

Navy-Marine Corps MARS - Region Ten - Training
3/03/08 - 3/07/08

SUBJECT: Voice Net Operating Procedures - 1

REFERENCE: Joint MARS SOP 22-Nov-07

OPENING A NET - Conditions Good

At the designated time, the Net Control Station will call the net as follows:

OW1B, OW1B THIS IS NNN0AAA, OVER

Note the net designator is stated twice on the first net callup.

If the Net Control Station heard a station but did not hear the call sign, or only part of the call sign, the Net Control Station transmits an unknown station call up.

Note that only stations who attempted check in, but were not acknowledged are authorized to transmit at this time. The Net Control Station transmits:

UNKNOWN STATION THIS IS NNN0AAA, OVER

OPENING A NET - Conditions Poor

When conditions are poor the net control station will transmit the call up using words twice, without use of the proword WORDS TWICE.

OW1B, OW1B THIS IS NNN0AAA, NNN0AAA OVER

Stations will NOT normally use WORDS TWICE unless the station believes WORDS TWICE is necessary to help assure the net control station receives his/her check in, or station is directed by the net control station to do so.

For example, the net control station has a hard time hearing a station with call sign beginning with C. The net control station transmits:

UNKNOWN STATION, UNKNOWN STATION THIS IS NNN0AAA, NNN0AAA WORDS TWICE, WORDS TWICE, OVER

Navy-Marine Corps MARS - Region Ten - Training
3/10/08 - 3/14/08

SUBJECT: Voice Net Operating Procedures - 2

REFERENCE: Joint MARS SOP 22-Nov-07

FREE AND DIRECTED NETS

All nets will always begin in directed net status. This means every station must have the Net Control Station's permission to transmit. Record traffic may only be passed when the net is in directed net status.

After traffic has been handled, and while the net is still in a directed net status, any necessary or prescribed training shall be conducted by the Net Control Station, designated training staff, or state, area, or region director.

Free Net means stations may contact each other directly without prior permission of the Net Control Station.

ABBREVIATED CALL SIGNS

After the first call up, and at his/her discretion, the Net Control Station may authorize use of Abbreviated call signs provided such use is permitted on this net.

Full call signs must be used upon initial check in and any time the Net Control Station directs use of full call signs. When abbreviated call signs are authorized full call signs remain an acceptable option.

The Net Control Station may, at his/her discretion, change back to full call signs at any time. Examples of changing abbreviated call sign authorizations.

OW1B THIS IS NNN0AAA, ABBREVIATED CALL SIGNS AUTHORIZED, OUT

OW1B THIS IS NNN0AAA, USE FULL CALL SIGNS, OUT

Navy-Marine Corps MARS - Region Ten - Training
3/17/08 - 3/21/08

Subject: Activation of an ECOM Net

Reference: Pacific Area Operations Guide
Annex C, Paragraph 11

The primary frequency for local ECOM OPS will be the local region / state traffic net frequency.

If there is a traffic net in progress on the frequency, then it should be secured and an ECOM net started in its place.

If there is already an ECOM net on the frequency (from another state or region), then a nearby alternate frequency should be used, advising the other state Net Control Station to direct check-ins to that frequency.

If there is a non-emergency net in progress in another state or region, the Net Control Station of that net should be advised of the emergency and asked to shift the non-emergency net to an alternate frequency.

Upon the activation of any ECOM net, the Net Control Station of the Pacific Area PA1E net should be notified so they can direct members / traffic to the appropriate net / frequency.

It is the responsibility of the region ECOM assistant, or competent authority on the net, to facilitate rotation of Net Control Station's as necessary.

Navy-Marine Corps MARS - Region Ten - Training
3/24/08 - 3/28/08

Subject: Chain of Command

Reference: Pacific Area Operations Guide
Chapter 1, Paragraph 3

- A. All communications must follow the "Chain-of-Command" unless otherwise directed by proper authority. Communications, which do not follow the chain-of-command, will contain a statement of authorization to bypass the chain of command.

- B. The chain of command is: member - State Director - Region Director - Area Director. The Area or Region Director, on occasion, may ask members for direct communications; this is done by an announcement in a broadcast. Assistants to the Area Director and Region Directors, while in the performance of their volunteer duties, communicate directly with the Area Director / Region Director.

- C. Communications with Chief, Navy-Marine Corps MARS is via the member's State Director, Region Director and Area Director. Assistants to Chief, Navy-Marine Corps MARS, while in the performance of their volunteer duties, communicate directly with Chief, Navy-Marine Corps MARS.

Navy-Marine Corps MARS - Region Ten - Training
3/31/08 - 4/04/08

Subject: Inter Area, Region, State Communications

Reference: Pacific Area Operations Guide
Chapter 3, Paragraph 3

Members are encouraged to check-in to any net in the Pacific Area, except certain administrative nets with limited membership, if the frequency is legal for transmission at the member's location.

Members may also check-in to nets in other areas, at the discretion of the Net Control Station of the net, if the frequency is legal at the member's location.

When checking-in to any net, which is not one of your own state nets, add your STATE to your initial call so the Net Control Station will know without asking where you are.

Examples are:

A. NNNØAAA UT checks-in to SCA net:

"THIS IS NNNØAAA UTAH NO TRAFFIC OVER"

B. NNNØBBB WY checks-in to a NEBRASKA net (Nebraska is not in the Pacific Area):

"THIS IS NNNØBBB WYOMING, NO TRAFFIC, REQUEST PERMISSION TO COME ABOARD THE NET, OVER"

C. Inter-area, inter-state and inter-region communications shall not be used to bypass the MARS Data System, except in cases of emergency when it could speed delivery of high precedence traffic.

Navy-Marine Corps MARS - Region Ten Training
4/07/08 - 4/11/08

Subject: Radio Checks

Reference: NTP8 (d)
Chapter 7, Paragraph 711

PROWORDS RELATED TO RADIO CHECKS

The prowords listed below are for use when initiating and answering queries concerning signal strength and readability ("radio checks"):

A. General: RADIO CHECK What is my signal strength and readability, i.e., how do you hear me?

ROGER I have received your last transmission satisfactorily. The omission of comment on signal strength and readability is understood to mean that reception is loud and clear. If reception is other than loud and clear it must be described with the prowords from subparagraphs 711.b and 711.c.

B. Report of Signal Strength:

LOUD Your signal is very strong.
GOOD Your signal strength is good.
WEAK Your signal strength is weak.
VERY WEAK Your signal strength is very weak.
FADING Your signal strength fades to such an extent that continuous reception cannot be relied upon.

C. Report of readability:

CLEAR Excellent quality.
READABLE Quality is satisfactory.
UNREADABLE The quality of your transmission is so bad that I cannot read you.
DISTORTED Having trouble hearing you because your signal is distorted.
WITH INTERFERENCE Trouble hearing due to interference.

Navy-Marine Corps MARS - Region Ten Training
4/14/08 - 4/18/08

Subject: Service Messages

Reference: NTP8(d), Chapter 6, Paragraph 611

A service message is a short, concise message between communication personnel which is used to obtain information regarding the handling of communication matters.

Prosigns and operating signals will be used to the maximum extent to obtain and provide corrections, or repetitions.

Service messages are normally assigned a precedence the same as the message being serviced. A service message may be identified by one of the following:

- a. Reference to an original message.
- b. Reference to another service message.
- c. The abbreviation SVC is the first word of the text following the classification, (UNCLAS).

Example - (Request message, referencing an original message):

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R 120803Z MAR 04
FM NAV VA
TO NNN0GAN HI
BT
UNCLAS SVC
ZEI NNN0GAN 112201Z MAR 04. TO MRS SAM JONES 2365 WESTDALE
CT, WALDORF MD 20601-0130 301-555-1234 BT.
BT
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(ZEI - ACCURACY IS DOUBTFUL OF HEADING OF MESSAGE RECEIVED AS FOLLOWS...CHECK TO STATION OF ORIGIN IF NECESSARY AND REPEAT.)

Navy-Marine Corps MARS - Region Ten Training
4/21/08 - 4/25/08

Subject: Use of the 3 Common and Alternate Frequencies

Reference: Pacific Area Operations Guide
Annex C, Paragraph 17.M

- 1) All frequencies shall be referred to using the Navy Marine-Corps MARS frequency matrix codes with the exception of the three common national ECOM frequencies used as primary frequencies for the PA1E net. The PA1E net has authorized use of NCK, NFN and NMH as alternate frequencies but only for MARS stations. SHARES and other non-MARS stations are not authorized to use these frequencies.

- 2) Use of Navy Marine-Corps MARS call signs is legal only on frequencies under the control of federal agencies. These agencies include: all three MARS services, DOD, any SHARES (3 common only), USCG and USCG Auxiliary, National and State Guard.

Excluded stations are: CAP, Canadian MARS and all amateur stations.

When using amateur frequencies to relay messages, use your FCC amateur call sign. Even though Navy-Marine Corps MARS has no "general prudential rule" which holds that, in the event of an actual emergency involving the loss of life and limb or major property, all necessary communications related to that emergency are legal. The FCC's general prudential rule does apply to Navy-Marine Corps MARS in those times.

Navy-Marine Corps MARS - Region Ten - Training
4/28/08 - 5/02/08

Subject: ECOM Net Discipline

Reference: Pacific Area Operations Guide
Annex C, Paragraph 12

- A. All emergency nets may be "DIRECTED" or "FREE" at the discretion of the Net Control Station. Abbreviated call signs may be authorized by the Net Control Station.

- B. The station that assumes Net Control shall appoint an Alternate Net Control Station (ANCS). This station shall be ready to assume the duties of Net Control Station at any time, and to assist in the operations of the net by acting as relay, routing traffic, maintaining liaison between frequencies, etc.

- C. Stations not directly involved in net operations shall maintain radio silence after check-in. All monitoring stations should pay attention to net activities, copy along all traffic being passed, and be prepared to assist if required.

- D. All net business will be kept brief. This will allow stations with high priority traffic to check-in without undue delay. The Net Control Station may use a "Roll Call" as a way to determine propagation qualities of the frequency.

- E. Large volumes of traffic shall be transmitted on alternate frequencies if at all possible.