

Film Review

THE TRAINING MEMORANDUM

Produced by National Educational Media
15250 Ventura Boulevard, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

"If I were you, I'd give some thought to the benefits of training." This is Jake the Ghost's parting shot as he dematerializes in a shimmering haze. This 11 minute film, billed as a part of the Professional Management Program states in a fairly straight-forward manner, the benefits of training.

The plot has Joe, the supervisor/manager type grumbling "bullfeathers" to a memorandum asking him to attend a "how to train" program and the ghost of his late boss, Jake, appearing to give him a blustering, cigar-waving lecture on how vital good training was in Joe's growth.

Some of Jake's key points were:

- 1) Training gives the trainee confidence.
- 2) Supervisory training builds leadership from within the company.
- 3) Training improves production, reduces waste and maintenance costs and reduces the need for close supervision.
- 4) Trained workers tend to be more motivated.

All of these benefits are fairly obvious to the trainer but too often overlooked by the supervisor or manager. Jake's treatment of each point is rather sketchy and although he is obviously pounding each point home by means of booming voice and heavy gesture, he does little more than list benefits without building a persuasive case for each one. Granted, in an 11 minute film, there are limits to how elaborate a thesis can be constructed.

The film should do a pretty good job of informing supervisors and managers of the benefits of training and put across the point that training is a part of their management responsibility.

A very minor weakness was the over-use of the expletive "bullfeathers!" Pretty weak cussing nowadays.

Kenneth D. Rittenhouse
Reviewer

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