

Fall Exercise Preparation / Demonstration

Idaho Falls Bishops' Storehouse
On-Air Training
2016-10-12

Welcome

Welcome to the training this evening. Check your watches; just 58 more hours until the exercise begins. Hopefully, tonight's experience will help you know exactly what to expect from the exercise.

Goal of the exercise

The purpose of the exercise is to see how long it takes to send a message from the Storehouse to every bishop surrounding the storehouse and back again. The message will consist of two questions. Those questions are going to be secret until the morning of the exercise.

The Timeline

This exercise has been morphing and developing from day to day. Although that has caused a bit of confusion, for which we apologize, I believe the evolution has also produced a much simpler exercise. Let's review the timeline.

8:00 – Announcements about the exercise will be made on 146.880 repeater

8:30 – Exercise officially begins.

Make sure all transmission end with the phrase "This is an exercise".

We will be using tactical call signs. By default, unless directed otherwise by net control, that tactical call sign you use will be your unit name, e.g. Rigby Region, Ammon First Ward, Sugar City Stake. The Idaho Falls Bishops' Storehouse will be known as Storehouse.

After 8:30, and for the duration of the exercise, you should not use commercial power, cell phones, and Internet services. This includes no texting.

At this point, the Storehouse will transmit the two questions with further instructions to the stakes. All operators will then change to their region simplex frequencies.

Any questions?

~8:40 –

After switching to the simplex frequencies, regions will use 447.620 repeater to communication with the Storehouse. This is a 70 cm repeater with a negative offset and an 88.5 hertz tone. I say again... At 8:40, all four regions should check into the Storehouse net on 447.620 to ensure we can still communicate with you.

Each region should have two radios: a net control operator for the region simplex frequency and an Storehouse Liaison to contact the storehouse on 447.620. You should have at least one operator for each radio. It may also be helpful to have an assistant or a scribe on the 2-meter radio because there will be a fair amount of traffic on that frequency.

Again, at 8:40 all regions should check into the Storehouse net on 447.620.

8:45 – Regions will conduct a roll call of Stake ECS's. Regions net controls operators should verify that each ECS has received the message from the Storehouse.

From this point on, regions should utilize the 447.620 (negative, 88.5) repeater to communicate with the storehouse. This will help minimize interference caused by using two 2 meter frequencies near each other.

The Stake ECS should make contact with the Stake President or the designated priesthood leader and deliver the message from the Storehouse. When a stake has received the message, the stake president should activate their emergency communication plan to make contact with each bishop in the stake. Any method of communication may be used except those that rely on cell phones (including texting), the Internet, or commercial power.

Questions?

Once the stake has received responses from each bishop, the Stake ECS should transmit the responses to the region net control on the region simplex frequency.

The region will then transmit a **summary** of the report to the storehouse on 447.620. The summary will consist of how many yes's and no's for each question. Regions will still be responsible for sending the complete report to the storehouse before Sunday at 6:00 pm.

11:00 – The exercise officially ends

Regions should announce the address of the hot wash meeting. Hot wash meetings should begin no later than 11:30 and conclude by 12:30.

Any questions?

Demonstration

Because stakes will need to transmit to the regions and the regions need to transmit to the storehouse, we want to demonstrate on the net tonight an efficient method for doing so.

We have on the net tonight a Stake ECS, a Regional NCS, and a Storehouse NCS. I'll act as a narrator to explain what is happening.

Let's assume that at this point in the exercise, the Stake President has made contact with each of his bishops received a response to both questions. He hands the report to the Stake ECS to transmit to the Region. Listen carefully to the way the tactical call signs are used and how concisely the information is transmitted to and verified by the Region.

KB7MJB: Rexburg Region, Sugar City Stake

KJ7FX: Sugar City Stake.

KB7MJB: Prepare to copy our report.

KJ7FX: Go ahead with your report.

KB7MJB: Teton First Ward: Yes Yes

Sugar City Second Ward: Yes Yes

Sugar City Third Ward: No No

Newdale Ward: No Yes

This is an exercise.

N7TMS: For the sake of brevity, we'll not transmit for all nine units, but you get the idea. State the ward name and then either yes or no for EACH of the questions. Speak clearly and slowly, pausing after each ward's report to allow the net control scribe time to record the responses. It is not necessary to restate the questions or engage in any other chit chat. Then, the Region NCS will restate the report to verify its accuracy.

KJ7FX: I copy Teton First Ward: Yes Yes, Sugar City Second Ward: Yes No, Sugar City Third Ward: No No, Newdale Ward: Yes Yes. Is that correct? This is an exercise.

KB7MJB: Negative. Newdale Ward, No Yes. This is an exercise.

KJ7FX: I copy Newdale Ward, No Yes. Is that correct? This is an exercise.

KB7MJB: Affirmative. Sugar City Stake, [FCC Call]

KJ7FX: Rexburg Region, [FCC Call]

N7TMS: At this point, the Region NCS records the time on the report and hands the stake report to the Storehouse liaison on the 447.620 radio. He will tally up the columns, recording the number of yes's and no's for each question at the bottom of the column.

Once that's done, he calls the storehouse on the 447.620 frequency.

KB7ITU: Storehouse, Rexburg Region

KG7IOE: Rexburg Region

KB7ITU: Prepare to receive our report.

KG7IOE: Go ahead with your report.

KB7ITU: Sugar City Stake, two two three one. This is an exercise.

KG7IOE: I copy Sugar City Stake, two two three one. Is that correct? This is an exercise.

KB7ITU: Affirmative. Rexburg Region. [FCC Call sign]

KG7IOE: Storehouse [FCC Call Sign]

Field questions

Are there any questions or comments?

Conclusion

This concludes the training for tonight. We recognize, due to the nature of the exercise, that all ERC operators may not have something to do. I would strongly encourage everyone to monitor the frequencies: the 146.880 repeater from about 7:30 to 8:40; the region simplex frequency and the 447.620 repeater until the end of the exercise.

73 to all of you and I'm looking forward to working with you on Saturday. This is N7TMS; back to net control.