CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT ISSUE PAPER NUMBER 11

--HELIBASE MANAGER TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS--

BACKGROUND:

In the design of the Qualifications and Training Systems, the position of helibase manager was generally equated to other manager positions in the ICS organization. Training for these positions was organizationally set at the 200 level. Specifically, Helibase Manager 2 (HEB2) is currently required to take Helibase Manager S-271. There is no additional training requirement for Helibase Manager 1 (HEB1). Prerequisite training FOR HEB2 (both suggested and required) is associated with the prerequisite position qualifications of Helicopter Manager (HEMG), Helicopter Crewmember (HECM), and Advanced Firefighter/Squad Boss (FFT1). This includes Supervisory Concepts and Techniques S-201 and ICS training at the I-200 level.

CURRENT STATUS:

Based on a detailed analysis of the helibase manager position, the development group believes that this position more closely equates to unit leader positions in other sections of the organization. The duties, responsibilities, and complexity of the job; the span of control; the supervisory and management requirements; and resulting training needs are all more representative of the unit leader level. In addition, the complexity of the helibase manager course will necessitate that it be presented at the State or Regional level or equivalent. Due to these factors, the development group recommended that the helicopter manager course be renumbered as S-371 and that suggested training for the helicopter manager position include 300 level courses in management and supervision and ICS.

RECOMMENDATION:

The NIFC National Fire and Aviation Training Support Group agrees with the recommendation of the development group that:

1. The number of the Helibase Manager course should be changed from S-271 to S-371 to more accurately represent the organizational placement of the position, the complexity of the job requirements, and the level of presentation required for the course.

2. The following courses should be added to suggested training for the HEB2 position to meet the higher level management training needs:

Leadership and Organization Development S-301
Intermediate ICS I-300

Approval of the Training and ICS Working Teams is needed by May 15, 1995, so that development can continue without interruption.

ACTION REQUIRED:

1. Upon approval of this recommendation, the NIFC National Fire and Aviation Training Support Group will instruct the development group to develop the Helibase Manager course as S-371 and to consider S-301 and I-300 as suggested training for the position.

2. The ICS Working Team will need to make appropriate changes to the qualification system during the revision of 310-1.

APPROVED:

Chairman, Training Working Team — Date 1/29/96

Chairman, ICS Working Team — Date 1-29-96