

O-0403
EMPLOY SCANNING TECHNIQUES WHILE ON FOOT

CONDITIONS

You are part of a ground team on a search mission in the field.

OBJECTIVES

Employ appropriate scanning techniques and identify clues while moving across the terrain.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Outline

1. Searching systematically is the mission of the ground search and rescue team. Individual team members accomplish this by scanning their assigned search sector systematically to ensure that the entire area is covered. Night scanning is similar to day scanning, but relies more on peripheral vision, which is more effective than direct vision in limited visibility conditions.

2. The following rules apply to individuals moving as part of a search line or team:

- a. Scan the entire area in front of you from left to right and then from right to left.
- b. Observe areas blocked by foliage or terrain that should be investigated closely.
- c. Look down at the ground close at hand and up in the tree branches for clues.
- d. As you move through the woods investigate the areas that were blocked by foliage on your initial scan.
- e. Remember that clue-consciousness is critical. Look for the clues that will lead you to the target, not just the target itself.
- f. Occasionally stop for a moment and listen for clues.
- g. Turn around and observe the area behind you for clues that could have been missed as you passed through.
- h. Individual searchers do not need to maintain an absolutely straight line when moving through the woods. Move around as required to investigate and search the entire area. Ensure that you know and do maintain the teams base direction of movement.

3. At night, the following additional rules apply:

- a. Do not stare at any one spot too long.
- b. Do not use white light (unless conducting a full light search). White light will destroy your night vision.

c. Avoid white light for 30 minutes prior to the search to give your eyes time to adjust. If you are moving to the search site by car, turn off the overhead dome light.

d. Be especially alert for movement or noise.

Additional Information

More detailed information on this topic is available in Chapter 7 of the Ground Team Member & Leader Reference Text.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Choose a wooded area to search. Place five identifiable clues in the area to be searched

Brief Student: Inform the student that he is part of a search line. Indicate the direction of search. Tell him to move through the woods and scan for clues. Then ask him to describe the additional rules for night search.

Evaluation

<u>Performance measures</u>	<u>Results</u>	
1. Scans the search area in front of him systematically (right, left, up & down)	P	F
2. Observes behind him for clues	P	F
3. Recognizes and investigates blocked areas	P	F
4. Identifies 3 out of 5 clues placed by the evaluator	P	F
5. Maintains the teams base direction	P	F
6. Identifies 3 of the additional rules for night search	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.