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## Re: Comments On SOM 1-01 Joint Statement

From: Nick Balaskas <[nikolaos@YorkU.CA](mailto:nikolaos@YorkU.CA)>  
Date: Fri, 26 Mar 1999 23:53:32 -0500 (Eastern Standard Time)  
Fwd Date: Sat, 27 Mar 1999 21:43:32 -0500  
Subject: Re: Comments On SOM 1-01 Joint Statement

>From: Bill Hamilton <[skywatcher22@hotmail.com](mailto:skywatcher22@hotmail.com)>  
>To: [updates@globalserve.net](mailto:updates@globalserve.net)  
>Subject: Comments On SOM 1-01 Joint Statement  
>Date: Wed, 24 Mar 1999 09:45:23 PST

<snip>

>... We know that someone photographed a  
>manual and mailed it to Don Berliner, as stated. Other  
>authentication issues of chronology, type details, format are  
>often critical to provide authentication clues. None of them  
>were discussed in the Joint Statement. ...

Hi Bill.

There are a few questions I have regarding the way the SOM 1-01 Majestic-12 Group Special Operations Manual was bound (see the web site below for images of this manual).

<http://the-word-is-truth.org/img/uploads/15.pdf>

If this SOM 1-01 manual is a photocopy of an original manual, then the original seems to have been just a set of loose sheets of paper. I say this because if the original manual was bound, the text in the photocopied pages would exhibit some distortion closest to the bound side. There is no distortion of the text.

If this SOM 1-01 manual is an original manual, why then are the loose sheets bound with what is identical to a modern ACCO metal binder strip (or whatever they are called)? I checked through my office for other metal binder strips and I found very different looking ones which were used to bind together older papers (none older than from the mid-1960s). One old ACCO metal binder strip had narrow slit holes rather than the round holes in the modern ones. Did metal binder strips exist in the 1950s? If they did, would they look identical to modern ACCO metal binder strip that the SOM 1-01 manual is bound with?

Has this different authentication issue been addressed by anyone in the past?

I would also suspect that any such important document like the SOM 1-01 manual that was intended to be used as an instruction manual would have bigger left margins if it were to be bound by metal binder strips. How could you otherwise read the entire text on some pages? Maybe this SOM 1-01 manual consisted as loose sheets after all (possibly trimmed down from a larger page size spine bound book?) that were later bound with metal

binder strips.

I have one additional observation. Many of the new lab manuals students purchase for use in our physics labs are in terrible condition by the end of the academic year. Also, some of my own not so old and not frequently used equipment manuals look very used, especially the front covers. How could such an important 45 year old instruction manual, such as the SOM 1-01 manual, look like it just came from the printers, especially one that does not even have a hard cover?

Nick Balaskas

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