

Guest Editorial

The Ultimate Gift...One's Commitment to Others

by Dennis Compton

I've been thinking a lot about September 11, 2001 and the impact that morning has had on our society...so have you and most other people. In addition to the compassion we share for all those directly and indirectly impacted by all three events that day, I have a specific concern for how this attack will affect the fire and life safety community.

Having been present at both the Pentagon and World Trade Center scenes, I was moved by the many heroic acts by civilians, law enforcement officers, EMS personnel, and firefighters. The actions of those aboard the aircraft that crashed in Pennsylvania makes the list of heroes even longer. Like most fire service people, my thoughts also find their way back to the fire department response to each of the three events of September 11th.

There can be some comfort in thinking about those who lived to see September 12th...not to diminish the devastating loss of those who died, several of whom were personal friends of mine, but to also acknowledge the many lives that will go on because of the courage and kindness of firefighters and others on that horrible day. Depending on who you choose to believe, more than 50,000 people that were in the direct area of the Pentagon and World Trade Center events survived. The World Trade Center attack took thousands of lives, including almost 350 firefighters. These firefighters died saving the lives of others...they consciously, and without hesitation, took the ultimate risk in doing so.

For years, many fire service leaders have expressed their concern to Congress and Federal agencies about the impact of a terrorist attack. In disaster exercises, cities have simulated events that killed and injured thousands...and in these scenarios, we warned that among the casualties



Dennis Compton at Ground Zero in New York City.

continued on page 2

From the Director



Over the past few weeks in preparing for this edition of *Speaking of Fire*, I have struggled, as many of you, to find the best way to capture my thoughts on the response and issues related to the events and aftermath of September 11th. I have read and listened to any number of tributes, reviews, and lessons learned on the responses by those in our service and about those whom we serve, often to the point that it becomes almost overwhelming. And while it may be difficult (and even perhaps too soon to effectively condense these down to a final list of lessons) it is the common essence of those lessons that is indeed easy to capture – values. The qualities recognized by the world and so admirably held high by our country of those directly involved in the initial and on going activities in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania are no different from those exhibited by firefighters and other emergency workers and volunteers who continue in the day-to-day service in their own communities. In October, FEMA Director Joe Allbaugh recognized this truth in his tribute at the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service in Emmitsburg. Allbaugh noted, – “Never before in our history have we been more aware of the service that these brave men and women perform day in and day out in our communities across the land.” Yet it is the scale of the events of that day in September and the ensuing challenges that have caused us to refocus on the pride that we have in our service and for you who serve, along with a renewed pride in our country and in those whom we serve. Similarly, we at IFSTA and FPP are motivated as never before to support those who serve – to support *you!* Hopefully, this edition, which includes articles by two of the finest leaders and gentlemen that our service has to offer, Dennis Compton and Jon Hansen, will be a benefit and source of support to you in the challenges that you face. We are indeed grateful for their insight and willingness to share their knowledge and experience with you.

To our brothers and sisters in the fire service and, today in particular, to each and every member of FDNY and the families of their fallen, you make us proud. May God bless you all and keep you safe.

Sincerely,
Chris Neal

Director, Fire Protection Publications



OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
FIRE PROTECTION PUBLICATIONS
930 N. WILLIS
STILLWATER, OK 74078-8045

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 191
Stillwater, Oklahoma



continued from page 1

The Ultimate Gift: One's Commitment to Others

would be large numbers of first responders...especially firefighters. We have lobbied, debated, and argued to get more federal funding to address training, equipment, and personnel needs...only to watch the lion's share of the terrorism dollars go to the Justice Department, Law Enforcement in general, and the Military. The events that unfolded on September 11th should change that distribution of funds and Fire Service organizations must work together to make sure of that.

The firefighters who lost their lives at the World Trade Center went there to protect others from harm. They risked themselves a lot to save thousands of savable lives...and they intended to leave those buildings only after the living were rescued...keeping their promise to their customers. They ran out of time, but never ran out of courage and dedication. I'm very proud of the firefighters who responded to all three terrorist events that day, as I am proud of fire department members throughout the world who respond to people in need of help every day.

People survived at the Pentagon and World Trade Center for several different reasons, but make no mistake about it, most survived due to some combination of construction features that were required by codes, safety and survival behaviors they had been taught at sometime in their lives, and, of course, the rescuers that courageously helped in their time of extreme need. As the world watched the events unfold on September 11th, many precious lives were saved...and many precious lives were lost.



Dennis Compton at the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

We in the fire service are in place to prevent harm by managing the safety of the built environment through the enforcement of "true consensus" codes; to impact human behavior by teaching validated "all risk" injury prevention and fire safety programs in schools and other settings; and by maintaining an emergency response system that is fast, skilled, staffed appropriately, adequately equipped, and delivered with a caring attitude towards those being served. This system only works when there is adequate (ongoing) support to make the whole service delivery system effective every time.

We'll never forget the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, nor the crash in Pennsylvania...and let's also never forget the people throughout the fire service who dedicate their lives to protecting the lives of others everyday. If you work in a fire department, no matter your specific job, that is your responsibility...everyday...in everything you do. As I've said thousands of times, we are in "the worst day of their lives business." We must continue to do all we can to prevent that "worst day" from happening to people; teach them how to survive that day without us if necessary; and respond to their emergency calls in a way that saves their lives, protects their property, and solves their problems. Thanks for your significant commitment and daily contributions, and be extra careful...acts of terrorism could occur again. Keep going.

About the Author:

Dennis Compton is the Fire Chief in Mesa, Arizona. He previously served as Assistant Fire Chief in the Phoenix Fire Department. During a career that spans over 30 years, Dennis has been involved in many Fire Service and Civic Organizations. He is a well-known speaker and is the author of many publications, including a series of books titled, "When In Doubt, Lead." He is the Immediate Past Chair of the Executive Board of the International Fire Service Training Association, the Chair of the Congressional Fire Services Institute's National Advisory Committee, and serves on the Board of the National Fire Protection Association. Chief Compton is a charter member of the Arizona Fire Service Hall of Fame.

SPEAKING OF FIRE

A quarterly newsletter of Fire Protection Publications (Headquarters for IFSTA)
Winter 2002 • Volume 1 Number 4

Oklahoma State University
Fire Protection Publications
930 North Willis
Stillwater, OK 74078

Director: Chris Neal

Contributing Writers: Joe Plumlee, Carl Goodson, Chris Hawley,
Gregory G. Noll, Michael S. Hildebrand, Jon Hansen, Dennis Compton

Production Coordinator: Don Davis

Graphic Designers: Ann Moffat, Ben Brock

Marketing Coordinator: Lori DeGeorge, lorid@osufpp.org

Editorial Comments or Questions?

Contact the marketing coordinator at the above email address
or call: 1-800-654-4055

Speaking of Fire newsletter is published four times a year by Fire Protection Publications (Headquarters for IFSTA) to update customers on the latest information about FPP and IFSTA products and other significant issues affecting the fire industry. The views acknowledged in the guest editorial don't necessarily reflect those of Fire Protection Publications or International Fire Service Training Association.

Copyright © 2001 Fire Protection Publications. This material may not be reproduced without the express permission of the publisher.

For Rapid Decision-Making on the Scene...



by Burton Phelps and Robert Murgallis

Excellent resource for providing techniques to enhance a firefighter's ability to make in-depth decisions based on knowledge of various types of occupancies.

1st Edition

Fire Protection Publications

Item #36497.....\$35.00

www.ifsta.org
1-800-654-4055

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SPEAKING OF FIRE • Winter 2002 • Volume 1 Number 4

The Ultimate Gift	1
Letter from the Director	1
Fireground Support Operations	3
IFSTA/FPP On The Road	3
Training is Imperative!	4
The World is Changing	5
IFSTA Executive Board	5
Is a Quint Right for Your Department?	6
Position Openings	7
Frequently Asked Questions	7

Fireground Support Operations

by Carl Goodson

When a fire breaks out inside a structure, certain predictable things occur. Given an adequate supply of oxygen, the fire will continue to burn until one of two things happens — the fire is extinguished by some external intervention (fire attack or extinguishing system activation) or it goes out when all of the available fuel has been consumed. While the fire burns, it produces heat that helps to propagate and sustain it. The fire also generates varying amounts of smoke and other toxic products that may fill the building. The smoke obscures vision and makes respiration difficult for building occupants. A burning building filled with smoke and superheated toxic gases is a hostile and potentially life-threatening environment for firefighters as well. To survive in this environment, firefighters must learn to accurately assess the situation and then weigh the risks involved compared to the benefits to be gained with each action being considered.

Firefighters have been and continue to be injured or killed in so-called “routine” fires, or those that have “self-vented” by breaking a window or burning through the roof. In addition, any number of nonfire hazards may be present on the fireground. There may be downed charged electrical wires, gaseous or liquid fuel leaks, or toxic or explosive materials present. Firefighters must learn how to recognize the potentially lethal conditions in these seemingly innocuous situations and how to mitigate those conditions.

In situations where the oxygen supply is limited, potentially explosive backdraft conditions may develop. If these conditions go unrecognized by the first-arriving fire crews and ventilation is not performed before entry is attempted, the results can be catastrophic.

Therefore, if firefighters are to enter burning buildings to search for trapped occupants and to extinguish fires, a number of other things need to happen — sometimes sequentially, sometimes simultaneously. These things include sizing up the structure and the fire, gaining access to the building’s interior, ventilating the building, and controlling the building’s utilities. And as soon as the situation and available resources

allow, steps should be taken to minimize collateral damage by applying loss control techniques.

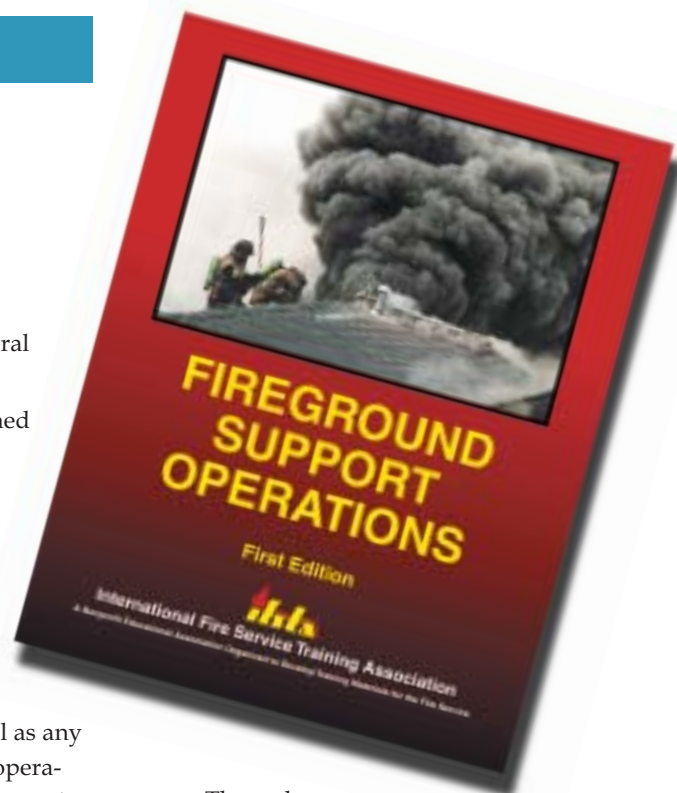
Since these other functions are performed in support of the rescue and fire suppression efforts, they are commonly known as *fireground support operations*. However, “support” should not be taken to mean “subordinate to” or “less important than” the fire suppression operations. Considering that properly performed fireground support operations can and often do prevent or reduce the loss of life in working structure fires, they are as critical as any other fireground function. Fireground support operations are an integral part of a coordinated attack involving rescue, fire suppression, and support functions executed in the manner and sequence dictated by the situation.

In many fire departments throughout North America, fireground support operations are performed by truck (ladder) companies. However, when these operations are needed, they must be performed quickly and safely regardless of whether there is a truck company on scene or not — even if the department doesn’t have a ladder truck. Since all structural firefighters need to have a working knowledge of fireground support activities, the IFSTA *Fireground Support Operations (FSO)* manual focuses on the operations that must be performed without specifying who performs them.

The material contained in the *FSO* manual combines and updates information previously contained in the IFSTA *Forcible Entry*, *Fire Service Ventilation*, and *Fire Service Loss Control* manuals. *FSO* is intended to build a bridge of information related to fireground support operations between that presented in the IFSTA *Essentials of Fire Fighting* and *Fire Department Company Officer* manuals. *FSO* was written to serve as a reference in formal training courses on fireground support operations and in self-study by individual firefighters.

The *FSO* text was reviewed and approved by a committee of working fire professionals from all across North America. The committee membership included firefighters and instructors from Arizona, California, Indiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Ontario, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, and Washington.

The text begins with a discussion of fireground safety through proper size-up of structure fires and a series of firefighter survival techniques. Next, gaining access and interior operations are discussed. In the chapters on ventilation, size-up for ventilation operations, ventilation tool selection and application, and ventilation methods are discussed. The chapters on utilities control discuss gas control, electricity control, and building systems controls. The loss control chapter discusses pre-incident loss control activities as well as operations that are performed on the fireground, both during and after fire suppression. Finally, the chapter on coordinated fireground support operations discusses how all of the various fireground functions are combined into a safe and effective operation.



Throughout the book, a number of actual case histories of incidents in which firefighters were injured or killed are cited. These histories provide examples of what has happened in various locations throughout North America and elsewhere and what can happen again if safe and effective techniques are not used. The cases cited are ones that have been investigated and analyzed by neutral third parties such as the National Fire Protection Association, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, or the U.S. Fire Administration.

The events of September 11, 2001, at the World Trade Center remind us that fire fighting is a very dangerous business. While the information and techniques discussed in the *Fireground Support Operations* manual may not have prevented the firefighter injuries and fatalities suffered by FDNY personnel that day, it is hoped that the information and techniques will help other firefighters to work as safely and as effectively as possible in future fires.

Why do you need this book?

- To avoid becoming another casualty at structure fires, you must learn from the past.
- At structure fires and other emergencies, “truck” functions (support operations) must be performed whether or not you have a ladder truck.
- Support operations are vital to the success of suppression operations at structure fires.
- Vertical ventilation can be a lifesaving function at structure fires.
- Controlling utilities and building systems can also save lives.

Carl Goodson is a Senior Technical Editor at Fire Protection Publications.

IFSTA/FPP On the Road...

Fire Rescue East 2002

Jacksonville, FL
Exhibit dates - February 1-2

Fire-Rescue West

San Jose, CA
Exhibit dates - Feb. 12-14

Fire Dept Instructors Conference (FDIC)

Indianapolis, IN
Exhibit dates - April 11-13

NC Fire and Rescue Instructor's Conference

New Bern, NC
Exhibit dates - April 17-20

FDIC West

Sacramento, CA
Exhibit dates - April 30-May 2

Penn Fire Expo

Harrisburg, PA
Exhibit dates - May 18-20

Training is Imperative!

by Jon Hansen

Firefighters are called upon to address an ever-widening variety of situations in today's world. As we learned on Sept. 11th, we are truly America's 9-1-1 Force now more than ever.

These days, the number of fires to which we respond is actually down. However, as we have seen, the variety is much more diverse *and complicated*. This variety makes it nearly impossible to respond to all of these different kinds of incidents effectively using only limited "on-the-job" training and without the full benefit of formal training.

Clearly, the criminal element or possible terrorism now enters into the equation more and more often. We have learned weapons of mass destruction (WMD) are **not** isolated incidents or rare occurrences, but something for which all of us must be trained. Who would have ever predicted an airliner would be used as a WMD. Now, we know weapons can come in all shapes and sizes. We must be trained to think the "unthinkable" and how to respond to such incidents. Furthermore, in these scenarios, there is no time to develop a learning curve. We must learn from the experiences of our other comrades in the fire service community so that we can move ahead in rescuing our citizenry in the quickest possible time frame while minimizing risks to rescue workers.

Aside from terrorism-related incidents such as anthrax scares or worse, it is becoming much more common for firefighters to stumble onto meth labs and other drug-related situations. These are extremely volatile situations. Sometimes, only subtle tattletale signs can warn firefighters. Training is essential to prepare us in advance so that we can recognize these warning signs and know how to handle these risky incidents. In addition, we must be mindful of law-enforcement needs so as not to disturb crucial evidence that would lead to the prosecution of perpetrators.

Haz mat calls have also become a very frequent occurrence. But, they are all so different because we may encounter many different kinds of chemicals ranging from highly flammable petrochemicals to caustic chemicals to bio-hazards. There is no second chance to learn how to handle these situations. Training is critical to avoid potential danger to both the general public and ourselves.

Today, many incidents to which the fire service responds are EMS calls. Today's firefighter must know everything from first-responder techniques all the way up to advanced levels of paramedic. Training is the only way to know what to do, when to do it, and how to perform many of these medical procedures.

There is also a high percentage of other special-service calls. It is no longer unusual for our citizens to get into difficult situations from which we must rescue them. These days, a firefighter must know how to execute confined-space rescues, trench rescues, high-angle rescues as well as both diving and swift-water rescues. In addition, many rescues involve highly specialized equipment all the way up to helicopters. These rescues and equipment all require specialized skills for which training is very necessary.

Even traditional Class A combustible fires are no longer simple. Scientific developments in the building-materials industry today have resulted in many more flammable products in homes and commercial buildings. We are also responding to more and more wildland fires that may go on for days. Training is important so that we can knock down these fires more quickly and safely.

Safety is a critical element. We should make it our goal to see that our citizens wake up safely *and* that our firefighters go home safely each day.

Nowadays, each and every member of the fire service has duties besides tactics. Each of us is also a public relations specialist since we never know when and where the media may appear. All of us have some level of responsibility for public education and for code enforcement and inspections. Then add in all the mandated compliance with OSHA, NFPA, plus other organizations and other regulations, and you can see why training is an absolute must.



Jon Hansen assists a firefighter at Ground Zero in New York City.

When I began my 26-year career with the Oklahoma City Fire Department, we had 10 weeks of rookie training, but then the fire service relied heavily on on-the-job training. It is still true that each run we make every day is a learning experience, especially when we take the time afterwards to constructively critique each incident and share these experiences with others.

Since retiring from the Oklahoma City Fire Department, I have been involved as a supplier of emergency vehicles and equipment with The Around The Clock - American LaFrance. It is amazing how many more tools and appliances there are today to help the fire service. Many of these tools require training in order to utilize them most effectively.

There is so much for today's firefighter to know about. We must be instant experts in so many fields. Relying on the practical-experience method, it would take years and years of involvement to develop the level of proficiency that is needed for firefighters going out on their first fire call. Many developments have also been made in the training arena. There are so many new ways to train the fire service responder today with realistic simulations and other advanced techniques.

To maximize our abilities, we must combine all the avenues from classroom and computer-assisted learning to hands-on activities on the fireground with NFPA-compliant safety systems and other real-life experiences. And, despite all the many duties that we must juggle as firefighters, we must all take the time to strike a balance between them.

Certainly, there have been many changes in the fire service since I rode out on my first fire. But, from the first day in rookie school until the day you retire, you can count on one truth to be constant: the need for training and its benefits.

I strongly encourage all firefighters, no matter how many years of service they have, to become "fully involved" in as much training as possible. And, as a result of 4-19-95 and 9-11-01, we should all take the time to reevaluate our personal priorities and remember the importance of family.

About the Author:

*Jon Hansen was the Assistant Fire Chief of Oklahoma City Fire & Rescue and is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program. He recently served on the IFSTA material review committee that published the training manual, **Public Information Officer**. Presently, Hansen is general manager for Oklahoma and Texas for Around The Clock - American LaFrance, a company that sells emergency vehicles and fire fighting equipment. He is also a consultant for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), under director Joe Allbaugh.*

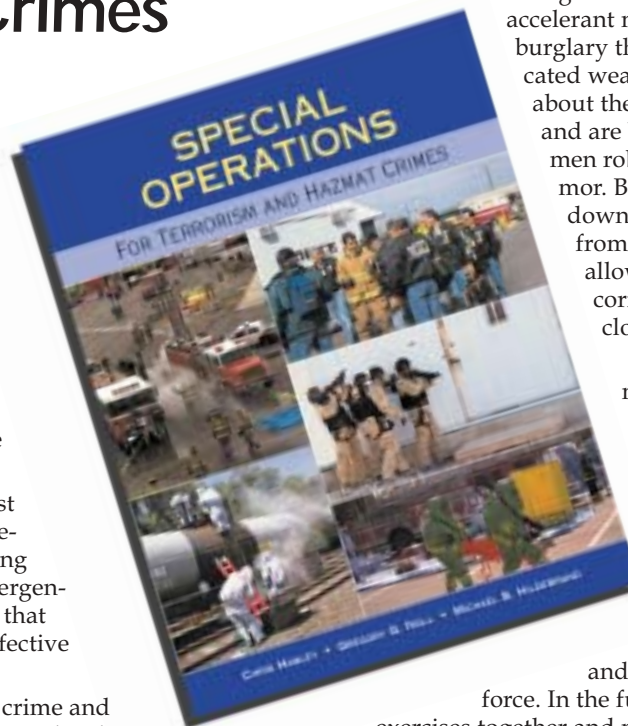
The World is Changing: Special Operations for Terrorism and HazMat Crimes

by Chris Hawley, Gregory G. Noll, and Michael S. Hildebrand

According to the author Robert Fulgum, all we ever needed to know about responding to Terrorism and HazMat crimes we really learned in kindergarten. We learned to play fair, don't hit people, clean up your own mess, wash your hands before you eat, and flush. He also provided that the biggest and most important word we learned from the Dick and Jane books was –LOOK! Fulgum's observations apply to public safety response and the changing world. Probably the most important statement he provides is "..... when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together." The concept presented here and in the new book *Special Operations for Terrorism and HazMat Crimes* (available winter 2001-2002) fits very well.

The world is changing and the public safety community must change with it. If we want to be safe and effective in the future, responders must rethink the way we conduct our business, including taking special precautions at crime scenes and at the scene of emergencies where violence has occurred. In future years, we can be sure that our adversaries will plan operations against us using the most effective intelligence methods and technology. We need to be prepared!

The threat to the United States from international organized crime and terrorists is real, it is immediate, and it is evolving with an increasing level of sophistication. Some terrorists' organizations have declared all U.S. citizens legitimate targets of attack at home and abroad.



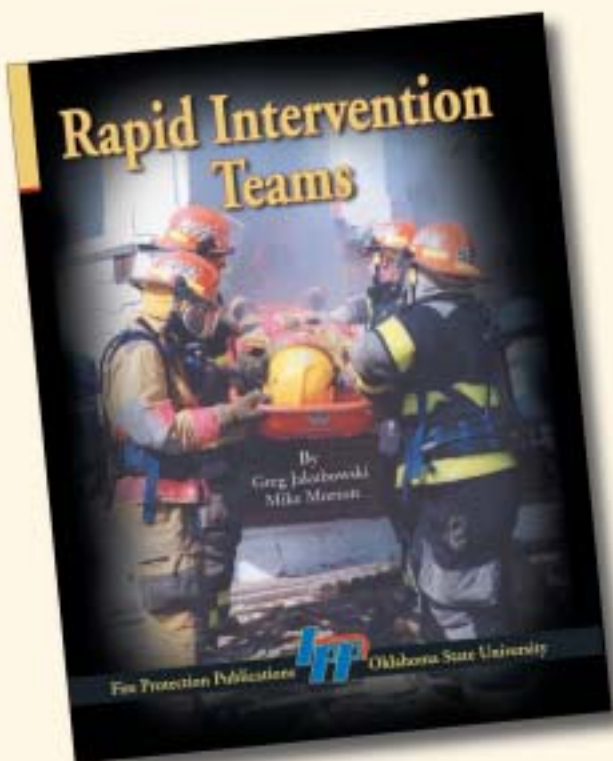
But the threat to our security goes beyond terrorists groups who have a base of operation outside our borders. It also includes domestic threats and attacks from cyberspace on our infrastructure and computer networks. Another significant threat involves criminals who use accelerants, corrosives or other hazardous materials in the commitment of their crime. They may also use these materials as a means of seeking revenge or for masking the real objective of their crime; e.g., an accelerant may be used to burn a home to cover up a murder or burglary that went bad. Bank robbers are using more sophisticated weaponry, and are becoming increasingly more brazen about their criminal activity. They may use heavier weapons, and are better protected. For example, on February 23, 1997 two men robbed a bank in Los Angeles, wearing heavy body armor. Both men literally walked down the street gunning down police officers and civilians, all the while taking shots from the police. Their body armor and heavy weaponry allowed them to walk free for a long period of time. When cornered, one robber shot himself, and the other died in a close quarter gun battle with the SWAT team.

It is important emergency services and law enforcement agencies work as a team in planning for Special Operations. Agencies who may work together at the scene of an incident involving Joint Law Enforcement/Public Safety/Military Operations must also learn about each other's responsibilities and capabilities. What the agencies are going to find is that we all have strengths and weaknesses in our capabilities; however another agency can often compensate for our weakness. All of the major players must learn about each other's capabilities and shortfalls and how they can interact to become one force. In the future, agencies that have jointly preplanned, conducted exercises together and met on a regular basis to share lessons learned are going to succeed, and those that don't are probably going to fail.

The one major culture change that must occur within the public safety community is to integrate Operations Security (OPSEC) into our daily operations. This is

continued on page 6

When a Firefighter Is Lost, It Is Too Late to Learn Rapid Intervention Techniques!



Item #36482.....\$35.00

www.ifsta.org
1-800-654-4055

2001-2002 IFSTA Executive Board

Executive Board Chair

George M. Dunkel; Fire Chief
St. Helens Rural Fire Prot. District
St. Helens, Oregon

Dan Brown; Battalion Chief
City of Spokane Fire Department
Spokane, Washington

Past Chair

Dennis Compton; Fire Chief
Mesa Fire Department
Mesa, Arizona

Frank Cotton; Training Lieutenant
Memphis Fire Department
Memphis, Tennessee

Vice Chair

Jeffrey Morrissette; State Fire
Administrator Commission on
Fire Prevention and Control
Windsor Locks, Connecticut

John Hogle; Senior Instructor
Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute
College Park, Maryland

Wes Kitchel; Captain
Santa Rosa Fire Department
Santa Rosa, California

Executive Director

Chris Neal; Director
Fire Protection Publications
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma

Bob Madden; Battalion Chief
Bend Fire and Rescue
Bend, Oregon

Executive Board

Sherry Arasim; Chief of Staff
Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue
Aloha, Oregon

Robert H. Noll; Fire Chief (retired)
Yukon Fire Department
Yukon, Oklahoma

J.D. Rice; Fire Chief
Valdosta Fire Department
Valdosta, Georgia

Stephen Ashbrock; Fire Chief
Madeira & Indian Hill Joint Fire District
Cincinnati, Ohio

Daniel R. Spillman; Deputy Chief
Tallahassee Fire Department
Tallahassee, Florida

Jimmie Badgett; Fire Marshal
Dallas County Fire Marshal's Office
Dallas, Texas

Paul Valentine; Fire Marshal
Mt. Prospect Fire Department
Mt. Prospect, Illinois

You Have to be Street Smart to Survive



by Michael Callan
Published by Red Hat Publishing

A common-sense approach to handling dangerous chemicals from principles learned and developed from countless case histories. Street Smart delivers practical, experienced-based training for first responders, firefighters, police officers, and other emergency responders.

Street Smart Haz Mat Manual
Item 36489.....\$28.00

Street Smart Instructor Guide on CD-ROM
Item 36490.....\$35.00

Special price available for both the Street Smart Haz Mat Manual and Instructor Guide on CD-ROM
Item 38001.....\$60.00

www.ifsta.org
1-800-654-4055

continued from page 5

The World is Changing: Special Operations for Terrorism and HazMat Crimes

especially needed within the fire service where our culture has taught us to help people. All agencies need to be aware of operational security and its role in protecting responders. OPSEC is a risk management tool used to deny an adversary (i.e., The Bad Guys) information concerning our intentions and capabilities by identifying, controlling, and protecting indicators associated with the planning and execution of law enforcement and public safety missions. OPSEC allows law enforcement and public safety personnel to look at our operations through the eyes of the adversary.

The bottom line is that our world has changed, and is further changing, and we need to make sure that we are keeping up. The best method of protecting our responders is to try and stay a step ahead with the best training and with an attitude that promotes cooperation, coordination, and communication among public safety agencies. As a first step, we need to learn more about the roles and responsibilities of the various agencies. The time to have discussions about roles and responsibilities is NOW, not during an incident.

Special Operations for Terrorism and HazMat Crimes brings all the players together and levels the playing field. It outlines areas of responsibilities for all of the major players and discusses their roles and responsibilities. The major focus is on how to bring everyone together, and to do it with a common mindset. The book outlines the strategy and tactics for special operations and discusses many safety and security considerations for various tactical situations. The book brings all of the specialty areas within the public safety arena together and explains how to work "jointly" as a team at crime scenes. These specialty areas include law enforcement (bomb squad, SWAT, environmental crime, and evidence recovery), Fire/EMS services (HazMat teams, incident commanders) and military units (HazMat, medical, EOD). There are twelve major areas the book examines. These are:

- Identification of the Problem
- Health and Safety Issues
- Operations Security
- Playing as a Team
- Managing the Response using the Eight Step Process
- Site Management and Control
- Identifying the Problem
- Hazard and Risk Evaluation
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Decontamination
- Terrorism Response
- Law Enforcement Special Operations

The text is written from several different perspectives and has applicability in the many specialty areas of public safety responders, on the local, state, and federal level. The text brings out new concepts, modifies some existing concepts, and refreshes some older concepts — to fit the changing world, make sure that you keep up.

About the Authors:

Gregory G. Noll and Michael S. Hildebrand are both senior partners with Hildebrand and Noll Associates, a company that specializes in operational readiness reviews for Emergency Response Teams, emergency planning and Incident Management Systems for industry and public safety. Greg is currently a Technical Team Manager with Pennsylvania Task Force-1, one of the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Teams. Mike has 27 years experience in emergency response and has responded to or investigated over 60 major hazardous materials incidents.

Christopher Hawley is the Special Operations Coordinator with the Baltimore County (MD) Fire Department. He has served as the Hazardous Materials Coordinator for eight years. Chris has 21 years experience in the fire service and has also been instrumental in designing many innovative training programs in hazardous materials and response to terrorist incidents.

Guest Editorial

Is a Quint Right for Your Department?

by Joe Plumlee

Part 2

You have taken the first step in determining whether a Quint is what your department needs by learning about Quints and their advantages and disadvantages (see Part 1 in the last issue). Now you can take the next step by considering maintenance concerns, ISO credits, and appropriate training programs.

Keep 'em Going

Maintenance is always an issue regardless of the type of equipment in your department. Sometimes maintenance issues will sneak up on you after your program is in place and your budget is thin. You'll need to think through your maintenance needs in detail for the long term. If you are downsizing for economic reasons, don't cut so deeply that it jeopardizes safety with poor maintenance. All major fire-fighting organizations recommend yearly testing of both hydraulic ladders and ground ladders. Remember that if you decide to go with a total Quint concept for your department, you'll have the additional expense of testing a hydraulic ladder along with the ground ladders on the pumper that's sitting in the station now. Your firefighters need to know that a piece of equipment is trustworthy. As an administrator, you need a certificate from the testing agency to document that the Quint is safe.

The ladder is not the only hydraulic system that can go wrong. While the ladder is resting safely in its cradle and not being used, gravity is acting on the stabilizers or outriggers. As the Quint gets older, the seals in those stabilizers wear out and they begin to seep down. This situation can put a Quint out of service even when the ladder is in perfect shape.

The gross vehicle weight (GVW) requires another decision: Will you go with a single-axle Quint or a double-axle Quint? How much of your old equipment are you going to try to put on the new apparatus? Manufacturers will help you with this decision because they know that if the unit is overweighted, it will wear out faster and departments might not purchase their brands again. Apparatus manufacturers have engineers to help with these considerations. Electronic technologies in all areas from communications to computerized engine components are growing at a blinding pace, and we haven't hit top speed yet. Electronics are everywhere on new fire apparatus, and the typical mechanic may not have the equipment or knowledge to keep your expensive piece of shiny new equipment operating at peak performance at all times.

The Fix-It Place

You know your department's shop or repair service better than I do. Does your shop handle any apparatus repairs or do you send them all to outside

continued on page 8

Position Opening

Curriculum Development Coordinator

Fire Protection Publications (FPP) is seeking applications for the position of Curriculum Coordinator. FPP is a department within the College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology (CEAT) at Oklahoma State University (OSU) and is the headquarters of the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA). As the world's leading publisher of high-quality and technically accurate training materials, FPP provides a vital service to the fire and emergency services. The materials are used for general training purposes and to prepare for both certification and promotional testing.

The position of Curriculum Coordinator is responsible for developing and coordinating the development and production of curriculum for resale by FPP. This includes developing project schedules, proposing new and revised projects, and representing IFSTA/FPP at national tradeshows and meetings. This position is responsible for the direct supervision of the curriculum developer and curriculum editor.

Minimum qualifications for the position include a bachelor's degree appropriate for the position and at least three years of related experience. The person in this position must have the following special skills and abilities: excellent organization, detail oriented, handle multiple priorities effectively, work well under deadline pressures, and work harmoniously with diverse personalities.

Send applications to:

Curriculum Coordinator Search
Fire Protection Publications
Oklahoma State University
930 North Willis
Stillwater, OK 74078

For full consideration, applications should be received by **January 31, 2002**.

Applications should include a letter summarizing the candidate's qualifications; a resume; and names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three persons who have direct knowledge of the candidate's character and professional abilities.

Oklahoma State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer committed to multicultural diversity.

Senior Editor Position (2)

Fire Protection Publications (FPP) is seeking applications for two positions of Senior Technical Editor. FPP is a department within the College of Engineering, Architecture, and Technology (CEAT) at Oklahoma State University (OSU) and is the headquarters of the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA). As the world's leading publisher of high-quality and technically accurate training materials, FPP provides a vital service to the fire and emergency services. The materials are used for general training purposes and to prepare for both certification and promotional testing.

The position of Senior Technical Editor is responsible for coordinating or performing editorial reviews of manuals, newsletters, advertising materials, and correspondence for technical accuracy; reviewing illustrations, photos, and other support materials for completeness and accuracy; ensuring that all component parts of major publications are complete and of sufficient quality to meet publication standards; directing activities of editorial project team members in the development of short- and long-range job assignments of content flow; participating in the scheduling and prioritizing of publications and other projects; and representing IFSTA/FPP at tradeshows and meetings.

Minimum qualifications for the position include a bachelor's degree appropriate for the position and at least three years of related experience. The person in this position must have the following special skills and abilities: fire service or related experience, excellent organization, detail oriented, handle multiple priorities effectively, work well under deadline pressures, and work harmoniously with diverse personalities.

Send applications to:

Senior Technical Editor Search
Fire Protection Publications
Oklahoma State University
930 North Willis
Stillwater, OK 74078

For full consideration, applications should be received by **January 31, 2002**.

Applications should include a letter summarizing the candidate's qualifications; a resume; and names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three persons who have direct knowledge of the candidate's character and professional abilities.

Oklahoma State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer committed to multicultural diversity.

Frequently Asked Questions on FPP Guidelines for Copyright Permission Requests

The definition of copyright is the body of legal rights that protect creative works from being reproduced, performed, or disseminated by others without permission. The owner of copyright has the exclusive right to reproduce a protected work, prepare derivative works that only slightly change the protected work, and sell or lend copies of the protected work to the public.

The term "work" used in copyright law refers to any original creation of authorship produced in a tangible medium. Thus, works that can be copyrighted include, among others, literary pieces, photographs, drawings, diagrams, and, by legislation passed in 1980, computer software programs.

All materials published by Fire Protection Publications are protected under U.S. Copyright Law regardless of the format. Written permission is required if you wish to reproduce our materials. If you would like to use text or illustrations from our materials, other than as reference material for a research paper, you must also obtain written permission. Without written permission you expose yourself to legal risks. We are pleased to provide you with the following guidelines for a copyright request.

Q What is included in a permission request?

A Include the following information in your request:

- Title and edition of the book (or video, CD-ROM, curriculum, etc.)
- The exact material, including page numbers, figure numbers, or photo numbers of what you wish to reproduce
- Purpose of the reproduction and to whom the material will be distributed
- Approximate number of copies you will make
- Nature of your company/organization (nonprofit, government, education, etc.)
- Deadline or date you wish to use the material
- Your email address, fax number and postal address

Q How long does it take to process a permission request?

A After we have received your written request, it will take one or two business days to process. Some requests require consultation with others and may take up to a week for a decision to be finalized.

Q Are there restrictions on the use of the material?

A Permission is granted on a one-time basis, and the material cannot be altered in any way or used for resale. We do grant permission for the material to be used in packets that are provided to individuals as part of the registration fee for training.

Q Is there a fee?

A Each request received by the FPP is evaluated on an individual basis and in most cases a fee is not charged, although we do reserve the right to charge a royalty fee in some circumstances. If a copyright permission fee is required, you have the option of paying by purchase order, check, or credit card.

Q Can I obtain a network license for CD-ROM products?

A These requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Many of the products offered in the CD-ROM format were not intended for use in a network environment. We are able to grant licensing permission for some of the products. For others, you will need to contact the developer.

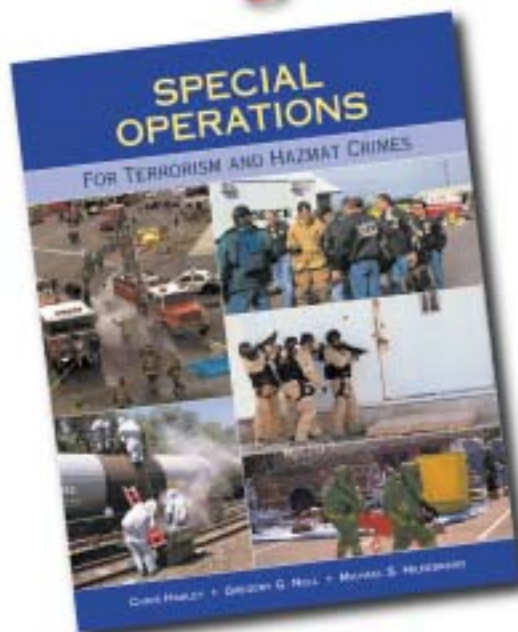
Q Where should a request be sent?

A Send requests to the following person:

Susan F. Walker
Fire Protection Publications Library
930 North Willis
Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, OK 74078
Phone: 405-744-7046
Fax: 405-744-8204
royals@osufpp.org



Coming in Winter 2001-2002



**For the Latest
in Organized
Terrorism
Response...**

Call for Availability.

Item #36485.....\$28.00

www.ifsta.org • 1-800-654-4055

Is a Quint Right for Your Department?

providers? Recently my department was deciding whether to buy a specific transmission retarder for a new pumper. When we found out that the transmission fluid would have to be changed every 6 months, we knew our shop could not handle that regular maintenance, and we selected a different option. Is your shop willing to pay for special training from the manufacturer? Is your city willing to buy any software that might be needed for a laptop computer to analyze the Quint's overall condition? Such preventive maintenance comes at a price, and the city needs to include these costs in its budgetary planning.

The fix-it place will not only be at the shop or maintenance area, it will be at every station house where a Quint resides. Specific standard operating guidelines will need to be in place for daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly maintenance by the crews that staff those stations. Performing preventive maintenance correctly will take more time on a Quint than on a pumper. For instance, if your Quint chases an ambulance, its brakes probably will need to be replaced more often than would those of the lighter pumper. Tires also come into play. Whether you have a single-axle Quint with a smaller ladder or a larger ladder supported by tandem wheels, the tires will wear out. How does your tire replacement budget look?

Credit: ISO

The Insurance Service Office (ISO) wants to give credit for pumpers and ladders according to each community's needs, thus validating the rating system that they use to help set fire insurance premiums for particular communities. Though the ISO takes into account much statistical information, the bottom line in its recommendation is the local fire department's ability to put gallons per minute (GPM) on the insured property. The ISO rating system recognizes that the Quint is a great piece of equipment and gives credit for it accordingly. Currently ISO gives a community or fire district two options for receiving credit for a

Quint: The district can receive either full credit for a pumper and half credit for a ladder or full credit for a ladder and half credit for a pumper. One Quint in a community can furnish thousands of gallons of water to a scene, but efficiently supplying the unit's total potential flow would take people filling every seat and hanging off all parts of the apparatus.

ISO will tell you how many pumpers and ladders your department needs to adequately protect your community. You might become quite creative and decide that if ISO determines your community needs three pumpers and one ladder, you will get one pumper and two Quints to fully meet ISO requirements and thus enhance your community rating. This might seem reasonable on its face, but it fails to address staffing. ISO not only knows the equipment needed but also the staff required to apply enough gallons per minute to control and extinguish a fire. Fire chiefs want and need to give truthful information to their superiors. They should not think of ISO as a lever for budgeting expensive equipment purchases just so they can say they have the newest and greatest tool on the market — that idea is totally against ISO philosophy for community protection.

Training: Pump, Ladder, or Both?

Like everyone else, firefighters tend to settle into comfort zones and wish never to be disturbed again. This type of thinking was evident in an informal survey I took at the station where our Quint resides. "When you are on the Quint," I asked the different crews there, "do you think of yourself as being on a pumper or a ladder?" I wish their answer had been "both," but it was "a pumper." They chase an ambulance, and as first in to the fire in their district, they treat this vehicle as a pumper.

Then it dawned on me that we have this new type of equipment but have never developed training exercises to enable firefighters or officers to switch emotionally and psychologically back and forth between pumper and ladder. In the fire service, comfort zones often result in tunnel vision, which in this case limits our use of the equipment. Sure, you can ask anyone on the Quint to squirt

water or to ventilate, and they will know how. The level of performance, of course, is the concern. If we expect the crews that mount a Quint on a daily basis to be thoroughly acquainted with all of the associated duties, maintenance, and tactics, then we must train them efficiently and effectively to perform the appropriate tasks from Chief Clark's list of ladder duties (see Part 1, Advantages vs. Disadvantages).

Having a Quint means being willing to make whatever effort is necessary to train limited crews in using that apparatus most efficiently while still accomplishing all the jobs

on the fireground. Yes, I'm convinced firefighters can do both. Although I have never found any scenarios that would train firefighters assigned to a Quint to think this way in practice, there is no doubt in my mind that if we had an instructional module in place to train raw recruits to the Quint, they would grasp the concept. Are you willing to develop and implement an entirely new training program?

The fireground command officer, too, must be trained and understand all the tools at the fireground. Does this officer understand that what can be done by using a deluge gun mounted on top of an engine for a blitz attack might be accomplished more easily by maneuvering a bucket or ladder pipe into the same area? Incident management has to be practiced under a new set of rules that will make sure a limited staff will complete all fireground functions.

Conclusion

Only you can determine whether your department needs a Quint. Your answers to the questions I have posed in this article should help you make the right decision.

A Quint may very well be the missing piece for a professional fire department like yours, but the fire service has not yet defined the parameters of this new apparatus. Fire chiefs will do this in the future through the purchases that they make. Nor has the fire service set the parameters for training with Quints. And finally, the true cost of a Quint, which includes more than just the purchase price, remains to be assessed. As the fire service is asked to perform more duties on thinner budgets, ensuring that tax dollars are spent wisely will be up to us.

In the right circumstances, the Quint can be a great tool. It can be a lifesaver for a city that is cutting staff and closing stations in a plummeting economy. It can be a wonderful lone sentry to protect a remote area until the cavalry arrives. Or it can be an excellent choice for a growing town's first aerial device. The Quint is a specialized tool, however, and to take advantage of its potential we must translate the presently specialized tasks of pumper and ladder crews into a single, unified new art.

NOTE: In Part I of the Quint article in the last issue, the definition provided for *quint* should have listed ground ladders instead of engine as the fifth part of the classification according to the IFSTA *Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator* manual and NFPA 1901. We apologize for any confusion this wording may have caused.

About the Author:

Joe Plumlee has served 9 years as Assistant Fire Chief, City of DeSoto in DeSoto, TX. He has been a volunteer firefighter for 10 years and 27 years as a career firefighter. He holds a B.S. degree from Dallas Baptist University, holds an A.A. degree/Fire Technology from Tarrant County Junior, and is a College Graduate of the EFOP National Fire Academy.



Photo courtesy of Terry Cronkhite, Yakima, Washington