

## NET CONTROL STATION (NECOS)

REF(A): NTP8-D  
(B) CENTRAL AREA OPERATIONS GUIDE  
(C) NET PREAMBLE

ACTING AS THE NECOS OF A REGULARLY SCHEDULED NAVMARCOR MARS NET IS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT TASK THAT A MARS OPERATOR MAY ROUTINELY PERFORM AS A MEMBER OF THE MARS PROGRAM. ALL MEMBERS MUST BE CAPABLE OF CONDUCTING A NET AS ASSIGNED AND AS THE SITUATION DICTATES. BELOW ARE LISTED THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE NECOS AND HIS ALTERNATE.

### NET CONTROL STATIONS (NECOS) RESPONSIBILITIES.

- a. Direct and control the flow of messages and other matters during their assigned nets.
- b. Exercise strict circuit discipline at all times.
- c. Limit all transmissions to the essential minimum.
- d. Resolve all problems incidental to message handling.
- e. Ensure that the Net is operating within tolerance of the assigned frequency and immediately notify any station that is out of tolerance.
- f. Keep the State Director and/or Net Manager informed of Net Activities and make recommendations for changes or improvements concerning net operations.
- g. Report to the State Director by letter, with copies to the Region Director and his/her Assistant Director, any conflicts or situations that arise "on-the-air" that may cause embarrassment to, or which are not in the best interest of Navy-Marine Corps MARS policy.
- h. Provide "on-the-job" training to any member having difficulties transmitting, relaying or requesting repetitions of a message during their net.
- i. Report frequency usage and traffic totals to the Net Manager as soon as possible following the scheduled net, but not later than the last day of the month.

ALTERNATE NET CONTROL STATION (ALTNECOS). Duties and responsibilities are the same as that of the NECOS. He/she will be ready to assume the position of NECOS at any given moment during the assigned net. In addition, all members of the net should be prepared to assume NECOS if propagation or

other circumstances warrant. The ALTNECOS should be geographically separated from the NECOS.

FROM THE DESCRIPTION ABOVE THE MEMBER CAN SEE THAT THIS IS AN IMPORTANT TASK AND THAT EACH MEMBER MUST BE TRAINED AND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRACTICE HIS SKILL IN ESTABLISHING AND CONDUCTING THE NETS. THUS IN FLORIDA WE REQUIRE THAT EACH TRAINEE ASSUME THE TASK OF NECOS AT LEAST FOUR TIMES DURING HIS TRIAL PERIOD. ADDITIONALLY NET MANAGERS SCHEDULE REGULAR MEMBERS TO THIS TASK ON A REGULAR BASIS IN ORDER FOR THEM TO MAINTAIN THIS SKILL.

THE NET PREAMBLE POSTED ON THE FL NAVMARCOR MARS WEB SITE (IN THE TANGO AREA) SHOULD BE DOWNLOADED AND BE A PART OF YOUR STATION REFERENCE MATERIALS. IT IS THE GUIDE YOU SHOULD USE WHEN YOU ARE NET CONTROL.

**WHEN A NET HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE NECOS THE FOLLOWING ADGENDA IS SUGGESTED:**

1. CHECK FOR YOUR ALT NECOS
2. CALL FOR THE TRAFFIC REP
3. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL STATIONS W/ TFC
4. CALL EACH ZONE FOR ADDITIONAL STATIONS
5. ROGER THE NET ROSTER FROM THIS FIRST CALL GROUP
6. CALL FOR ADDITIONAL STATIONS
7. HAVE ANOTHER STATION MAKE A NET CALL
8. ROGER ANY ADDITIONAL STATIONS
9. ANNOUNCE THE NET ORDER (ZKS)
10. CONTINUE W/ FORMAL NET BUSINESS
11. WHEN LISTED TRAFFIC, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & TRAINING ARE COMPLETE, THE NECOS MAY OPT FOR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS PRESENT. THE ORDER CALLED FOR COMMENTS MAY VARY FROM THE NET ORDER. USUALLY STAFF COMMENT, THEN MOBILE STATIONS, THEN THE OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT.
12. WHEN FINISHED W/ FORMAL NET BUSINESS FILE NET REPORT FOR THE NET ACTIVITY.
13. TIME PERMITTING NECOS MAY OPTIONALLY ESTABLISH A FREE NET. IF FORMAL BUSINESS COMES TO THE NET DURING THIS TIME, THE NET MUST BE DECLARED "DIRECTED" AND THE BUSINESS HANDLED. NOTE: THIS ADDITIONAL BUSINESS MAY REQUIRE A SUPPLIMENTAL NET REPORT .
14. CLOSE THE NET

WHILE CONDUCTING THE NET NECOS WILL MAKE FREQUENT CALLS FOR ADDITIONAL STATIONS ( AT LEAST EVERY 10 MIN.) AND WILL ACKNOWLEDGE THEM INTO THE NET AND INDICATE THEIR ORDER IN THE NET (I.E. "NNN0XYZ THIS IS NNN0(NECOS) ROGER YOU FOLLOW NNN0(LAST STA IN ORDER) OUT"

THE NET ORDER IS IMPORTANT FOR STATIONS BRINGING TRAFFIC TO THE NETS AND TO STATIONS RECEIPTING FOR TRAFFIC, PARTICULARLY FOR "MULTIADDEE" AND "ALL" MESSAGES.

**RECEIPT FOR TRAFFIC.** Positive control of each message is required at all times. Each time a message is passed from one station to another, it is the responsibility of the transmitting station to ensure acknowledgement of receipt from the receiving station. At this point, custody of the message passes to the receiving station.

### **NET ORDER OF BUSINESS**

THE NORMAL ORDER OF NET BUSINESS IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. DELIVERY OF LISTED TRAFFIC IN ORDER OF PRECEDENCE,
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS IN LISTED ORDER.
3. "TRAINING SPOT" IF LISTED"
4. STAFF AND MEMBER COMMENTS TIME PERMITTING
5. SET NET "FREE" TIME PERMITTING
6. FILE NET REPORT TIME PERMITTING
7. CLOSE THE NET

### **HINTS, ADMONITIONS, SUGGESTIONS**

1. WHEN DIRECTING TRAFFIC PAUSE FOR A FEW SECONDS FOR A POSSIBLE STATION W/ HIGH PRECEDENCE ("O" OR "P") TRAFFIC BEFORE GIVING THE NEXT DIRECTION. THIS IS THE **ONLY** INTERRUPTION OF NET FLOW PERMITTED BETWEEN NET CALLS.
2. BETWEEN LONG MESSAGES MAKE ADDITIONAL NET CALLS.
3. MAKE NET CALL BEFORE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND TRAINING AND BEFORE COMMENTS.
4. ALL TRANSMISSIONS BY NECOS WILL BEGIN WITH ADDRESSING A STATION OR GROUP CALL FOLLOWED BY NECOS IDENTIFICATION OR WITH "THIS IS (NECOS CALL)" IN RESPONSE TO A STATION AFTER ESTABLISHING COMMS WITH THAT STATION.
5. WHEN DIRECTING TRAFFIC AND YOU WISH TO BE SURE THAT THE STATION UNDERSTANDS YOUR DIRECTIONS USE THE PROWORD "OVER" OTHERWISE USE THE PROWORD "OUT".
6. WHEN IN DOUBT QUERY A SENIOR STAFF PERSON OR THE NET MANAGER FOR RESOLUTION OF YOUR PROBLEM.
7. MAKE COPIUS NOTES REGARDING NET ACTIVITY (LOG) AND USE THEM TO KEEP YOURSELF ON TRACK.

Updated 10 Oct. 2006