

Amateur Radio Emergency Service

ARES Communication Support

Functional Exercise



Prepared by the

Mark Ketchell, ARES and Tom Malmay, OCDA

March 1, 2002

Revised April 16, 2002

Table of Contents

- I. Exercise Overview
- II. Exercise Objectives
- III. Exercise Preparations
- IV. Exercise Design Team Representatives
- V. Exercise Specifications
- VI. Safety
- VII. Exercise Public Information
- VIII. Exercise Scenario

Appendices

- Appendix – 1.....Homeland Security Advisory System
- Appendix – 2.....ARES Deployment Codes

I. Exercise Overview

An ARES communication functional exercise is scheduled April ____, 2002 in Ouachita Parish. The purpose of the exercise is to demonstrate and review deployment procedures of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) members to critical facilities. This activity fits into the current Homeland Security Advisory Yellow – Elevated Condition and in keeping with the Liberty Document.

II. Exercise Objectives

The exercise objectives include a review of the following:

- ?? Notification
- ?? Communications
- ?? Coordination
- ?? Sustainability (ARES members)

III. Exercise Preparations

The most important part of an exercise is the exercise design process. The process will include the following steps.

- a) Schedule no less than one planning meeting with participants to review ; internal and external protocols, ARES program and hospitals ICS and set exercise date.

IV. Exercise Design Team Representatives

The exercise design team will include representatives from the following agencies.

- a) NELA – LHA Representatives
- b) Mark Ketchell, ARES
- c) Tom Malmay, Ouachita Civil Defense Agency

V. Exercise Specifications

Date : April 23, 2002

Time : 18:00

Location : Ouachita Parish

Surrounding parishes

Participating Agencies :

- a) North Monroe Hospital
- b) St. Francis Hospital
- c) LSU Medical Center
- d) Glenwood Regional Medical Center
- e) American Medical Response
- f) Civil Defense EOC
- g) Department of Health & Hospitals
- h) Sterlington Hospitals
- J) Lincoln General
- k) Morehouse General
- l) Jackson Parish Hospital

Exercise Controllers :

Mark Ketchell, ARES
Tom Malmay, Ouachita Parish Civil Defense Agency
Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office
Monroe Police Department
West Monroe Police Department

Observers :

Hospital Safety Officers will serve as observers.

VI. Safety

Safety is paramount and the priority. During the course of the exercise safety issues or a real-world event may cause to pause or cancel the exercise. Any participating agency has the authority to pause or cancel the exercise.

The process requires notification to the chief exercise controller. For an immediate cessation of exercise activities **CODE BLACK** will be used by the notifying agency. The chief exercise controller will determine when or if the exercise may resume.

VII. Exercise Public Information

The Exercise Design Team will determine coordination of media activities for the exercise. This coordination should be considered part of the exercise

VIII. Exercise Scenario

Narrative

On March 11, 2002 the Homeland Security Agency set condition *Yellow – Elevated Condition*. The CONUS and US foreign interest have been on various Alert condition since September 11, 2001.

On the evening of April 22nd, 2002 the Homeland Security Agency set condition *Orange – High Condition*. In response to this increased readiness posture, the Ouachita EOC was activated (24 hrs).

On the morning of April 23rd, 2002 at 15:00 local law enforcement set condition *Red – Severe Condition* in response to classified information developed.

On behalf of local governments a local state of emergency was declared at 16:30 and an initial ARES deployment was requested by the Ouachita Civil Defense Agency to support area hospital communications.

The Ouachita ARES EC requested ARES members to report on station at 18:00. At 22:15 citizens began evacuating specific neighborhoods from southeast and southwest Ouachita Parish in response to safety enforcement actions. The American Red Cross was requested to establish a shelter at pre-designated locations in Monroe and West Monroe. As a precaution hospitals were told to prepare for potential surge of injured.

Appendix – 1

Homeland Security Advisory System



Low Condition Green

Low risk of terrorist attacks. The following Protective Measures may be applied:

- ?? Refining and exercising preplanned Protective Measures
- ?? Ensuring personnel receive training on HSAS, departmental, or agency-specific Protective Measures; and
- ?? Regularly assessing facilities for vulnerabilities and taking measures to reduce them.



Guarded Condition Blue

General risk of terrorist attack. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- ?? Checking communications with designated emergency response or command locations;
- ?? Reviewing and updating emergency response procedures; and
- ?? Providing the public with necessary information.



Elevated Condition Yellow

Significant risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- ?? Increasing surveillance of critical locations;
- ?? Coordinating emergency plans with nearby jurisdictions;
- ?? Assessing further refinement of Protective Measures within the context of the current threat information; and
- ?? Implementing, as appropriate, contingency and emergency response plans.



High Condition
Orange

High risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- ?? Coordinating necessary security efforts with armed forces or law enforcement agencies;
- ?? Taking additional precaution at public events;
- ?? Preparing to work at an alternate site or with a dispersed workforce; and Restricting access to essential personnel only.



Severe Condition
Red

Severe risk of terrorist attacks. In addition to the previously outlined Protective Measures, the following may be applied:

- ?? Assigning emergency response personnel and pre-positioning specially trained teams; Monitoring, redirecting or constraining transportation systems;
- ?? Closing public and government facilities; and
- ?? Increasing or redirecting personnel to address critical emergency needs.

Appendix – 2

ARES Deployment Codes

ARES deployments are requested by the Civil Defense Director and directed by the ARES EC. All deployments include a Net-Controller at the Ouachita EOC.

Hotel - Hospitals

Glenwood Regional Medical Center
St. Francis
LSU Medical Center
North Monroe Hospital
American Medical Response

Mike - Media

KNOE
KTVE

Papa – Policy Grp

Monroe City Hall
West Monroe City Hall
Ouachita Parish Court House
Richwood Town Hall
Sterlington Town Hall

COMCEN – Communication Centers

Monroe Police Department
West Monroe Police Department
Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office
Sterlington Police Department
Richwood Police Department
Monroe Fire Department
Ouachita Parish Fire Department (wm)
Louisiana State Police Troop – F
E - 911

India – Heavy Industry

Koch Nitrogen
ANGUS Chemical
Guide Corp.
Ouachita Fertilizer
Texas Eastern
Tennessee Gas
United Gas

SIERA – Designated Shelters

Monroe Civic Center
West Monroe Convention Center