

Net Notes for September 23, 2009

News and Announcements

1) Upcoming Events

9/30-10/2 COM-L Class

10/17 Cochise County Cycling Classic (CCCC) Perimeter Bike Race

10/17 Old Pueblo Radio Club & Radio Society of Tucson (OPRC/RST), Fall Hamfest & ARCA Meeting.

2) Paradise – By now most of you have read the after action report. I was able to recreate a large percentage of the contact logs and retyped what I could find into the computer log. Based on what I was able to recreate I estimate the total number to be in excess of the 293 contacts including 41 states, Mexico, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, and Canada.

3) CCCC Bike Race – We are recruiting volunteers to assist in this annual bike race event. Unlike the La Vuelta event, this requires us to set up stationary check points and assist in keeping track of the progress of the race and report any emergency situations. If you have not signed up with RB yet, please do. We are seriously short of volunteers. RB, any additional comments you would like to make at this time?

Training – In the last two sessions we covered tasks 1-13 included in the Communications Unit Leader Task Book. Tonight we will finish the list. Picking up with item 14. Just in time as some of us will be attending the hands on course here in Sierra Vista.

14. Install communications equipment.

- Obtain equipment from supply unit.
- Install and test all components of the communications equipment to ensure the incident's systems are operational, for example:
 - Command repeater
 - Logistics repeater
 - Links (radio and wire-based)
 - Remotes
 - Gateways
 - Aircraft and other special needs
- Develop installation priorities, while adhering to safety standards regarding communications needs of tactical personnel; i.e., operations before logistics.
- Clone or program radios as necessary and authorized

15. Assign communications equipment.

- Identify kinds and numbers of communications equipment to be distributed to specific units according to the communications plan.
- Provide resources and unit leaders with appropriate equipment based on the communications plan.
- Provide basic training as needed on equipment being fielded.
- Maintain equipment inventory to provide accountability.

16. Establish Incident Communications Center (ICC).

- Coordinate location of ICC with Facilities Unit Leader.
- Locate ICC close to the incident command post and away from high traffic areas and noise.
- Locate ICC away from radio frequency and electronic noise.
- Verify Estimated Time of Arrival (ETA) of communications personnel and establish assignments based on incident requirements. Set schedules around operations requirements.
- Obtain necessary supplies for ICC to function properly.

17. Manage operations of the ICC.

- Document radio/telephone activities on appropriate forms.
- Set up filing system for ICC documentation.
- Direct radio/telephone traffic to proper destinations.
- Establish notification procedures for emergency messages.
- Identify system problems, both technical and operational, and determine appropriate solutions.
- Follow established routing procedures for messages.

18. Coordinate frequencies, activities, and resources with communications resource coordinators outside of the incident.

- Contact communications coordinators and notify them of incident frequency, talkgroup, mutual aid channel, dispatch center, or other shared resource assignments, as appropriate.
- Identify communications equipment and personnel that are excess to incident needs and demobilize if appropriate.
- Identify resources as to type/qualifications, quantity, and location.
- Provide a copy of the ICS Form 205 to other agencies or to the COML at any nearby incidents as necessary to avoid interference or other conflicts.

19. Notify appropriate local, county, regional, State and/or Federal agencies on adjacent incident(s) of system design and frequency allocations.

20. Initiate and maintain accurate records of all communications equipment.

- Initiate and maintain accountability system for issuing hand-held radio resources.
- Document geographic locations of equipment and transfer this information to local maps (latitude/longitude, legal).
- Keep records for local and national resources to ensure return to proper locations.

21. Perform operational tests of communications systems throughout the duration of the incident.

- Identify and take necessary action to accomplish minor field repair or place orders for replacement of equipment.
- Monitor all gateways in use.
- Plan for battery replacement.
- Act decisively to minimize interruptions in system operation.

22. Interact and coordinate with appropriate unit leaders and operations personnel.

- Coordinate with operations regarding system coverage and needs.
- Coordinate with first responders and public safety support organizations regarding needed support (e.g., medical unit for medical evacuation plan).
- Coordinate with special units (air operations, EOD, SWAT, etc) for special frequency needs.
- Participate in planning meetings and briefings.

Know what other resources may be coming to the incident, such as those from Urban Search and Rescue (USAR), National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC), FEMA, Coast Guard, etc.

23. Identify for release any excess unit resources. Coordinate with unit managers and provide a list of excess personnel and facilities. List will include:

- Who or what is excess
- Time and date of excess.

The list will be reviewed daily for accuracy. Follow the established demobilization process, including notification to communications resource coordinators.

24. Maintain ICS Unit Log (ICS Form 214). The Unit Log will be kept current, legible, and will document all major activities, which may include:

- Equipment locations
- Medical evacuations
- Personnel changes.

25. Evaluate performance of subordinates as required by agency policy and/or permitted by agreement.

- Discuss performance evaluations with individual(s)
- Maintain accuracy and fairness
- List training if needed or desired

26. Demobilization and check out.

- Submit all required information to the Documentation Unit Leader.
- Receive demobilization instructions from work supervisor.
- Brief subordinate staff on demobilization procedures and responsibilities.
- Ensure that incident and agency demobilization procedures are followed.
- Complete required ICS form(s) and turn in to the appropriate person.
- Ensure that personnel in the unit are demobilized correctly.
- Document lost equipment on agency specific forms.

Well that is all we have for this evening, do we have any late or missed members wishing to check in at this time? (Pause) Okay, we will now go down the roster for questions and or comments.

Our next Net will be on October 14th at 2000 Hrs. Don't forget the CARA net on Thursday evening at 1900 hours on the 146.76 repeater.

Bob

Robert L Hollister

Thought for the day:

Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.