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

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

SESSION INTENT – Continue the discussion concerning Define Terms, usage of ACP-126 & ACP-127, Prowords, Message Structure, OPSEC,and Authentication, Sustained Network Operating Instructions, and 60 Meter Operations.

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, AM-6 Annex G, AM-6 TTP 60 Meter Operations, AM -6 ANNEX B-3 Sustained Network Operating Instruction

EXPECTED TIME TO DELIVER – 60 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 Prowards
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
7. Sustained Network Operation Instructions
8. 60 Meter Operations

TONIGHTS SESSION – 4 of 4

Continue Pre-COMEX Discussion, Sustained Network Operation Instructions, and 60 Meter Operations.

Sustained Network Operation Instructions

(U/FOUO) It is expected that during a declared national emergency, the Joint MARS Enterprise will be activated throughout the restoration period when national tele-communications capabilities remain impaired. MARS members must be prepared to operate with very strict conservation of manpower and resources for periods exceeding several months. The purpose of this instruction is to closely align routine and normal MARS network operation during ordinary time to expected conditions during a national, complex catastrophe.

(U) This instruction applies to all AMARS operations at the Region and National Level, including the National Support Net (NSN), Canada/United States (CUS), Trans Global Networks (TGN), and Region Joint MARS Operations Groups (RJMOG).

UTC	EDT	PDT	NSN	TGN	ALE	CUS	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
1200Z	0800R	0500U						A			J					
1300Z	0900R	0600U					AF	AF	AF				AF			A
1400Z	1000R	0700U	BROADCAST						AF							A
1500Z	**1100R**	**0800U**	**NSN**	**TGN**	**ALE**	**10 min**								**AF**	**A/AF**	
1600Z	**1200R**	**0900U**	**NSN**		**ALE**											**AF**
1700Z	**1300R**	**1000U**			**ALE**			**A**								
1800Z	1400R	1100U														AK
1900Z	1500R	1200U	NSN	TGN	ALE	10 min									A/AF	
2000Z	1600R	1300U	NSN		ALE											
2100Z	1700R	1400U			ALE			A								
2200Z	1800R	1500U														
2300Z	1900R	1600U					AF	A/AF	AF							
0001Z	2001R	1701U	BROADCAST								J					
0100Z	**2100R**	**1800U**	**NSN**	**TGN**	**ALE**	**10 min**				**AF**		**AF**			**A/AF**	
0200Z	**2200R**	**1900U**	**NSN**		**ALE**							**AF**	**AF**			**A/AF**
0300Z	**2300R**	**2000U**			**ALE**											**AK**
0401Z	0001R	2101U														
0500Z	0100R	2200U														
0600Z	0200R	2300U														
0701Z	0301R	0001U	BROADCAST													
0800Z	**0400R**	**0100U**	**NSN**	**TGN**	**ALE**	**10 min**										
0900Z	**0500R**	**0200U**	**NSN**		**ALE**											
1000Z	**0600R**	**0300U**			**ALE**											
1100Z	0700R	0400U														

60 Meter Operations

The five discrete High Frequency (HF) channels in the vicinity of 5 MHz which are assigned to the Amateur Radio Service (ARS) on a secondary basis are authorized to MARS stations on a case by case basis for the limited purposes of establishing initial contact and coordinating with stations operating in the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES). These specific radio frequencies will be referred to generically as “60 meters” through this document.

- Channel 1: 5330.5 kHz
- Channel 2: 5346.5 kHz
- Channel 3: 5357.0 kHz
- Channel 4: 5371.5 kHz
- Channel 5: 5403.5 kHz Suppressed Carrier (dial) frequencies

Use of these channels is subject to the following restrictions:

- Authorized emissions are USB Voice (J3B), CW (J2A), PSK (J2B) and RTTY (J2D).
- Store and Forward and other automated operation is not permitted.
- On-Air testing is limited to test message traffic and shall not include training.
- MARS use of these channels must be coordinated between US Army NETCOM and the FEMA spectrum manager.
  - Government stations are authorized up to 3KW transmitter power.

Role of MARS Stations

MARS members are authorized in both Federal military service as MARS stations, and in the ARS as licensed individuals. Before becoming MARS stations, MARS members are active Amateur Radio operators. MARS members have a unique insight into both communications environments, and are used as the bridge between these domains.

MARS stations are the primary interface between citizen Amateur Radio operators and federal/military authorities. MARS is organized to execute 60 meter operations when directed, and trains in relevant military and government procedures and message formats. MARS filters the free form information flow and ad-hock procedure of the ARS into the concise information product in prescribed formats required by military and government leaders

Required Coordination

MARS members may use these channels as Amateur Radio stations on a secondary basis according to the conditions of their Amateur Radio license and FCC Part 97.

MARS members may use these channels as MARS (military) stations only when proper coordination with FEMA has been accomplished. The authorizations for these channels are specific in respect to the coordination process. HQ Army MARS is the coordinating agency for MARS.

Use of Call Signs

MARS stations when utilizing these channels as military stations use their MARS station call sign. Billet call signs are not appropriate for these operations.

Stations in the RACES

All US Amateur Radio stations are potentially stations in RACES, therefore no distinction is made. At such time war powers are invoked limiting the ARS operation to stations in RACES, it is assumed the only operating amateur stations will be in RACES.

Communications between Government and Military Stations

The primary purpose of these 60 meter operations is interchangeability between government/military and RACES stations. Government and military stations have other spectrum's to interact with one another. Incidental communications between government and military stations are permitted only in the context of interacting with RACES stations.

General Instructions

Although MARS and Government stations are primary users and stations in the ARS are secondary, we are also professionals. If the channel is occupied by Amateur Radio operators, the appropriate procedure is to break into the conversation, announce that you are a military station and either request the Amateur Radio operators vacate the channel, or request their support for your mission.

If Amateur Radio operators refuse to vacate the channel or to assist by continuing their QSO, simply take note of their call signs and move to another channel if possible/available or wait for the QSO to end. Remain courteous, professional and avoid un-necessary confrontation.

Submit the amateur call signs up through the MARS chain of command along with details (dates, times, channel, etc) of the occurrence for possible reporting to authorities.

PRACTICAL EXERCISE – M9T on-air Training Net

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS – ?????