

RACE S Notes for 08/27/2008

News and Announcements

1) Upcoming Events:

8/30-31 9/1 - Paradise
9/12-14 – South west Convention, Mesa
9/20-21 - SAR Training: Overnight at E. Stronghold—All Specialties
9/27 – Operation 3C Support, a 3 County Exercise
10/11 – Cochise Perimeter Bicycling Classic

2) Paradise – Just a reminder that Paradise is only three days a way. If you have not committed yet to go, please consider coming out for at least one day to be a radio operator. Sunday seems to be pretty well covered so could use a few more during setup and operation Saturday afternoon. Anyone needing directions should contact me after the net and I'll send you a map. While we are deployed, emergency traffic for family members can be relayed to us by calling Dennis McAvoy (KE7KRE) at home number ((520) 558-2454). He lives in the Portal area and he can reach us by simplex on the 146.52 channel or even drive out to our site if necessary.

3) Operation 3C Support, a Three County Exercise - I mentioned on the last net that we have received a warning order from Mike Evans, the county Emergency Services Coordinator, that we will be tasked to support an exercise on 27 September. Our primary assignment will be as relay for controller communications at a deployed site here in Cochise county. Other sites will provide input to the play and we will receive and provide it to the controllers and evaluators. We may use the event as an excuse to conduct a test of all the Blue Eagle assignments. We need to check those out annually anyway and this is as good an opportunity as there is. So at this point, please put the date on your calendar as a date we will be assisting in a major event. Hopefully we will have more details on the September 10 net. I will also be attending a planning/training session in late September.

4) MCU ACU Power Supply – I know I sent this out last week but I want to reiterate the importance of following this procedure.

A. Before starting the generator and turning on the Main AC Circuit Breaker check to be sure the power switch on the Astron Power Supply providing power to the ACU rack is turned off. This 50 Amp power supply is located near the floor of the ACU Rack.

B. Once the Generator is running and the AC Main Breaker is turned on, you may turn on the other breakers on the Breaker panel. At this point you may now turn on the Astron Power Supply and power up the radios in the ACU stack.

C. On Shut Down, Power off all the radios in the ACU stack and then turn off the Astron Power Supply. This will help avoid a surge during the next power up sequence and hopefully avoid blowing the small fuse in the back of the power supply.

Training – Part 97, 40 – RACES Operations. Tonight I thought I would cover as a refresher part of the FCC regulation that refers specifically to RACES operations:

(a) No station may transmit in RACES unless it is an FCC-licensed primary, club, or military recreation station and it is certified by a civil defense organization as registered with that organization, or it is an FCC-licensed RACES station. No person may be the control operator of a RACES station, or may be the control operator of an amateur station transmitting in RACES unless that person holds a FCC-issued amateur operator license and is certified by a civil defense organization as enrolled in that organization.

(b) The frequency bands and segments and emissions authorized to the control operator are available to stations transmitting communications in RACES on a shared basis with the amateur service. In the event of an emergency which necessitates the invoking of the President's War Emergency Powers under the provisions of Section 706 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 606, RACES stations and amateur stations participating in RACES may only transmit on the following frequency segments: (The frequencies will be included in the Net Notes)

(1) The 1800-1825 kHz, 1975-2000 kHz, 3.50-3.55 MHz, 3.93-3.98 MHz, 3.984-4.000 MHz, 7.079-7.125 MHz, 7.245-7.255 MHz, 10.10-10.15 MHz, 14.047-14.053 MHz, 14.22-14.23 MHz, 14.331-14.350 MHz, 21.047-21.053 MHz, 21.228-21.267 MHz, 28.55-28.75 MHz, 29.237-29.273 MHz, 29.45-29.65 MHz, 50.35-50.75 MHz, 52-54 MHz, 144.50-145.71 MHz, 146-148 MHz, 2390-2450 MHz segments;

(2) The 1.25 m, 70 cm and 23 cm bands; and

(3) The channels at 3.997 MHz and 53.30 MHz may be used in emergency areas when required to make initial contact with a military unit and for communications with military stations on matters requiring coordination.

(c) A RACES station may only communicate with:

(1) Another RACES station;

(2) An amateur station registered with a civil defense organization;

(3) A United States Government station authorized by the responsible agency to communicate with RACES stations;

(4) A station in a service regulated by the FCC whenever such communication is authorized by the FCC.

(d) An amateur station registered with a civil defense organization may only communicate with:

(1) A RACES station licensed to the civil defense organization with which the amateur station is registered;

(2) The following stations upon authorization of the responsible civil defense official for the organization with which the amateur station is registered:

(i) A RACES station licensed to another civil defense organization;

(ii) An amateur station registered with the same or another civil defense organization;

(iii) A United States Government station authorized by the responsible agency to communicate with RACES stations; and

(iv) A station in a service regulated by the FCC whenever such communication is authorized by the FCC.

(e) All communications transmitted in RACES must be specifically authorized by the civil defense organization for the area served. Only civil defense communications of the following types may be transmitted:

(1) Messages concerning impending or actual conditions jeopardizing the public safety, or affecting the national defense or security during periods of local, regional, or national civil emergencies;

(2) Messages directly concerning the immediate safety of life of individuals, the immediate protection of property, maintenance of law and order, alleviation of human suffering and need, and the combating of armed attack or sabotage;

(3) Messages directly concerning the accumulation and dissemination of public information or instructions to the civilian population essential to the activities of the civil defense organization or other authorized governmental or relief agencies; and

(4) Communications for RACES training drills and tests necessary to ensure the establishment and maintenance of orderly and efficient operation of the RACES as ordered by the responsible civil defense organization served. Such drills and tests may not exceed a total time of 1 hour per week. With the approval of the chief officer for emergency planning in the applicable State, Commonwealth, District or territory, however, such tests and drills may be conducted for a period not to exceed 72 hours no more than twice in any calendar year.

If you have any questions about specific areas of this part of the FCC regulation, go ahead and ask it during comments.

I do plan to provide an ARE S RACE S Interoperability brief at the CARA meeting on the 8th.

We will now go down the roster for comments.

Bob
Robert L Hollister

Thought for the day:

'I have wondered at times about what the Ten Commandments would look like if Moses had run them through the Congress. - Ronald Reagan