

Region 9 Army MARS Training Topics for “phone bridge” use

TRAINING TOPIC – PRE-COMEX Review of Message Handling and Procedures

SESSION INTENT – In a series of four Training Sessions, Review and Define Terms, usage of ACP-126 & ACP-127, Prowords, Message Structure, OPSEC, and Authentication review

REFERENCES – ACP-125., ACP-126, AND ACP-127, MARS GLOBAL ADDRESS BOOK JM-2-203, OPLAN AM-3 Annex B, AM-6 Series 18-M and, AM 6 NETPLAN Annex J Message Procedures

EXPECTED TIME TO DELIVER – 50 Minutes

CONTENT OUTLINE & KEY POINTS –

1. Define terms such as *Plain Language Address (PLA)*, *Non-Billet Call Sign*, *Routing Indicators (RI)*.
2. When to use a specific type of message format, ACP-126 or ACP-127 -*Allied Communications Publications (ACP)*
3. Common Prowords
4. Using Station Manager, review of the 16 line format
 - What goes in each line of the various United States Message Text Formats (USMTF)
5. Discussion of Operational Security (OPSEC)
6. Authentication process.

DEFINE TERMS

Plain Language Address

- MARS Plain Language Addresses Utilize Plain Language Addresses (PLA) in the address components of the message. The PLA of a MARS station is the words “MARS STATION” followed by the non-billet call sign. The PLA clearly identifies the authority of the MARS station to anyone reading the message. The station call sign is included as part of the PLA to uniquely distinguish one MARS station from another with an alpha numerical reference. MARS members acting under a billeted position use the plain text position title of the billet instead of their billet call sign.
 - These addresses are used in message drafting. Plain Language Addresses (PLA) designates an addressee or an originator; PLA's are not call signs. A PLA consists of the official title, short title, or abbreviation of the organization or command, and is no longer than 55 characters.

Non-Billet Call Sign

- The 5 char call sign that was assigned to when you received your Authorization to Operate (ATO)

Routing Indicator

- A group of letters assigned to identify a station within a relay network to facilitate routing of traffic. It indicates the status of the station and may indicate its geographical area. Routing indicators are composed in accordance with the Routing Indicator Plan described in the ACP 121 series and the MARS Global Address Book - JM-2-203.

USAGE OF ACP-126 OR ACP - 127 MESSAGE

1. ACP-126 and ACP-127 are TRANSMISSION formats for “Digital” messages (M-110)
2. They do NOT address the CONTENT of the message (Body of the message)
3. ACP-126 is designed for MANUAL digital facilities – Within the Region Network – Using the combination of Non-Billet and PLA addressing
4. For detail of “126” type messages, **AM 6 NETPLAN Annex J Message Procedures and in particular Table J-1 (U) Contrast of ACP-125, ACP-126 and ACP-127 Schematic Diagrams**
5. ACP-127 is designed for **AUTOMATED** message handling – Using the combination of RI & PLA addressing
For details of “127” type messages, **AM 6 NETPLAN Annex J Message Procedures and in particular Table J-1 (U) Contrast of ACP-125, ACP-126 and ACP-127 Schematic Diagrams**

SOME COMMONLY USED PROWORDS

1. OVER – This is the end of my transmission to you and a response is necessary. Go ahead and transmit – K
2. OUT – This is the end of my transmission to you and no answer is required or expected – AR
3. ROGER – This is a method of receipt. I have received your last transmission satisfactorily – R
4. WILCO - I have received you signal, understand it, and will comply. To be used by the addressee. Since the meaning of ROGER is included in that of WILCO, the two prowords are never used together.
5. ASSUME CONTROL – You will assume control of this net until further notice – ZKD
6. I AM ASSUMING CONTROL – I am assuming control of this net until further notice - ZKA
6. UNKNOWN STATION – The Identity of the station with whom I am attempting to establish communications is unknown
7. WAIT – I must pause for a few seconds - AS
8. WAIT OUT – I must pause for longer than a few seconds – AS AR
9. CLOSE DOWN – Stations are to close down when indicated - ZKJ

PRACTICAL EXERCISE – M9T Web Night Training Net

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION –

1. What would be the reason you should give a command and say WILCO instead of out?
2. What also may be requested when you get an unknown station?
3. When doing training or making an announcement why would you use the proword wait?
4. When saying out is there any reply required?
5. When you are ending a transmission is it proper to say roger out?
6. Does any member have any prowords that they wish to bring up for discussion.
7. If you were sending a County Status Report to a Report Officer on a Region 9 net which ACP format would you use?
8. Is AAA9CA5 a non-billet Call Sign?
9. Where would the “PLA” ARMY MARS STATION Be used in a message?
10. What is the PLA and Radio call sign for “HQ ARMY MARS FT HUACHUCA AZ”

THE WAY AHEAD – The next Training Topic will cover Using Station Manager, review of the 16 line format

- What goes in each line of the various United States Message Text Formats (USMTF)

The following Training Session will be an overview of OPSEC.

The last Training Topic in this series will be an Authentication process review.

I will be developing the following TT for presentation:

- The new Participation Report
- 60 Meter Operations

FINAL REQUEST – Be sure to read all of the new documents that were sent to you. Destroy all of the documents they replace and destroy them in accordance with OPSEC procedures.