Auxiliary Communications (AUXCOMM)

Training Course

Unit 11: Final Exercise Exam

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Severe Storm/Flooding

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Severe Storm/Flooding Background

- Major power disruption across the region and neighboring states
  - Over 250,000 customers without power
- Cell phone coverage intermittent and overloaded
- Few landline based telephones are operating
- Minimal to no Internet

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Severe Storm/Flooding Background (Cont'd)

- No radio stations except a few "locals"
- Numerous shelters established by Red Cross
- Service stations unable to deliver gas (no Internet)
- State Public Safety network severely impacted

Public Safety Infrastructure Impacted

FEMA Declaration As Of Today

Requested Support

- Direct data & voice communications between state EOC and regional/local EOCs
- Relay situational awareness information
- Transfer resource requests

Requested Support (Cont'd)

- Shadow critical personnel across the state to relay info to EOCs
    - DOT
    - Utilities
- Support local data & voice communications between EOCs and Red Cross shelters
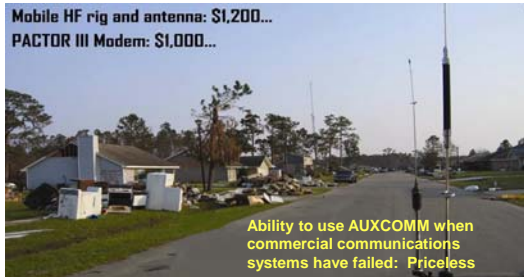
AUXCOMM Recon Team

Exercise Tasking

Using the Form 217A already developed for your area, develop and ICS Organization chart and an ICS Form 205 to support the AUXCOMM response.

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Cost

Mobile HF rig and antenna: $1,200...
PACTOR III Modem: $1,000...

Ability to use AUXCOMM when commercial communications systems have failed: Priceless

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Take-Aways

The Key To Success is Training:

- Train frequently
- Train as if it were a real event
- Train using Standing Operating Procedures
- Train by supporting local events:
  - Festivals
  - Sporting Events
  - EOC Exercises
- Always keep COMLs in the region in the loop when training

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Course Review

DISCUSSION

AND

REVIEW OF COURSE OBJECTIVES

Review of Course Objectives

Has the AUXCOMM course met the following course objectives?:

- Identify the functions, duties, and responsibilities of the Auxiliary Communicators and the ACM

- Arrive at an all-hazards incident properly equipped, ready to gather information to assess the assignment, and begin initial planning

- Plan, organize, staff, direct, control and demobilize the AUXCOMM area of operations in a safe and effective manner

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Train as you operate, operate as you train

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