Airmen information at 15 minutes past each hour from reporting points within approximately 150 miles of the broadcast station.

4. *Automatic Terminal Information Service (ATIS)*. At many airports, the FAA dedicates one or more transmitters and frequencies to continuous taped broadcasts of weather observations, special instructions, and NOTAMS that relate to the airport or nearby navigational facilities. Broadcast weather information is about *actual* observations for the smaller, terminal area, *not* forecasts. ATIS information is updated *hourly*, but may be updated sooner if the weather, special instructions or NOTAMs change significantly. Usually, you must listen to ATIS recordings on the communication radio (the frequency for the ATIS transmission is found on the sectional chart near the airport’s name, or in a table on the reverse side of the sectional title panel).
A typical ATIS transmission may sound like this: "Atlanta Hartsfield Airport, arrival information 'November'. 2350 Zulu weather -- measured ceiling 800 overcast, 1 1/2 miles in fog and haze. Temperature 61 degrees, dew point 60 degrees, wind calm, altimeter 29.80. ILS approaches in progress to Runways 8 Left and 9 Right. Landing runways 8 Left and 9 Right. Atlanta VOR out of service. Taxiway Mike closed between taxiways Delta and Sierra. Read back all ‘hold short' instructions. Advise controller on initial contact you have information 'November'."

5. *Hazardous In-Flight Weather Advisory Service (HIWAS)*. You can also receive advisories of hazardous weather on many VORs. As the HIWAS name implies, this information relates only to hazardous weather such as tornadoes, thunderstorms, or high winds. Navaids having HIWAS broadcast capability are annotated on the sectional chart. When receiving a hazardous weather report, ATC or FSS facilities initiate the taped HIWAS transmissions, and ATC then directs all aircraft to monitor HIWAS.

6. *Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS)*. At many airports, the FAA has installed Automated Weather Observation Systems. Each system consists of sensors, a computer-generated voice capability, and a transmitter. Information provided by AWOS varies depending upon the complexity of the sensors installed. Airports having AWOS are indicated on sectional charts by the letters AWOS adjacent to the airport name.

7. *Automated Surface Observation System (ASOS).* The primary surface weather observing system in the U.S., the FAA has installed hundreds of ASOS. Each system consists of sensors, a computer-generated voice capability, and a transmitter. Information provided by ASOS varies depending upon the complexity of the sensors installed. ASOS can be heard by telephone, and so is very useful in flight planning. Information includes: wind speed, direction and gusts; visibility and cloud height; temperature and dew point; altimeter setting and density altitude.

8. *Pilot Weather Report (PIREP).* FAA stations are required to solicit and collect PIREPs whenever ceilings are at or below 5,000 feet above the terrain, visibility is at or less than 5 miles, or thunderstorms, icing, wind shear, or turbulence is either reported or forecast. These are extremely useful reports, and all pilots are encouraged to volunteer reports of cloud tops, upper cloud layers, thunderstorms, ice, turbulence, strong winds, and other significant flight condition information. PIREP's are normally given to Flight Watch. They are then included at the beginning of scheduled weather broadcasts by FAA stations within 150 nautical miles of the area affected by potentially hazardous weather. Pilots are advised of these reports during preflight briefings by FAA and national weather service stations, and by air/ground contacts with FAA stations. PIREP's can help you avoid bad weather and warn you to be ready for potential hazards.

Additional Information

This task may be performed in conjunction with tasks O-2000, O-2001, O-2002. More detailed information on this topic is available in Chapter 4 and Attachment 2 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide the student access to a telephone and an aircraft radio.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked to use in-flight services.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Demonstrate and discuss how to use the following in-flight services:		
a. Flight Service Stations and scheduled weather broadcasts.	P	F
b. Obtain an ATIS report.	P	F
c. HIWAS.	P	F
d. Obtain an AWOS and/or ASOS report.	P	F
e. Give a PIREP report (may be simulated).	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

O-2013
PLOT A ROUTE ON A SECTIONAL CHART

CONDITIONS

You are an Observer trainee and must plot a simple route on a sectional chart.

OBJECTIVES

Plot a course on a sectional chart, select checkpoints along a route, and calculate how long it will take to fly the route.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, knowing how to plot a route on a sectional chart is essential in order to assist the pilot, and help maintain situational awareness.

2. Plot the course. To determine a heading, locate the departure and destination points on the chart and lay the edge of a special protractor, or *plotter*, along a line connecting the two points. Use a marker to trace the route. Read the true course for this leg by sliding the plotter left or right until the center point, or grommet, sits on top of a line of longitude. When the course is more to the north or south, you can measure it by centering the grommet on a parallel of latitude, then reading the course from the inner scale that's closer to the grommet.

3. Distance. To determine the distance you're going to travel, lay the plotter on the route and read the distance using the scale that's printed on the plotter's straight edge: one edge measures nautical miles and the other statute miles.

4. Flight time. To determine the time it will take to fly between any two points, divide the distance (in nm) by the proposed airspeed (in knots).

5. Checkpoints. There are a number of ways you can add information to your chart that will help during the flight. Tick marks along the course line at specific intervals will help you keep track of your position during flight (situational awareness). Some individuals prefer five- or ten-nautical mile (nm) intervals for tick marks, while others prefer two- or four-nm intervals. Four-nautical mile spacing works well for aircraft that operate at approximately 120 knots. Since the 120-knot airplane travels 2 nm every minute, each 4 nm tick mark represents approximately two minutes of flight time. On the left side of the course line you have more tick marks, at five-nm intervals, but measured backward from the destination. In flight, these continuously indicate distance remaining to the destination, and you can easily translate that into the time left to your destination.

The next step in preparing the chart is to identify *checkpoints* along the course; you can use these to check your position on- or off-course, and the timing along the leg. Prominent features that will be easily seen from the air make the best checkpoints, and many like to circle them or highlight them with a marker in advance. You should select easy (large) targets such as tall towers, cities and towns, major roads and railroads, and significant topological features such as lakes and rivers. Try not to select checkpoints that are too close together. During a mission, checkpoint spacing will be controlled by the search altitude and weather conditions and visibility at the time of the flight.

Additional Information

More detailed information on this topic is available in Chapter 8 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide the student with a sectional chart and a plotter. Give the student two points on the chart.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked to plot a course, select checkpoints along the route, and calculate time in flight.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
Given a sectional chart, a plotter, and two points on the chart (e.g., two airports):		
1. Plot a course between the two points.	P	F
2. Select checkpoints along the route. Discuss the reason you selected the checkpoints.	P	F
3. Calculate the time it will take an aircraft (120 knots with no wind) to fly the route.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

O-2107

PREPARE FOR A TRIP TO A REMOTE MISSION BASE

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must prepare for a trip to a remote mission base.

OBJECTIVES

Prepare for a trip to a remote mission base, acting as mission commander. Assist in performing pre-trip planning and inspections, preflight tasks and briefings, filling out a CAP flight plan, and after-landing tasks.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, the ability to prepare for a trip to a remote mission base is essential.

2. *Before you leave*. The urgency of events, coupled with a hasty call-out, may leave you and other crewmembers feeling rushed as you prepare to leave for a mission. This is where a good pre-mission checklist comes in handy. As a minimum, check the crew (and yourself) for the following:

A. Proper uniforms (CAPM 39-1) and credentials
   1) CAP Membership
   2) CAP Motor Vehicle Operator
   3) ROA
   4) 101/101T (note experience and tasks to be accomplished)
   5) Ensure the pilot has necessary credentials (e.g., license, medical, and photo ID)

B. Check personal equipment
   1) Clothing sufficient and suitable for the entire trip
   2) Personal supplies (civilian clothing, headset, charts, maps, plotter, log, checklists, fluids and snacks)
   3) Personal survival equipment (in addition to the aircraft kit) suitable for the entire trip
   4) Sufficient money for the trip (credit cards, some cash or traveler's checks, and coin)
   5) Cell phone (including spare battery and charger)

C. Check aircraft equipment
   1) Current aeronautical charts for the entire trip, and gridded charts for the mission area
   2) Maps for the mission area (e.g., road atlas, county maps, topo maps), plus clipboard and markers
   3) Tie-downs, chocks, Pitot tube cover and engine plugs, fuel tester, sick sacks, and cleaning gear
   4) Survival kit (fits trip and mission area terrain), headsets, flashlight, binoculars and multitool

D. Ensure the pilot reviews the Aircraft Logs
   1) Note the date and the starting Tach and Hobbs times to ensure you won't exceed:
      a) Mid-cycle oil change (40-60 hours, not to exceed four months)
      b) 100-hour/Annual
      c) 24-month checks (Transponder, Pitot-Static system, Altimeter and ELT/battery replacement date
      d) 30-day VOR check for IFR flight and AD compliance list.
   2) Check the status of the Carbon Monoxide Detector and Fire Extinguisher
   3) Pilot reviews the Discrepancy Log and makes sure the aircraft is airworthy and mission ready

E. Pilot obtains FAA Weather Briefing and CAP Flight Release
   1) Perform Weight & Balance (reflecting weights for the crew, special equipment and baggage)
      a) Include fuel assumptions (fuel burn, winds, power setting, distance, and fuel stop)
      b) Ensure fuel reserve (land with one hour's fuel, computed at normal cruise)
   2) Verify within flight time and duty limitations (CAPR 60-1, Chapter 2)
   3) Obtain FAA briefing (ask for FDC and Local NOTAMs and SUA status) and file FAA Flight Plan

    a) Enter 'CPF XXXX' in the Aircraft Identification section
    b) Put the 'N' and 'Cap Flight' numbers in the Remarks section
  4) Assist in filling out an "Inbound" CAPF 104 or 84 (leave copy for FRO)
  5) Pilot briefs the crew on the fuel management plan (assumptions, refueling stops, and reserve), Local and FDC NOTAMs, and SUA status
  6) Review "IMSAFE" and pilot obtains a CAP Flight Release
  7) Pilot requests Flight Following

F. Pilot preflight
  1) Ensure proper entries in the Flight Log (e.g., mission number & symbol, crew & FRO names)
  2) Check starting Tach and Hobbs times to ensure you won't exceed limits (e.g., oil change)
  3) Review the Discrepancy Log and make sure the aircraft is airworthy and mission ready
  4) While preflighting, verify any outstanding discrepancies. If new discrepancies discovered, log them and ensure the aircraft is still airworthy and mission ready. [Be extra thorough on unfamiliar aircraft.]
  5) Verify load is per your Weight & Balance (baggage, survival kit, extra equipment and luggage)
  6) Double-check aeronautical charts, maps and gridded charts (also clipboard and markers)
  7) Ensure required aids onboard (Flight Guide, distress and air-to-ground signals, fuel tester, tools)
  8) Windshield and windows clean, and chocks, tie-downs, Pitot tube covers and engine plugs stowed
  9) Right Window holding screw removed (video imaging mission) and stored
  10) Check and test special equipment (cameras, camcorder, slow-scan, repeater), including spare batteries
  11) Parking area clear of obstacles (arrange for a wing-walker if one will be needed to clear obstacles)
  12) Perform passenger briefing and review emergency egress procedure
  13) Review taxi plan/diagram and brief crew assignments for taxi, takeoff and departure
  14) Remind crew that most midair collisions occur in or near the traffic pattern
  15) Enter settings into GPS (e.g., destination or flight plan)
  16) Organize the cockpit

G. Startup and Taxi
  1) Pilot briefs checklist method to be used (e.g., challenge-response)
  2) Seat belts at all times; shoulder harness at or below 1000' AGL
  3) Double-check Intercom, Audio Panel and Comm Radio settings
  4) Rotating Beacon Switch ON and pilot signals marshaller before starting engine; lean for taxi
  5) Ensure DF and FM Radio are operable and set properly (FM radio check if first flight)
  6) Select initial VOR radial(s) and GPS setting
  7) Obtain ATIS and Clearance (read back all clearances and hold-short instructions)
  8) Pilot computes crosswind and verify within Crosswind Limitation
  9) Verify 3 statute miles visibility (VFR in Class G - unless PIC is current IFR)
  10) If IFR, verify weather at or above landing minimums and date of last VOR check
  11) Begin sterile cockpit
  12) Pilot signals marshaller before taxiing; checks brakes at beginning of roll
  13) Pilot taxis no faster than a slow walk when within 10 feet of obstacles
    a) Maintains at least 50' behind light single-engine aircraft
    b) Maintains at least 100' behind small multi-engine and jet aircraft
    c) Maintains at least 500' behind heavies and taxiing helicopters

H. Takeoff, Climb and Departure
  1) Pilot double-checks assigned departure heading and altitude
  2) Pilot leans engine for full power (> 3000' DA)
  3) Look for landing traffic before taking the active runway
  4) Keep lights on within 10 miles of the airport and when birds reported nearby
  5) Begin Observer Log with takeoff (time and Hobbs) and report "Wheels Up"
  6) Pilot uses shallow S-turns and lifts wing before turns during climbing to check for traffic
  7) Keep shoulder harnesses buckled (never remove at or below 1000' AGL)
  8) Keep crew apprised of conflicting aircraft and obstacle positions

9) Keep checklists close at hand and open to Emergency Procedures

I Enroute
1) Maintain situational awareness
2) Pilot leans engine for economy cruise
3) Ensure pilot updates fuel assumptions and sets altimeter to closest source at least hourly

J Approach, Descent and Landing
1) Pilot plans approach and descent (remembers fuel mixture and cooling)
2) Double-checks radio and navigational settings
3) Obtain ATIS/AWOS and contact approach control
4) Review taxi plan/diagram and brief crew assignments for approach, landing and taxi
5) Remind crew that most midair collisions occur in or near the traffic pattern, especially on final
6) Begin sterile cockpit
7) Turn lights on within 10 miles of the airport
8) Pilot double-checks assigned approach heading and altitude
9) Pilot uses shallow S-turns and lifts wing before turns during descent to check for traffic
10) Read back all clearances and hold-short instructions
11) Log (time and Hobbs) and report "Wheels Down"

3. *Arrival at mission base*

A. Park and Secure Aircraft
1) Look for marshallers, follow taxi plan, pilot signals marshaller that ignition is OFF
2) Double-check Master Switch OFF
3) Fuel Selector Switch to Right or Left (refueling)
4) Avionics/control Lock and Pitot tube covers/engine plugs installed
5) Pilot completes the Flight Log and enters squawks in Discrepancy Log
6) Chocks and Tie-downs installed and Parking Brake OFF
7) Remove trash and personal supplies/equipment
8) Lock the windows, doors and baggage compartment
9) Check oil and arrange for refueling
10) Clean leading edges, windshield, and windows
11) Replenish cleaning kit

B. Check in with Flight Line Supervisor and Safety Officer
C. Close FAA Flight Plan, call FRO
D. Sign personnel and aircraft into the mission (Administration)
E. Assist in completing and submitting 'Inbound 104' (keep a copy)
F. Report any special equipment to Logistics (cameras, camcorder, slow-scan, repeater)
G. Inquire about fuel billing, lodging, transportation and meals
H. Note time to report for duty and ask for sortie assignment (get briefing packet)

The mission staff will probably show you around mission base and inform you of transportation, lodging and meal arrangements. They will also tell you when to report for duty, normally by telling you when the general briefing will be held.

Additional Information

More detailed information and figures on this topic are available in Chapter 13 and Attachment 2 of the MART.

Practice

Setup: Give the student an assignment to go to a remote mission base. The base should be located on a large (unfamiliar) airport in controlled airspace -- Class B, if practical. The student should have access to mission materials and a CAPF 104.

The student will assist in planning a simulated a trip to a remote mission base. All tasks that can be performed will not be simulated.

The trainer should play the role of the mission pilot, particularly for performing inspections and giving briefings and instructions to the observer trainee. The observer will be given preflight and pilot briefings.

For this simulated sortie, watch for:

1) Thorough knowledge of documents and equipment required for an extended stay at a remote base.

2) Assists pilot in completion of the CAP flight plan.

3) Assists pilot with accurate and thorough planning for the trip.

4) Proper actions upon arrival at mission base.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Give the student an assignment to go to a remote mission base. The base should be located on a large (unfamiliar) airport in controlled airspace -- Class B, if practical. The student should have access to mission materials and a CAPF 104.

The student will assist in planning a simulated a trip to a remote mission base. All tasks that can be performed will not be simulated.

The trainer should play the role of the mission pilot, particularly for performing inspections and giving briefings and instructions to the observer trainee. The observer will be given preflight and pilot briefings.

Brief Student: You are a Mission Observer trainee asked to prepare for a trip to a remote mission base.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Check for proper uniform, credentials and equipment.	P	F
2. State the flight time and duty limitations per CAPR 60-1.	P	F
3. Assist in checking the aircraft:		
a. Check for required equipment on board (e.g., tie downs, survival kit, cleaning gear).	P	F
b. Clean windows, as necessary.	P	F
4. Assist in filling out a CAP flight plan.	P	F
5. Receive a briefing from the mission pilot:		
a. Fuel assumptions and fuel stop.	P	F
b. Airspace restrictions, NOTAMS, and destination airport diagrams.	P	F
6. Upon (simulated) arrival at mission base:		

a. Secure the aircraft and arrange for refueling.	P	F
b. Sign yourself and the aircraft into the mission.	P	F
c. Assist in completing your "Inbound" CAPF 104.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

P-2007

DISCUSS MISSION OBSERVER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must discuss observer duties and responsibilities.

OBJECTIVES

Discuss Observer duties and responsibilities.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, understanding your duties and responsibilities is essential. The mission observer has a key role in CAP missions, and has expanded duties that mainly pertain to assisting the mission pilot. This assistance may be in the planning phase, handling radio communications, assisting in navigation, and crew management (i.e., mission commander). The proficient observer makes it possible for the pilot to perform his duties with a greater degree of accuracy and safety by assuming these aspects of the workload.

2. The Observer's primary role while actually in a search area is that of scanner.

3. General duties and responsibilities include:

   a. Depending on conditions, you may report with the mission pilot for briefing. Wear appropriate clothes for a mission.
   b. Assist in planning the mission. The observer may act as mission commander for the sortie.
   c. Assist in avoiding collisions and obstacles during taxiing.
   d. Assist in setting up and operating aircraft and CAP radios.
   e. Assist in setting up and operating aircraft navigational equipment (e.g., VORs and GPS).
   f. Assist enforcing the sterile cockpit rules.
   g. Maintain situational awareness at all times.
   h. Assist in monitoring fuel status.
   i. Monitor the electronic search devices aboard the aircraft and advise the pilot when making course corrections in response to ELT signals.
   j. Keep mission base and/or high bird appraised of status.
   k. Coordinate scanner assignments and ensure proper breaks for the scanners (including yourself). Monitor crew for fatigue and dehydration (ensure the crew drinks plenty of fluids).
   l. Maintain a chronological flight log of all observations of note, including precise locations, sketches and any other noteworthy information.
   m. Depending on conditions, report with the mission pilot for debriefing immediately upon return to mission base. The applicable portions on the reverse of CAPF 104 should be completed prior to debrief.
   n. Keep track of assigned supplies and equipment.

4. Once team members have been briefed on the mission and accomplished the necessary planning, observers determine that all necessary equipment is aboard the airplane. Checklists help ensure that all essential equipment is included, and vary according to geographic location, climate, and terrain of the search area. Items on the observer's checklist should include CAP membership and specialty qualification cards, current charts and maps of the search area, flashlights, notebook and pencils, binoculars, and survival gear (prohibited items, such as firearms, should be listed too, to ensure none is included). A camera may be included to assist in describing the location and condition of the search objective or survivors. Unnecessary items or personal belongings

should be left behind. The mission observer also assists the pilot in ensuring that all equipment aboard the search aircraft is properly stowed. An unsecured item can injure the crew or damage the aircraft in turbulence.

5. Once airborne, the observer provides navigation and communication assistance, allowing the pilot to precisely fly the aircraft with a greater degree of safety. The observer also assists in enforcing "sterile cockpit" rules when necessary. In flight, particularly the transit phase, the observer maintains situational awareness in order to help ensure crew safety.

6. The mission observer divides and assigns scanning responsibilities during her mission observer briefing, and ensures each scanner performs their assigned duty during flight. She monitors the duration of scanner activity, and enables the scanners to rest in order to minimize fatigue.

7. Observer Log. The observer must become proficient in using an in-flight navigational log. A complete chronological log should be maintained from take-off until landing, and should include all events and sightings. Skill in maintaining the log requires training and experience. Remember, *proficiency and confidence are gained through practice and application*. It is important to log the geographical location of the search aircraft at the time of all events and sightings (as a habit, always log the Hobbs time each time you make a report or record an event or sighting). This information is the basis of CAP Form 104, which is passed back to the incident commander and general staff after the debriefing and becomes a part of the total information that is the basis for his subsequent actions and reports. Good logs give the staff a better picture of how the mission is progressing. If sketches or maps are made to compliment a sighting, note this and attach them to the log. The log and all maps and sketches will be attached to the CAPF 104.

Additional Information

More detailed information on this topic is available in CAPR 60-1 and in Chapter 1 of the Mission Aircrew Reference Text (MART).

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide the student with a current copy of CAPR 60-1 and the MART.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked about your duties and responsibilities, and to discuss the Observer's job and log.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. State the primary role of the observer, particularly when in the search area.	P	F
2. Discuss general duties and responsibilities.	P	F
3. Discuss pre-flight duties and responsibilities.	P	F
4. Discuss in-flight duties and responsibilities.	P	F
5. Discuss post-flight duties and responsibilities.	P	F
6. Discuss what should be entered into the observer log.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

P-2008
DISCUSS THE DANGERS OF ICING

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must discuss how icing occurs and associated dangers.

OBJECTIVES

Discuss how airframe and carburetor icing occur and their affects on aircraft performance.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, knowing how icing forms and affects the aircraft is essential.

2. *Frost*. When the ground cools at night, the temperature of the air immediately adjacent to the ground is frequently lowered to the saturation point, causing condensation. This condensation takes place directly upon objects on the ground as dew if the temperature is above freezing, or as frost if the temperature is below freezing. Dew is of no importance to aircraft, but frost can be deadly. Normally we think of frost as unimportant - it forms on cars or other cold surfaces overnight, soon melting after the sun rises. However, frost on an airplane disturbs the airflow enough to reduce the lift and efficiency of aerodynamic surfaces. An airplane *may* be able to fly with frost on its wings, but, even with the airflow over the wings only slightly disrupted, controllability can become unpredictable. *Frost should always be removed before flight*. Some precautions should be taken if frost is expected, such as placing the aircraft in a hanger (even a T-hanger).

3. *Airframe icing*. There are only two fundamental requisites for ice formation on an aircraft in flight: first the aircraft must be flying through visible water in the form of rain or cloud droplet, and second, when the liquid water droplets strike, their temperature or the temperature of the airfoil surface, must be 32º F. or below. Ice increases drag and decreases lift: an ice deposit of as little as one-half inch on the leading edge of a wing can reduce lift by about 50%, increase drag by an equal percentage, and thus greatly increase the stall speed. Ice deposits also increase weight (on a typical C172 a quarter-inch coating of ice can add up to 150 lbs., a half-inch can add 300 lbs., and an inch of clear ice can add 600 lbs.). Additionally, propeller efficiency is decreased.

Sorties should never be flown in regions of possible icing. As altitude increases, temperature decreases at a fairly uniform rate of 2° Celsius or 3.6° Fahrenheit for each 1000 feet. This rate of temperature change is known as the *lapse rate*. At some altitude, the air temperature reaches the freezing temperature of water, and that altitude is known as the *freezing level*. You can estimate the freezing level prior to flight by using simple mathematics. For example, if the airport elevation is 1,000 feet and the temperature at ground level is 12° Celsius, the freezing level would be at approximately 6,000 feet above ground level (AGL) or 7,000 feet above mean sea level (MSL). Since the lapse rate is 2° per thousand feet, it would take 6,000 feet of altitude to go from 12° Celsius to 0°, the freezing temperature of water. The same technique works for Fahrenheit, but you use 3.6° for the lapse rate. Don't forget to include the airport elevation in your computations -- altimeters are normally set to display MSL rather than AGL altitude. [This method yields a very approximate value for the freezing level. You are encouraged to leave a wide margin for error above and below this altitude if you must fly through visible moisture during a search.]

4. *Carburetor icing*. Unlike aircraft structural icing, carburetor ice can form on a warm day in moist air. In the winter when temperatures are below 40º F. the air is usually too cold to contain enough moisture for carburetor ice to form. In the summer when temperatures are above 85º F. there is too much heat for ice to form. So, airplanes are most vulnerable to carburetor icing when operated in high humidity or visible moisture with

temperatures between 45º and 85º F. It's most likely to become a problem when the aircraft is operated at low power settings, such as in descents and approaches to landings.

5. Taxiing in snow and ice can be dangerous. The pilot should never attempt to taxi through snow banks, and should be very deliberate and careful while taxiing on snow or ice. Run-ups should be conducted in an area free of snow or ice, if possible. The observer (and scanner) must assist the pilot in these conditions, and be especially watchful for runway and taxiway boundaries and other obstacles that may be obscured by snow or ice.

Additional Information

More detailed information on this topic is available in Chapter 6 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: None.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked to discuss icing.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Discuss the following concerning icing:		
a. Freezing level.	P	F
b. How airframe frost and icing affects aircraft performance.	P	F
c. How carburetor icing affects aircraft performance.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

P-2009

DISCUSS THE DANGERS OF REDUCED VISIBILITY CONDITIONS

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must discuss the causes and dangers of reduced visibility.

OBJECTIVES

Discuss the causes and dangers of reduced visibility and their effect on search operations.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, basic knowledge of how reduced visibility conditions affect search operations.

2. Reduced visibility conditions. One of the most common hazardous weather problems is loss of visibility. This can happen either suddenly or very insidiously, depriving the pilot of his ability to see and avoid other aircraft, and reducing or depriving him altogether of his ability to control the aircraft, unless he has had training and is proficient in instrument flying. In reduced visibility, the crew's ability to see rising terrain and to avoid towers, power transmission lines, and other man-made obstacles is diminished. Visibility may be reduced by many conditions including clouds, rain, snow, fog, haze, smoke, blowing dust, sand, and snow. A similar condition called “white out” can occur where there has been snowfall.

Fog, especially dense fog, can make it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to see landing runways or areas. The crew should be alert for a potential problem with fog whenever the air is relatively still, the temperature and dew point are within several degrees, and the temperature is expected to drop further, as around sunset and shortly after sunrise. This is often a factor in delaying the first sorties of the day.

Haze, a fine, smoke-like dust causes lack of transparency in the air. It's most often caused when still air prevents normal atmospheric mixing, allowing the particles to persist, instead of the wind's dispersing them. Like fog, it is most likely to occur when the air is still. When haze and smoke are present, the best measure a flight crew can take to minimize risk of such an encounter is to get a thorough weather briefing before flying, and update the briefing by radio with *Flight Watch* as required.

3. Effects. According to FAA regulations, under almost all circumstances flight using visual flight rules can only be conducted with at least three miles of visibility. If clouds cover more than one-half the sky, the cloud bases must be no lower than 1,000 feet above the terrain. In addition, search aircraft must usually remain at least 500 feet below the cloud deck.

Each member of the aircrew must be vigilant during all phases of the flight when visibility is less than perfect. Crew resource management requires that each member of the crew be assigned an area to search during the takeoff, transit and approach-to-landing phases of the flight in order to help the pilot "see and avoid" obstacles and other aircraft. The aircrew must also characterize visibility in the search area so as to establish the proper scanning range: search visibility may be different than expected, and your search pattern may have to be adjusted accordingly. Be sure to cover this during your debriefing.

Additional Information

More detailed information on this topic is available in Chapter 6 of the MART and Attachment 2 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: None.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked to discuss reduced visibility conditions and their affect on search operations.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Discuss the following concerning reduced visibility conditions:		
a. Reduced visibility conditions.	P	F
b. Basic reduced visibility minimums.	P	F
c. Effects on search operations.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

P-2010

DISCUSS THE DANGERS OF WIND AND THUNDERSTORMS

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must discuss effects and dangers of wind and thunderstorms.

OBJECTIVES

Discuss effects and dangers of wind and thunderstorms.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

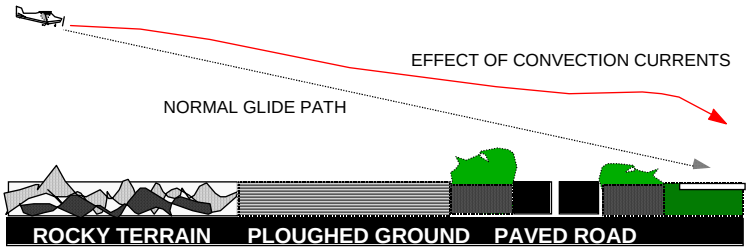
1. As a Mission Observer trainee, knowing the effects and dangers of winds and thunderstorms is essential.

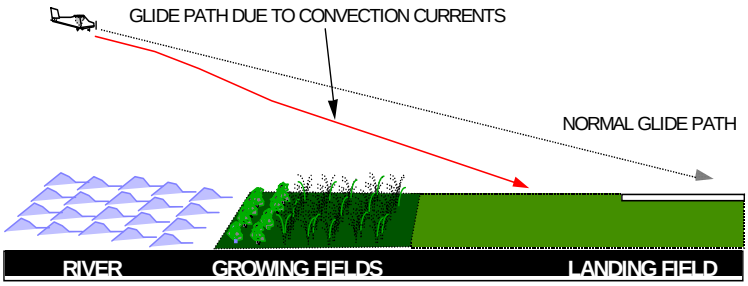
2. Winds around pressure systems. Certain wind patterns can be associated with areas of high and low pressure: air flows from an area of high pressure to an area of low pressure. In the Northern Hemisphere during this flow the air is deflected to the right because of the rotation of the earth. Therefore, as the air leaves the high-pressure area, it is deflected to produce a clockwise circulation. As the air flows toward a low-pressure area, it is deflected to produce a counterclockwise flow around the low-pressure area.

Another important aspect is air moving out of a high-pressure area depletes the quantity of air. Therefore, highs are areas of descending air. Descending air favors dissipation of cloudiness; hence the association that high pressure usually portends good weather. By similar reasoning, when air converges into a low-pressure area, it cannot go outward against the pressure gradient, nor can it go downward into the ground; it must go upward. Rising air is conducive to cloudiness and precipitation; thus the general association low pressure — bad weather.

3. Convection currents. Certain kinds of surfaces are more effective than others at heating the air directly above them. Plowed ground, sand, rocks, and barren land give off a great deal of heat, whereas water and vegetation tend to absorb and retain heat. The uneven heating of the air causes small local circulation called “convection currents”, which are similar to the general circulation just described. Convection currents cause the bumpiness experienced by aircrews flying at low altitudes in warmer weather. On a low flight over varying surfaces, the crew will encounter updrafts over pavement or barren places and down drafts over vegetation or water. Ordinarily this can be avoided by flight at higher altitudes, so aircrews may need to climb periodically to take a break from the rough air at search altitudes.

Convection currents also cause difficulty in making landings, since they affect the rate of descent. The figures below show what happens to an aircraft on a landing approach over two different terrain types. The pilot must constantly correct for these affects during the final approach to the airport.





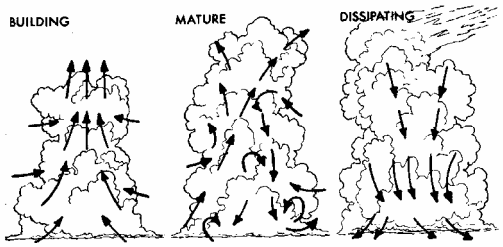
4. Cold and warm fronts. Certain characteristics of frontal activities will affect search effectiveness (primarily visibility and turbulence). For the aircrew, these factors must be considered during mission planning.

<u>Characteristics of a cold, unstable air mass are</u>:
Cumulus and cumulonimbus clouds
Unlimited ceilings (except during precipitation)
Excellent visibility (except during precipitation)
Unstable air resulting in pronounced turbulence in lower levels (because of convention currents)
Occasional local thunderstorms or showers - hail sleet, snow flurries

<u>Characteristics of a warm, stable air mass are</u>:
Stratus and stratocumulus clouds
Generally low ceilings
Poor visibility (fog, haze, smoke, and dust held in lower levels)
Smooth, stable air with little or no turbulence
Slow steady precipitation or drizzle

5. Windshear. Windshear is best described as a change in wind direction and/or speed within a very short distance in the atmosphere. Under certain conditions, the atmosphere is capable of producing some dramatic shears very close to the ground; for example, wind direction changes of 180º and speed changes of 50 knots or more within 200 ft. of the ground have been observed. This, however, is unusual. Turbulence may or may not exist in wind shear conditions. If the surface wind under the front is strong and gusty there will be some turbulence associated with wind shear.

6. Thunderstorms. A thunderstorm is any storm accompanied by thunder and lighting. It usually includes some form of precipitation, and can cause trouble for aircraft in many forms: turbulence, icing, poor visibility, hail, wind shear, microbursts, lightning, and, in severe cases, tornadoes. No thunderstorm should ever be taken lightly. During the cumulus stage, vertical growth occurs so quickly that climbing over the developing thunderstorm is not possible. Flight beneath a thunderstorm, especially in the mature stage, is considered very foolish, due to the violent down drafts and turbulence beneath them. Flight around them may be a possibility, but can still be dangerous. Even though the aircraft may be in clear air, it may encounter hail, lightning, or turbulence a significant distance from the storm's core. *Thunderstorms should be avoided by at least 20 miles laterally*. The safest alternative, when confronted by thunderstorms, is to land, tie the aircraft down, and wait for the storms to dissipate or move on.



Additional Information

More detailed information on this topic is available in Chapter 6 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: None.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked to discuss the dangers of winds and thunderstorms.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Discuss the effects of convection currents, particularly during landing.	P	F
2. Discuss wind patterns around high- and low-pressure areas.	P	F
3. Discuss the characteristics of cold and warm fronts.	P	F
4. Discuss the dangers of windshear.	P	F
5. Discuss the dangers of thunderstorms.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

P-2011

DISCUSS THE EFFECTS OF DENSITY ALTITUDE ON AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must discuss how density altitude affects aircraft performance.

OBJECTIVES

Describe the factors that are used to determine density altitude, and discuss the effect of high density altitude on aircraft performance and strategies to deal with high density altitudes during search operations.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, knowing how density altitude affects aircraft performance is very helpful.

2. *Atmospheric pressure*. Pressure at a given point is a measure of the weight of the column of air above that point. As altitude increases, pressure diminishes as the weight of the air column decreases. This decrease in pressure has a pronounced effect on flight. The aircraft's altimeter is sensitive to these changes in pressure, and displays this pressure as altitude. When the altimeter is set to the current reported altimeter setting it indicates the aircraft's height above mean sea level (MSL). [If a local altimeter setting is unavailable, pilots usually set the altimeter to indicate the airport's MSL elevation.]

Changes in pressure are registered in inches of mercury: the *standard* sea-level pressure is 29.92 inches at a *standard* temperature of 15º C (59º F). If CAP aircraft always operated at standard conditions, the altimeter would always be accurate. An aircraft with an indicated (on the altimeter) altitude of 5,000' MSL will really be 5000' above the ground (AGL). However, these standard conditions rarely exist because the density of the atmosphere is always changing as altitude and temperature changes. [The third factor - humidity - also effects density, but the effect is smaller and its very hard to determine.]

3. *Pressure altitude*. Pressure altitude is an altitude measured from the point at which an atmospheric pressure of 29.92 inches of mercury is found. A good rule of thumb is that a 1,000' change of altitude results in a 1-inch (mercury) change on a barometer. Another way to determine pressure altitude is to enter 29.92 into the altimeter's window and read the resulting altitude indication.

4. *Density altitude*. When pressure altitude is corrected for non-standard temperature, *density altitude* can be determined.

5. *Effects*. The combined effects of high altitude and temperature (high density altitude) can have a significant effect on performance of aircraft engines, wings, propellers, and the pilot and crew. If all missions were conducted on cool, low humidity days along the Gulf coast there would be no concern with air density and its implications on flight safety. Obviously, this isn't the case. In fact, these conditions have often been primary factors in aircraft accidents, and may result in loss of the search aircraft, unless you pay careful attention.

The most noticeable effect of a decrease in pressure (increase in density altitude) due to an altitude increase becomes evident during takeoff, climb, and landing. An airplane that requires a 1,000' run for takeoff at a sea-level airport will require a run almost twice as long at an airport that is approximately 5,000' above sea level. The purpose of the takeoff run is to gain enough speed to generate lift from the passage of air over the wings. If the air is thin, more speed is required to obtain enough lift for takeoff- hence, a longer ground run. It is also true that the engine is less efficient in thin air, and the thrust of the propeller is less effective. The rate of climb is also slower at the higher elevation, requiring a greater distance to gain the altitude to clear any obstructions. In landing, the difference is not so noticeable except that the plane has greater groundspeed when it touches the ground.

6. *Strategies*. The mission staff can make a number of decisions to help minimize the effects of high density altitude operations and thus maximize flight safety. If aircraft having turbo-charged or super-charged engines are available, the incident commander may assign their crews that part of the search over the high terrain. Supercharging or turbocharging regains some of the engine performance lost with the decrease in air density, but cannot improve upon that lost from the wings or propeller.

Incident commanders may schedule flights to avoid searching areas of high elevation during the hottest times of the day. This is a tradeoff though, in that the best sun angles for good visibility often coincide with the hot times of the day. The incident commander may also elect to limit crew size to minimize airplane total weight. Instead of dispatching a four-seat aircraft with a pilot, observer, and two scanners aboard, he may elect to send a pilot, observer and single scanner only. Again, this represents a tradeoff, where some search capability is sacrificed for a higher margin of safety.

The pilot may decide to takeoff on a mission with only the fuel required for that mission and the required reserve, rather than departing with full fuel tanks. Each crewmember can help by leaving all *nonessential* equipment or personal possessions behind. In areas of high density altitude, airplane performance can be improved significantly by simply leaving nonessential, excess weight behind.

To help remember these conditions and their effects, an observer should remember the four "H's." *Higher Humidity, Heat, or Height all result in reduced aircraft performance*. Available engine power is reduced, climb capability is reduced, and takeoff and landing distances are increased.

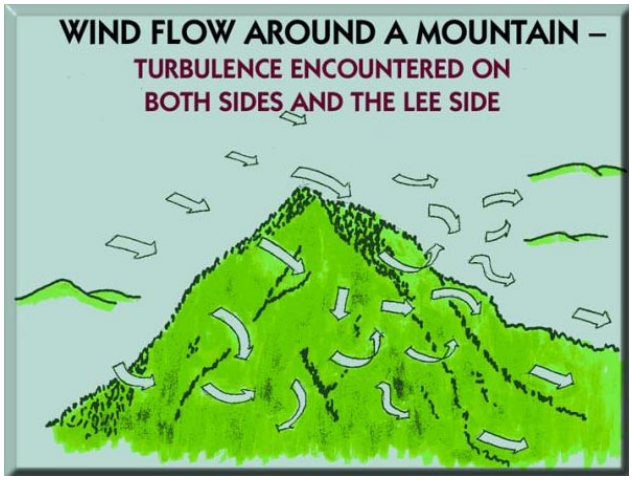
7. *Mountainous terrain*. Aircrews flying the mountains must complete a course such as *Mountain Fury*.

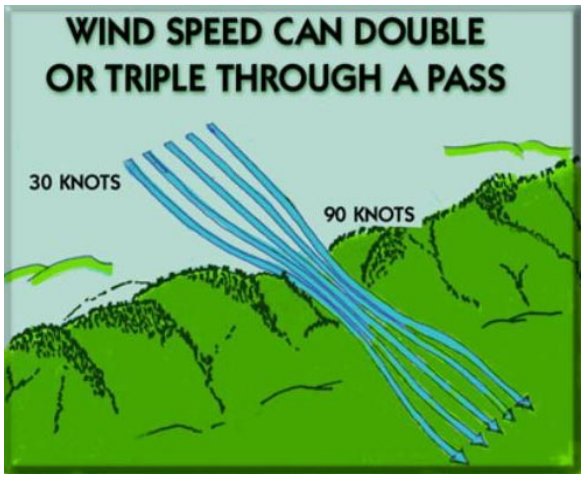
When flying in mountainous areas it is recommended that flights be planned for early morning or late afternoon because heavy turbulence is often encountered in the afternoon, especially during summer. In addition, flying at the coolest part of the day reduces density altitude. Attempt to fly with as little weight as possible, but don't sacrifice fuel; in the event of adverse weather, the additional reserve could be a lifesaver.

Study sectionals for altitudes required over the route and for obvious checkpoints. Prominent peaks make excellent checkpoints, as do rivers and passes. Be aware that mountain ranges have many peaks that may look the same to the untrained eye, so continually crosscheck your position with other landmarks and radio aids if possible. Also, the minimum altitude at which many radio aids are usable will be higher in the mountains. For that reason, low-frequency navigation, such as ADF, LORAN, or GPS tend to work best in the mountains.

A weather check is essential for mountain flying. Ask specifically about winds aloft even when the weather is good. Expect winds above 10,000 feet to be prevailing westerlies in the mountain states. If winds aloft at your proposed altitude are above 30 knots, do not fly. Winds will be of much greater velocity in passes, and it will be more turbulent as well. Do not fly closer than necessary to terrain such as cliffs or rugged areas. Dangerous turbulence may be expected, especially when there are high winds (see figures, below).

Crews must be constantly careful that a search never takes them over terrain that rises faster than the airplane can climb. Narrow valleys or canyons that have rising floors must be avoided, unless the aircraft can be flown from the end of higher elevation to the lower end, or the pilot is *certain* that the aircraft can climb faster than the terrain rises. Careful chart study by the crew prior to flight will help identify this dangerous terrain.





Additional Information

More detailed information on this topic is available in Chapter 7 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide the student with charts and/or a flight computer to compute density altitude.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked to calculate density altitude and discuss its effects.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Discuss atmospheric pressure, pressure altitude and density altitude.	P	F
2. Obtain the local altimeter setting and enter it into an aircraft altimeter.	P	F
3. Discuss how high density altitude degrades aircraft performance.	P	F
4. Discuss strategies to deal with high density altitude on search operations.	P	F
5. Discuss mountainous terrain precautions and strategies.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

P-2012

IDENTIFY CONTROLLED AND SPECIAL USE AIRSPACES ON A SECTIONAL

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must identify controlled and special use airspaces on a sectional chart.

OBJECTIVES

Identify controlled and special use airspaces on a sectional chart and discuss operations in or near each.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, being able to identify and discuss operations near controlled airports and special use airspaces is essential.

2. Controlled airports. The most stringent requirements normally are associated with flight in airspace immediately surrounding a major airport due to the high density of operations conducted there. Observers must be alert for required communication when it appears a search will be conducted within 40 miles of a major airport or within 5 miles of any airport having an operating control tower: these are color coded *blue* on sectional charts. Major airports in this context are generally near major metropolitan areas and appear at or near the center of concentric blue-, magenta-, or gray-colored circles. Also, crew resource management and the "sterile cockpit" environment are essential in or near these busy airports in order to "see and avoid" obstacles and other aircraft.

3. Special Use Airspace. Although not a class of airspace, the FAA has designated some airspace as "special use" airspace. The FAA has specifically created special use airspace for use by the military, although the FAA retains control. Active special use airspace can become a navigational obstacle to search aircraft and uncontrolled objects (e.g., missiles) within the airspace can present a serious threat to the safety of CAP aircraft and personnel. Special use airspace normally appears on sectional charts as irregularly shaped areas outlined by *either blue or magenta hatched lines*. It is also identified by either a name, such as Tyndall E MOA, or an alphanumerical identifier like R-4404A. Hours of use and vertical limits of special use airspace areas, as well as the FAA facility controlling each area, are printed in one of the margins of the sectional chart. If the CAP crew has any doubt about entering special use airspace, it should contact the appropriate air traffic control facility first to check the status of the area in question.

Prohibited Areas contain airspace within which the flight of aircraft is prohibited for national security or other reasons. An example is the airspace around the White House.

An “R” prefix to a five-letter identifier indicates a *Restricted Area*. The Army may be conducting artillery firing within this airspace, or military aircraft may be practicing actual air-to-surface bombing, gunnery, or munitions testing. Shells, bombs, and bullets, as well as the dirt and fragments they throw into the air on ground impact, present a severe hazard to any aircraft that might come in their path. The restricted area’s boundaries are always printed in *blue*.

Within the boundaries of a *Military Operations Area* (MOA) the military may be conducting high-speed jet combat training or practicing air-to-ground weapons attack, without objects actually being released from the aircraft. MOA boundaries and their names are always printed in *magenta* on the sectional chart. Civilian aircraft operating under VFR are *not* prohibited from entering an active MOA, and may do so at any time without any coordination whatsoever (although this is considered foolish by many pilots). As stated earlier,

since the FAA retains control of the airspace, it is prudent to contact the controlling air traffic facility before continuing a search into any MOA. Military aircraft, often flying at very low altitudes and at high speeds, are usually not in radar or radio contact with the air traffic controller (nor can they see or hear you). A controller can only provide positive separation to civilian IFR aircraft from the MOA boundary, *not* from the military aircraft itself. This may force significant maneuvering off your intended course.

4. Military Training Routes. Although not classified by the FAA as special use airspace, military training routes (MTRs) are for military low-altitude high-speed training. MTRs are identified by one of two designations, depending upon the flight rules under which the military operates when working within that airspace. *Instrument Routes* (IR) and *Visual Routes* (VR) are identified on sectional aeronautical charts by medium-weight solid gray lines with an alphanumeric designation. 4-digit numbers identify MTRs flown at or below 1500 feet AGL; 3-digit numbers identify those flown above 1500 feet AGL.

Only route centerlines are printed on sectional charts, but each route includes a specified lateral distance to either side of the printed centerline and a specific altitude “block”. Route widths vary, but can be determined for any individual route by requesting Department of Defense *Flight Information Publication AP-1B* at the Flight Service Station.

The letters *IR* (e.g., IR-120) indicate that military aircraft operate in that route according to IFR clearances issued by air traffic control. Other non-military VFR aircraft may enter the lateral or vertical boundaries of an active IR route without prior coordination, while aircraft operating IFR are kept out by air traffic control. Just as in the case of a MOA, air traffic control may not have radar and radio contact with the military aircraft using the route. Therefore, it is necessary to provide separation between other IFR aircraft and the route airspace regardless of where the military aircraft may be located along the route. This may force either a route or altitude change. You can request the status of IR routes from the controlling air traffic facility.

The letters *VR* (e.g., VR-1102) indicate that the military operates under VFR when operating within the lateral and vertical limits of that airspace. The see-and-avoid concept applies to *all* civilian and military aircraft operating there, and all crew members must be vigilant in visual lookout when within or near a VR training route. Many military missions go to and from visual training routes' start and exit points on IFR clearances, and the prudent crew can inquire about the status of the route with air traffic control when operating through or near a VR training route.

You can determine *scheduled* military activity for restricted areas, MOAs, and military training routes by checking *Notices to Airmen* (NOTAMS) at the Flight Service Station. However, checking with the air traffic control facilities is preferable, since it will reveal *actual*, "real time" activity versus *scheduled* activity. When flying through any special use airspace or training route, crewmembers should be alert and cautious at all times, because incorrect or incomplete coordination between the military and the FAA is the rule rather than the exception.

Additional Information

More detailed information on this topic and examples are available in Chapter 8 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide the student a sectional chart(s) containing controlled airports and all forms of special use airspaces.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked to identify (sectional) and discuss operations near controlled airports and special use airspaces.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Identify (sectional) and discuss operations in and near, and identify on a sectional chart:		
a. Controlled airport.	P	F
b. Prohibited airspace.	P	F
c. Restricted airspace.	P	F
d. Military Operating Area.	P	F
e. Military Training Routes.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

Mission Observer
Task Book

Advanced Training

O-2002

DEMONSTRATE OPERATION OF THE AIRCRAFT RADIOS

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must demonstrate how to operate the aircraft communications radios and the CAP VHF FM radio.

OBJECTIVES

Demonstrate and discuss the use of the aircraft communications radios and the CAP VHF FM radio.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, knowing how to set up and use the aircraft radios is essential. This enables the observer to assist the pilot during times of heavy workloads, and to communicate effectively with mission base and ground units.

The aircraft radio is the primary means of communication in aviation. To effectively use the radio, mission pilots and observers must be knowledgeable not only of *how* to communicate, but *when* communication is required during CAP missions. Observers may operate the aircraft communications radios in order to reduce pilot workload, and they use the FM radio to communicate with ground units.

Some aviation frequencies are designed for air-to-air communications and may be used by CAP aircraft (or any other general aviation aircraft). 123.1 MHz is the official SAR frequency. 122.75 and 122.85 MHz are air-to-air communications frequencies (and for use by private airports not open to the general public). 122.90 MHz is the Multicom frequency; it *can* be used for search and rescue, *but* is also used for other activities of a temporary, seasonal or emergency nature (note, however, that it is also used by airports without a tower, FSS or UNICOM). Follow your communications plan, if applicable, and don't abuse these frequencies. Look at the sectional to see if 122.90 MHz is used by nearby airports, and always listen before you transmit.

2. *Aviation communications radios*. To establish radio communications (a KX 155 is shown), first tune the communications radio to the frequency used by the clearance or ground station. Almost all general-aviation aircraft transmitters and receivers operate in the VHF frequency range 118.0 MHz to 136.975 MHz. Civil Air Patrol aircraft normally have 720-channel radios, and the desired frequency is selected by rotating the frequency select knobs until that frequency appears in the light-emitting diode display, liquid crystal display, or other digital frequency readout or window.

The 720-channel radios are normally tuned in increments of 50 kilocycles (e.g., 119.75 or 120.00). They can be tuned in increments of 25 kilocycles (e.g., 119.775) pulling out on the tuning knob, but the last digit of the frequency will not be shown in the display (e.g., 119.775 will be displayed as 119.77). [Sometimes, for brevity, air traffic controllers assign such frequencies as "one-one nine point seven seven," meaning 119.775, not 119.770. The operator cannot physically tune the radio to 119.770, and this may be confusing.]

Before transmitting, first *listen* to the selected frequency. An untimely transmission can "step on" another transmission from either another airplane or ground facility, so that *all* the transmissions are garbled. Many pilots have been violated for not complying with instructions that, it was later determined, had been blocked or "stepped on" by another transmission. Next, mentally prepare your message so that the transmission flows naturally without unnecessary pauses and breaks (remember "Who, Where and What"). You may even find it helpful to jot down what you want to say before beginning the transmission. When you first begin using the radio, you may find abbreviated notes to be a convenient means of collecting thoughts with the proper terminology. As your experience level grows, you may find it no longer necessary to prepare using written notes.

Stuck mike

Occasionally, the transmit button on aircraft radio microphones gets stuck in the transmit position, resulting in a condition commonly referred to as a “stuck mike.” This allows comments and conversation to be unintentionally broadcast. Worse yet, it also has the effect of blocking all other transmissions on that frequency, effectively making the frequency useless for communication by anyone within range of the offending radio. You may suspect a stuck mike when, for no apparent reason, you do not receive replies to your transmissions, especially when more than one frequency has been involved. You may notice that the 'T' (transmit symbol) is constantly displayed on your communications radio and, in the case of the PMA7000MS audio panel, the transmit (TX) light in the lower right-hand corner is on continuously. You may notice a different sound quality to the background silence of the intercom versus the noise heard when the microphone is keyed but no one is talking. Often the problem can be corrected by momentarily re-keying the microphone. If receiver operation is restored, a sticking microphone button is quite likely the problem.

3. *Callsigns*. CAP aircraft have been authorized to use FAA callsigns, just like the major airlines and commuter air carriers. This helps differentiate us from civil aircraft, air taxis, and many other commercial aircraft. Our FAA authorized callsign is "Cap Flight XX XX," where the numbers are those assigned to each Wing's aircraft. *The numbers are stated in 'group' form*. For example, the C172 assigned to Amarillo, Texas is numbered 4239, where 42 is the prefix identifying it as a Texas Wing aircraft. The callsign is thus pronounced "Cap Flight Forty-Two Thirty-Nine." It is important to use the group form of pronunciation because FAA air traffic controllers expect it of us. [NOTE: There are a few exceptions to this rule, such as when you perform certain counter drug operations. In these rare cases you may be directed to use the aircraft 'N' number as your callsign.]

The initial transmission to a station starts with the name of the station you’re calling (e.g., Amarillo Ground), followed by your aircraft callsign. You almost always identify yourself using your aircraft's CAP flight designation. Once you’ve identified the facility and yourself, state your position (e.g., "at the ramp") and then make your request.

[NOTE: CAP aircraft should use the word "Rescue" in their callsign when priority handling is *critical*. From the example above, this would be "Cap Flight Forty-Two Thirty-Nine Rescue." DO NOT abuse the use of this code; it should only be used when you are on a critical mission *and* you need priority handling. NEVER use the word "rescue" during training or drills.]

4. *CAP VHF FM radio*. CAP has authorization to use special frequencies in order to communicate with government agencies and to our own ground forces. For this purpose CAP aircraft have a VHF FM radio that is separate from the aviation comm radios. This radio is dedicated to air-to-ground communications, and is normally operated by the observer or scanner. Several of the frequencies programmed into the radio are frequencies assigned to CAP by the U.S. Air Force, and are used to communicate with CAP bases and ground teams. Others are programmed at the direction of the Wing Communications Officer (e.g., mutual aid, fire, police, park service, forest service, and department of public service); these frequencies almost always require

prior permission from the controlling agency before use. [CAP is replacing the older Yaesu and NAT NPX radios with the TDFM-136 (below), which will be discussed here.]

The TDFM-136 is a P25-compliant airborne transceiver capable of operating in the 136 MHz to 174 MHz range (digital or analog) in 2.5 KHz increments. It can have up to 200 operator-accessible memory positions, each capable of storing a receive frequency, a transmit frequency, a separate tone for each receive and transmit frequency, an alphanumeric identifier for each channel, and coded squelch information for each channel. Data can be entered via the 12-button keypad but is normally downloaded from a PC. Operating frequencies, alphanumeric identifiers and other related data are presented on a 96-character, four-line LED matrix display. It is capable of feedback encryption.

National will enter the first four main frequencies (Primary, Secondary, Ground Tactical and Air-to-Ground) and the wing communications officers will enter the rest. Guard 1 will be preset to the Air-to-Ground and Guard 2 to the Primary frequency. Therefore, all you will just have to know is how to *use* the radio. The radio also has a scan function that can scan any or all of the main channels stored in the preset scan lists; scan lists, if enabled, are set by the wing communications officer.

As shown in the figure, the radio simultaneously displays two frequencies. The upper line is the Main (MN) frequency and the lower is the Guard (GD) frequency. Normally, you will be set up to transmit and receive on the Main and be able to receive the Guard frequency. This feature allows mission base to contact you at any time (via Guard), no matter what frequency you are using (Main).

<u>Controls and normal settings</u>:

a. The knob above the MN/GD switch is the power switch and controls volume for Main. The knob above the G1/G2 switch is the volume control for Guard.
b. The "Squelch" pushbutton is not used (automatic squelch). Don't push it.
c. The MN/GD toggle switch selects the frequency on which you will transmit *and* receive. It is normally set to MN.
d. The G1/G2 toggle switch selects the Guard frequency you are *monitoring* (G1 = Air-to Ground and G2 = Primary). It is normally set to G1.
e. The HI/LO toggle switch selects transmitter power (10 watts or 1 watt). It is normally set to HI.

<u>Keypad operation</u>:

a. Pressing and holding "4" (Scroll Memory Down) will let you scroll down through the programmed memories (it wraps around). Upon reaching the desired entry, release the button. "6" (Scroll Memory Up) lets you scroll up. [Note: scroll speed increases the longer you hold the buttons.]
b. Pressing "5" (Scan) lets you select a scan list to scan, and to start or stop the scan. Once the scan list you want is displayed press # ENTER to start the scan or press * ESC to stop the scan. [Note: this function must be enabled by the wing communications officer for it to work.}

c. Pressing and holding "2" (Display - Brighter) will increase display brightness; "8" (Display - Dimmer) decreases brightness.

When you get in the aircraft and power up the radio it should be set to MN, G1 and HI. Use pushbutton 4 or 6 to select the assigned Main frequency (normally Air-to-Ground), and "004 Air/Grd 149.5375" will be displayed on the upper line. The second line should display the Guard 1 frequency (in this case, the same as Main).

As another example, lets say you are working with the U.S. Forest Service and have their frequency on Main. Mission base, noting that you have not called in your "Operations Normal" report, calls you using the G1 frequency. You will hear mission base over Guard (its set to G1), regardless of what is coming over the Main frequency. You simply take the MN/GD switch to GD and answer "Ops Normal," and then return the switch to MN and carry on with the mission.

5. *Required FM radio reports*. As a minimum, the aircrew must report the following to mission base:
a. Radio check (initial flight of the day)
b. Take off time ("wheels up")
c. Time entering a search area
d. Time exiting a search area
e. Landing time ("wheels down")
f. Operations normal ("Ops Normal"), at intervals briefed by mission staff

Additional Information

This task may be performed in conjunction with MO Tasks O-001 (Audio panel) and O-003 (In-flight services). More detailed information on this topic is available in Chapter 4 and Attachment 2 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide the student access to aircraft radios.

Brief Student: You are a Mission Observer trainee asked to set up and use the aircraft radios.

NOTE: The performance measures are designed for the KX 155 and the TDFM-136; adjust as necessary for your aircraft.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Set up and use the aircraft communications radio:		
a. Power, volume and squelch controls.	P	F
b. 50 and 25 kilocycles frequency adjustments.	P	F
c. Set in primary and standby frequencies, and switch between them (flip-flop).	P	F
d. Discuss proper use of CAP callsigns, including when to use "rescue".	P	F
e. Discuss stuck mike indications and strategies.	P	F
2. Set up and use the CAP VHF FM radio:		
a. Power, volume and squelch controls.	P	F

b.	Select assigned frequencies (main and guard channels).	P	F
c.	Keypad controls (scroll and scan).	P	F
d.	Give required mission FM radio reports (may be simulated).	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

O-2011
OPERATE THE VOR AND DME

CONDITIONS

You are an Observer trainee and must use the VOR and DME for navigation and position determination.

OBJECTIVES

Demonstrate how to use the VOR and DME for navigation and position determination.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

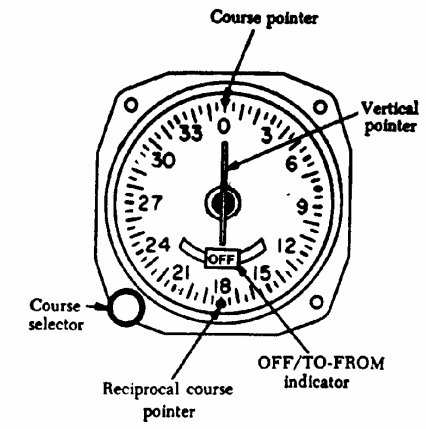
1. As a Mission Observer trainee, knowing how to use navaids and their limitations is essential for situational awareness. The Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (VOR) radio navigation system and Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) allows the aircraft to be flown to a desired location, such as a search pattern entry point, with precision and economy. Once in the search or assessment area, these navaids allow the pilot to fly the assigned area fairly accurately. From the mission staff's viewpoint, proper use of these navaids assures them that the assigned area was actually flown -- the only variables left to accommodate are search effectiveness and the inherent limitations of scanning.

One drawback is that setting up and manipulating the VORs and DME may distract the pilot (and observer) from looking outside of the aircraft. The great majority of CAP missions are performed in VFR conditions, and the CAP aircrew must not forget the importance of looking where you're going. The best way to avoid this trap is to become and continue to be very familiar with the operation of the GPS. Training and practice (along with checklists or aids) allows each crewmember to set or adjust instruments with minimum fuss and bother, thus allowing them to return their gaze outside the aircraft where it belongs. All members of the aircrew should be continuously aware of this trap.

Additionally, it is important that observers use this equipment to help the pilot maintain situational awareness. *The observer should always know the aircraft's position on the sectional chart*, and the VOR/DME enables him or her to do so with good accuracy.

2. *ADF*. The Automatic Direction Finder is used to receive radio guidance from stations such as four-course ranges, radio beacons, and commercial broadcast facilities. The automatic direction finder indicates the direction of the station being received shown in relation to the heading of the aircraft: thus, the ADF can be helpful in maintaining situational awareness. The ADF is the least accurate of all the navigational instruments.

3. *VOR*. The Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (VOR) radio navigation system transmits 360 directional radio beams or *radials* that, if visible, would resemble the spokes radiating from the hub of a bicycle wheel. Each station is aligned to magnetic north so that the 000 radial points from the station to magnetic north. Every other radial is identified by the magnetic direction to which it points *from* the station, allowing the pilot to navigate directly to or from the station by tracking along the proper radial. The VOR is an accurate and reliable navigational system, and is the current basis for all instrument flight in the U.S. To help light plane pilots plan and chose routings, the FAA has developed the Victor airway system, a “highway” system in the sky that uses specific courses to and from selected VORs. When tracing the route of a missing aircraft, search airplanes may initially fly the same route as the missing plane, so it is very important you know the proper procedures for tracking VOR radials.



The figure above shows a VOR indicator and the components that give the information needed to navigate, including a vertical pointer, OFF/TO-FROM flag or window, and a course-select knob. The vertical pointer, also called a course deviation indicator (CDI), is a vertically mounted needle that swings left or right showing the airplane's location in relation to the course selected beneath the course pointer. The OFF/TO-FROM indicator shows whether the course selected will take the airplane to or from the station. When it shows “OFF”, the receiver is either not turned on or it’s not receiving signals on the selected frequency. The course selector knob is used to select the desired course to fly either toward or away from the station.

Flying to the VOR station is simple. Find the station’s frequency and its Morse code audio identifier using the sectional chart. Next, tune the receiver to the correct frequency and identify the station by listening to its Morse code (if you can’t positively identify the station, you should not use it for navigation). After identifying the station, slowly turn the course selector knob until the TO-FROM indicator shows TO and the CDI needle is centered. If you look at the course that's selected beneath the course pointer at the top of the indicator, you’ll see the course that will take you directly to the station. The pilot turns the aircraft to match the airplane's heading with that course and corrects for any known winds by adding or subtracting a drift correction factor. The pilot keeps the CDI centered by using very small heading corrections and flies the aircraft directly to the station. When the aircraft passes over the station, the TO-FROM indicator will flip from TO to FROM.

To fly away from a station, tune and identify the VOR, then slowly rotate the course select knob until the CDI is centered with a FROM indication in the window. Look at the selected course, again normally at the top of the indicator, to determine the outbound course. The pilot turns the aircraft to that heading, corrects for wind drift, and keeps the CDI needle in the center to fly directly away from the station.

VORs can be used to determine a position in relation to a selected station. Rotate the course select knob slowly until the CDI is centered with a FROM indication, and look beneath the reciprocal course pointer for the radial. You can draw that radial as a line of position from the station's symbol on the sectional chart. Each VOR station on the chart has a surrounding compass ring already oriented towards magnetic north. Therefore, it isn’t necessary to correct for magnetic variation. The use of the printed compass circle surrounding the station on the chart eliminates the need for using the plotter's protractor as well. Use any straight edge to draw the radial by connecting the station symbol with a pencil line through the appropriate radial along the circle. The radial drawn on the chart shows direction, but does not indicate distance from the station. But, you can get an accurate position “fix” by repeating the procedure with another VOR.

[Note: In order to use a VOR for instrument flight, the receiver must be functionally checked every thirty days (or prior to any instrument flight). This check must be performed by an instrument rated pilot and logged in the aircraft's flight logbook.]

4. *DME*. Finding bearing or direction to a station solves only one piece of the navigation puzzle: knowing the distance to the station is the final piece to the puzzle that allows fliers to navigate more precisely. You can use crossing position lines from two radio stations to obtain your distance from the stations, but an easier method is provided by Distance Measuring Equipment. DME continuously measures the distance of the aircraft from a DME ground unit that is usually co-located with the VOR transmitter (then called a VORTAC). The system consists of a ground-based receiver/transmitter combination called a transponder, and an airborne component called an interrogator. The interrogator emits a pulse or signal, which is received by the ground-based transponder. The transponder then transmits a reply signal to the interrogator. The aircraft's DME equipment measures the elapsed time between the transmission of the interrogator's signal and the reception of the transponder's reply and converts that time measurement into a distance. This measurement is the actual, straight-line distance from the ground unit to the aircraft, and is called *slant range*. This distance is continuously displayed, typically in miles and tenths of miles, on a dial or digital indicator on the instrument panel. When DME is used in combination with VOR, you can tell at a glance the direction and distance to a tuned station.

DME measures straight-line distance, or slant range, so *there is always an altitude component within the displayed distance*. If you fly toward a station at an altitude of 6,000 feet over the station elevation, the DME will never read zero. It will continuously decrease until it stops at one mile. That mile represents the aircraft's altitude above the station. The distance readout will then begin to increase on the other side of the station. Under most circumstances the altitude component of slant range can be ignored, but when reporting position using DME, especially to air traffic controllers, it is customary to report distances in "DME", not nautical miles, e.g., "Holly Springs 099° radial at 76 DME." [Some DME equipment can also compute and display the actual ground speed of the aircraft, provided that the aircraft is flying *directly* to or from the ground station. In all other circumstances, the ground speed information is not accurate and should be ignored.]

Additional Information

The GPS is covered in MO Task O-005, and may be performed concurrently with this task. More detailed information on this topic and examples are available in Chapter 8 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide the student access to an aircraft or simulator.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked to determine aircraft position with the VOR and DME.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Use (or discuss) the ADF to determine approximate position.	P	F
2. Determine aircraft position with the VOR, and discuss how to use the VOR to fly to/from a station. Also determine position by cross-radials.	P	F
3. Determine aircraft position with the DME, and discuss the limitations of DME.	P	F
4. Discuss the limitations of each navaid.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

O-2012
OPERATE THE GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM

CONDITIONS

You are an Observer trainee and must use the GPS for navigation and position determination.

OBJECTIVES

Demonstrate how to use the GPS for navigation and position determination.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, knowing how to use the GPS and its limitations is essential. The Global Positioning System (GPS) allows the aircraft to be flown to a desired location, such as a search pattern entry point, with precision and economy. Once in the search or assessment area, the GPS allows the pilot to fly the assigned area precisely and thoroughly. From the mission staff's viewpoint, proper use of the GPS assures them that the assigned area was actually flown -- the only variables left to accommodate are search effectiveness and the inherent limitations of scanning.

One drawback is that setting up and manipulating the GPS may distract the pilot (and observer) from looking outside of the aircraft. The great majority of CAP missions are performed in VFR conditions, and the CAP aircrew must not forget the importance of looking where you're going. The best way to avoid this trap is to become and continue to be very familiar with the operation of the GPS. Training and practice (along with checklists or aids) allows each crewmember to set or adjust instruments with minimum fuss and bother, thus allowing them to return their gaze outside the aircraft where it belongs. All members of the aircrew should be continuously aware of this trap.

Additionally, it is important that observers use this equipment to help the pilot maintain situational awareness. *The observer should always know the aircraft's position on the sectional chart*, and the GPS enables him or her to do so with great accuracy.

2. The Global Positioning System relies on a chain of 24 satellite transmitters in polar orbits about the earth. The speed and direction of each satellite, as well as each satellite's altitude is precisely maintained so that each satellite remains in a highly accurate and predictable path over the earth's surface at all times. The GPS receiver in the aircraft processes signals transmitted by these satellites and triangulates the receiver's position, which the user again can read directly in latitude and longitude coordinates from a digital display. The system is substantially more accurate than LORAN, VOR, DME, or ADF and has several advantages.

Because the transmitters are satellite (not ground) based, and the signals are essentially transmitted *downward,* system accuracy is not significantly degraded in mountainous terrain. Additionally, the system is not normally vulnerable to interference from weather or electrical storms. Receivers can typically process as many as twelve received signals simultaneously, and can automatically deselect any satellite whose signal doesn't meet specific reception parameters. The system can function with reasonable accuracy using as few as three received signals.

3. To a new operator, the GPS is complex and can initially increase the user's workload. Pilots and observers *must read the operating manual or instructions* and become thoroughly familiar with GPS operation before flight, so that operating the GPS *will not become a distraction* from more important tasks. Also, many manufacturers have CD simulators (e.g., U.S. Aviation Technologies' Apollo GX55; www.upsat.com) that allow individuals to practice use of the GPS on a computer.

4. CAP is standardizing the fleet with the Apollo GX55 (below). Even if your aircraft has a different GPS, the basic functions are the same.

All GPS units display bearing and distance to waypoints (i.e., airports, VORs, intersections, and user waypoints); position can also be determined by displaying current lat/long coordinates. For emergency use, all GPS units have a feature that allows you quickly and easily display bearing and distance to the nearest airports or VORs (often a list of the ten nearest facilities).

The GPS displays altitude, ground speed, estimated time to the waypoint (ETE), and ground track. GPS databases also contain extensive information about selected waypoints (e.g., an airport) such as runway length and alignment, lighting, approaches, frequencies, and even FBO details such as the availability of 100LL fuel and hours of operation.

The GPS receiver also allows pilots to:

<u>Fly directly to any position</u>
The ability to fly directly to any position (e.g., an airport, navaid, intersection, or user waypoint) saves time and fuel. This reduces transit time, thus allowing more of the crew's allowed duty day to be spent in the search area. Any of these positions can be entered as the destination through a simple procedure. Additionally, all GPS have a "Nearest Airport" and "Nearest VOR" function, where you can easily display a list of the nearest airports or VORs and then select it as your destination. Positions can also be grouped into flight plans.
Once the destination is entered into the GPS, the heading and the ground track can be monitored. *By matching the heading and ground track (or keeping the CDI centered), you are automatically compensating for wind and thus flying the shortest possible route to your destination.*

<u>Fly between any two points</u>
The ability to fly directly between any two points greatly improves search effectiveness. These points, usually defined by latitude and longitude (lat/long), can be flown in either of two ways:

a. The points can be entered into the GPS as user-defined waypoints. The waypoints can then be recalled in the same manner as you would display an airport or navaid, or they can be entered into a flight plan.
b. The pilot can fly between the points by observing the current lat/long display (i.e., a real-time readout of latitude and longitude).

5. Two factors have reduced search effectiveness in the past: drifting off course due to shifts in wind direction, and drifting off course because of the lack of adequate boundaries (e.g., cross-radials or visible landmarks). Now any search pattern can be flown precisely without relying on cross-radials or ground references. The crew and the mission staff know that a route or area has been covered thoroughly. Also, GPS allows the crew to remain within assigned boundaries, which greatly improves safety when more than one aircraft is in the search area at the same time.

NOTE: The Apollo GX55 has a "moving map," which greatly enhances situational awareness. It shows aeronautical and ground features in (scalable) detail, and also displays special use airspace. Another feature, added to the unit for CAP use, is the SAR MAP mode. This feature allows you to select, define and fly directly to a CAP grid, and to superimpose a search pattern on the grid (e.g., parallel, creeping line or expanding square). The SAR features will be covered in another task guide.

Additional Information

The VOR/DME is covered in task O-2011, and may be performed concurrently with this task. More detailed information on this topic and examples are available in Chapter 8 and Attachment 2 of the MART.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide the student access to an aircraft or a GPS simulator.

Brief Student: You are an Observer trainee asked to determine aircraft position with the GPS.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Using the operator's manual, discuss the operation of the GPS.	P	F
2. Using the operator's manual, display information provided by the GPS:		
a. Altitude.	P	F
b. Ground speed.	P	F
c. Heading to waypoint and current heading.	P	F
d. Track over ground (ground track).	P	F
e. Estimated time to the waypoint (ETE).	P	F
3. Using the operator's manual, determine current position using:		
a. Bearing and distance to waypoints.	P	F
b. Present position (lat/long coordinates).	P	F
c. Moving map display (if applicable).	P	F
4. Using the operator's manual, enter a destination waypoint:		
a. Airport.	P	F
b. VOR.	P	F
c. User-defined (lat/long coordinates).	P	F
5. Using the operator's manual, display "nearest airport" and "nearest VOR."	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

O-2108
ASSIST IN ELT SEARCHES

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must assist in performing ELT searches.

OBJECTIVES

Assist the mission pilot in locating an Emergency Locator Transmitter (practice beacon) using the homing and wing null ELT search methods. Discuss the aural and metered search methods, and reflection and interference.

NOTE: These methods apply to the L-Tronics DF unit; operation of the new Becker SAR DF-517 is covered in Attachment 2 of the MART.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, knowing how to assist the mission pilot in locating an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) is essential. There are several methods that can be used, the most common of which are the homing and wing null methods. You should also be familiar the aural and metered search method, and how reflections and signal interference can affect the search.

2. *Homing* is an electronic search method that uses the Direction Finder (DF) to track the ELT signal to its source. Tune the direction finder (DF) to the ELT operating frequency; the pilot will fly the aircraft to the transmitter by keeping the left/right needle centered. ELT's may transmit on either 121.5 MHz VHF, 243.0 MHz UHF, or both frequencies simultaneously. These emergency frequencies are *usually* the ones monitored during a search, but homing procedures can be used on any radio frequency to which *both* a transmitter and DF receiver can be tuned.

First you have to determine the direction to the ELT. When you fly directly toward a signal, the left/right DF needle remains centered. However, when you head directly *away* from the signal, the needle also centers. A simple, quick maneuver is used to determine if you are going toward or away from the signal. Starting with the left/right needle centered, the pilot turns the aircraft in either direction so that the needle moves away from center. If he turns left, and the needle deflects to the right, the ELT is in front. If the pilot turns back to the right to center the needle, and then maintains the needle in the center, you will eventually fly to the ELT. If, in the verification turn, the pilot turns left and the needle swings to the extreme left, then the ELT is behind you. Continue the left turn until the needle returns to the center. You are now heading toward the ELT, and as long as the pilot maintains the needle in the center, you will fly to the ELT.

Flying toward the ELT, maintaining the needle in the center of the indicator *is* the actual homing process. If the needle starts to drift left of center, steer slightly left to bring the needle back to the center. If it starts to drift right, turn slightly back to the right. Once you have completed the direction-verification turn, you will not need large steering corrections to keep the needle in the center.

When passing over the ELT or transmission source, the left/right needle will indicate a *strong* crossover pattern. The needle will make a distinct left-to-right or right-to-left movement and then return to the center. This crossover movement is *not* a mere fluctuation; the needle swings fully, from one side of the indicator to the other and then returns to the center.

During homing you may encounter situations where the needle *suddenly* drifts to one side then returns to center. If the heading has been steady, and the needle previously centered, such a fluctuation may have been caused by

a signal from a second transmitter. Another aircraft nearby can also cause momentary needle fluctuations that you might not hear, but the needle in the DF will react to it. Signal reflections from objects or high terrain can also cause needle fluctuations at low altitudes in mountainous terrain or near metropolitan areas.

3. *Wing null*. The wing null (or wing shadow) method is based on the assumption that the metal skin of the search aircraft's wing and fuselage will block incoming ELT signals from the receiving antenna during steep-banked turns.

Due to the length of the description of this search method and the number of figures, refer to the "Wing Shadow method (wing null)" section of the Mission Aircrew Reference Text (MART) for details.

4. The *aural* (or hearing) search technique is based on an assumption that an ELT's area of apparent equal signal strength is circular.

Please refer to the "Aural (or hearing) search" section of the MART for details.

5. To employ the *metered* search method, the observer uses a signal strength meter to monitor the ELT signal. Once the aircraft enters the search area, the observer plots two positions of equal meter strength.

Please refer to the "Metered search" section of the MART for details.

6. Signal reflection and interference. Radio signals reflect off terrain and manmade objects, and this can be a problem for search and rescue teams. In an electronic search, it is vitally important to know if the equipment is reacting to reflected signals and what you can do to overcome the problem.

Please refer to the "Signal Reflection and Interference" section of the MART.

Additional Information

Setting up and using the DF is covered in task O-2005, *Operate the Aircraft DF*, and may be performed concurrently with this task. More detailed information and figures on this topic are available in Chapter 10 and Attachment 2 of the MART.

Practice

Setup: The student needs access to an aircraft with an operable DF, a sectional and or a map of the practice area. Place a practice beacon in a suitable location for each type (method) of DF search. [Note: If you normally operate in or near congested airspace, you should conduct some of these practice sorties under ATC control inside the congested airspace.]

The mission pilot should let the observer perform as much of the search duties as is practical. Where possible, have the student direct the pilot (particularly for headings) by interpreting DF signals.

As a minimum, the student should practice the homing and wing null search methods. Demonstration of the aural and metered search methods is desirable, but they may be simulated. [Note: It is highly desirable to have a ground crew available during practice. The observer can then lead the ground crew to the area where the practice beacon is located and let the ground crew find the beacon.]

The student should start out searching for a practice beacon located in an open area where the signal will not be reflected. At first, the practice beacon's location should be clearly marked (e.g., using an adjacent signal panel or wreckage simulations) so the student can see the results of his efforts.

After the student has successfully demonstrated basic proficiency, place the practice beacon in an open area but do not mark its location. Have the student locate the beacon and tell you its approximate location. This provides a good simulation of a night search. After the student has demonstrated proficiency, practice at least one DF (using the homing and wing null methods) at night.

After the student has mastered the basic ELT search methods, place a practice beacon in locations where the signal is weakened or reflected (e.g., inside a hanger, along a metal fence, or near a power transmission line).

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide the student with an aircraft and pilot, a sectional and/or map of the local area. Place a practice beacon in a suitable location for each type of ELT search.

Brief Student: You are a Mission Observer trainee asked to assist in performing ELT searches.

NOTE: The performance measures are designed for the L-Tronics DF; adjust as necessary for your aircraft.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Assist in locating a practice beacon using the following search methods:		
a. Homing to a non-reflected signal.	P	F
b. Homing to a non-reflected signal at night (combine with 1.d, if possible).	P	F
c. Homing to a reflected signal.	P	F
d. Wing null to a non-reflected signal (one during the day and one at night).	P	F
2. Assist in locating a practice beacon using the following search methods (may be simulated):		
a. Aural.	P	F
b. Signal.	P	F
3. Discuss night and IFR searches, with particular emphasis on the hazards and precautions.	P	F
4. Discuss signal reflection and interference.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

O-2109
ASSIST IN PLANNING AND PERFORMING A ROUTE SEARCH

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a route search.

OBJECTIVES

Assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a route search.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, the ability to assist the Mission Pilot in planning and performing a route search pattern is essential. The observer learns to plan the search pattern in order to better assist the mission pilot and to more effectively direct scanners.

2. General. Because of the accuracy and reliability of the present Global Positioning System and GPS receivers, CAP aircrews are now able to navigate and fly search patterns with unprecedented effectiveness and ease. The GPS has become the primary instrument for CAP air missions, and it is vital that observers know how to setup and use the GPS. However, observers must also be familiar with the other navigational instruments onboard CAP aircraft: these instruments complement the GPS and serve as backups in case of GPS receiver problems.

The observer (as mission commander) must be aware of how many scanners will be on board in order to assign which side of the aircraft they should scan. *Planning and executing a search pattern with only one scanner on board is quite different from one where you have two scanners*. Likewise, having an observer and two scanners on board will allow the observer to spend more time assisting the pilot without seriously decreasing search effectiveness.

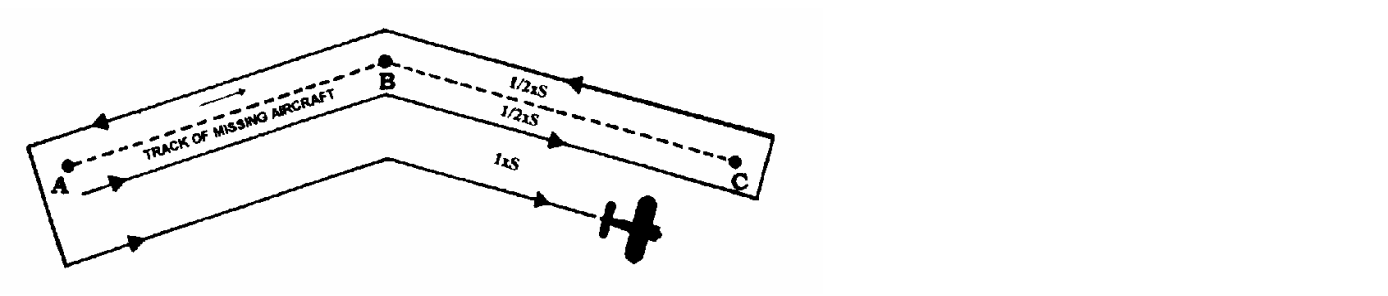
When you are planning and flying search patterns, always perform a *stupid check* -- as in "Hey! Wait a minute. This is stupid." Use this to see if your headings, waypoint positions, lat/long coordinates and distances look sensible. At a minimum, perform this check after you finish planning, when you start your pattern, and periodically thereafter. For example, you've just entered a set of lat/long coordinates into the GPS and turned to the heading shown on the GPS. You know the coordinates represent a lake southwest of your position, so check the heading indicator to see you're actually traveling in a southwesterly direction. Or, you know the lake is approximately 25 miles away; check the distance indicated on the GPS! You'd be surprised how many mistakes this method will catch.

Pre-planning (plotting) your search pattern results in the most effective search. Pre-planning sets the details of the sortie in your mind and makes entering your data (correctly) into the GPS much easier. This allows the pilot and observer to concentrate on their primary task by minimizing navaid setup time and reducing confusion. Worksheets can be used (see the *Flight Guide*, MART Attachment 2) to pre-plan your search patterns, but they are just one method.

3. Route search pattern. The route (track line) search pattern is normally used when an aircraft has disappeared without a trace. This search pattern is based on the assumption that the missing aircraft has crashed or made a forced landing on or near its intended track (route). It is assumed that detection may be aided by survivor signals or by electronic means. The track line pattern is also used for night searches (in suitable

weather). A search aircraft using the track line pattern flies a rapid and reasonably thorough coverage on either side of the missing aircraft's intended track.

4. Search altitude for the track line pattern usually ranges from 1000 feet above ground level (AGL) to 2000 feet AGL for day searches, while night searches range 2000 to 3000 feet AGL (either depending upon light conditions and visibility). Lat/long coordinates for turns are determined and then entered into the GPS as waypoints, which may then be compiled into a flight plan.



The search crew begins by flying parallel to the missing aircraft's intended course line, using the track spacing (labeled “S”) determined by the incident commander or planning section chief. On the first pass, recommended spacing may be one-half that to be flown on successive passes. Flying one-half “S” track spacing in the area where the search objective is most likely to be found can increase search coverage.

5. You may use a worksheet to draw the route and to log coordinates and distinctive features. As a backup, note applicable VOR radials and cross-radials. The GX55 has a function called "parallel track offset" that is very handy for route searches. This function allows you to create a parallel course that is offset to the left or right (up to 20 nm) of your current flight plan. This function can also be useful on when you wish to search a 'corridor' of airspace.

Additional Information

Search patterns are covered in tasks O-2109 thru O-2115 and may be combined in any fashion. More detailed information and figures on this topic are available in Chapter 11 of the MART.

Practice

Setup: Give the student a route search to plan and perform. The student should have a sectional chart, plotter, and worksheets as needed. A qualified Mission Pilot should be available to assist the trainee.

A search target should be positioned in the search area, if possible.

Brief the pilot. The pilot should fly the route over a sufficient length (out and back) to allow the student time to demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of the search. Search altitude, airspeed and track spacing should be selected to match terrain and conditions: 1,000’ to 2,000’ AGL, 100 knots, and one mile track spacing is recommended.

Depending on the level of proficiency of the student, one or more of these tasks may be practiced simultaneously:

Planning. All mission sorties must be thoroughly planned: this ensures the pilot and crew can accomplish the sortie objectives safely and precisely. Treat each sortie as if it were an actual mission. Each time the student practices a sortie all required paperwork should be completed as part of the drill. The student should sign herself into the mission, ensure that the pilot signs in the aircraft, receive her assignment from you (the briefing

officer), plan the sortie, and assist the pilot in completing the flight plan and preliminary mission data portions of the CAPF 104.

The pilot should review the weight and balance, fuel assumptions, and information entered onto the CAPF 104 with the student.

Preflight and pilot briefings. Ensure the student receives pilot safety and mission briefings from the pilot. The student will perform safety assignments as directed (e.g., collision avoidance during taxi and in flight).

Equipment. To the extent possible, the student should operate the communications and navigation equipment. The student should set up and enter information into the equipment (especially the GPS) prior to taxi. [Where necessary for training, the trainer should assist the student in setting up navigation equipment (particularly the GPS) in flight.]

Initial training. Depending on the proficiency and skills of the student, the trainer may need to demonstrate all aspects of a route search. This gives the student time to absorb the information and work on such skills as setting up, entering data, and using the navigational equipment.

For each practice sortie, watch for:

1) Proper setup and use of the navigational equipment, particularly the GPS. Ensure that the student does not change any navigational or communications equipment setting without the knowledge of the PIC.

2) Proper ATC and CAP FM communications technique and terminology. Initially, have the student tell the pilot and/or trainer what she intends to say *before* she transmits.

3) Proper and attentive collision avoidance practices during the critical phases of flight.

4) Safety. The student should spend most of her time looking outside the aircraft (see and avoid) when enroute to the search area, and most of her time acting as a scanner while in the search area. Initially, the student will spend too much time with her eyes inside the aircraft (e.g., manipulating the GPS) until she is comfortable and proficient with the equipment. Get the student into the habit of *not looking inside the aircraft for more than five seconds at a time* to manipulate communications and navigational equipment.

5) Accurate situational awareness at all times.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Give the student a route search to plan and perform. The student should have a sectional chart, plotter, and worksheets as needed. A qualified Mission Pilot should be available to assist the trainee during the planning and flying stages.

A search target should be positioned in the search area, if possible.

Brief the pilot. The pilot should fly the pattern long enough to allow the student time to demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of the search. Search altitude, airspeed and track spacing should be selected to match terrain and conditions: 1,000’ to 2,000’ AGL, 100 knots, and one mile track spacing is recommended.

Run the sortie as it would be during an actual mission. Have the student sign in, sign in the aircraft, and complete all required paperwork. Brief the sortie as if you were the Briefing Officer during a mission.

Brief Student: You are a Mission Observer trainee asked to assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a route search.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Sign into the mission.	P	F
2. Receive a sortie briefing, asking questions as necessary.	P	F
3. Assist in planning a route search from Point A to B and back. Include:		
a. Position coordinates for the route (lat/long and VOR radials/cross-radials).	P	F
b. Altitude restrictions, obstacles and other hazards (e.g., MTRs and SUAs).	P	F
c. Scanner assignments (discuss as necessary).	P	F
4. Assist in filling out the flight plan and preliminary mission data on the CAPF 104.	P	F
5. Receive pilot safety and mission briefings, asking questions as necessary.	P	F
6. Demonstrate and discuss safety during each critical phase of the flight. In particular, demonstrate collision avoidance and enforce sterile cockpit rules.	P	F
7. Demonstrate proper ATC communications, as applicable.	P	F
8. Setup the CAP FM radio and perform all required radio reports (may be simulated).	P	F
9. Assist in a route search. Demonstrate:		
a. Proper use of navaids (GPS as primary; VOR as backup).	P	F
b. Proper use of radios (ATC as required, and CAP FM radio reports).	P	F
c. Proper scanner assignment (may be simulated).	P	F
d. Ability to spot the search target (if applicable).	P	F
10. Ensure the aircraft is secured at the end of the sortie (ready for next sortie).	P	F
11. Assist in filling out the remainder of the CAPF 104 and debrief the sortie.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

O-2110

ASSIST IN PLANNING AND PERFORMING A PARALLEL TRACK SEARCH

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a parallel track search.

OBJECTIVES

Assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a parallel track search.

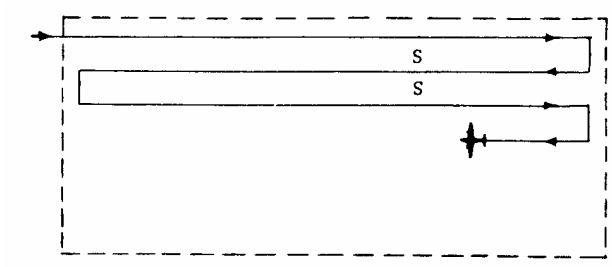
TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

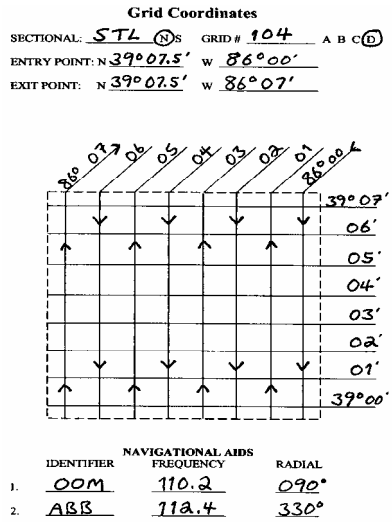
1. As a Mission Observer trainee, the ability to assist the Mission Pilot in planning and performing a parallel track search pattern is essential. The observer learns to plan the search pattern in order to better assist the mission pilot and to more effectively direct scanners.

2. Parallel track search pattern. The parallel track (sweep) search pattern is normally used when one or more of the following conditions exist: a) the search area is large and fairly level, b) only the approximate location of the target is known, or c) uniform coverage is desired. This type of search is used to search a grid.

3. The aircraft proceeds to a corner of the search area and flies at the assigned altitude, sweeping the area maintaining parallel tracks. The first track is at a distance equal to one-half (1/2) track spacing (S) from the side of the area.



4. You may use a worksheet to draw the route and to log coordinates and distinctive features. As a backup, note applicable VOR radials and cross-radials. You can use this to enter the latitudes and longitudes that define the entry point and bound the grid, or to generate a flight plan.



5. In the worksheet example, you will be searching STL Grid #104-D, which is a quarter-grid measuring 7.5' x 7.5'. Plot the grid's coordinates and draw the pattern starting at the entry point (northeast corner); include track spacing (one nm) and the direction of the legs (north/south). You will enter the entry point coordinates as a waypoint (N 39º 07´ W 86º 00´; northeast corner). As you fly to the entry point, the pilot should set up at search altitude and speed about 3-5 miles out (this ensures a stabilized entry so that you can begin searching immediately).

Also, always enter relevant VOR cross-radials onto your worksheet and use them as a backup and to verify important positions.

6. All the data you need set up this search pattern in the GX55 is on the worksheet:
   - Type of Grid and Sectional (US grid, STL).
   - Type of pattern (Parallel Line).
   - Grid 104D2, where '2' indicates entering the northeast corner of D quadrant. *
   - Spacing (1 nm).
   - Direction of Travel (N/S).

   * The GX-55 identifies the corners of quadrants by numbers: 1 = enter the NW corner; 2 = NE corner; 3 = SE corner; and 4 = SW corner. In our example you would enter "104D2."

   Note: If you wish, record this data separately (e.g., a list or table) to make it even easier to enter into the GX-55. The example, above, has the data listed in the sequence that you enter into the GX-55.

Additional Information

Search patterns are covered in tasks O-2109 thru O-2115 and may be combined in any fashion. More detailed information and figures on this topic are available in Chapter 11 of the MART.

Practice

Setup: Give the student a parallel (one-quarter grid) search to plan and perform. The student should have a sectional chart, plotter, and worksheets as needed. A qualified Mission Pilot should be available to assist the trainee.

Brief the pilot. The pilot should fly the pattern long enough to allow the student time to demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of the search. Search altitude, airspeed and track spacing should be selected to match terrain and conditions: 1,000’ to 2,000’ AGL, 90 knots, and one mile track spacing is recommended.

Depending on the level of proficiency of the student, one or more of these tasks may be practiced simultaneously:

Planning. All mission sorties must be thoroughly planned: this ensures the pilot and crew can accomplish the sortie objectives safely and precisely. Treat each sortie as if it were an actual mission. Each time the student practices a sortie all required paperwork should be completed as part of the drill. The student should sign herself into the mission, ensure that the pilot signs in the aircraft, receive her assignment from you (the briefing officer), plan the sortie, and assist the pilot in completing the flight plan and preliminary mission data portions of the CAPF 104.

The pilot should review the weight and balance, fuel assumptions, and information entered onto the CAPF 104 with the student.

Preflight and pilot briefings. Ensure the student receives pilot safety and mission briefings from the pilot. The student will perform safety assignments as directed (e.g., collision avoidance during taxi and in flight).

Equipment. To the extent possible, the student should operate the communications and navigation equipment. The student should set up and enter information into the equipment (especially the GPS) prior to taxi. [Where necessary for training, the trainer should assist the student in setting up navigation equipment (particularly the GPS) in flight.]

Initial training. Depending on the proficiency and skills of the student, the trainer may need to demonstrate all aspects of a parallel track (grid) search. This gives the student time to absorb the information and work on such skills as setting up, entering data, and using the navigational equipment.

For each practice sortie, watch for:

1) Proper setup and use of the navigational equipment, particularly the GPS. Ensure that the student does not change any navigational or communications equipment setting without the knowledge of the PIC.

2) Proper ATC and CAP FM communications technique and terminology. Initially, have the student tell the pilot and/or trainer what she intends to say *before* she transmits.

3) Proper and attentive collision avoidance practices during the critical phases of flight.

4) Safety. The student should spend most of her time looking outside the aircraft (see and avoid) when enroute to the search area, and most of her time acting as a scanner while in the search area. Initially, the student will spend too much time with her eyes inside the aircraft (e.g., manipulating the GPS) until she is comfortable and proficient with the equipment. Get the student into the habit of *not looking inside the aircraft for more than five seconds at a time* to manipulate communications and navigational equipment.

5) Accurate situational awareness at all times.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Give the student a parallel track (one-quarter-grid) search to plan and perform. The student should have a sectional chart, plotter, and worksheets as needed. Brief the pilot on the task, if necessary. A qualified Mission Pilot should be available to assist the trainee during the planning and flying stages.

A search target should be positioned in the search area, if possible.

The pilot will enter and fly the grid long enough to allow the student to demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of the search. Search altitude, airspeed and track spacing should be selected to match terrain and conditions: 1,000’ AGL, 90 knots, and one mile track spacing is recommended.

Run the sortie as it would be during an actual mission. Have the student sign in, sign in the aircraft, and complete all required paperwork. Brief the sortie as if you were the Briefing Officer during a mission.

Brief Student: You are a Mission Observer trainee asked to assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a parallel track (one-quarter grid) search.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Sign into the mission.	P	F
2. Receive a sortie briefing, asking questions as necessary.	P	F
3. Assist in planning a one-quarter grid search. Include:		
a. Estimated time enroute, time in the search area, and fuel requirements.	P	F
b. Position coordinates for the entry and exit points (lat/long & VOR radials/cross-radials).	P	F
c. Position coordinates for the legs (lat/long and VOR radials/cross-radials).	P	F
d. Altitude restrictions, obstacles and other hazards (e.g., MTRs and SUAs).	P	F
e. Discuss observer/scanner assignments for all possible combinations.	P	F
4. Assist in filling out the flight plan and preliminary mission data on the CAPF 104.	P	F
5. Receive pilot safety and mission briefings, asking questions as necessary.	P	F
6. Demonstrate and discuss safety during each critical phase of the flight. In particular, demonstrate collision avoidance and enforce sterile cockpit rules.	P	F
7. Demonstrate proper ATC communications.	P	F
8. Setup the CAP FM radio and perform all required radio reports (may be simulated).	P	F
9. Perform the grid search. Demonstrate:		
a. Proper use of navaids (GPS as primary; VOR as backup).	P	F
b. Proper use of radios (ATC as required, and CAP FM radio reports).	P	F
c. Proper scanner assignment (may be simulated).	P	F
d. Ability to spot the search target (if applicable).	P	F
10. Demonstrate proper attention to fuel management.	P	F
11. Ensure the aircraft is secured at the end of the sortie (ready for next sortie).	P	F
12. Assist in filling out the remainder of the CAPF 104 and debrief the sortie.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

O-2115

ASSIST IN PLANNING AND PERFORMING A CREEPING LINE SEARCH

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a creeping line search.

OBJECTIVES

Assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a creeping line search.

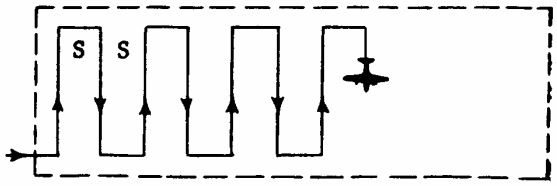
TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

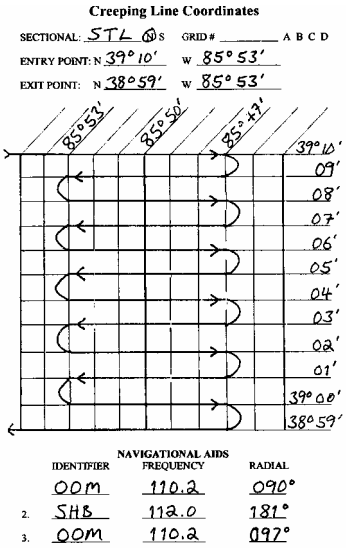
1. As a Mission Observer trainee, the ability to assist the Mission Pilot in planning and performing a creeping line search pattern is essential. The observer learns to plan the search pattern in order to better assist the mission pilot and to more effectively direct scanners.

2. Creeping line search pattern. The creeping line search pattern is similar to the parallel patterns. The parallel pattern search legs are aligned with the major, or longer, axis of the rectangular search areas, whereas the search legs of the creeping line pattern are aligned with the minor or shorter axis of rectangular search areas. The creeping line pattern is used when: a) the search area is narrow, long, and fairly level, b) the probable location of the target is thought to be on either side of the search track within two points, or c) there is a need for immediate coverage of one end of the search area.

3. The creeping line is a succession of search legs along a line. The starting point is located one-half search track spacing inside the corner of the search area.

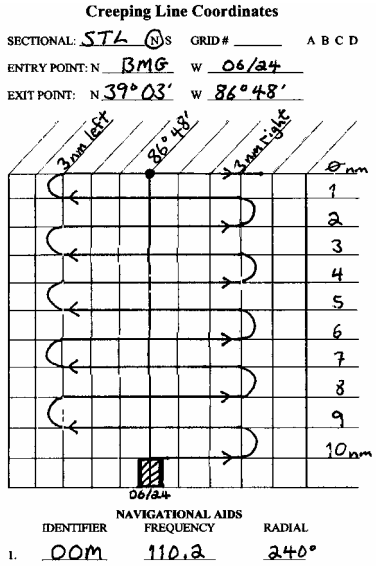


4. You may use a worksheet to draw the pattern and to log coordinates and distinctive features. As a backup, note applicable VOR radials and cross-radials. [Note: You may also create a flight plan for the pattern.]



5. In the worksheet example (above), assume you will be searching along a highway between two towns. Draw the pattern starting at the entry point; include track spacing (one nm) and make each leg extend three nm east and west of the highway. You will enter the entry point coordinates as a waypoint (N 39º 10´ W 85º 53´). As you fly to the entry point, the pilot should set up at search altitude and speed about 3-5 miles out (this ensures a stabilized entry so that you can begin searching immediately). The pilot should fly the pattern using the GPS' continuous lat/long display. In this example, the pilot will initially fly a constant latitude line of N 39º 10´ until you reach W 85º 47´ where she will turn right 180º and stabilize on a constant latitude line of N 39º 09´; repeat this process until the search is completed.

If the route is along a cardinal heading such as the highway example above, then the pilot will simply fly the creeping line using continuously displayed latitude and longitude. However, when the route is not a straight line aligned with a cardinal heading, another method may be used.



Assume that the aircraft will be flying a creeping line for ten miles southwest along an (imaginary) extended runway centerline (06/24 at BMG), and it is desired to fly three miles to either side of the extended runway centerline with one-mile track spacing. Draw the pattern starting at the entry point (Runway 06, BMG); include track spacing (one nm) and make each leg extend three miles either side of the extended centerline. In the right column enter the distance from the waypoint for each leg, starting at ten miles and counting down. Enter the

exit point's lat/long (N 39º 03´ W 86º 48´; ten miles southwest of the end of runway 06) in the GPS as a waypoint.

Enter the airport (BMG) as a destination and the pilot will fly to it. Select the waypoint you created as your new destination.

When the pilot flies over the end of Runway 06, zero (reset) the CDI display on the GPS. This sets up a *route* in the GPS that represents a direct line between the entry (end of runway 06) and exit points. The GPS should show ten miles to the destination, and the CDI will be centered.

The pilot will use the distance to the destination to establish and maintain one-mile track spacing; she will monitor the CDI deviation indication to indicate when you have gone three miles to either side of the line.

The pilot begins his first turn, for example to the right. By maintaining the distance from the destination constant (e.g., ten miles) the aircraft will be flying *almost* perpendicular to the extended runway centerline. Watch the CDI, which will begin showing that the aircraft is deviating from the intended route to the right. When the aircraft has deviated by almost three miles (the length of your right leg) the pilot will begin a turn to the left. The turn will be completed so that the aircraft will now be flying in the opposite direction at a distance of nine miles from the destination (the one-mile track spacing).

Now watch the CDI begin to return to center while maintaining a constant nine-mile distance from the destination. The pilot will continue as the CDI begins to deviate to the left, and the next turn (to the right) will begin as you approach a three-mile deviation. Continue this pattern until you have completed your search.

Note: By using this technique you will actually be flying arcs instead of the usual squared (rectangular) legs. This is of little concern since the purpose is to cover the entire search area in a methodical manner.

This method is very handy when you are assigned a creeping line while airborne. It's easy to plan, set up and perform once you have mastered the technique.

You can also fly this pattern to search along a Victor airway. You can perform a similar pattern using the DME; it will be like flying a series of DME arcs.

This method can also be used along a winding river or a road, but the pilot or observer must plan a line that roughly bisects the winding route and then vary the length of the legs as conditions warrant on the ground below.

6. In the GX55, the creeping line is similar to the parallel line pattern, but the starting point is a selected waypoint rather than a grid. The pattern will straddle the center of your flight plan. All the data you need set up this search pattern in the GX55 is on the worksheet:

- Type of Grid and Sectional (US grid, STL).
- Type of pattern (Creeping Line).
- Starting Waypoint (the airport, BMG).
- Spacing (1 nm).
- Direction of Travel (the runway heading, 060º).
- Leg Length (3 nm *).
- Start Side (Right).

* 9.9 nm is the longest leg length you can select on the GX-55.

Additional Information

Search patterns are covered in MO Tasks O-013 thru O-016 and may be combined in any fashion. More detailed information and figures on this topic are available in Chapter 11 of the MART.

Practice

Setup: Give the student an expanding square search to plan and perform. The student should have a sectional chart, plotter, and worksheets as needed. A qualified Mission Pilot should be available to assist the trainee.

Brief the pilot. The pilot should fly the pattern long enough to allow the student time to demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of the search. Search altitude, airspeed and track spacing should be selected to match terrain and conditions: 1,000' to 2,000' AGL, 90 knots, three mile legs, and one mile track spacing is recommended.

Depending on the level of proficiency of the student, one or more of these tasks may be practiced simultaneously:

Planning. All mission sorties must be thoroughly planned: this ensures the pilot and crew can accomplish the sortie objectives safely and precisely. Treat each sortie as if it were an actual mission. Each time the student practices a sortie all required paperwork should be completed as part of the drill. The student should sign herself into the mission, ensure that the pilot signs in the aircraft, receive her assignment from you (the briefing officer), plan the sortie, and assist the pilot in completing the flight plan and preliminary mission data portions of the CAPF 104.

The pilot should review the weight and balance, fuel assumptions, and information entered onto the CAPF 104 with the student.

Preflight and pilot briefings. Ensure the student receives pilot safety and mission briefings from the pilot. The student will perform safety assignments as directed (e.g., collision avoidance during taxi and in flight).

Equipment. To the extent possible, the student should operate the communications and navigation equipment. The student should set up and enter information into the equipment (especially the GPS) prior to taxi. [Where necessary for training, the trainer should assist the student in setting up navigation equipment (particularly the GPS) in flight.]

Initial training. Depending on the proficiency and skills of the student, the trainer may need to demonstrate all aspects of a creeping line search. This gives the student time to absorb the information and work on such skills as setting up, entering data, and using the navigational equipment.

For each practice sortie, watch for:

1) Proper setup and use of the navigational equipment, particularly the GPS. Ensure that the student does not change any navigational or communications equipment setting without the knowledge of the PIC.

2) Proper ATC and CAP FM communications technique and terminology. Initially, have the student tell the pilot and/or trainer what she intends to say *before* she transmits.

3) Proper and attentive collision avoidance practices during the critical phases of flight.

4) Safety. The student should spend most of her time looking outside the aircraft (see and avoid) when enroute to the search area, and most of her time acting as a scanner while in the search area. Initially, the student will spend too much time with her eyes inside the aircraft (e.g., manipulating the GPS) until she is comfortable and

proficient with the equipment. Get the student into the habit of *not looking inside the aircraft for more than five seconds at a time* to manipulate communications and navigational equipment.

5) Accurate situational awareness at all times.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Give the student a creeping line search to plan and perform. The student should have a sectional chart, plotter, and worksheets as needed. A qualified Mission Pilot should be available to assist the trainee during the planning and flying stages.

A search target should be positioned in the search area, if possible.

The pilot will enter and fly the pattern long enough to allow the student to demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of the search. Search altitude, airspeed and track spacing should be selected to match terrain and conditions: 1,000' AGL, 90 knots, three mile legs, and one mile track spacing is recommended.

Run the sortie as it would be during an actual mission. Have the student sign in, sign in the aircraft, and complete all required paperwork. Brief the sortie as if you were the Briefing Officer during a mission.

Brief Student: You are a Mission Observer trainee asked to assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a creeping line search.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Sign into the mission.	P	F
2. Receive a sortie briefing, asking questions as necessary.	P	F
3. Assist in planning a creeping line search. Include:		
a. Estimated time enroute, time in the search area, and fuel requirements.	P	F
b. Position coordinates for the entry and exit points (lat/long & VOR radials/cross-radials).	P	F
c. Position coordinates for the legs (lat/long and VOR radials/cross-radials).	P	F
d. Altitude restrictions, obstacles and other hazards (e.g., MTRs and SUAs).	P	F
e. Discuss observer/scanner assignments for all possible combinations.	P	F
4. Assist in filling out the flight plan and preliminary mission data on the CAPF 104.	P	F
5. Receive pilot safety and mission briefings, asking questions as necessary.	P	F
6. Demonstrate and discuss safety during each critical phase of the flight. In particular, demonstrate collision avoidance and enforce sterile cockpit rules.	P	F
7. Demonstrate proper ATC communications.	P	F
8. Setup the CAP FM radio and perform all required radio reports (may be simulated).	P	F
9. Perform the creeping line search. Demonstrate:		
a. Proper use of navaids (GPS as primary; VOR as backup).	P	F

b. Proper use of radios (ATC as required, and CAP FM radio reports).	P	F
c. Proper scanner assignment (may be simulated).	P	F
d. Ability to spot the search target (if applicable).	P	F
10. Demonstrate proper attention to fuel management.	P	F
11. Ensure the aircraft is secured at the end of the sortie (ready for next sortie).	P	F
12. Assist in filling out the remainder of the CAPF 104 and debrief the sortie.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

O-2112

ASSIST IN PLANNING AND PERFORMING A POINT-BASED SEARCH

CONDITIONS

You are a Mission Observer trainee and must assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a point-based search.

OBJECTIVES

Assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a point-based search (expanding square or sector).

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

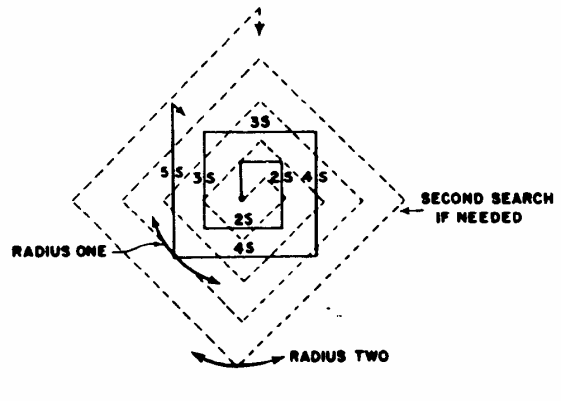
Training Outline

1. As a Mission Observer trainee, the ability to assist the Mission Pilot in planning and performing a point-based search pattern is essential. The observer learns to plan the search pattern in order to better assist the mission pilot and to more effectively direct scanners.

Point-based searches are organized around a point on the ground. These patterns are used when the approximate location of the target is known and are not intended to cover large areas. Examples are the expanding square, sector and circle search patterns.

2. Expanding Square search pattern. The expanding square search pattern is used when the search area is small (normally, areas less than 20 miles square), and the position of the survivors is known within close limits. This pattern begins at an initially reported position and expands outward in concentric squares. If error is expected in locating the reported position, or if the target were moving, the square pattern may be modified to an expanding rectangle with the longer legs running in the direction of the target's reported, or probable, movement.

If the results of the first square search of an area are negative, the search unit can use the same pattern to cover the area more thoroughly. The second search of the area should begin at the same point as the first search; however, the first leg of the second search is flown diagonally to the first leg of the first search. Consequently, the entire second search diagonally overlays the first one. The bold, unbroken line in the figure illustrates the first search, while the dashed line represents the second search. Track spacing indicated in the figure is "cumulative," showing the total width of the search pattern at a given point on that leg. Actual distance on a given leg from the preceding leg on the same side of the pattern is still only one "S," the value determined by the incident commander or planning section chief.



3. The GPS is used because this pattern requires precise navigation and is affected by wind drift. Even using the GPS, it is helpful for the pilot to orient the expanding square pattern along the cardinal headings to reduce confusion during turns. [Or, you can enter the pattern as a flight plan and it will direct your turns.]

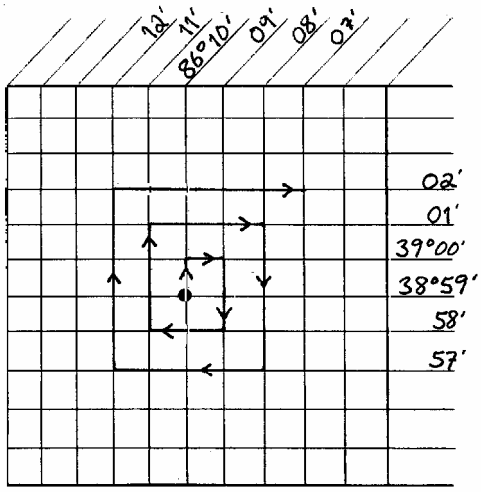
4. You may use a worksheet to draw the pattern and to log coordinates and distinctive features. As a backup, note applicable VOR radials and cross-radials.

Expanding Square Coordinates

SECTIONAL: STL (N) S GRID # 132 A B C D

ENTRY POINT: N 38°59′ W 86°10′

EXIT POINT: N 39°02′ W 86°07′



NAVIGATIONAL AIDS

	IDENTIFIER	FREQUENCY	RADIAL
1.	OOM	110.2	123°
2.	ABB	112.4	313°

5. Fill the worksheet with the lat/longs that describe the expanding square. Starting at the entry point (e.g., a 483´ AGL tower), draw the square by going one mile north, then one mile east, then two miles south, and so on. You set it up this way because it is best to fly the square by first flying due north and then making all subsequent turns to the right; right turns are used because they allow the observer and scanner(s) to see the ground during the turns. You use cardinal headings because they are easiest for the pilot to fly. Length and width of the pattern may be modified to suit the requirements and conditions of the individual search.

Enter the lat/long of the starting point (N 38º 59´ W 86º 10´) into the GPS and save it as a waypoint. As you fly to the entry point, the pilot should set up at search altitude and speed about 3-5 miles out (this ensures a stabilized entry so that you can begin searching immediately). The pilot should fly the pattern using the heading indicator and continuously displayed latitude and longitude on the GPS.

Note: If the aircraft doesn't have an operable GPS the first leg should be flown directly into or directly with the wind. Every other leg will thus be affected by the wind in a relatively consistent manner.

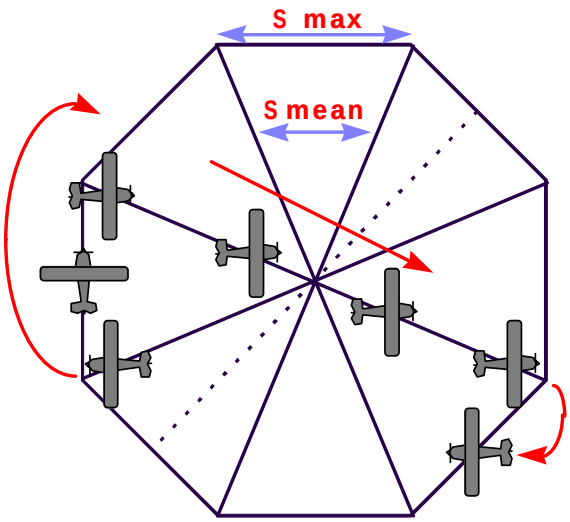
6. In the GX55, the expanding square will radiate from a starting waypoint according to the spacing between lines and at an angle selected by you. All the data you need set up this search pattern in the GX55 is on the worksheet:

- Type of Grid and Sectional (US grid, STL).
- Type of pattern (Expanding Square).
- Starting Waypoint (483´ AGL tower, N 38º 59´ W 86º 10´).

- Spacing (1 nm).
- Direction of Travel (due north, 000º).

  * 9.9 nm is the longest leg length you can select on the GX-55.

7. Sector search pattern. A sector search pattern is also best planned on the ground, as it involves multiple headings and precise leg lengths. The pilot will fly over the suspected location and out far enough to make a turn, fly a leg that is equal to the maximum track spacing, and then turn back to fly over the point again. This continues until the point has been crossed from all the angles.



This search pattern provides concentrated coverage near the center of the search area and provides the opportunity to view the suspected area from many angles (this minimizes terrain and lighting problems).

8. Circle search pattern. A circle search pattern may be used when you have a prominent ground reference. The pilot executes a series of 'turns around a point' (circles of uniform distance from a ground reference point). Once the first circle is flown, the pilot moves outward by the desired track spacing and repeats the maneuver. This pattern is usually only used to cover a very small area, which is dependent upon search visibility (the pilot must be able to see the ground reference). Its benefit is that you only need to be able to locate and see the ground reference point, and no prior planning is needed. However, the pilot must constantly correct for the wind.

Additional Information

Search patterns are covered in tasks O-2109 thru O-2115 and may be combined in any fashion. More detailed information and figures on this topic are available in Chapter 11 of the MART.

Practice

Setup: Give the student an expanding square or sector search to plan and perform. The student should have a sectional chart, plotter, and worksheets as needed. A qualified Mission Pilot should be available to assist the trainee.

Brief the pilot. The pilot should fly the pattern long enough to allow the student time to demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of the search. Search altitude, airspeed and track spacing should be selected to match terrain and conditions: 1,000' to 2,000' AGL, 90 knots, and one mile track spacing is recommended.

Depending on the level of proficiency of the student, one or more of these tasks may be practiced simultaneously:

Planning. All mission sorties must be thoroughly planned: this ensures the pilot and crew can accomplish the sortie objectives safely and precisely. Treat each sortie as if it were an actual mission. Each time the student practices a sortie all required paperwork should be completed as part of the drill. The student should sign herself into the mission, ensure that the pilot signs in the aircraft, receive her assignment from you (the briefing officer), plan the sortie, and assist the pilot in completing the flight plan and preliminary mission data portions of the CAPF 104.

The pilot should review the weight and balance, fuel assumptions, and information entered onto the CAPF 104 with the student.

Preflight and pilot briefings. Ensure the student receives pilot safety and mission briefings from the pilot. The student will perform safety assignments as directed (e.g., collision avoidance during taxi and in flight).

Equipment. To the extent possible, the student should operate the communications and navigation equipment. The student should set up and enter information into the equipment (especially the GPS) prior to taxi. [Where necessary for training, the trainer should assist the student in setting up navigation equipment (particularly the GPS) in flight.]

Initial training. Depending on the proficiency and skills of the student, the trainer may need to demonstrate all aspects of a point-based search. This gives the student time to absorb the information and work on such skills as setting up, entering data, and using the navigational equipment.

For each practice sortie, watch for:

1) Proper setup and use of the navigational equipment, particularly the GPS. Ensure that the student does not change any navigational or communications equipment setting without the knowledge of the PIC.

2) Proper ATC and CAP FM communications technique and terminology. Initially, have the student tell the pilot and/or trainer what she intends to say *before* she transmits.

3) Proper and attentive collision avoidance practices during the critical phases of flight.

4) Safety. The student should spend most of her time looking outside the aircraft (see and avoid) when enroute to the search area, and most of her time acting as a scanner while in the search area. Initially, the student will spend too much time with her eyes inside the aircraft (e.g., manipulating the GPS) until she is comfortable and proficient with the equipment. Get the student into the habit of *not looking inside the aircraft for more than five seconds at a time* to manipulate communications and navigational equipment.

5) Accurate situational awareness at all times.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Give the student an expanding square or sector search to plan and perform. The student should have a sectional chart, plotter, and worksheets as needed. A qualified Mission Pilot should be available to assist the trainee during the planning and flying stages.

A search target should be positioned in the search area, if possible.

The pilot will enter and fly the pattern long enough to allow the student to demonstrate proficiency in all aspects of the search. Search altitude, airspeed and track spacing should be selected to match terrain and conditions: 1,000’ AGL, 90 knots, three mile legs, and one mile track spacing is recommended.

Run the sortie as it would be during an actual mission. Have the student sign in, sign in the aircraft, and complete all required paperwork. Brief the sortie as if you were the Briefing Officer during a mission.

Brief Student: You are a Mission Observer trainee asked to assist a Mission Pilot in planning and performing a point-based search.

Evaluation

Performance measures	Results	
1. Sign into the mission.	P	F
2. Receive a sortie briefing, asking questions as necessary.	P	F
3. Assist in planning a point-based search (expanding square or sector). Include:		
a. Estimated time enroute, time in the search area, and fuel requirements.		
b. Position coordinates for the entry and exit points (lat/long & VOR radials/cross-radials).	P	F
c. Position coordinates for the legs (lat/long and VOR radials/cross-radials).	P	F
d. Altitude restrictions, obstacles and other hazards (e.g., MTRs and SUAs).	P	F
e. Discuss observer/scanner assignments for all possible combinations.	P	F
4. Assist in filling out the flight plan and preliminary mission data on the CAPF 104.	P	F
5. Receive pilot safety and mission briefings, asking questions as necessary.	P	F
6. Demonstrate and discuss safety during each critical phase of the flight. In particular, demonstrate collision avoidance and enforce sterile cockpit rules.	P	F
7. Demonstrate proper ATC communications.	P	F
8. Setup the CAP FM radio and perform all required radio reports (may be simulated).	P	F
9. Perform the point-based search (expanding square or sector). Demonstrate:		
a. Proper use of navaids (GPS as primary; VOR as backup).	P	F
b. Proper use of radios (ATC as required, and CAP FM radio reports).	P	F
c. Proper scanner assignment (may be simulated).	P	F
d. Ability to spot the search target (if applicable).	P	F
10. Demonstrate proper attention to fuel management.	P	F
11. Ensure the aircraft is secured at the end of the sortie (ready for next sortie).	P	F
12. Assist in filling out the remainder of the CAPF 104 and debrief the sortie.	P	F

Student must receive a pass on all performance measures to qualify in this task. If the individual fails any measure, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.