



Aliens On Earth.com

Resources for those who are stranded here



Our Bookstore is **OPEN**

Over 5000 new & used titles, competitively priced!

Topics: [UFOs](#) - [Paranormal](#) - [Area 51](#) - [Ghosts](#) - [Fortean](#) - [Conspiracy](#) - [History](#) - [Biography](#) - [Psychology](#) - [Religion](#) - [Crime](#) - [Health](#) - [Geography](#) - [Maps](#) - [Science](#) - [Money](#) - [Language](#) - [Recreation](#) - [Technology](#) - [Fiction](#) - [Other](#) - [New](#)

Search... for keyword(s)

in Page Titles

Location: [Mothership](#) -> [UFO](#) -> [Updates](#) -> [1996](#) -> [Dec](#) -> [Special Operations Manual 1-01 - Part 1](#)

UFO UpDates Mailing List

Special Operations Manual 1-01 - Part 1

From: jan@cyberzone.net (Jan Aldrich)
Date: Tue, 17 Dec 1996 14:29:59 -0800
Fwd Date: Wed, 18 Dec 1996 00:54:49 -0500
Subject: Special Operations Manual 1-01 - Part 1

Special Operations Manual 1-01, Posting #1

During a visit to Washington, D. C. I stopped off at Richard Hall's home and during my stay there he showed me a copy SOM 1-01. I noticed a number items in the publication atypical and unusual in military writings.

The next day I discussed this manual with Don Berliner. Since it appeared to have the US Army seal on the cover, I urged him to send it to the Army for security determination which I thought might prove very interesting; especially any comments they might make. He said he had given it to the GAO Roswell investigators and felt that was the best place to get further information on it.

Don Berliner can certainly speak for himself. However, my impression was that his attitude towards the authenticity of the manual was ambivalent. He had after all presented a talk at a MUFON symposium about how a recovery team would retrieve crashed saucers.

Berliner mentioned that he had consulted with several experts and came away with some conflicting opinions. (I didn't extensive notes at the time so I am relying on memory for the following.) He asked someone from the government printing office if they produced a manual like this and was told that it appeared a sloppy job, but it well might have come from them. He consulted some military officers about the manual, and they disagreed about whether it could be authentic. He had also asked archivists at Carlisle Barracks about the manual, and they had pointed out that the publications list in the manual was correct for the date of the manual. However, just shortly after the manual date the publications cited had changed, and the list would have contained incorrect references just a month or so later.

Berliner and I heatedly disagreed about some of the problems in the manual. He told me that the manual had come in the mail from an unknown source. He did not feel that necessarily reflected on the authenticity. He pointed out that the news media in Washington, DC live on leaks. We also disagreed on the effect of the espionage laws in this case. He felt, as an aviation writer, that he was a member of the press and had no responsibility to try to help the authorities identify the source of the document--which since purported to be a security document of the US, a security violation had occurred.

The Special Operations Manual tells retrieval teams how to conduct such operations. Manuals of this type would be used by the commander or team leader (or whatever the designation) to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Operational Plans (OPans) which would contain detailed instructions and tasks on retrieval, and Operation Orders (OPORD), which would apply the plan to a specific operation. OPans can easily become OPORDs. OPORD are used in specific situations:

if the thing came down in a swamp, this would require special techniques and equipment and be addressed in the OPORD. Of course, once the location is known, the specifics of the area, (ie local population, terrain, communication, etc., etc.) would be addressed in the OPORD.

To make sure that all necessary actions are accomplished correctly, manuals are written to establish guidance and standards. It is too late when the event has taken place to research what should be done. The guidance on this is set out long in advance by people who carefully consider all aspects of the problem. This guidance is used to craft Oplans and OPORDs for specific situations and develop training. When unforeseen developments happen, there is feedback and the manuals are revised as necessary.

Oplans and OPORDs address Administrative and Personnel, Security and Intelligence, Operations, Logistics, Communications and Electronics and other areas of concern as necessary. (For example all modern Oplans and OPORDs address Safety as a separate area--not so, of course, in 1954.)

So any reviewer of this document should keep in mind that it should establish minimal standards for the tasks and goals planned.

Generally all publications in the military and other agencies solicit recommendations for improvements and corrections of errors. Drafts of new publications are generally sent to activities having some interest or expertise on the subject for coordination. Generally such coordination improves the final product. I worked in offices that received such publications and from time to time was tasked to critique these publications. The result was a long list of discrepancies, errors, comments, and recommendations which was submitted to the proponent agency.

I proposed to do such a review (a little less formal than when it was an official duty) on SOM 1-01. Some of the discrepancies, etc. are impossible to address since the manual is fragmentary. However, they are included for future reference. Items considered major discrepancies are indicated with an asterisk *. A short analysis will be included at the end of the list. (Page numbers are those in Berliner's copy of the document.)

Jan Aldrich

Search for other documents to/from: [jan](#)

[[Next Message](#) | [This Day's Messages](#)]
[[This Month's Index](#) | [UFO Updates Main Index](#) | [MUFON Ontario](#)]

UFO Updates - Toronto - updates@globalserve.net
Operated by Errol Bruce-Knapp - ++ 416-696-0304

A Hand-Operated E-Mail Subscription Service for the Study of UFO Related Phenomena.
To subscribe please send your first and last name to updates@globalserve.net
Message submissions should be sent to the same address.

[[UFO Topics](#) | [People](#) | [Ufomind What's New](#) | [Ufomind Top Level](#)]

To find this message again in the future...
Link it to the appropriate [Ufologist](#) or [UFO Topic](#) page.

Archived as a public service by [Area 51 Research Center](#) which is not responsible for content.
Software by Glenn Campbell. Technical contact: webmaster@ufomind.com

Financial support for this web server is provided by the [Research Center Catalog](#).

