

**Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group,  
Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference**

February 24<sup>th</sup> 1991 (Sunday) Exercise  
North Park, Allegheny County  
Contact for information:

Jane Kuzniewski, R.N.; 443-2996 (H); 359-3555 (W)

**Situation:**

A 14 year old boy named Mike Kuga (funny, life) is out running with friends at North Park early in the morning. He has disappeared. The county police call STATCOM directly at 0700 to ask AMRG to look for him in North Park.

**The Game:**

AMRG'ers are responsible for:

1. Reading the SAROP, Operations Manual, and SAROP Training Manual so they know what to do when suddenly assigned a staff position.
2. Reading the Search (Module III) and Land Navigation (Module II) portions of the Member's Manual so that, when assigned a task, you don't run around like a chicken with its head cut off.
3. Getting an appropriate Overhead Team (2-3 people) to the scene (the ice rink/Lodge area where North Ridge Road ends at Pearce Mill Road) at 0800 with appropriate OHT equipment: the OPSKIT, maps (provided by yours truly), and the Stokes and semi-tech rescue gear. Jane is responsible for selecting these people.
4. Opening the sealed envelopes that have further information; each has a time to be opened on it. Jane will have these. Each will have information and instructions.
5. Getting those who are not part of the OHT to the North Park ice rink/Lodge meeting area (where North Ridge Road ends at Pearce Mill Road) at about 0900. This will be done by a callout done Friday night, which will provide information on where to go.

Enclosed: current callout roster and SAF.

AMRG  
c/o Keith Conover, M.D.  
36 Robinhood Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15220-3014

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**Scenario information as of 0800.**

The subject has a history of seizures, well-controlled on Dilantin<sup>(R)</sup>. He was last seen by his friends at map coordinates Alpha 5619 at 0500. He was planning to head northeast along the North Ridge Road, then cut down a ravine back to Pearce Mill Road and then meet his friends at the skating rink (Alpha 3634). He never showed up. His friends ran the North Ridge Road from the skating rink back to the PLS, then they followed Pearce Mill Road back to the skating rink. They saw no sign of him. They called the county police at 0630. A county policeman drove the same route and found nothing. At about 0700 the county police called AMRG for help. The OHT arrived at about 0800.

The police say they will handle all investigation, thank you very much. They post a liaison officer at your Base Camp, who tells you that initial interviews with friends and family reveal no evidence of depression or family strife.

He is 5'3", 110 lbs, short brown hair, brown eyes, no scars, wearing blue and white striped running shoes (nobody knows what kind) with white socks, a grey sweatsuit, a navy blue windbreaker with a hood, and a white sweatband.

You can ask more questions, but this piece of paper won't give you any more answers. (Isn't life a bitch?)

**Instructions:**

The OHT is responsible for

1. Appointing an interim IC until an ASRC IC can arrive. (You did remember to call ASRC central dispatch, didn't you? Since Keith is gone, we don't have an official ASRC IC and thus must ask for a nearby Group to dispatch at least an IC.) I suggest Thom Jones-- give him a chance to screw up another search (just kidding).
2. The IC must make other staff assignments.
3. Initial interviewing (just opening this and subsequent envelopes, actually).
4. Establishing initial strategy.
5. Establishing initial task assignments on TAF's, assuming that other AMRG'ers will be showing up soon.
6. Making an initial assessment of the need for other resources (Other ASRC Groups? Search 1? Rescue 40? EMRS?) OK, how do you get ahold of these people?
7. Taking incoming people and assigning them promptly and efficiently to tasks or to Base Camp.
8. Doing whatever the IC and Staff think is needed.

**Scenario Information as of 1000**

The police tell you the following new information from interviews:

1. The subject may have missed his single daily dose of Dilantin<sup>(R)</sup> yesterday, so the family is worried about him having had a seizure. Calls to local rescue squads, other police, Emergency Departments, etc. reveal no evidence of the subject. Again, interviews confirm the lack of any psychological or social stresses; the subject was doing fairly well in school, and has a new girlfriend with whom he is on good terms. She was contacted and knows nothing of his whereabouts.

2. The subject's friends stood at the PLS and watched him run down the North Ridge Road a ways before they took off running themselves, so the PLS and direction of travel are reliable. Separate interviews confirm his plan to "cut down the ravine" which seems to mean a left turn off the main Ridge Road.

3. The police patrol (yes, they've set up a nice containment patrol along North Ridge Road, Pearce Mill Road, and Irwin Road) talked to a jogger who passed a person meeting the subject's description running NW along North Ridge Road about 0545. This was about half way between the PLS and the end of North Ridge Road near the ice rink. The subject was acting normally. Police rate the reliability of the witness as "excellent."

**Scenario Information as of 1200**

The police tell you the following new information from interviews:

1. The police have concluded from their investigation that there is little to support the possibility of foul play. They think that he is down somewhere in the North Park area, possibly hurt or postictal, and want to know why you haven't found him yet. They say they have 100 untrained local volunteer firemen who want to help. What can they do?
2. Andy from the Pittsburgh Press shows up and starts taking lots of notes.
3. Angel 1 and Life Flight helicopters both fly over, obviously scouting out LZ's. Indeed, they hover around for a while watching you, and play chicken with each other a bit, but neither one calls on the radio. OK, which one are you going to choose if you need one?
4. The local trail bike club hears that there is a search and wants to help. The county police liaison, Sgt. Tufboots, tells them if they take any trail bikes off the road "I'll shoot them all. Damn destructive bastards!" Taking offense, the trail bike club representative goes off to call his lawyer and his state representative.
5. And, if you want any more useful information, you'll have to turn it up by searching the areas with a high POD. Have fun!