

Appendix – Communications Protocols

Communications

Whether using a cell phone (simulated radio) or an actual radio, certain procedures are commonly used to reduce time on the air and increase clarity of the message. Here are some examples of a situation and a radio conversation you will be expected to use.

This is a fun Troop or Patrol activity to simulate sending and receiving messages. It could be face-to-face in the same room, using a cell phone, voice over computers, radios or tomato soup cans on strings! **Practice** beforehand will make a BIG difference in the event and increase the reality and benefit to all Scouts. Practice build confidence.

Create simple messages and include the need for numbers and letter codes to send and receive messages. Practice for both speed and clarity.

For THE BIG ONE we will be using three communication messages.

1 & 2. The Movement Reports (Departing and Arrival) will be used at every Action Station. They should be recorded in their Communications Log.

3. The MEDEVAC Request will be used at one Action Station designated as a Casualty Collection Point (CCP) and a MEDEVAC LZ site.

An Action Station Rescue Patrol Movement Report (Departure). These will be expected each time the Rescue Patrol makes or completes a movement. The Operations Base must know the whereabouts of every Patrol in the field. Typically these communications are recorded and time-stamped for replay if needed, after-action training, or legal reasons. We are simulating this process.

Scenario Example. Communications member calls the Base Camp Operations and informs them of their Patrol's status and intended movement from one Action Station to Another and their estimated time of arrival (ETA). They are currently at Action Station AC-4 and are moving to Action Station AC-6. All Rescue Patrol personnel are in 100% operational condition. They expect to take 15 minutes to reach their next destination. The Patrol is moving without a patient.

The Base Station callsign is: BASE

The Rescue Patrol callsign is: 375-A

Current location ID (AC-4) is: TFC

Destination ID (AC-6) is: MOH

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Commas represent a slight pause (1-count) in the message traffic.

- 1. Patrol:** “BASE this is 375-ALPHA, Movement Report, OVER” (OVER means you are done sending and expect a response from the receiver)
- 2. Base:** “375-ALPHA, (this is) BASE, Send your traffic, OVER”
- 3. Patrol:** “BASE, 375-APLHA, Status Green Plus Zero, Departing TANGO-FOXTROT CHARLIE, ETA MIKE-OSCAR-HOTEL, 15 Mikes, OVER.”
- 4. Base:** “375-ALPHA, Base, Proceed, OVER”
- 5. Patrol:** “BASE, 375-ALPHA, WILCO, OUT” (WILCO means, I understand and will comply”. Since the Patrol initiated the communication it must end the exchange by saying “OUT” The receiver then knows not to respond)

If the Patrol had a **non-critical patient** (not an ABC priority case) they were transporting and everyone in the Patrol was 100% operational, they would report in line 3 above:

“BASE, 375-APLHA, Status Green **Plus One Orange**, Departing TANGO-FOXTROT CHARLIE, ETA MIKE-OSCAR-HOTEL, 15 Mikes, OVER.”

If the Patrol had a critical patient (problems with ABC injuries) they were transporting and everyone in the Patrol was 100% operational, they would report in line 3 above:

“BASE, 375-APLHA, Status Green **Plus One Red**, Departing TANGO-FOXTROT CHARLIE, ETA MIKE-OSCAR-HOTEL, 15 Mikes, OVER.”

In reality, this informs the Base Operations of the status of the Patrol, the number and type of patients being rescued, and where they are being moved in a certain time frame so they can organize higher level resources for both treatment and evacuation.

An Action Station Rescue Patrol Movement Report (Departure).

The Base Station callsign is: BASE

The Rescue Patrol callsign is: 375-A

Arrival location ID (AC-6) is: MOH

- 1. Patrol:** “BASE this is 375-ALPHA, Movement Report, OVER”
- 2. Base:** “375-ALPHA, (this is) BASE, Send your traffic, OVER”
- 3. Patrol:** “BASE, 375-APLHA, Status Green Plus Zero, Movement Complete, OVER.”

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4. Base: "375-ALPHA, Base, ROGER, OVER" (ROGER means understood)

5. Patrol: "BASE, 375-ALPHA, OUT"

Base now knows everyone that left arrived in good condition with no patient.

The Communication member records the time and location, status of personnel and patients, and movement times in the Rescue Patrol Communications Log.

Create a simple format already in the Log:

Time	Location	Destination	Status	Comments

Create and use your own abbreviations for Status like:

Patrol of 8 is 100% Green and no patient G-8, Pt-0

Patrols has one member Orange and no patient G-7 O-1, Pt-0

Patrol of 8 is 100% Green and has 1 non-critical patient G-8, Pt-ONG-1

Patrol of 8 is 100% Green and has 1 critical patient G-8, Pt-RED-1

Comments are as needed. This is valuable in reviewing your actions for the day and making improvements or sustaining good practices. Besides the actual learning in the exercise, this can really make a difference improving the team.

Your Communication Logs are an inspectable item at Knowledge Check Stations.

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Rescue Patrol Movement Report Format-Departure

- 1. You:** “BASE, this is (CALLSIGN), Movement Report, OVER”
- 2. Response:** (CALLSIGN), BASE, Send your traffic, OVER”
- 3. You:** BASE, (CALLSIGN), Status (report condition), Departing (Station ID), ETA (next Station ID) (number of minutes) Mikes, OVER”
- 4. Response:** (CALLSIGN), BASE, Proceed, OVER”
- 5. You:** BASE, (CALLSIGN), WILCO, OUT”

Rescue Patrol Movement Report Format-Arrival

- 1. You:** “BASE, this is (CALLSIGN), Movement Report, OVER”
- 2. Response:** (CALLSIGN), BASE, Send your traffic, OVER”
- 3. You:** BASE, (CALLSIGN), Status (report condition), Movement Complete, OVER”
- 4. Response:** (CALLSIGN), BASE, ROGER, OVER”
- 5. You:** BASE, (CALLSIGN), OUT”

MEDEVAC Request (helicopters)

- 1. You:** “BASE, this is (CALLSIGN), MEDEVAC Request, One Priority, OVER”
- 2. Response:** (CALLSIGN), BASE, Copy One Priority, Move to (designated Location), Mark with RED Panels, ETA 30 Mikes, OVER”
- 3. You:** BASE, (CALLSIGN), Copy (repeat location ID), Mark with RED Panels, ETA 30 Mikes, OUT”

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SPOILER ALERT

At the station before movement here, the Rescue Patrol will encounter an ABC-level critical patient requiring Priority One MEDEVAC. They will contact Base Operations to request MEDEVAC and follow the instructions. They will be given the MEDEVAC location and begin movement.

They will send their **Movement Report** including Patrol Status “Plus One RED” and begin rapid transport to the specified destination. Time is critical.

Once there, the Controller will inform them the patient is in Cardiac arrest.

The **expected response**, as MEDEVAC is already inbound, is for two Rescue Patrol members to spring into action initiating CPR/AED evolutions. The designated MEDIC must be one of the two.

Multiple manikins and AED simulators and face masks will be at the Station.

One member should direct another member to find and return with the AED, while they initiate CPR (30-2). Once the AED returns, the partner should set it up while compressions continue. Compressions stop while the Rescuers attempt an AED cycle.

The result will be “CONTINUE CPR”. The two Rescuers will then continue as a team performing quality CPR as a relay for another 20 minutes until the helicopter arrives. No other Rescue Patrol members are available to relieve them. **This is the CPR Endurance Challenge.**

The Station Controller will observe the quality of the CPR, that it was NOT repeatedly interrupted by pauses more than 10 seconds, and the ability to provide sustained compression and breathing cycles. If good quality CPR and breathing are performed and the entire 20 minutes is completed, the **patient survives.**

If the pair is unable to provide quality compressions and/or endure the 20 minutes, the **patient will expire.**

The manikins respond with a RED or GREEN light indicating the quality of the CPR compressions. The Controller will be in a position to observe the quality of the breaths (manikin’s chest will rise).

This will be one of the greatest challenges during this exercise.

The other Rescue Patrol members will be doing Knowledge Checks on heart attack and related subjects. Everyone will be engaged.