

Net Notes for October 14, 2009

## News and Announcements

### 1) Upcoming Events

- 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.
- 11/7 CARA Fall Swapmeet
- 12/5 Mesa Community College Hamfest & ARCA Meeting

2) CCCC Bike Race – We are still 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. Check your email Friday evening to be sure you have the latest version of the assignment sheet. If you have not signed up with RB yet, please do. RB, any additional comments you would like to make at this time?

3) MCU Status – The camera has been repaired and installed. It worked normally last night at the National Night Out in Sierra Vista. Also, the electric shore line power cord cable was also repaired and is fully functional.

4) National Night Out – Good crowd from the community. Good participation by those attending. Lots of folks came through and got tours of the MCU. My thanks to Ranny Burke, Charles Campbell, Jim Lewis (and wife), Mike Evans and Elizabeth Philhower (Mike's Assistant) for coming out to the event.

Training – In previous sessions we covered tasks included in the Communications Unit Leader or COM-L Task Book. Tonight I would like to introduce you all to the Radio Operator or RADO Task Book. The one I am using is from the National Wildfire Coordination Group. I will use the basic tasks identified and modify them slightly to fit our specific situation. Position Task Books (PTBs) have been developed for designated National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS) positions. Each PTB lists the competencies, behaviors and tasks required for successful performance in specific positions. Trainees must be observed completing all tasks and show knowledge and competency in their performance during the completion of this PTB.

Trainees are evaluated during this process by qualified evaluators, and the trainee's performance is documented in the PTB for each task by the evaluator's initials and date of completion. An Evaluation Record will be completed by all evaluators documenting the trainee's progress after each evaluation opportunity.

Successful performance of all tasks, as observed and recorded by an evaluator, will result in a recommendation to the agency that the trainee be certified in that position. Evaluation and

confirmation of the trainee's performance while completing all tasks may occur on one or more training assignments and may involve more than one evaluator during any opportunity.

The Radio Operator PTB includes 17 tasks and some are similar to many of the ones found in the COM-L PTB but are more specific to things that most of what you the operator will do while supporting a mission. So we will start with Task 1 through Task 6 this evening.

1. Obtain and assemble information and materials needed for assignment. Suggested items:

*Personal gear (Your Go-Bag)*  
*Personal protective equipment (PPE) (Weather and Mission Appropriate)*  
*Appropriate office supplies (Pens, Pencils, note pads)*

2. Obtain complete information from dispatch upon assignment.

*Incident name*  
*Incident order number (Mission Number not always available until mission is complete)*  
*Incident phone number (If available)*  
*Reporting time*  
*Reporting location*  
*Transportation arrangements/travel routes*  
*Contact procedures during travel (telephone/radio)*

3. Arrive at incident scene or rally point and check in.

*Arrive properly equipped at assigned location within acceptable time limits.*

4. Coordinate obtaining work materials and equipment. For Example:

- *Tables*
- *Chairs*
- *Lights*
- *Office supplies*
- *Necessary Forms*

5. Demonstrate familiarity with communications equipment, procedures, and basic functions/capabilities:

- *Hand-held, portable, multi-channel radios.*
- *Radio check-in/out procedures (e.g., respond with proper frequency assignment when requested; use accountability forms for radio check-in/out; issue new/replacement batteries; check-in/out appropriate radio accessories).*
  - *Remote phone system (base to line, base to camp, base to helibase).*
  - *Facsimile machine.*

6. Obtain initial briefing from Incident Communications Center Manager or immediate supervisor. This should include the following elements:

- *Location of functional units at incident base camp and Incident Command Post (ICP)*
- *Time of first work/operational period and work schedule*
- *Specifics of Incident Action Plan (IAP) or other relevant plan(s)*
- *ICS 204, Assignment List*
- *Specifics of ICS 203, Organization Assignment List*
- *Specifics of ICS 205, Incident Radio Communication Plan*
- *Specifics of ICS 206, Medical Plan and MedEvac process*
- *Allocation of phones to units and existence of a phone directory*
- *Procedure for processing supply orders from Operations*
- *Message protocols to be used*
- *Current situation*

We will not see many of these elements on our smaller (Type 4 or 5) incidents such as a Search and Rescue Mission but we should still be familiar with them. Remember, these tasks were written specifically for someone acting as a radio operator for a wild land fire incident.

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.

Don't forget our next Net will be on October 28<sup>th</sup> at 2000 Hrs. Don't forget the CARA net on Thursday evening at 1900 hours on the 146.76 repeater. Talk to most of you on Saturday. The net is closed.

Bob

Robert L Hollister

Thought for the day:

***Life Lesson 5. Pay off your credit cards every month. Regina Brett***