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# Field Operations Type III Part B and Type II



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# Test your HT

• Make sure your radio is programmed to these frequencies:

Primary
Backup 1
Backup 2
147.525 Simplex, No Tone
446.500 Simplex, No Tone
146.490 Simplex, No Tone

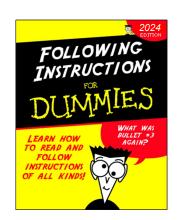
- · Set your radio to its lowest power setting.
- Call Net Control using your FCC Call Sign for a radio check on the Primary only.
- You need to use a head set or ear bud during class.

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# Housekeeping

- Introductions
- Pen/pencil, paper, course materials
- Cell phones
- Side conversations
- Questions
- Breaks Water Only in this room
- Restroom
- In case of emergency
- PARKING move at first break



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2

Bring your ICS-214 and ICS-211 that you started in the Part A class.

You will need a student number for the exercises. Use your student number from the Part A class.

If you did not attend Part A, please review the slides and complete the ICS-214 and 211 forms from that class. You will be assigned a student number at the beginning of class.

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# Forms and Tactical Call Signs for Exercises

- Take out your partially completed forms from Part A of this class and the other blank forms
  - ICS-211
  - ICS-214
- Remember your tactical call sign from Part A.
  - Your tactical call sign will be "Student ##", where "##" is your number.

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# Fictitious Examples Used Today

- W6XRL4: Herman Munster
  - Father in 1960's sitcom "The Munsters"
  - Was an aspiring amateur radio operator
  - Call sign: W6XRL4



• XNDEOC: City of Xanadu Emergency Operations Center



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#### Student Number

You will be assigned a student number for the class exercises if you did not get one in the Part A class last month.

Please complete the homework before coming to class.

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# Learning Objectives (Reminder)



At the end of this two-part course, you should be able to:

- · Describe the role of a field operator, including
  - Served agency needs, field assignment types, SCCo ARES/RACES credentialing system
- Explain and perform basic safety procedures
- Properly execute an assignment, including
  - Mobilization, selecting equipment, field operations, dealing with problems, demobilization
- Understand and use field operations checklists

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Review: Field Operations Type III Part A

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# Agenda



#### Type III, Part A (Reminder):

- Mastering Field Communications
- Supporting Our Served Agencies
- Field Comms Assignments
- Credentials
- Safety
- Simulated deployment
  - Mobilization
  - Setting Up a Field Station

#### Type III, Part B:

- Review of Part A
- Simulated Deployment (cont.)
  - Type III Field Equipment
  - Type II Field Equipment
  - On-Site Operations
  - Traffic Types
  - Message Passing Intro
  - Advanced Techniques (Type II)
  - Dealing with Problems
  - Demobilization
- · Field Ops Checklist

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# Review: Communicating

- The definition of "communicate" is:
  - com·mu·ni·cate: to transmit information, thought, or feeling so that it is satisfactorily \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Field Emergency Communications can involve threats to \_\_\_\_\_ and
- To be effective and efficient in such critical situations, we strive to \_\_\_\_\_ field communications.

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# Review: Served Agency Procedures

- Most of our served agencies are required by law to use and
- It is important for us to understand these systems because
  - We can be more \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ at supporting our agencies if we understand how they work
  - Messages are usually addressed to/from \_\_\_\_ positions, which are grouped into these five sections:
  - Requests for resources move between agencies following the hierarchy defined in \_\_\_\_\_, which is:
     > \_\_\_\_ > \_\_\_\_ > \_\_\_\_ > \_\_\_\_

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#### Standard Go Kit

- · 2-hour Carry Kit
  - Keep it nearby
  - Use to make resource net damage reports
- 12-hour Go Kit
  - Needed for any deployment
- Extended Kit
  - 12+ hours
- Includes:

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- X = Required
- R = Recommended
- O = Optional
- Always wear a safety vest
  - Unless the served agency has something else to wear

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Equipment for Field Communications, Type III

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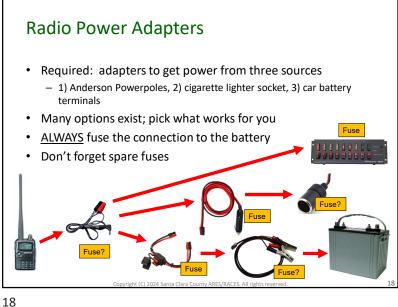
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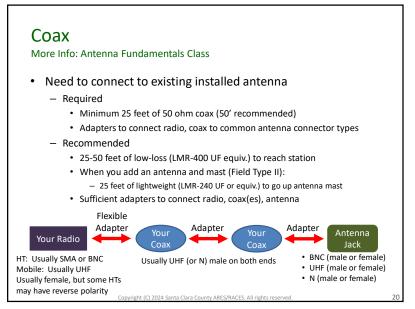
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# Radio - Portable: "Handie-Talkie" (HT)

- Radio
  - 5 Watts
  - Dual-band (2m, 70cm)
  - Recommended: dual-receive
  - Charged batteries for 12 hours (min. 3000 mAh)
    - Be careful with AA battery packs. On some HTs it will lower the power output to about 1 Watt max!
  - Recommended:
    - · After market antenna can be a significant improvement
    - Chest pack or vest pocket to carry radio up high, not at waist
      - "Surveyor" and "Engineer" vests usually have two chest pockets
  - Rubber band(s) for headset plugs on some Yaesu HTs
     Beware of cheap, non-Part 97 compliant junk radios

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HT Headset/Mic Options • You need to hear <u>and</u> be heard in noisy environments • Minimum required: earbud or headphones - Only improves what you hear, not your ability to be heard by others • Recommended: headset - Alternatives: earbud/mic, speaker/mic/earbud Earbud/mic · Simple, inconspicuous Headset Poor mic location, · Usually best for Hearing picks up surrounding o Being heard Consistent mic Speaker/mic position Hard to hear in noisy environment Noise cancelling May support attached earbud mics available from Mic location depends on how used some manufacturers o Not ideal if left clipped to clothing

**Equipment for** Field Communications, Type II

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#### Radio - Mobile



- Minimum 25 Watts (50 Watts recommended)
- Dual band (2m, 70cm)
- Dual-receive
- Cross-band repeat capable (CW-ID recommended)
- · Data connector for packet is recommended
- Power adapters (with fuses) for: Anderson Powerpoles, cigarette lighter socket, vehicle battery







https://www.scc-ares-races.org/operations/vhf-uhf-mobile-voice-radio-considerations.html

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# Push-to-Talk (PTT) Options for Headsets

- · Headset needs hand or foot-switch for PTT
- Hand switch (usually best for outdoors)
  - Doesn't sit on the ground good in dirt or rain, vehicle
  - One hand occupied
    - But can now be repositioned; can hold down papers
  - Hard to type and use a computer
- Foot switch (usually best for indoors)
  - Frees both hands for typing, computer logging
  - Beware of hinged, gas-pedal style
    - · Ankle fatigue; chasing it around under the desk
  - Round, heavy is preferred by many
    - Stays put, allows different foot positioning, prevents fatigue
    - Local contesting favorite: Linemaster Gem V2 (shown here)
  - Not ideal outdoors (in dirt or rain)

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Stereo headset is best for dual-receive
Y-cable needed for most dual speaker-jack mobile radios
Radio-specific adapter cable needed for external PTT, headset
Foot switch or hand switch for PTT

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#### Antenna and Mast

More Info: Antenna Fundamentals Class

- Mast
  - Telescoping mast is light, compact
  - Minimum: Base of antenna > 10 ft
  - Recommended: 32' puts your antenna above all single story and most two-story buildings
- Antenna
  - Roll-up J-pole, dual-band (2m, 70cm)
- - "Speaker stand" tripods are excellent
  - Use 15+ lb sand bag on each leg
  - Be sure collapsed length fits in your vehicle
- Also helpful
  - Heavy-duty Velcro straps to secure mast to tripod or pop-up tent legs

https://www.scc-ares-races.org/operations/vhf-uhf-antenna-considerations.html

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one for

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# **Batteries for Field Operations**

- SCCo Go Kit recommended battery size
  - AGM: 20 Ah minimum; 26 Ah recommended
  - LFP (LiFePO4): 20 Ah; No firm requirement yet
- Expected [Busy] Duty Cycle (per hour)
  - 5% idle: 3 minutes
    - · Nothing received
  - 20% transmit: 12 minutes
    - · Send 2 formal messages
    - · Receive two formal messages
    - · Send/receive informal traffic
  - 75% receive: 45 minutes
    - · Listening to other traffic
- This is for voice field operations. Net Control and Packet have

different duty cycles.

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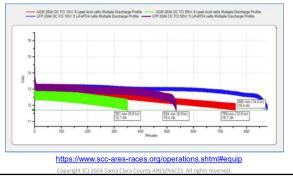
#### **Power Distribution**

- · Power requirements
  - Radio(s), fan, lighting, HT charger, cell phone charger (USB?)
  - Scribe's equipment, others
- DC Power Supply
  - Consider one with multiple output connectors
- Battery charger/battery backup switch
  - Powers radio and charges battery while AC is on
  - Switches to battery power if AC fails
  - Optional solar for battery charging
  - Shown: West Mountain Radio Epic PWRgate
- Fused distribution
  - Shown: West Mountain Radio RigRunner
  - Don't forget the spare fuses!
- · An in-line V/A/W meter can useful



# Field Operations Duty Cycle Testing

- Tested: 10 W and 50 W transmit power; AGM and LiFePO4 batteries
- Results: Use 10 W
  - 50 W with 26 Ah AGM battery will not last a full shift
  - 50 W with 20 Ah LFP battery will last 8+ hours



# Battery Runtime Rule of Thumb



- · Recommended size:
  - AGM: Minimum 20 Ah minimum; 26 Ah Recommended (SCCo Go Kit)
  - LFP (LiFePO4): 20 Ah Recommended (no required min. value defined yet)
- · Battery size rules of thumb:
  - AGM: runtime (hr) = 50% of Rated Capacity (Ah) / weighted avg. current (A)
  - LFP: runtime (hr) = Rated Capacity (Ah) / weighted avg. current (A)
- Example: Field Operator field operator using 50 W transmit power
  - Duty cycle = 5% idle @ 0.5A; 20% transmit @ 9.2A; 75% receive @ 0.6A
  - Weighted avg. current = (0.05)(0.5 A) + (0.20)(9.2 A) + (0.75)(0.6 A) = 2.3 A
- Example: 26 Ah AGM Battery
  - Runtime = (0.50)(26 AH) / (2.3A) = 5.7 hours (actual test result = 5.8 hours)
- Example: 20 Ah LFP Battery
  - Runtime = (20 Ah) / (2.3 A) = 8.7 hours (actual test result = 8.9 hours)

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# **Example Deployment - Operations**

- Net Check-in
- Logging
- Voice Technique
- Examples



Operating On-Site, in the Field

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#### Check-In



- As soon as your station is set up ...
- Check into the assigned net
  - Use phonetics for your call sign since this is the first time net control is hearing it
- If you were assigned a tactical call sign
  - You are checking in as a function or location, not yourself
  - Say: Net Control, <tactical call sign> checking in, <FCC call sign>
  - Example: Net Control, Shelter 1 checking in, W6XRL4
- If you were not assigned a tactical call sign
  - You are checking in as yourself
  - Say: "Net Control, <FCC call sign> checking in"
  - Example: "Net Control, W6XRL4 checking in"
- Update your ICS-214

Exercise: ICS-214 Update

- · Exercise:
  - Assume the time is now 09:00
  - You have set up your station
  - You have checked out of the staging net
  - You have checked into the student net
  - Update your ICS-214

The date on your forms are from last months class, use that date

MM/DD/YYYY

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# **ICS-309 Communications Log**

• Did you view the ICS-309 Video?

#### REVIEW

- ICS-309 is used by all field positions except Shadows
  - Checkpoints, rovers, command posts, shelters, hospitals, ...
- Log all communications that involve you / your position
  - Check-in/out
  - Health and welfare checks
  - Other operator to operator traffic
  - Message traffic
- For Resource Net and Staging Net, the ICS-309 is maintained by net control only

5.			COMMUNIC	ATIONS LO	G				
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Example: Updated ICS-214

5.	ACTIVITY LOG								
Time (24:00)	Major Activities & Events / Occasional Messages (indicate From / To / Msg# / Msg Text)								
08:00	Assignment: attend Field Ops III/II Training Class. Sheriff's Office								
08:05	Depart home, initial odometer 123								
08:25	Arrive staging, final odometer 134								
08:50	Assignment: participate as student, tactical call "student <your number="">"</your>								
08:50 09:00									
	• 1 1								
	Assignment: participate as student, tactical call "student <your number="">" Station set up complete; checked out of staging, into student net; see ICS-309</your>								

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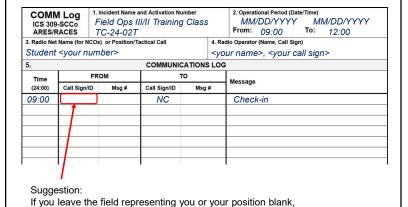
# Exercise: ICS-309 Communications Log

- · You just checked into the student net
- Assume the time is 09:00
- · Log your communications
- We are still using the assignment from the Part A class:
- Activation # TC-24-02T
- Use the Operational Period used in last class MM/DD/YYYY 09:00 to MM/DD/YYYY 12:00

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# Exercise: ICS-309 Communications Log



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it can make the log a little easier to read as it fills up

# Methods and Procedures - General

- Operator understands and is able to describe the purpose and appropriate usage of the main nets
  - $-\,$  Resource, Message, Command, Hospital, City, Tactical, Packet, EOC,  $\dots$
- · Makes proper use of the Resource Net
- Passes messages appropriately using correct ProWords
- Maintains contact with Net Control
- Keeps logs and records correctly
- Follows served agency protocols and procedures
- · Provides complete and accurate relief briefings
- · Attends debriefing, if one is available

Reference: SCCo Performance Standards, pp 10-13

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Communications Technique



- · Verbal communication must be effective, clear and concise
  - Plain English; No 10-codes, Q-codes, etc.
  - Proper (ITU) phonetics, prowords, numbers
  - Follows standard procedures
- Radio technique is effective
  - Proper power levels: repeaters vs. simplex
  - Pause for repeaters, especially when linked
- Written communication is effective, clear, concise, legible
  - Correct forms used for each function; properly completed
- Call signs and tactical calls are used properly

Reference: SCCo Performance Standards, page 7

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# Responding to Health & Welfare Checks

- Health and Welfare Checks
  - Key Points
    - Field operators responded with tactical call (good)
    - Identified any problems or needs (none in this case)
    - · Ended with FCC call sign, as requested (excellent)
  - Note:
    - Checkpoint 1A has Yaesu Wires turned on. Notice the beep and the suppression of audio at the beginning of his transmission. The words "Checkpoint 1 Alpha" are completely missed!
    - If you have a Yaesu radio, you MUST disable and avoid activating that terrible "feature"!

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# Keep Net Control Informed At All Times

· Example: assignment change



- Staging has reassigned this operator to a new position
- He does an excellent job of telling net control:
  - · Old assignment (old tactical call sign)
  - · New assignment (new tactical call sign)
  - · The fact that he is on his way there
- Ends with FCC call sign
- Example: restroom break



- Never leave the net without telling net control
- Operator arranged for a stand-in, reducing the load on net control
- Ends with FCC call sign

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# Requesting / Receiving Information

Example: directed net, always go through net control



- Both checkpoint 10 and staging use their tactical call signs to communicate
- Both stations go through net control
- Both end their transmissions with their FCC call signs. Excellent.

**Making Reports** 

Example: crowd count reports



- Checkpoints report number of rows of people on each side of the block they are monitoring, first left, then right
- Technically, they should use the proword "figure(s)" before saying the number. But the requested information is a number. So, the answer is understood to be a number anyway.
- Key points for both example recordings:
  - They are called by their tactical call sign
  - They answer as their tactical call sign
  - They give the required information, nothing more, nothing less
  - They end with their FCC call sign to satisfy the FCC and indicate that the transmission is completed

Exercise: ICS-309 Logging (1)

- At 09:30, net control conducts a health and welfare check
- At 09:45, you ask Xanadu EOC (XNDEOC) for some water
- At 09:50, Xanadu tells you that water is on the way
- At 10:00, net control performs a health and welfare check
- · Log this message traffic on your ICS-309

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# Exercise: ICS-309 Logging (1)

ICS 309	M Log 9-SCCo RACES		e and Activation Nur III/II Training T		2. Operational Period (Date/Time)  MM/DD/YYYY
3. Radio Ne	t Name (for N	COs) or Position	/Tactical Call	4	I. Radio Operator (Name, Call Sign)
Student	t <your no<="" th=""><th>umber&gt;</th><th></th><th>&lt;</th><th><your name="">, <your call="" sign=""></your></your></th></your>	umber>		<	<your name="">, <your call="" sign=""></your></your>
5.			COMMUNIC	ATIONS L	_OG
Time		FROM	т	0	
(24:00)	Call Sign/li	D Msg#	Call Sign/ID	Msg #	Message
09:00			NC		Check-in
09:30	NC				H&W
09:45			XNDEOC		Requested Water
09:50	XNDEC	C			Water on the way
10:00	NC				H&W
	•	Copyri	ght (C) 2024 Santa Cla	ara County A	ARES/RACES. All rights reserved.

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# Traffic Types in the Field

- Operator-to-Operator Traffic
  - Ex: Check-in/out, health & welfare, damage reports, status reports, etc.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Traffic (messages provided by others that we send)
  - Spoken
    - · Message that are told to us; usually brief
    - Ex: "Ask Steve to call Jenny at 867-5309"
    - · Common for shadows
  - Written
    - · Messages that are written down and handed to us
    - Ex: ICS-213 and other forms, message written on plain paper

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# **Traffic Types**

Typical for field operators

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# 3rd Party Spoken Messages



- · For simple spoken messages, no need for a message form
  - Example: Most messages between shadows are simple, spoken messages
    - "Ask Steven to call Jenny at 867-5309"
- Use your judgement
  - IF message is longer or more complicated
    - Such as: a complicated message that needs to be delivered exactly
  - OR if it needs routing information for delivery outside the radio room
    - Such as: a message to be delivered to an ICS position in an EOC
  - OR if the message should be tracked
    - Such as: the 3rd parties may need to refer to it again
  - THEN write it down on the appropriate form; handle as a written message
- Log all 3rd party spoken messages on an ICS-309 Comm Log
  - (Shadows can log on their ICS-214)

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# 3rd Party Written Messages



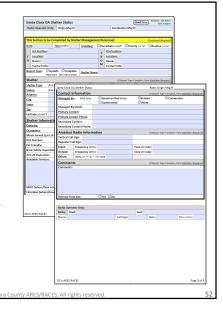
- 3rd party written messages <u>always</u> use an appropriate form
  - General messages on ICS-213; resource requests on EOC-213RR; etc.
- If the message is not on the appropriate form:
  - Best: Ask the author to use the correct form
    - If they don't have one, provide it to them
  - Else: Transcribe the message to the form, asking the author to clarify and fill in missing information as you go
    - · Clarify spelling, other details
  - Last Resort: Staple to an appropriate form only if necessary
    - · Papers can become detached, separated
    - Staples, paper clips, and odd paper sizes can cause problems when scanning/copying
- Log all 3rd party written messages on an ICS-309 Comm Log
- See: <a href="https://www.scc-ares-races.org">https://www.scc-ares-races.org</a> > Operations > Forms

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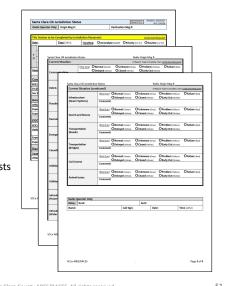
# Shelter Status

- · 2 page form
- Who:
  - From: Shelter
  - To: Managing jurisdiction
    - · City or County EOC
    - Red Cross
- When:
  - Responding to info requests
  - Submitting updated info
- Instructions
  - Last page



Jurisdiction Status

- 3 page form
- Who:
  - From: City or Agency
  - To: County EOC
- When:
  - Responding to info requests
  - Submitting updated info
- Instructions
  - Last page



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#### Allied Health Status

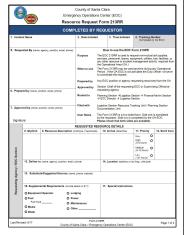
- Who
  - From: Allied Health Facility
    - Skilled nursing, assisted living, dialysis, out-patient surgical, clinic. ...
  - To: Public Health or EMS
- When:
  - Responding to request for bed counts
  - Submitting updated general info
- Instructions
  - Last page

			EACHLTY TYPE		DATE		7	ME:
Contact Hares:			Phone #	fac f	_	_	-	
Other Phone, Fax, Cell Phone, Rodio:			Incident Name and Bate:					
FACILITY STATUS		CHECK CAS	CHECK ADDITIONAL ATTACHM	ENTS PRO	MOCO	Т	Yes	160
GREEN FULLY FUNCTIONAL			NHICS ICS ORGANIZATION	CHART				
RED-LIMITED SERVICES			DECC-SA RESOURCE REQU			_		_
BLACK MYAREDIOLOGED			NHICONOS STATUS REPOR STANDARD	FORM-				
PACE, ITY CONTACT INFORMATION			NHICONOS INCIDENT ACTIO	N PLAN		-	_	_
FACELTY EDG MAN CONTACT NUMBER	_		PHONE COMMUNICATIONS		err.	-		_
FACILITY EDC MAIN CONTACT FAX	_		CENERAL SUMMAN			CCADIT	10145	
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FACILITY INFORMATION OFFICER NAME	_							
FACILITY INFORMATION OFFICER CONTACT NUMBER	_							
PACELTY INFORMATION OFFICER CONTACT SIMA.	_							
F FACILITY FOC IS NOT ACTIVATED, WHO SHOULD BE COMMACTED FOR QUENTION REPORTED.			SHF DED RESOURCE AKALABILITY	Statist Sed. M	Sedio	Victor Sed-M	Vicar Bol.F	150
FACILITY CONTACT NUMBER			SKULED NURSING	-			-	Н
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FACILITY PATIENT FLOW INFORMATION	100	ν.	SUBACUTE					
FACILITY PATIENTS TO EVACUATE			ALZEMERS COMENTAL					
PACILITY PATIENTS INJURED - MINOR			PEDIATRIC-SUB ACUTE					
FORLITY PATIENTS TRANSFERED OUT OF COUNTY			PSYCHATRIC					
OTHER PACILITY PATIENT CARE INFORMATION								П
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			AVAILABLE RESOURCES BY FACULTY TYPE	10000	THE REAL PROPERTY.	368	SERVICES SUPPLIES	ABAN 15
			DMLYSIS			2.41	1100	
			SURGICAL					
			CLINIC					
			HOMEHEALTH					

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#### **EOC-213RR Resource Request**

- Used to request non-mutual aid resources from the county
  - Not for Law, Fire, EMS, or RACES mutual aid
- Usually sent from city EOC to county EOC (Op Area)
- Other uses
  - County-managed shelter or unincorporated area command post
  - Some cities for internal requests
- Instructions
  - Last page(s)



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# ICS-213 Message

- Any general message that isn't better suited for a more specific form
- If someone hands you a message on a scrap of paper, politely ask that they fill in an ICS-213
  - If they refuse, do it for them!
  - Ask them to check it for accuracy.
- Instructions
  - On last page



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#### Other Forms

- Hospital Forms
  - HAvBed Report, Medical Facility Status, Medical Resource Request
- City/Agency specific
  - CERT Damage Assessment
  - Other: Message, ... Status, Resource Request, 9-1-1 forms
- Vendor specific
  - Food orders, Equipment orders
- In general, use the most appropriate form for the specific message. Otherwise, use an ICS-213 Message form.

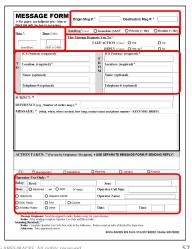
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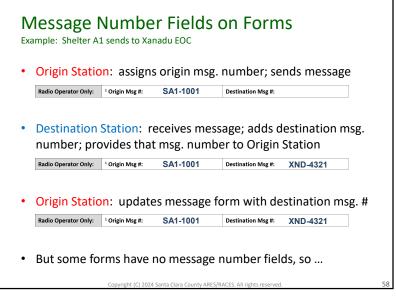
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# What is Radio Routing Info?

- The extra information that a radio operator needs to send, deliver, and track a message
  - Message Numbers
  - Date, Time, Handling Order
  - To/From
  - Radio Operator Info



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Message Prioritization

• Prioritize messages by:

— Handling Order

— Date

— Time

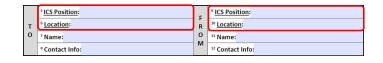
— Set by message author (3<sup>rd</sup> party)

• But some forms have no prioritization fields, so ...

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# 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Message Addressing

- Messages are addressed <u>TO</u> and <u>FROM</u> ICS Positions and Locations
  - These are required fields on all messages
- Individual names and contact info are optional fields and are seldom used



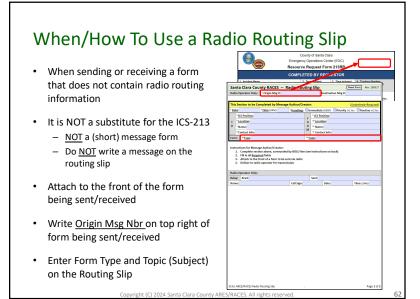
• But some forms have no To/From fields, so ...

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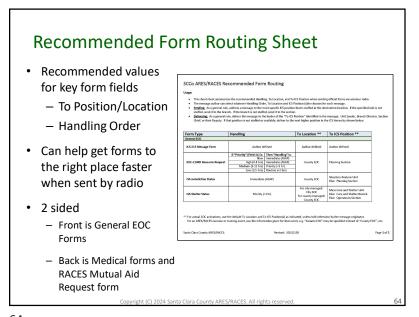
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# **Radio Routing Slip**

- Like a fax cover sheet or departmental routing slip
- A place to put the radio routing info if the form doesn't have those fields
  - Message Numbers
  - Date, Time, Handling Order
  - To/From
  - Reference info about the message
    - o Form Type
    - Topic/Subject of message
  - Radio Operator Info



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Where do we get the missing information

 Handling Order
 To ICS Position
 To Location

 To

Form Handling Exercise

- For each of these forms:
  - Shelter Status (city managed)
  - Allied Health Facility Status (PHDOC open)
  - EOC-213RR Resource Request
  - ICS-213 Message
  - Jurisdiction Status



- Does it need a routing slip? Why or why not?
- What is the recommended Handling?
- What is the recommended To Location?
- What is the recommended To Position?

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Message Initiation

- Step 1: Announce quantity and handling order
  - Sender calls receiver (Example: Sender is Shelter 1; Receiver is Net Control)
    - "Net Control, I have 2 Priority messages for you"
    - "Net Control, I have 1 Immediate and 1 Routine message for you"
  - Receiver prioritizes by handling order
    - · "Shelter 1, go ahead with your Immediate message"
- Step 2: Announce message type [and need for routing slip]
  - Sender tells receiver
    - · "Message type is ICS-213"
    - "Message type is Shelter Status form"
    - "Message type is EOC-213RR with routing slip"
  - Receiver readies the right form, then:
    - · "Go ahead" or "Go"
- Step 3: Send the message as usual
  - Five groups/fields at a time, starting with "Message number ..."

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Messages Are Provided To You

- As radio operators we do not generate the 3<sup>rd</sup> party messages
- You will be provided the message contents by someone from the served agency
- You will give all received 3<sup>rd</sup> party messages to a designated person at the served agency
- You should not create 3<sup>rd</sup> party messages during a drill, exercise, credential evaluation, or real activation unless <u>specifically</u> asked to do so by your supervisor

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# Message Logging

- Assume you sent this message to Xanadu EOC
- Assume Xanadu EOC (receiver) assigns message number: XND-205
- The time is now 10:10
- Log it! On which form?



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ICS 309 ARES/	o-scco		and Activation Nu III/II Training			2. Operational Period (Date/Time)    MM/DD/YYYY
	t Name (for NCO		actical Call			o Operator (Name, Call Sign)
	t <your nun<="" th=""><th>nper&gt;</th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th>r name&gt;, <your call="" sign=""></your></th></your>	nper>				r name>, <your call="" sign=""></your>
5.		200	COMMUNIC		LOG	
Time (24:00)	Call Sign/ID	Msg#	Call Sign/ID	Msa#		Message
09:00	Cun organiz	mog #	NC	mog w	$\rightarrow$	Check-in
09:30	NC		110			H&W
09:45			XNDEOC			Requested Water
09:50	XNDEOC				-	Water on the way
10:00	NC					H&W
10:10		S##-100	XNDEOC	XND-2	205	[213] Classroom Status
					$\dashv$	
					$\dashv$	
	<b>+</b>		1		-+	

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## Message Passing Training/Practice

- Message Passing Class
  - Message Passing is what we do; it's a critical skill
  - A separate class focuses solely on message passing technique
  - Be sure you attend at least every two years!
    - The best operators attend every year it's THAT important!
  - Next Class: Saturday July 6<sup>th</sup> (pre-class homework)
  - Review <u>Message Handling Procedures</u> Document https://www.scc-ares-races.org/operations.shtml#standards
- Practice
  - <u>https://www.scc-ares-races.org</u> > Training > Practice Sessions
  - On Air Practice from Home
    - Quarterly Training Net
       3rd Tuesday of first month of quarter @ 20:30, after SVECS net
       On Resource Net Repeaters (AA6BT, N6NAC, W6ASH)
       Sign-up on web site
- · Other Drills and Exercises

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Message Passing Training MESSAGE FORM Origin Msg #: 2 XND-2145 Destination Msg #: 3 ▶ For paper: use ballpoint pen – blue or black ink only (See back for instructions) Date 1: Time (24hr): This Message Requests You To 6: 02/06/2024 10:32 TAKE ACTION (✓one): ⊙ Yes (mm/dd/yy) (0001 to 2400) ICS Position: (required) ICS Position: (required) CERT Team Bravo Lead CERT Coordinator Location: (required) Location: (required) Columbia Park Staging Area Xanadu EOC Name: (optional) Telephone #:(optional) Telephone #: (optional) SUBJECT: 10 Task Assignment #25 REFERENCE (e.g., Number of earlier msg.): 11 MESSAGE: 12 (what, when, where needed; how long; contact name and phone number - KEEP MSG BRIEF) Send a team to do damage assessment on the 200 block of San Anselmo Avenue. Reply with ETA. This is drill traffic.

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Exercise: ICS-309 Logging (3)

- At 10:20, you send an EOC-213RR Resource Request form asking for more donuts.
- Your message number is S##-101. Xanadu's message number is XND-206.
- Log it on your ICS-309.

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Exercise: ICS-309 Logging (4)

- At 10:30, Net Control performs a health and welfare check
- At 10:45, Xanadu sends you an ICS-213 Message form with a subject of "Donut Status". Their message number is XND-207. Your message number is SXX-102.
- · Log these messages.

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Exercise: ICS-309 Logging (3)

	-SCCo RACES Name (for NC	Field Ops I TC-24-02T Os) or Position/T		Class		2. Operational Period (Date/Time)    MM/DD/YYYY   MM/DD/YYYY
	<your nu<="" th=""><th>mber&gt;</th><th></th><th></th><th>_</th><th>ır name&gt;, <your call="" sign=""></your></th></your>	mber>			_	ır name>, <your call="" sign=""></your>
5.		Octobronia i	COMMUNIC		LOG	
Time	F	ROM	Т	ю	_	Message
(24:00)	Call Sign/ID	Msg #	Call Sign/ID	Msg #		
09:00			NC			Check-in
09:30	NC				$\neg$	H&W
09:45			XNDEOC		T	Requested Water
09:50	XNDEO				T	Water on the way
10:00	NC				T	H&W
10:10		S##-100	XNDEOC	XND-2	205	[213] Classroom Status
10:20		S##-101				[213RR] More donuts
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Exercise: ICS-309 Logging (4)

ICS 309 ARES/	-SCCo	Incident Name a Field Ops II TC-24-02T				2. Operational Period (Date/Time)  MM/DD/YYYY MM/DD/YYYY  From: 09:00 To: 12:00
3. Radio Ne	Name (for NCO	s) or Position/Ta	ctical Call		4. Rad	lio Operator (Name, Call Sign)
Student	<your nun<="" th=""><th>nber&gt;</th><th></th><th></th><th><yo< th=""><th>ur name&gt;, <your call="" sign=""></your></th></yo<></th></your>	nber>			<yo< th=""><th>ur name&gt;, <your call="" sign=""></your></th></yo<>	ur name>, <your call="" sign=""></your>
5.			COMMUNIC	ATIONS	LOG	
Time	FF	ROM	T	0		Message
(24:00)	Call Sign/ID	Msg #	Call Sign/ID	Msg #	ŧ	wessage
09:00			NC			Check-in
09:30	NC					H&W
09:45			XNDEOC			Requested Water
09:50	XNDEOC					Water on the way
10:00	NC					H&W
10:10		S##-100	XNDEOC	XND-	205	[213] Classroom Status
10:20		S##-101	XNDEOC	XND-	206	[213RR] More donuts
10:30	NC					H&W
10:45	XNDEOC	XND-207		S##-1	02	[213] Donut status
	•	Copyright	(C) 2024 Santa Cl	ara County	ARES/	RACES. All rights reserved.

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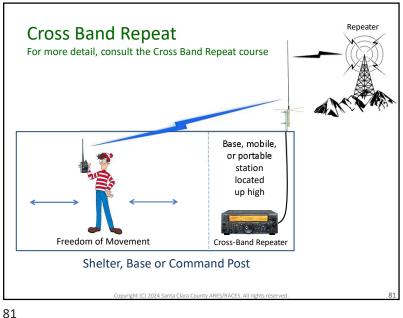
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# Operating on Two Nets Simultaneously

- · Establish your primary net
  - All other things being equal, which net will you answer first?
- · Use at least a dual-receive mobile radio, stereo headphones
  - If possible, use a separate radio for the secondary net so you can hear both nets while you are transmitting
  - An HT with an earbud under your headphones usually works well
- Use a separate ICS-309 Message Log for each net
  - Include net name in field 3: Radio Net Name or Position/Tactical Call
  - Examples: "Hospital Net / Velley Medical; "Santa Clara Tac 1 / Kaiser SC"
- Inform both net controls
  - "Net control, be advised that I am operating two nets simultaneously. This is my {primary|secondary} net. I may not hear you or be able to answer right away if I'm handling higher priority traffic on the other net."
- Work at your own pace; you're still just one person
- · Use previously covered techniques to avoid stress, fatigue

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#### Operating on Two Nets Simultaneously • Some field assignments require simultaneous operation on two nets Example: - Hospital Net: Hospitals to PHDOC; medical issues - City Net: Municipal issues, such as fire, law, utilities, public works Public Health Hospital Dept. Operation Center Amateur Radio OA EOC **Amateur Radio Operator** Amateur Radio City EOCs Allied Health Operator Amateur Radio Amateur Radio Operato



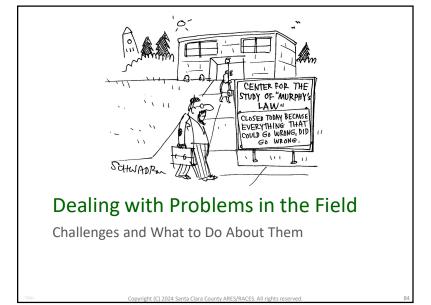
# **Cross Band Repeat**

For more detail, consult the Cross Band Repeat course

- Advantages
  - Freedom of movement within the shelter, base, or command post for message pick-up and delivery, or locating people with the information you need
  - May be the only practical option you have if you're the only operator
- Challenges
  - HT audio is usually not very good, for either TX or RX
    - · Use a headset with boom mic, instead of earbud with inline mic
  - Monitor your duty cycle
    - · HT batteries will run down
      - Use extra-low power, have extra batteries charging at all times
    - · Cross band repeater radio will overheat
      - Use low power on local/user side
      - Use a good antenna and lowest possible power on the remote/uplink side
      - Consider using a base station radio capable of higher duty cycle
    - · Remember to use tone squelch to prevent repeating of noise

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Higher Traffic; Higher Speed



- A Type II operator is expected to have higher traffic levels
- Speed comes with practice and following procedures
- Net procedures
  - Proper net procedures speed up overall net operations
    - Check-in/out, constant monitoring, pauses, reporting formats, phonetics
- Message passing procedures
  - Most net traffic is message traffic
  - Proper message passing procedures speeds up most nets
    - · Message prioritization, prowords
  - Those skilled at message passing can transfer a message two to four times as fast as others; as much as 10 more messages per hour!
- Take every opportunity to practice
  - On air message passing practice, weekly nets, drills and exercises

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# Loss of Repeater

- How to recognize
  - No courtesy tone (and there used to be one)
  - No squelch tail
  - Not receiving responses
  - No health & welfare checks; no traffic at all
  - You might hear people on the input but not the output
    - · Use "Reverse" button to check

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# Loss of Repeater – What to Do



- · Check your equipment
  - Volume turned up? On the right frequency?
  - Equipment is operational; adequate battery power
- · Switch to simplex on repeater output
  - Switch to high power; include tone, in case others are using tone squelch
  - Program backup frequencies from the ICS-205 into your radio memory and be ready to switch to them in case of repeater failure or malicious interference
- Alternate paths of communications
  - Check your Comm. Plan (ICS 205)
  - Check your briefing notes/documents
  - Have a list of frequencies for the area you are in.
- · Try tactical simplex frequency for served agency
- Contact other fielded operators on tactical simplex

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# **High Temperature**



- You are operating in the middle of the summer in an area with very high temperatures which could affect equipment performance and your health.
- Action
  - Use a pop-up or other means to create shade for yourself and radio
  - Use lowest radio power possible
  - Switch radios
  - Position radio for sufficient air flow
    - · Sufficient space around cooling fins
    - · "Radio in a box" is not the best approach in a hot environment unless it includes forced air (fan) ventilation
    - · Consider sealed "blue" ice packs (but watch for condensation!)
  - Use a 12v DC fan (consider CFM > 50 and dB < 25)</li>



# Power & Phone Outages



- Field station
  - Check to be sure it's not your equipment
  - Have your flashlights and or battery-operated lanterns nearby, at all times.
  - Configure station to automatically switch to back-up power
    - · Batteries multiple sources and types
    - · Back-up generator
  - Safety, safety, safety (particularly at night)
  - May affect your ability to call 911
    - · Check Comm. Plan (ICS 205) for alternative method of reaching emergency services
- - ATM's, gas stations, banks, stores all may be closed
  - Signage may be dark and hard to read
    - · Keep flashlight/headlamp handy

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# Rain, Wind





- Situation
  - You have to operate in rain, wind or both
- Action
  - Protect your paperwork and equipment from wind, rain
    - · Plastic bags for radio, clipboard
    - · Clipboard(s) and weights for paperwork
  - Use a pop-up or other means to create shelter
    - · Add sides to protect from blowing rain
    - · Add weights to protect against wind, especially if pop-up has sides
      - Typically 40+ lbs per leg are needed
  - Keep electrical connections off wet ground

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# Difficult People



- Situation
  - People may be scared, tired, stressed, or all of the above
  - This applies to other staff as well as the general public
- Action
  - Stay calm; project calmness, confidence
  - Focus on the problem, not the personality
  - Most people will calm down when they see their concern is being
  - If you are unable to address the problem or if the situation persists, seek help from your supervisor

# RF Safety (Review)

- Perform an RF Exposure Calculation http://www.arrl.org/rf-exposure-calculator
- More details in the Antenna Fundamentals class and in Field Operations Type III A class

# Safety

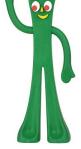
- Pay attention to your health and those around you
  - Hydration
  - Cold and heat
  - Stress
  - Fatigue
- Do not go places that you feel are not safe
  - Moving water
  - Mud/Land slides
  - Active fires

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# Key To Success ...

# Semper Gumby

("Always Flexible")



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# Demobilization

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# Shift Change

- If someone will be relieving you, they should arrive early to set up their station and receive a relief briefing from you
  - See SCCo Performance Standards for relief briefing contents
- What are some key elements of the relief briefing?

  - \_

  - \_
  - \_
  - \_

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## Demobilization

- Shift Change
- Closing out your assignment
- Paperwork
- Returning home

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# Closing Out Your Assignment

- Check out of the net you've been using
- Check into the staging net

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#### Exercise:

- Assume it is 12:00 and your assignment is completed
- You checked out of your assigned net
  - In this case, the Student Net
  - Typically, a tactical net
- You checked into the Staging Net
  - Or whatever net is appropriate (local tactical, resource, ...)
  - In this case, it's the Staging Net
- Update your ICS-309, ICS-214

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# Example: Updated ICS-214

6.	ACTIVITY LOG
Time (24:00)	Major Activities & Events / Occasional Messages (indicate From / To / Msg# / Msg Text)
08:00	Assignment: attend Field Ops III/II Training Class. Sheriff's Office
08:05	Depart home, initial odometer 123
08:25	Arrive staging, final odometer 134
08:50	Assignment: participate as student, tactical call "student <your number="">"</your>
09:00	Station set up complete; checked into student net; see ICS-309
	other activities
12:00	Shift complete; checked out of student net; check into staging net

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Exercise: ICS-309 Logging

communications Log

<your name>, <your call sign>

5.			COMMUNIC	CATIONS LOG	i
Time	FR	ROM	1	го	Message
(24:00)	Call Sign/ID	Msg #	Call Sign/ID	Msg #	Message
09:00			NC		Check-in
09:30	NC				H&W
09:45			XNDEOC		Requested Water
09:50	XNDEOC				Water on the way
10:00	NC				H&W
10:10		S##-100	XNDEOC	XND-205	[213] Classroom Status
10:20		S##-101	XNDEOC	XND-206	[213RR] More donuts
10:30	NC				H&W
10:45	XNDEOC	XND-207		S##-102	[213] Donut Status
					other activities
12:00			NC		Check-out
6. Prepared	By (Name, Call S	Sign)	6A. Signature		7. Date & Time Prepared 8.

Required

MM/DD/YYYY 12:00 Page 1 of 1

Next operator (if any) begins a new 309 form

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**Your Signature** 

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# **Return or Hand Off Forms**

- If a new operator is relieving you
  - Take only your ICS-214 Unit Activity log with you
  - Leave everything else at the station for the next operator
    - ICS-309 Communications Log, various message forms, notes, ...
    - The new operator may need to refer to previous communications
- If you are the last operator at the site
  - Bring all forms and notes with you to staging

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# **Return to Staging**

- Pack up your station if appropriate
- Complete any procedures requested by local staff
  - Debriefing, review forms, time accounting, etc.
- Return to staging
- Close out your ICS-214
- Turn in all paperwork
- Sign-out on the ICS-211A
- Check out of Staging Net

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<your name>, <your call sign> Your Signature

Example: Updated ICS-214

6. ACTIVITY LOG
Time (24-00) Major Activities & Events / Occasional Messages (indicate From / To / Msg# / Msg Text)

08:00 Assignment: attend Field Ops III/II Training Class. <class location>
08:05 Depart home, initial odometer 123

08:25 Arrive staging, final odometer 134

08:50 Assignment: participate as student, tactical call "student <your number>"
09:00 Station set up complete; checked into student net; see ICS-309
... other activities

12:00 Shift complete; checked out of student net; check into staging net
12:20 Sign-out of staging; heading home

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Required

MM/DD/YYYY 12:20

# Exercise: Finish Up at Staging

- The time is now 12:20
- Close out your ICS-214

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- · Sign-out on the ICS-211A
- · Check out of staging net

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# ICS 211A Check-in List (Communications)

(COMMUNICATIONS)	Field Ops III/	II Training	MM/DD/Y	~~~	T	C-24-02T	-	<class location=""></class>
(	i icia Ops IIIi		RMATION	111	- / (	J-2-7-021		-ciass iocalion-
PERSONNEL NAME	CALL SIGN	AGENCY 5. INFO	TIME IN	TIME	OUT	HOURS		REMARKS
PERSONNEL NAME				TIME	$\overline{}$	HOURS		REMARKS
<your name=""></your>	<your call=""></your>	<your org=""></your>	08:30	12:	20			
					-			
				_	_			
ICS 211A SCCo RACES	6. NUMBER OF PAGE  1 of		7. PREPARED	BY (RE	sourc	EUNIT): :all sign>		8. MISSION NUMBER -XSC-=

#### **Return Home**

- Check into resource net for tracking home
  - Exception:
    - IF AND ONLY IF the event is a public service event (not a real emergency incident, not a drill), ...
    - · AND IF you don't need/want to be tracked home,
    - THEN you can skip the resource net on the way home
      - No need to wait around just to "check-in/checkout"
- Same Resource Net operating procedures apply
  - Check-in with your FCC call sign
  - Provide location, odometer, FCC call sign for health & welfare checks
  - Check-out when you reach your destination (Do not forget)

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Congratulations!

- You have completed a simulated full activation
  - Mobilization
  - Operations
  - Demobilization
- You learned about equipment
- You learned about handling problems
- · Can you remember it all?
- · Can you repeat it over and over without missing anything?

# Checklists

- Each role has a checklist
  - Field
  - Net Control
  - Packet
  - Shadow
- Doesn't replace proper training
- Operator expected to
  - Review checklist at each stage of deployment
  - Understand meaning of each step
  - Complete each step correctly
- The Performance Standards & Best Practices has a more extensive list.

# Summary

You should now be able to:

- · Describe the role of a field operator, including
  - Served agency needs, field assignment types, SCCo ARES/RACES credentialing system
- Explain and perform basic safety procedures
- Properly execute an assignment, including
  - Selecting equipment, mobilization, field operations, dealing with problems, demobilization
- Understand and use a field operations checklist

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#### **Online Class Evaluation** Log into https://www.scc-ares-races.org/activities/events.php Click "Submit Class Evaluation" in Events Calendar of Events Log Out Activities Home Show: Current events ● Past events ○ Event Descriptions ☑ SCC ARES/RACES Home Comments/Bugs Field Operations Type III, Part B and Type II Events List Events By Date Create a New Event Prerequisites, Course Description, and Course Materials: See Modify an Event the Field Communicator Type III Part B and Type II page for co... Delete an Event List/Print an Event Roster Introduction to Emergency Communications - NIGHT Submit Class Evaluation

**Final Assignment** 

Please complete the Class Evaluation within one week.

To get course credit you need to:

- a) Attend at least 90% of the class
- b) Participate in class
- b) Complete the class evaluation

If you do these, you will get credit for the course.

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# Thank You!

If you have questions or feedback about this or other training activities, please join our **Training discussion group**:

https://scc-ares-races.group.io/g/training

This is a moderated group

Sign up for:

- -- Message Passing Class July 6th
- -- Quarterly Training Net (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of first month each quarter)

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