

ADVANCED SKILLS TRAINING COURSE

COURSE SYLLABUS 2003-2004

**Advanced Skills Training
665 Red Horse Road
Hurlburt Field, Florida 32544
COMM (850) 884-2174/2173 DSN 579-2174/2173**

Welcome to AST



Welcome to the Advanced Skills Training (AST) course, and the start of your training to become a Combat Ready Special Tactics Operator. AST Cadre are centered on excellence, committed to building and maintaining a consortium of joint and unilateral special operations training activities focused on the training of special operators. Located on the 2003 Department of Defense Military Installation of the Year, Hurlburt Field, Florida. Students will grow in experience and knowledge during their 12 month training course, with emphasis on a hands on approach to learning. In addition to the special operators curriculum, the course offers the opportunity for Combat Control, Pararescue and Combat Weather trainees to interact and train in a joint team environment.

Key Personnel

Colonel Craig Rith

720th Group Commander

Lt Col William Sherman

23STS Commander

Major Michael Flatten

AST Flight Commander

SMSgt Gary Maddock

Superintendent

Mr. Ronald Childress

Director of Training

Advanced Skills Training

Vision

Provide combat ready combat controllers to ensure special operations is America's future of choice in the 21st century.

History

AFSOC Advanced Skills Training School was activated at Hurlburt Field under the 720th Special Tactics Group. In 2000, the school was chartered to decrease the time a three level trainee was in training for the five level. Up until the school started, the average time in training for a combat controller to obtain their five level was over two years while assigned to the units. This time has been decreased to less than 12 months and the units receiving a combat ready five level. The curriculum has grown from a one month Initial Familiarization (IFAM) course with 14 students to a one year course that encompasses all the core tasks in the Combat Control Career Field Education & Training Plan (CFETP), teaching over 120 students a year.

MISSION

Advanced Skills Training (AST) is a twelve-month program designed to afford the most opportune training for newly assigned Special Tactics operators. AST also provides STS operators the ability to become mission ready prior to joining individual STS teams. This schedule is broken down into four phases of training. These phases are designed to provide each student with the necessary skills to advance to the next phase of AST. This course will test the trainee's personal limits through demanding mental and physical training. You will only succeed by giving 100% at each and every training event.

Academic Freedom Policy

AST uses guest speakers from time to time as subject-matter experts. These individuals enhance our course through their backgrounds, experiences, academic training, and job experiences. To ensure frank, open discussion between speaker and students, AST uses an academic freedom policy that states the remarks made by the speakers are non-attributable and cannot be quoted outside the academic environment of AST. Please help us honor this policy.

Course Description

Course Prerequisites.

Prerequisite to AST is the award of the 3-skill level, CCT School, Pope AFB NC. The entry for ST PJ class is the awarded 3-skill level. Pre-requisite for the CWX entry to AST is the successful completion of the AF Weather Initial Skills Training Course (3-skill level award), Weather Flight Operations Course, and Weather Physical Abilities and Stamina Test.

Air National Guard (ANG) personnel (1C2X1) are authorized training quotas to this course. Seats will be coordinated through HQ ANG/XOOE and the AST training manager.

Description.

The Objective of AST is to provide Special Tactics Squadron Commanders with 5 Level combat ready Combat Control Team (CCT) members. This eliminates strains on unit manpower, equipment and upgrade time within each squadron. The AST program is a four phase layered training approach that will increase the CCT initial training course graduation rate and increase overall CCT production. Students must maintain a high state of physical conditioning to meet the demands of follow-on training and operational requirements.

Duration:

The course lasts for 12 months. Classes typically start on the first day of each quarter.

Number of Training Hours: Total training hours: **2412**

Location

AST is on Hurlburt Field, on Florida's Northwest Gulf Coast, 5 miles west of Fort Walton Beach. The main gate is on US Highway 98 (Miracle Strip Parkway). AST is at 665 Red Horse Road.

Lodging Information

All single, enlisted students will be assigned a dorm room in the Special Tactics dorm for the duration of their training. This applies to Pararescue and Combat Weather trainees as well.

Reporting Instructions

Report to AST, 665 Red Horse Road by 0830hrs day of class start date. (Unless otherwise specified by the class mentor)

Uniform/Clothing Requirements

The instructor cadre will dictate the uniform for each training event. The whole team will wear the same uniform and maintain uniformity during all mandatory formations. The PT uniform is: Black shorts, white T-shirts with name stenciled (during water phase), and running shoes and socks. Physical training uniform will be kept in good repair. Only White socks, no designs, are authorized to wear with the PT uniform.

Note: The PT uniform will be worn during physical conditioning or as directed by the cadre. The PT uniform is never worn to an official appointment, dining hall, or on or off base activity. Highly shined boots will be worn with BDUs during appointments and during other daily base visits.

Meals

All students residing on base will receive BAS. You will utilize the dining facility when the training schedule allows, or when directed by the phase instructor. Breakfast and lunch are mandatory formations on training days.

The following lists unauthorized attire at any military dining facility:

Civilian attire that is not neat, clean, or does not present a proper image

Any combination of military and civilian attire

Attire with advertises profanity, obscene gestures, or racial slurs

Excessively short shorts, sleeveless shirts (i.e. tank tops, muscle shirts, or shirts with the sleeves removed)

Earrings, body piercing, tongue studs are not authorized in AFSOC

NOTE: PT gear is not authorized in the chow hall.

Career Development Course

While assigned to AST, students are enrolled in two Combat Control Career Development Courses (CDC). These courses are published to provide information that is necessary to satisfy the career knowledge component of On-The-Job-Training.

CDC 1C251A covers three volumes: Vol. 1 Titled *Getting There*, Vol. 2 *Individual Skills*, and Vol. 3 *Missions and Equipment*. Successful completion of the "A set" is required before the student is enrolled in the 1C251B course. The "B set" covers Vol. 1 *Air Traffic Control Fundamentals*, Vol. 2 *Finer Points of ATC*, Vol 3 *Assault Zone Operations*, and Vol. 4 *Fire Support*. Students must pass both End of Course exams with a minimum score of 65%.

AST has an established Test Control Facility, manned by an authorized Air Force Institute for Advanced Distributed Learning (AFIADL) Test Control Officer. This capability takes advantage of Computer Based Testing and provides the student

immediate feedback on course results. The entire CDC program is managed from “cradle to grave” at the AST facility.

A typical enrollment will find a student having enrolled and completed both sets of CDCs within 10 months.

Mentoring Program

AST uses an innovative Mentoring Program to provide the leadership, guidance, and continuity needed to professionally develop each student and ensure their success during upgrade training. Each Mentor is a retired Combat Control Senior NCO who possesses extensive educational and work experience background in program management for Combat Control and Special Tactics missions.

They draw on their 20+ years of experience to facilitate technical assistance in the evaluation, development, and instruction of all training. Mentors also facilitate the safety of training and the evaluation process for the AST Flight Commander, and act as his advisor for all matters pertaining to discipline and standards.

Mentors are responsible for the morale, health, and welfare of the AST students. Each Mentor maintains a close relationship with their students from class start date until graduation. They provide career development for each student by acting as trainers, evaluators, safety monitors, and personnel managers. They counsel students on career progression, personal matters, job performance, duties and responsibilities, military customs and courtesies, civilian directives, and all matters pertaining to military service.

Mentors also provide their students with the information, background experience and other services necessary to successfully complete each block and phase of training. The AST Mentoring Program is the foundation for student Combat Readiness. It ensures each student has the opportunity to conquer all training challenges in a safe training environment. Through Mentorship, AST remains committed to providing Special Tactics Squadrons with highly motivated 5-Level Combat Controllers.

WATER

Phase I Duration: 90 Days

Description:

The mission of the water phase is to prepare Special Tactics operators for the Combat Diver Qualification Course (CDQC) and prepare operators for continued stress induced waterborne operations through their career. During this phase you will participate in extensive physical conditioning with emphasis on swimming, running, and calisthenics. This phase will help prepare you for the rigors of training and the demands of this career-field. The first two weeks of this phase will involve base and squadron in-processing. Academic training accomplished in this phase includes dive physics, decompression dives, dive tables, dangerous marine life and terminology. Completion of Pre-SCUBA is your “ticket” to attend SCUBA School and earn your SCUBA badge.

At the Combat Diver Qualification Course (CDQC) you will become a combat diver and learn to use SCUBA to infiltrate areas surrounded by water undetected. This course provides training to depths of 130 ft, stressing dive physics and development of maximum underwater mobility.

Phase break down of training

WAT-1 In-processing Classroom	Admin	8.0 hr
WAT-2 Physical Training		Practical 52.0 hr total
Calenstinics		10.0 hr
Running		20.0 hr
Finning-Pool		11.0 hr
Open Water swim		11.0 hr
WAT-3 Water Confidence Pool		Practical 64.0 hr total
Under-waters		8.0 hr
Water treading		8.0 hr
Drown Proofing		8.0 hr
Knot Tying		8.0 hr
Equipment treading		8.0 hr
Buddy Breathing		8.0 hr

Weight belt swim	8.0 hr
Flooded mask drill	8.0 hr
WAT-4 Academics	Admin
Classroom	48.0 hr total
Dive Physics	20.0 hr
Decompression	20.0 hr
Dangerous marine life	8.0 hr
WAT-5 Refit/recover/reconstitute(RRR)	Admin
Allotted for document and make up training.	80.0 hr total
Phase I (CDQC)	Admin
Class room/practical at Key West NAS,	200.0 hrs

Ground

Phase II Duration: 90 Days

Description:

This phase is conducted at Hurlburt Field, FL and Fort Bragg, North Carolina as well as other locations. Ground phase will teach various skills that are essential for a Combat Controller to know. You will accomplish the majority of Career Field Training Program objectives in this phase to include: command and control, Air Traffic Control, fixed and rotary wing call for fire (CFF) training, portable and vehicular communications, and demolitions. Additionally, you will become familiar with survey techniques including: AUTOCAD and Global Positioning Systems (GPS). You will become well versed in assault zone procedures, including actual Drop Zone (DZ) and Landing Zone (LZ) assault training missions at various locations around the continental US.

Phase break down of training

GRD-1 Communications	Admin
Classroom	34.0 hrs total
COMSEC	0.5hrs
AN/PRC 117F	8.0 hrs
AN/PRC-148	7.0 hrs
AN/PRC-138	7.0 hrs
GRC-206 (V-6)	12.0 hrs.
HPW	4.0 hrs
TRN-41/Generator	2.0 hrs
SMP-2000/1000	1.0 hr
SST-181	1.0 hrs
GRD-2 Survey	Admin
Classroom	40.0 hrs total
Intro to surveys	0.5 hrs
Use measuring tools	0.5 hrs
GPS in Surveys	0.5 hrs
Cameras in surveys	0.5 hrs
HLZ Survey Planning*	1.0 hrs
HLZ survey Prep*	1.0 hrs
Conduct HLZ survey*	4.0 hrs
Complete HLZ survey*	4.0 hrs
DZ survey plan*	4.0 hrs

DZ survey prep*	4.0 hrs
Conduct DZ survey*	5.0 hrs
Complete DZ survey form*	6.0 hrs
Tactical DZ academics (*AUTOCAD practical time)	1.0 hrs
GRD-3 Demolitions	Admin
Classroom	16.0 hrs
Intro Demolitions	6 hrs
Demolitions theory	4.0 hrs
GRD-4 Air Traffic Control	Admin
Classroom (Intro)	4 hrs
Classroom	40 hrs
Practical	36 hrs
GRD-5 Assault zone operations	Practical
Classroom	2.0 hrs
Local LZ/DZ missions	30.hrs
Marshalling	4 hrs
FARP	4 hrs
GRD-6 Assault zone operations	Practical
OFF-station LZ/DZ operations	80.0 hrs
GRD-7 Fire support operations	Admin
Classroom / Practical	
Helo CFF	40.hrs
Fixed Wing CFF	40.hrs
GRD-8 RRR	Admin
Classroom	80.0 hrs

Employment

Phase III **Duration: 90 Days**

Description:

This phase is conducted at Hurlburt Field. Students will be exposed to various methods of employment that Special Tactics operators use to include: Static line and Military Free Fall Air-borne operations. Alternate Insertion/ Extraction methods with helicopters to include fastrope, rappel, rope ladder, and hoist operations. During this phase students also learn military dive operations that include compass and search dive procedures. Small boat operations include preparation for employment, capsized drills, intercostals, riverine, navigation. Small unit tactics skills are sharpened with weapons, dismounted patrols, and tactical vehicle operations. As in the other two previous phases of instruction, PT will consist of full battle dress uniform, LBE, weapon, swimming, running, rucking, trail runs, and obstacle course.

Phase break down of training

EMP-1 Static Line Operations Classroom	Practical 40.0 hrs
EMP-2 HALO Operations Classroom	Practical 40.0 hrs
AMP-3 Dive Operations Classroom	Practical 40.0 hrs
EMP-4 Small Boats Classroom	Practical 40.0 hrs
EMP-5 Alternate Insertion/Extraction Classroom	Practical 40.0 hrs
EMP-6 TAC vehicles Classroom	Practical 40.0hrs
EMP-7 Weapons Classroom	Practical 40.0 hrs

EMP-8 Small Unit Tactics
Classroom

Practical
40.0 hrs

EMP-9 RAMZ
Classroom

Practical
4.0 hrs

EMP-10 RRR
Classroom

Admin
80.0 hr

Mission Qualification Training

Phase IV Duration: 70 Days

Description:

At MQT, students learn the skills encompassing mission planning that includes various types of orders, planning considerations, ST Intel support capabilities, and use of Falcon View mission planning software. They will use this planning process during every full Mission Profile (FMP).

The students receive a mission Frag Order and plan and prepare for a 3-Day FMP that includes a Helo Soft-Duck insertion, overland movement, target recon and exfil to friendly lines.

Students develop recall procedures and assume an alert posture with a 30minute response time.

Students will travel to Sandrock, AL. where they learn military mountaineering techniques to include: basic securing/hauling systems, stokes litter, single man pick-offs, rappelling, bouldering and rock climbing skills.

Students also receive classes on the history, purpose and detailed planning consideration required to successfully execute a full blown airfield seizure. They learn how to build bike-bundle packages and conduct a day Jump Clearing Team operation. A night airfield seizure FMP is conducted with 5-8 fixed and rotary wing aircraft at OLF Choctaw, FL or Tonopah Test Range, NV, followed by a detailed aircrew/instructor debrief.

Phase break down of training

MQT-1 PJ/CCT/WX INTRO/Cross train Classroom	Admin 40.0 hrs
MQT-2 Mission Planning Classroom	Admin 40.0 hrs
MQT-3 Reconnaissance Classroom	Admin 30.0 hrs
MQT-4 RECON Full Mission Profile	Practical

Classroom	30.0 hrs
MQT-5 PR Introductory/Training Classroom	Admin 30.0 hrs
MQT-6 PR Full Mission Profile Classroom	Practical 30.0 hrs
MQT-7 High Angle Climbing Classroom	Practical 40.0 hrs
MQT-8 Urban CAS Full Mission Profile	Practical
MQT-9 Airfield Seizure Full Mission Profile Classroom	Practical
MQT-10 Academic Classroom	Admin 40.0hrs

Graduation

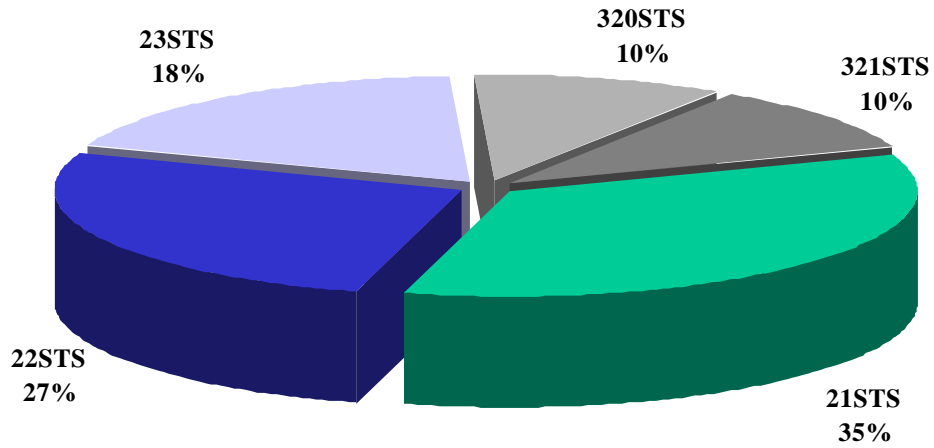
Warriors Training Warriors

Upon completing all four phases of training, graduating the Combat Diver Course, Military Free Fall Parachutist Course, and passing the two Career Development Courses, you are now ready to become a Combat Control Journeyman.

Enlisted student has unique time constraints for being upgraded to a five level journeyman. If you re-trained from another AF specialty code, you may be upgraded at the 9 month point. All other trainees must have 12 months from the time they graduated the Combat Control Apprentice course at Pope AFB. (Prior service included in this rule).

All trainees are given a physical training evaluation prior to graduation. Your next assignment could be across the street or around the world. Your mission will be the same: A highly trained weapon system and force multiplier, ready to deploy and to be "First There"!

Student Placement



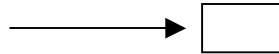
As of October 2003:

51 Students have graduated since April 2001.

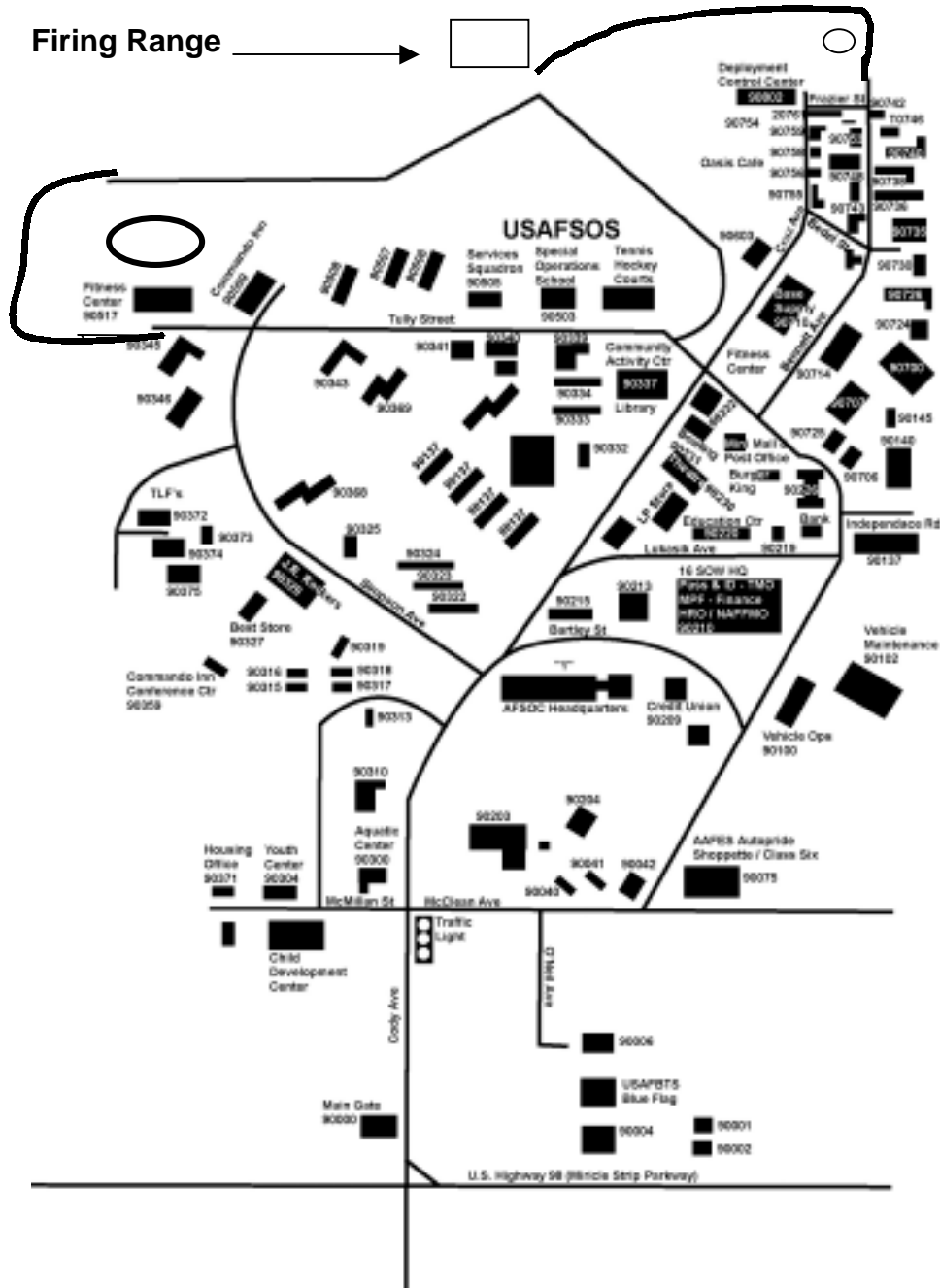
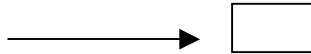
53 Students are currently attending AST.

Hurlburt Field Map

Advance Skills Training
(Bldg 99134) 665 Red Horse Road



Firing Range



Hurlburt Quick Reference Directory

DSN: 579-XXXX Commercial: (850) XXX-XXXX

AAFES Military Clothing Sales 884-7395
Base Gym (Bldg 90517) 884-6884
Base Transportation 884-7223
Bay Area Travel (SATO) 581-9676
Beauty Shop 581-3524
Billeting (Commando Inn) 884-7115/6245
Bowling Center 884-6941
BX Barber Shop 581-8893
BX Food Court 581-6008
Clinic (Hurlburt) 884-7882
Command Post (16 SOW) 884-7774
Command Post (AFSOC) 884-2171
Emergency Room (Eglin AFB) 883-8227
Family Support Center 884-5441
Golf Course 881-2251
Health and Wellness Center (Bldg 90232) 884-6949
Library 884-7143
Mini Mall Barber Shop 581-4334
Mini Mall Shoppette 581-0488
Recreational Equipment Rental 884-6939
Red Cross 884-6107
Security Police
Desk 884-7114
Main Gate 884-7803
Tickets and Tours 884-7848