

AVIATION RESCUE SWIMMER SCHOOL

OVERLAND SAR OPERATIONS

LT 4.10



INTRODUCTION

While Naval SAR-capable units have traditionally operated within the maritime environment, it is becoming increasingly necessary for those units to also operate inland. Because of increased air traffic density, military training areas both in the United States and abroad have been positioned inland, often over the most remote and rugged terrain.

ENABLING OBJECTIVES:

- ✈ List procedures for day/night overland SAR operations per NWP 3-50.1.
- ✈ Demonstrate day/night overland SAR operations procedures per 3-50.1.

Warning

- ➔ Regardless of the type of rescue to be utilized, when effecting a military SAR in the immediate vicinity of the aircraft crash site, extreme care shall be used due to the possibility of carbon fiber hazards and unexpected ordnance; i.e., parachute ballistic spreaders, ejection-seat ordnance, etc.
- ➔ Inhalation of composite fibers resulting from aircraft fires or damaged aircraft materials maybe harmful to rescue personnel. If smoke is present, rescue personnel shall be deployed upwind and will approach the aircraft in a manner as to avoid any smoke.

RESCUE METHODS

There are five basic rescue methods which can be utilized:

- Landing to effect a rescue
- Rescue via hoist
- Rescue via one skid/wheel
- Rappelling
- Short haul evolution

LANDING TO AFFECT A RESCUE

- ➔ The preferred rescue method in all overland cases is to land. A landing rescue is more expeditious, reduces pilot/crew fatigue, and is more simplified than other rescue methods.
- ➔ Procedures for a rescue by landing:
 - If the survivor's location is beyond the sight of the aircraft, the travel between the two should be kept to a minimum to reduce crew fatigue. In such instances, on the first trip to the survivor(s) the following gear should be carried.

LANDING TO AFFECT A RESCUE

- ⇒ Hand held radio
- ⇒ Medical kit (first aid kit)
- ⇒ Rescue litter/ SAR
MEDEVAC litter

LANDING TO AFFECT A RESCUE

- ➔ When the survivor(s) is beyond the sight of the pilots, the crewman must perform a Primary Survey and keep the pilots appraised of the survivors condition and requirements via hand-held radio. When only one crewman is onboard, the co-pilot maybe required to aid the crewman in first aid treatment and recovery of the survivors.

RESCUE VIA HOIST

WARNING

Only as a last resort should a crewman be lowered through trees or dense foliage to the survivor. This is to be preformed only when absolutely no clear area exist in the proximity of the survivor(s) and the condition of the survivor(s) appears to require immediate medical attention.

RESCUE VIA HOIST

- ⇒ Terrain or foliage may prohibit landing to affect the rescue. In such cases, a hoist recovery is most advantageous. Even though rescue via hoist is not the most desirable method, it is a widely used rescue technique and training should be geared toward its use.
- ⇒ The crewman shall evaluate the survivors medical condition and determine which type of rescue device is required. If the survivor is suspected of having neck/back injuries, a rescue litter shall be used.

RESCUE VIA HOIST

WARNING

Buildup of static electricity necessitates the crewman not to grab the double rescue hook/rescue device until it has contacted the deck.

RESCUE VIA HOIST

PROCEDURE FOR A HOIST RECOVERY:

PROIR TO HOISTING, PERFORM A FINAL CHECK:

- ⇒ Survivor and/or crewman are properly attached to rescue device.
- ⇒ Knurled fittings on locking carabineers are down and locked.
- ⇒ Hoist cables are not obstructed/entangled.

RAPPELLING

- ➔ Rappelling to the survivor is the most expeditious means of getting a crewman to the deck when a landing is not practical.
- ➔ Rappelling has many advantages over hoisting, the ability of the crewman to control the descent allows for a safer means of descending through trees, dense foliage, and rugged terrain.

RAPPELLING

- ➔ Rappelling reduces hover time and the increased speed of the evolution combined with the advantage of controlled descent makes rappelling a valuable rescue technique in the inland rescue environment.

NOTE

Only rappel qualified crewman shall conduct SAR rappelling operations IAW OPNAVINST 3130.6 series

Short Haul Evolution

- ⇒ The short haul evolution is a rescue method utilized for the extraction of a survivor on a vertical or near vertical terrain.
- ⇒ It may also be used in cases where the hoist cable length is insufficient or the hoist is inoperative.
- ⇒ The short haul evolution terminates at a predetermined landing zone. This provides a rapid means of rescue from inaccessible locations.

Questions?

- ⇒ There are _____ basic rescue methods which can be utilized in overland SAR operations.
- ⇒ Five.
- ⇒ What is the preferred method for all overland SAR rescues?
- ⇒ Landing.

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