Region 9 Army MARS Training Topics for "phone bridge" use

TRAINING TOPIC – Request For Information (RI) & Reply to Request for Information (RRI)

SESSION INTENT – Review of the proper format when replying to a Request for Information

EXPECTED TIME TO DELIVER – 55 Minutes

REFERENCES - Message Forms and Reports – AM 6 – December 2017
ACP-127(G)

CONTENT OUTLINE & KEY POINTS –

1. Review of the (RI) ACP-127 message
2. Review of the proper format of a (RRI) message
3. Examples using Station Manager format of a (RI) &(RRI) Message.

VZCZCMMM005
PP UHWACF UHXWROG
DE UHXXXV #0005 1281232
ZNY EEEEE
ZOT UHCVHCP
P R 071232Z MAY 2016
FM DEAD HAND
TO UHXWROG/ALL RJMOG
INFO UHCVHCP/HQ AIR FORCE MARS SCOTT AFB IL
ZEN UHWHHCP/HQ ARMY MARS FT HUACHUCA AZ
BT
UNCLAS FOUO
EXER/MARS COMEX 16-2//
MSGID/RI/UHXXXV/005//
REQDAT/DATEDES:201605071300Z/LTIOV:201605072359Z/PRY:3// - **DATEDES** - The Request Date of Information – **LTIOV** – The last time information of value
GENTEXT/SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUESTED/
1. (U/FOUO) REQUEST WEATHER OBSERVATIONS FOR THE SPECIFIED LOCATIONS.

2. (U/FOUO) IDENTIFY ALL CLASS B, C AND D AIRPORTS IN THE
REGION IN WHICH THE FOLLOWING WEATHER INFORMATION CAN BE
OBTAINED BY NON-INTERNET MEANS. EXCLUDE ALL AIRPORTS
WITHIN A 100 KM RADIUS AN AIRPORT IN WHICH CURRENT INFORMATION
IS ALREADY REPORTED.

A. (U/FOUO) WIND DIRECTION AND SPEED
B. (U/FOUO) VISIBILITY
C. (U/FOUO) SKY COVER
D. (U/FOUO) TEMPERATURE
E. (U/FOUO) BAROMETER//

GENTEXT/METHOD OF RESPONSE/1. (U/FOUO) THE RESPONSE SHALL BE
A USMTF WXOBS MESSAGE.

2. (U/FOUO) EACH REGION WILL TRANSMIT A CONSOLIDATED USMTF WXOBS
TO UHXXXV/DEAD HAND. CONSOLIDATED UPDATES
SHOULD BE SENT IN APPROXIMATELY FOUR HOUR INTERVALS UNTIL COMPLETE
OR ENDEX, WHICH EVER OCCURS FIRST.

3. (U/FOUO) DO NOT IDENTIFY LOCATIONS OVER THE AIR IN PLAIN
LANGUAGE OR UNENCRYPTED TEXT FOR ANY REASON.//
BT
#0005

NNNN

MESSAGE EXAMPLE – RRI
(consolidated)

VZCZCMMM001

RR UHXXXV

DE UHWWBC #0002 2171518

ZNY EEEEE

R 081518Z MAY 2016

FM REGION 9 JMOG

TO UHXXXV/DEAD HAND

BT

UNCLAS

EXER/COMEX 16-2//

MSGID/RRI/MARS STATION AAR9HH/001//

REF/-/RRI/MSGID/RI/UHXXXV/20160507/005//

GENTEXT/REQUEST RESPONSE/EXER/COMEX 16-2//

MSGID/WXOBS/MARS STATION AAR9CB/001//

WEATHLOC/KEWR//

OBSTIME/031518Z//

WIND/110/10//

VSBY/3SM//

CLDLYR/-/LYR:SKC//

TEMP/20/20//

ALTSTG/HG:29.92//

RMKS/NOT REPORTED//

MSGID/WXOBS/MARS STATION AAR9WF/001//

WEATHLOC/KATL//

OBSTIME/031518Z//

WIND/110/10//

VSBY/3SM//

CLDLYR/-/LYR:SKC//

TEMP/20/20//

ALTSTG/HG:29.92//

RMKS/NOT REPORTED//

BT

#0002

NNNN

ACP-127 LINE FORMAT

FORMAT LINE 1:

Format Line 1 is the transmission identification. It signals the start of the transmission, identifies the transmitting station, and the serial number of the transmission. The first character of Format Line 1 is the letter "V". It is a used to ensure the first character of intelligence is not lost or garbled.

The next four characters are "ZCZC", the Start-of-Message Indicator (SOM). These characters tell automated switching systems that this is the beginning of the message, or initiates software features that save the message to a file.

Following the SOM is the channel indicator. The channel indicator is three letters which identify a specific channel between the two stations. In MARS channel indicators will be (MMM).

The serial number follows the channel indicator. This is a three digit serial number which serves to sequentially number each transmission from the sending station.

U.S. Supp-1 (K) to ACP-127G does not use security warning signals on Format Line 1. Instead, the message is handled in accordance with the operating signal in Format Line 4 or the classification shown in the text. The security warning is a mandatory entry on Format Line 4.$_2$ Therefore, you don't enter a security warning on Format Line 1.

Here is an example of Format Line 1:

```
VZCZCMMM001
```

FORMAT LINE 2:

Format Line 2 consists of the message Precedence and Routing Indicator(s) of the message destination. If the message is dual precedence, (PR) only the higher precedence is shown in this line. The Routing Indicators used on this line are listed in AM6 Annex G JM 2-203, beginning with para G-1. One or more Routing Indicators are permitted on this line as required but generally should not exceed two lines which equates to 16 seven-character Routing Indicators. Routing Indicators appearing in Format Line 2 must contain a minimum of four valid characters and a maximum of seven valid characters. The Routing Indicator to typically use on Format Line 2 is that of the Minor Relay or Tributary Station servicing the area, region or State the addressee is located. What you're trying to do is tell the relaying stations where to route the message.

Here is an example of Format Line 2:

```
RR  UHXWROG UHXWWW
```

FORMAT LINE 3:

Format Line 3 contains the Prosign "DE" and the Routing Indicator for the originating station. If you are the originator, then this is the Routing Indicator for your State (or, if there is a specific RI assigned to the facility that you're supporting or Billet then that RI will be used instead). You can find the Routing Indicator for your location in AM6 Annex G JM 2-203, beginning with para G-1. Let's say you've determined that your Routing Indicator is "UHWXBNV". Then, enter "UHWXBNV" in the Format Line 3 field.

Also part of Format Line 3 is the message serial number, followed by the Julian Date and time the message is released. The date and time are concatenated together. For example, Julian date 033 and time 1800Z should be entered on Format Line 3 as "0331800". The time zone indicator "Z" is to be omitted from this line. Format Line 3 is used to uniquely identify the message by all stations through relay.

Here is an example of Format Line 3:

```
DE UHWXBNV #0001 0331830
```

FORMAT LINE 4:

The use of a security warning with either the operating signal "ZNR" or "ZNY" is a mandatory entry on Format Line 4.₄ The meanings for these two are:

- ZNR - This message may be forwarded without change by radio or non-approved circuit.

- ZNY - Do not forward this message un encrypted by radio or non-approved circuit.

Following the operating signal is the associated classification. Two are used in MARS: "UUUUU" is used for unclassified; "EEEEE" is used to identify that the message is unclassified but must be encrypted for transmission only to protect its contents.

FORMAT LINE 5:

This format line contains the message priority, the Date-Time-Group (DTG), and optional operating signals.

The first entry on this line is the priority of the message. MARS uses "R" (Routine), "P" (Priority), and "O" (Immediate). In some cases dual priorities must be entered. An example entry for dual precedence is "PR". Refer to ACP-127G, Section VII, page 1-17, beginning at para 150 for additional guidance on precedence.

The next entry on Format Line 5 is the DTG. The format for the DTG is six digits representing the date (two digits) and time (four digits), ending with the time zone "Z", followed by the first three characters of the month, ending with the four digit year that the message is released. If the date is the 3rd of the February 2014 and the time is 1821Z, the DTG would be: 031821Z FEB 2014.

Optional operating signals may be entered on this line as well, following the DTG. For our example PLAINDRESS message (As Formatted in Station Manager), we'll omit this.

Here is an example of Format Line 5:

```
R 031821Z FEB 2014
```

FORMAT LINE 6:

Only the Prosign "FM" and the Plain Language Address (PLA) of the message originator is to be entered on Format Line 6. You should normally be using a PLA that is listed inAM6 Annex G JM 2-203. The PLA for individual MARS members begins with "ARMY MARS STATION", followed by the member's non-billet call sign.

Here is an example of Format Line 6:

```
FM ARMY MARS STATION AAR9TC
```

FORMAT LINE 7 & 8:

Format Line 7 is the "TO" addressee and Format Line 8 is the "INFO" addressee. The instructions and entries for Format Line 7 and 8 are essentially identical. The format to use for either line is to enter the Prosign "TO" or "INFO" (as appropriate), the Routing Indicator for the addressee, followed by the PLA for the addressee, separated by the Prosign "/" (SLANT),

example: `UHEHDNC/ARMY MARS STATION AAR4XY`.

The addressee's Routing Indicator should normally be the one that is for the State or Country in which the addressee is located. The operating signal "ZEN" may be used in place of the Routing Indicator where the message will be delivered to that addressee by other means.

There are other PLA's, Address Indicating Groups (AIG's) or collective addresses sometimes used that haven't been included in AM6 Annex G JM 2-203 yet (e.g. collective address "ALL ARMY MARS", "ALL ARMY MARS REGION ONE", etc.). Further, you may be required to use other Routing Indicators and PLA's that are identified in OPORD's or other exercise or operation messages for addressees not contained in AM6 Annex G JM 2-203. One thing to be careful about is that you must enter the PLA's exactly as written in AM6 Annex G JM 2-203 or other documents and messages.

Here are examples of Format Lines 7 or 8:

```
TO UHEHDNC/ARMY MARS STATION AAR4XY

TO UHXHHH/ALL ARMY MARS

INFO ZEN/ARMY MARS STATION AAR4PR
```

FORMAT LINE 9:

This line is only used when exempting one or more addressee(s) from a collective address or AIG that is used on Format Line 7. For example, if the collective address used on Format Line 7 is "ALL ARMY MARS REGION NINE" but you want to exempt "ARMY MARS STATION AAR9BT" from that collective address then you'd enter the exempted PLA on Format Line 9. The first entry on this line is the Prosign "XMT". The rest of Format Line 9 is formatted the same way Format Line 7 is.

Here is an example of Format Line 9:

```
XMT UHWXBAZ/ARMY MARS STATION AAR9BT
```

FORMAT LINE 10:

Normally, Format Line 10 is omitted. It is primarily used to count the number of code groups, (Used with Off-Line Encryption), in Format Line 12. Our example here, is for the creation of a PLAINDRESS message, to be formatted and sent out in message Manager, so we will omit this line for our example.

FORMAT LINE 11:

This is the Prosign "BT" which separates the header from the body of the message. Enter "BT" for Format Line 11.

FORMAT LINE 12:

Format Line 12 is the body of your message. The first line of Format Line 12 is the classification and any special instructions. Your USMTF message or other format type message goes on Format Line 12. It's important to keep in mind that the length of any one line is not to exceed 69 characters. If your message is long, you'll also have to separate or paginate sections of your message.

This is an example of Format Line 12:

```
UNCLAS FOUO
EXER/MARS COMEX//
MSGID/GENADMIN/ARMY MARS STATION AEM1WF/1//
SUBJ/ACP 127 PROCEDURES TRAINING//
GENTEXT/REMARKS/(U/FOUO) THIS IS AN EXAMPLE USMTF MESSAGE TEXT.//
```

FORMAT LINE 14:

Not normally used and is omitted for our example.

FORMAT LINE 15:

This is the End-of-Message (EOM) validation number prior to the End-of-Message Functions. The entry on this line consists of the four digital station serial number, taken from Format Line 3, preceded by the number sign (#).

Here is an example of Format Line 15:

```
#0001
```

FORMAT LINE 16:

This is the End-of-Message function. This format line indicates the end of transmission and signals the receiving station the transmission of the message is concluded. When sending messages, this is always "NNNN".

Here is an example of Format Line 16:

```
NNNN
```