TECHNICAL MANUAL

PROCEDURES FOR THE DESTRUCTION

OF

LIFE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT

TO PREVENT ENEMY USE

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

22 OCTOBER 1971

WARNING PAGE

Personnel performing instructions involving operations, procedures, and practices which are included or implied in this technical manual shall observe the following instructions. Disregard of these warnings can cause serious or fatal injury to personnel.

FIRE (para. 2-2). Exercise extreme care when using petroleum products to destroy equipment by fire, as these materials are highly flammable.

DEMOLITION (EXPLOSIVES) (para. 2-3). Destruction of equipment using explosives shall be performed in an area free of friendly personnel to prevent injury which may be caused by flying fragments.

SURVIVAL KITS (para. 2-6). If ammunition or pyrotechnic signaling devices are to be destroyed by fire, insure the area is free of friendly personnel to prevent injury which may be caused by the ignited ordnance.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

CHAPTER	1.	INTRODUCTION	1-1
Section	Ι.	GENERAL	1-1
		1-1. Scope	1-1
		1-2. Purpose	1-1
		1-3. Reporting of Errors	1-1
	П.	PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS	1-1
		1-4. General	1-1
		1-5. Planning	1-1
	III.	PRIORITIES FOR DESTRUCTION	1-1
		1-6. General	1-1
		1-7. Repair Parts	1-2
		1-8. Priorities for Destruction of Part of Military Technical Equipment	1-2
	IV.	DEGREE OF DAMAGE	1-3
		1-9. General	1-3
		1-10. Classified Equipment	1-3
		1-11. Associated Classified Documents	1-3
CHAPTER	2.	METHODS OF DESTRUCTION	2-1
Section	Ι.	DESCRIPTION AND ORDER OF DESTRU(CTION METIHODS	2-1
		2-1. Self-destruction Devices	
		2-2. Fire	2-1
		2-3. Demolition (Explosives)	2-1
		2-4. Mechanical	2-1
		2-5. Natural Surroundings	2-1
Section	II.	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIFE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT DESTRUCTION	2-1
		2-6. Survival Kit Assembly	2-1
		2-7. Textile Items	
		2-8. Metal Items	
		2-9. Training	2-2
		5	

i

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Section I. GENERAL

1-1. Scope.

This manual prescribes equipment priorities, methods, and techniques which are to be used in the destruction of life support equipment to prevent enemy use when capture or abandonment of the equipment is imminent.

1-2. Purpose.

The purpose of this publication is to provide personnel with guidance which will permit a quick, effective, and safe means of rendering inoperative or destroying life support equipment which is in imminent danger of capture by an enemy.

1-3. Reporting of Errors.

Reporting of errors, omissions, and recommendations for improving this publication by the individual user is encouraged. Reports should be submitted on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications) and for- warded directly to Commanding General, US Army Aviation Systems Command, ATTN: AMSAV-M, PO Box 209, St. Louis, Missouri 63 166.

Section II. PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATIONS

1-4. General.

Destruction of life support equipment which is in imminent danger of capture by an enemy is a command decision that must be made by the battalion or higher commander. Upon receipt of orders from the proper authority, equipment destruction may be initiated and should be as thorough as time, personnel, and means permit.

1-5. Planning.

All units which possess life support equipment should have a plan for the implementation of destruction procedures to insure that the maximum and most effective damage is done to the equipment to deny use of the equipment to an enemy. The plan should outline the extent of demolition to be performed, priorities of destruction as applicable to the assigned life support items, and the amount of explosives required, if applicable. Additionally, the plan must be flexible enough in the designation of time, equipment, and personnel to contend with any tactical withdrawal situation. To prevent equipment cannibalization by an enemy, unit personnel who are oriented with life support equipment shall be familiar with the priority sequence in which essential assemblies and components, including repair parts in stock, are to be destroyed. The applicable unit personnel shall also be familiar with the sequence to be followed for total destruction of unit life support equipment.

NOTE

Units which may possess emergency type personnel parachutes should refer to TM 750-244-1-1, Procedures for the Destruction of Air Delivery Equipment to Prevent Enemy Use, for additional destruction requirements, priorities, and instructions.

Section III. PRIORITIES FOR DESTRUCTION

1-6. General.

a. Priority must always be given to the destruction of classified life support equipment and associated documents.

b. When lack of time and/or stores prevent complete destruction of life support equipment, priority is to be given to the destruction of essential parts, and the same parts are to be destroyed on all like items.

c. A guide to priorities for destruction of repair parts for life support equipment is contained in table 1-1.

1-7. Repair Parts.

The same priority for destruction of repair parts of a major item necessary to render that item inoperable must be given to the destruction of similar repair parts located in storage areas.

1-8. Priorities for Destruction of Ports of Military Technical Equipment.

Table 1-1 is a list of life support equipment with related components and parts which are to be destroyed and the priority designation of each item.

EQUIPMENT	PRIORITY	PARTS
Survival Kit	1	Survival transmitter,/receiver radio
Assembly	2	Weapons and ammunition
Accembly	3	Pyrotechnic signaling devices
	4	Non-pyrotechnic signaling devices
	5	Compass
	6	Tools
	7	Flotation equipment
	8	Medical items
	9	Rations
	10	Canned water
	11	Kit container
Forest Penetrator	1	Seat body
Rescue Seat	2	Seat blades
	3	Safety straps
	4	Safety strap cover
STABO Extraction	1	Personnel harness
System	2	Suspension rope
	3	Safety rope
	4	Bridle
	5	Deployment bag
	6	Anchoring device
Oxygen Mask	1	Mask
Assembly	2	Microphone and connector cord
,	3	Hose
	4	Connector
Test Assem-	1	Oxygen cylinder filler equipment
blies	2	Oxygen cylinder weighing instruments
	3	Flotation leak-check devices
	4	Survival radio battery test equipment

Table 1-1. Priorities for Destruction of Life Support Equipment

Section IV. DEGREE OF DAMAGE

1-9. General.

Methods of destruction used to inflict damage on life support equipment and essential repair parts should achieve a degree of damage which makes it impossible to restore the damaged equipment to a usable condition in a combat zone by either repair or cannibalization.

1-10. Classified Equipment.

Life support equipment which is classified must be destroyed to such a degree as to prevent duplication by, or revealing the means of operation or function to the enemy.

1-11. Associated Classified Documents.

All associated classified documents, notes, instructions, drawings, parts lists, or other written material which pertains to the function, operation, maintenance, or employment of life support equipment shall be destroyed in such a manner as to render the documentation useless to the enemy.

1-3

CHAPTER 2

METHODS OF DESTRUCTION

Section I. DESCRIPTION AND ORDER OF DESTRUCTION METHODS

2-1. Self-destruction Devices.

Self-destruction devices, which are normally activated by a switch, are built-in assemblies that may partially or completely destroy the equipment to which the devices are affixed. A self-destruction device is usually well marked for identification. When installed, self-destruction devices should be activated and allowed to function prior to using explosives or other destruction methods. This action will permit the devices to destroy the applicable equipment and prevent sensitive parts or classified documentation from being blown into areas of safety where they might be recovered by the enemy.

2-2. Fire.

WARNING

Exercise extreme care when using petroleum products to destroy equipment by fire: as these materials are highly flammable.

The destruction of equipment by use of fire is an effective method of destroying low-melting-point metal items and equipment made from textile materials. However, mechanical destruction should be completed first, when applicable, before initiating destruction by fire. When items to be destroyed are made of metal, textile materials should be packed under and around the items, then soaked with a flammable petroleum product and ignited. Proper concentration of equipment which is suitable for burning will provide a hotter and more destructive fire.

2-3. Demolition (Explosives).

WARNING

Destruction of equipment using explosives shall be performed in an area free of friendly personnel to prevent injury which may be caused by flying fragments.

For information on the use of explosives to destroy equipment, refer to FM 5-25, Explosives and Demolition.

NOTE

The placement of a demolition charge can mean the difference between accomplishing minor damage or complete destruction of equipment.

2-4. Mechanical.

Life support equipment can be destroyed by mechanical means using suitable tools for hammering, prying cutting, ripping, or slashing as specified in paragraphs 2-7 and 2-8.

2-5. Natural Surroundings.

Disposal or denial of equipment to an enemy may be accomplished through use of natural surroundings. Accessible vital parts of assemblies may be removed and scattered through dense foliage, buried in dirt or sand, or thrown into a lake, stream, or other body of water. Total submersion of equipment in a body of water will provide water damage as well as concealment. Salt water will inflict a substantial amount of damage to most life support items, except those that are rubberized.

Section II. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIFE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT DESTRUCTION

2-6. Survival Kit Assembly.

WARNING

If ammunition or pyrotechnic signaling devices are to be destroyed by fire, insure the area is free of friendly personnel to prevent injury which may be caused by the ignited ordnance.

When destroying the components of a survival kit assembly, particular attention must be given to the destruction of the survival transmitter/receiver radio, the weapon and associated ammunition, and pyrotechnic signaling devices, as applicable. It is imperative that these items be rendered totally unusable. The radio should be destroyed by smashing using a hammer, or other similar tool. A weapon should also be smashed or broken using a hammering-type tool. However, a weapon can be destroyed by breaking the firing pin, dismantling, and concealing the weapon parts by burying. Ammunition for the weapon, which may include ball and tracer rounds and pyrotechnic signaling devices, should be buried or thrown into a body of water. If the tactical situation prohibits disposal of ammunition and pyrotechnics as recommended, fire may be used as an alternate destruction method.

2-7. Textile Items.

Life support equipment textile items, which include flotation assemblies, shall first be demolished by using shears, fabric cutters, awls, files, knives, screwdrivers, or other similar devices to cut, rip, tear, or slash assembly fabric, lines, loops, straps, tapes, webbing, and rubberized cells. To complete destruction, all textile equipment shall be piled loosely and burned, using gasoline, cleaning solvent, oil, grease, paraffin, beeswax, rubber, wood, or other flammable materials as a fire starter.

2-8. Metal Items.

Life support equipment metal assemblies, parts, testing devices, tools, and items such as flight helmets shall be destroyed using hammers, bolt cutters, files, hacksaws, drills, screwdrivers, crowbars, or other similar devices to smash, break, bend, cut, or distort. Items which may be destroyed by fire shall be burned as prescribed in paragraph 2-2. Small vital parts of assemblies which are easily accessible may be disposed of as outlined in paragraph 2-5.

2-9. Training.

All personnel who use or perform such functions as packing, maintenance, or storage of life support equipment should receive thorough training on life support equipment destruction procedures and methods as prescribed in this publication. The destruction methods demonstrated during training should be simulated. It must be emphasized in the training program, that destruction through use of explosives is usually necessitated by critical situations when the time allowed for implementing other equipment destruction methods is limited. Upon completion of training, all applicable personnel should be thoroughly familiar with life support equipment destruction methods and be capable of performing destruction without immediate reference to any publication.

★ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1993 0 - 342-421 (81823)

2-2

This publication has been printed for the use of all concerned.

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

W. C. WESTMORELAND, General, United States Army, Chief of Staff.

Official:

VERNE L. BOWERS, Major General, United States Army, The Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

To be distributed in accordance with DA Form 12-31 (qty rqr block no. 94) requirements for Organizational Maintenance Instructions for all Fixed and Rotor Wing Aircraft.

	\sim		F		IANGES 1	TO EQUIPMENT TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS					
$\overline{7}$	5	\mathbf{N}		SOM	SOMETHING WRONG WITH PUBLICATION						
THENJOT DOWN THE DOPE ABOUT IT ON THIS FORM. CAREFULLY TEAR IT OUT, FOLD IT AND DROP IT IN THE MAIL.											
PUBLICAT		ER		PUBLICATI	ON DATE	PUBLICATION TITLE					
BE EXAC	T PIN-PC para-	DINT WHEF	RE IT IS table			VHAT IS WRONG					
NO.	GRAPH	NO.	NO.			E DONE ABOUT IT.					
PRINTED	NAME, GRA	.DE OR TITL	E AND TELE	PHONE NUMBER	SIGN	I HERE					
DA 150	RM 20	28-2		EVIOUS EDITIONS E OBSOLETE.		P.SIF YOUR OUTFIT WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR RECOMMENDATION MAKE A CARBON COPY OF THIS AND GIVE IT TO YOUR HEADQUARTERS.					

PIN: 031956-000

This fine document...

Was brought to you by me:



Liberated Manuals -- free army and government manuals

Why do I do it? I am tired of sleazy CD-ROM sellers, who take publicly available information, slap "watermarks" and other junk on it, and sell it. Those masters of search engine manipulation make sure that their sites that sell free information, come up first in search engines. They did not create it... They did not even scan it... Why should they get your money? Why are not letting you give those free manuals to your friends?

I am setting this document FREE. This document was made by the US Government and is NOT protected by Copyright. Feel free to share, republish, sell and so on.

I am not asking you for donations, fees or handouts. If you can, please provide a link to liberatedmanuals.com, so that free manuals come up first in search engines:

<A HREF=<u>http://www.liberatedmanuals.com/</u>>Free Military and Government Manuals

Sincerely
Igor Chudov
<u>http://igor.chudov.com/</u>
Chicago Machinery Movers