



# Operating in a Tactical Net

## Part II

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# Tactical Nets



## Part 1 Summary

- ◆ Definition and kinds of Nets
- ◆ Net Control
- ◆ Tactical vs. FCC Call Signs
- ◆ Procedures For Specific Net
- ◆ Record Keeping
- ◆ Be Early – Get Briefed – Brief Replacement
- ◆ Tips To Get The Traffic Through
- ◆ Need For Practice - Operator and Net Control



# Speak English

- ◆ Minimize Mistakes & Misunderstandings
- ◆ Brevity & Clarity – 2 Key Items for Success
- ◆ Avoid ALL Codes
  - Mean different things to different people
  - ICS prohibits using codes
  - “QSL”, “10-20”, “2341” = HUH ???
  - Use English – Say: Acknowledged, My location is ..., It’s 11:41 PM



# Message Handling

- ◆ All messages go through Net Control
- ◆ Informal vs. Formal Messages
- ◆ Informal:
  - “We need 3 cases of water at Stop 4”
  - “The SAG van just departed”
  - Record via note in log
- ◆ Formal:
  - Detailed, structured, relayed and tracked information
  - Use IC-213 Form
  - Written record kept
  - Accuracy is CRITICAL



# Message Handling (cont.)

- ◆ Seven Main Parts to IC-213 Form
  - 1. Message Number (For tracking purposes)
  - 2. To or Destination
  - 3. From or Originator
  - 4. Subject
  - 5. Date and Time
  - 6. Message Text Section
  - 7. Reply Section
  
- ◆ Also blocks on Form for Position Held and Signatures
  
- ◆ More on IC-213 during next week's training



# Do's and Don'ts of Message Handling



- ◆ Be accurate, relay as received
- ◆ Write legibly
- ◆ Be timely – relay ASAP (code for “As soon as possible” 🇺🇸 😊 )
- ◆ If relaying for 3<sup>rd</sup> parties:
  - Get sender & recipient names / other relevant data so Net Control can handle
  - Write down what author tells you and read it back to them, then transmit
  - Get it in writing from author, if complicated



# Do's and Don'ts of Message Handling (cont.)



- ◆ Say message straight through in logical phrases
- ◆ Pause if Net Control must write down message
- ◆ Repeat exactly, if asked to - don't change words during repeat
- ◆ Listen carefully when Net Control reads message back
- ◆ Ensure message is received accurately before terminating



# Do's and Don'ts of Message Handling (cont.)



- ◆ Do NOT pass victim or patient names over the air
- ◆ Think / use care before sending sensitive details
  - Phone numbers
  - Addresses
  - Directions to private residences
  - Medical information
- ◆ Remember, all transmissions are public





# General Tips

- ◆ Wait a second after keying and before speaking
- ◆ Speak slightly across mic instead of directly into
- ◆ Don't speak louder in noisy environment – move or wait
- ◆ Shield your mic from the wind
- ◆ Don't use VOX or locking PTT on tactical nets
- ◆ Keep HT off of your belt, save you kidneys & get out better
- ◆ Don't misuse battery saver or "sleep" mode – several seconds may cause missed calls
- ◆ Bring backup equipment
- ◆ Be Professional
- ◆ Have Fun

