ARES District 4 Net Script
DEC 01, 2020 Rev.   (net date)

Good Evening everyone and welcome to the South Texas District 4 ARES net. This is

__TOM__ *(name)* __K5BV__ *(call)* __ARES EC for Aransas and San Patricio Counties__
(position e.g. member, AEC, etc. & County)

I will be the Net Control Station for tonight's net. First, if there are any stations with priority or emergency traffic please call __K5BV__ *(call)* at this time. UN-KEY

Either s*ay "**nothing heard**" or handle the traffic immediately.*

All hams in all Counties are welcome to check in to this net. You do not need to be an ARES member to participate in this net.

The purpose of ARES, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, is to furnish emergency communications via amateur radio when regular means of communications fail or become inadequate during an emergency situation. The only qualifications for ARES are that you possess an amateur radio license and you have a desire to help others. For more information or off-net questions please contact one of the following by email

        Tom EC for Aransas & San Patricio County - - - - - k5bv@arrl.net
        Bob Asst EC for Aransas County- - - - - - - - - - - - kf5cfu@arrl.net
        Jim EC for Live Oak County- - - - - - - - - - - - - - w5im@arrl.net
        Harley EC for Kelberg County - - - - - - - - - - - - - kg5ayd@arrl.net
If your live in another County email
        Mark Dist. 4 EC - ad5ca@arrl.net

The net is currently scheduled monthly for the First Thursday at 8:00 PM. This is subject to change. We are currently using the 147.080 MHz repeater in Sinton with a (+) Plus offset and a 107.2 tone.

This net is being conducted for the purpose of providing training and information related to emergency communications; to serve as a forum for discussion; and to foster fellowship among Amateur Radio operators.

Next, are there any operators who would like to make announcement or provide information related to EmComm? This is not general check-in. Please state your call now.

Tonight after Check-In __Mark. AD5CA, will discuss Operation Skybridge Exercise scheduled for Saturday December 5th. See Page 4__.

For Check-In, if the frequency has been clear a second or two s-l-o-w-y give your FCC call sign using ITU phonetics spoken clearly and slowly. Stating your name as well will be appreciated. UNKEY Writing calls down takes a moment so allow a couple of seconds. Keep checking in and calls will be reviewed for clarifications, errors and missed calls. Please check-in with **_K5BV_** (Call) now.

(note these actions)
- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*
- *ask for additional check-ins*

Tonight's material, **Mark, AD5CA, go ahead.**

(after)

Before we go down the list for comments if there any late check-ins please provide your call now.

(again note these actions)

- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*

Net Control **_K5BV_** *(your call)* will now go down the list for comments.

- *go down list of check-ins*

Final call for check-ins. Additional stations for the net please check-in now with **_K5BV_** *(your call)*.

(again note these actions)
- *read each call back,*
- *ask for corrections*
- *ask for comments*

THIS IS NET. We had XX check-ins tonight. Thank you all for joining the ARES net tonight, and thanks to the repeater owners and maintaineers for the use of these fine repeaters. I am now closing the net and returning these repeaters back to normal amateur radio use. Stations may remain on frequency to make additional QSOs.
Net Control **_K5BV_** *(your call)* Out.

FCC CALL	NAME	DATE _12_ - _03_ - _2020_
01 ___**K5BV**___	___ T O M _____	(*E N T E R N E T*
	CONTROL)	
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Subject: [Special] [District-4-ARES] Operation Skybridge this Saturday afternoon
From: "Mark Mireles AD5CA" <ad5ca@grandecom.net>
Date: 12/1/2020, 11:24 AM
To: District-4-ARES@groups.io

Good afternoon all,

  This Saturday afternoon, December 5th, there will be a drill titled "Operation Skybridge", sponsored by the Dept of Homeland Security through The Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council. This drill will involve hams from here in the Coastal Bend, as well as the Valley and Laredo.

  The goal of the exercise is to demonstrate the capability to get messages from the local hospitals/medical centers to the SOC (State Operation Center) over Amateur radio.

  The drill will not be very time consuming and will occur at 2pm on Saturday afternoon. Our objective in this exercise will be to pick up a message from a local hospital, pass it to a local Net Control on 2 meters, who will then pass it to a regional NCS which will ultimately get it to the SOC.

  A mobile unit, or in some cases, an HT, will be all that is required. It will not be necessary to enter the hospital; a representative will hand you the message from a predetermined location outside in the parking lot. The message will be very basic and not require any special form.

  The hospitals to be covered include:

Alice	CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Alice	2500 E Main St
Kingsville	CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Kleberg	1311 General Cavazos Blvd
Corpus Christi	PAM Rehabilitation Hospital of Corpus Christi	345 S Water St
Corpus Christi	CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Corpus Christi - Shoreline	600 Elizabeth St
Corpus Christi	PAM Specialty Hospital of Corpus Christi - North	600 Elizabeth St
Corpus Christi	CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Corpus Christi - Memorial	2606 Hospital Blvd
Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi Medical Center - Doctors Regional	3315 S Alameda St
Corpus Christi	Driscoll Childrens Hospital	3533 S Alameda St
Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi Medical Center - Bay Area	7101 S Padre Island Dr
Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi Medical Center - The Heart Hospital	7002 Williams Dr
Corpus Christi	CHRISTUS Spohn Hospital Corpus Christi - South	5950 Saratoga Blvd
Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi Medical Center - Bayview Behavioral Hospital	6629 Wooldridge Rd
Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi Rehabilitation Hospital (FKA Esplanade Rehabilitation Hosp)	5726 Esplanade Dr
Corpus Christi	South Texas Surgical Hospital	6130 Parkway
Refugio	Refugio County Memorial Hospital	107 Swift St

  Individuals may wish to handle more than one location if they are able.

  If you do not have portable or mobile equipment, you can pick up the message and transmit from your home.

  This is an evolving drill and more info along with hospital contacts will be made available in the near future.

Please contact me as soon as possible with your contact info if you are able to participate.

  Please check into the ARES Net this Thursday evening for more details.

Mark   AD5CA
ARES South Texas Section District 4 EC
AD5CA@ARRL.net

Operation Sky Bridge –

CBRAC

Exercise Plan

Saturday December 5th, 2020

The Exercise Plan (ExPlan) gives elected and appointed officials, observers, media personnel, and players from participating organizations information they need to observe or participate in the exercise. Some exercise material is intended for the exclusive use of exercise planners, controllers, and evaluators, but players may view other materials that are necessary to their performance. All exercise participants may view the ExPlan.

EXERCISE OVERVIEW

Exercise Name	Operation Sky Bridge
Exercise Dates	12/05/2020
Scope	This is a full-scale exercise (FSE), planned for 12/05/2020 at the various locations in CBRAC Region 11; locations are indicated within this exercise plan APPENDIX D. Exercise play is limited to the parameters indicated with in this exercise plan.
Mission Area(s)	Preparedness, Response
Core Capabilities	Capability 2. Health Care and Medical Response
Objectives	See "Exercise Objectives and Core Capabilities" on page 2 of this document.
Threat or Hazard	Threat – Man-made, loss of critical infrastructure
Scenario	The exercise will involve response to total loss of communications
Sponsor	Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council, Amateur Radio Emergency Service
Participating Organizations	Agencies will be indicated on Appendix B page B-1.
Point of Contact	Nathan Rubio Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council 956-635-9023 nathan.rubio@cbrac.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Exercise Objectives and Core Capabilities

The following exercise objectives in Table 1 describe the expected outcomes for the exercise. The objectives are linked to core capabilities, which are distinct critical elements necessary to achieve the specific mission area(s). These objectives have been developed using the four **ASPR 2017-2022 Health Care Preparedness and Response Capabilities** framework for the purposes of building, sustaining, and preparing to respond. The objectives and aligned core capabilities are guided by elected and appointed officials and selected by the Exercise Planning Team.

Exercise Objective	Core Capability
Communications	
Evaluate the ability of the hospitals to provide essential elements of information (EEI) to communications operators for regional distribution during emergency operations.	**Capability 2: Capability 2. Health Care and Medical Response** **Objective 2:** Utilize Information Sharing Procedures and Platforms **Activity 2:** Identify Information Access and Data Protection Procedures
Evaluate the ability of ARES field radio operators to provide essential elements of information (EEI) gathered from assigned hospitals and report that information to District 13 Emergency Coordinator during emergency operations.	**Capability 2: Capability 2. Health Care and Medical Response** **Objective 2:** Utilize Information Sharing Procedures and Platforms **Activity 3:** Utilize Communications Systems and Platforms
Evaluate the ability of the ARES District 13 Emergency Coordinator to provide essential elements of information (EEI) gathered from ARES field radio operators and relay that information to State officials in the State Operations Center (SOC) during emergency operations.	**Capability 2: Health Care and Medical Response** **Objective 3:** Coordinate Response Strategy, Resources, and Communications **Activity 1:** Identify and Coordinate Resource Needs during an Emergency

Table 1. Exercise Objectives and Associated Core Capabilities

Participant Roles and Responsibilities

The term *participant* encompasses many groups of people, not just those playing in the exercise. Groups of participants involved in the exercise, and their respective roles and responsibilities, are as follows:

Players. Players are personnel who have an active role in discussing or performing their regular roles and responsibilities during the exercise. Players discuss or initiate actions in response to the simulated emergency.

Controllers. Controllers plan and manage exercise play, set up and operate the exercise site, and act in the roles of organizations or individuals that are not playing in the exercise. Controllers direct the pace of the exercise, provide key data to players, and may prompt or initiate certain player actions to ensure exercise continuity. In addition, they issue exercise material to players as required, monitor the exercise timeline, and supervise the safety of all exercise participants.

Simulators. (If Applicable) Simulators are control staff personnel who role-play nonparticipating organizations or individuals. They most often operate out of the Simulation Cell (SimCell), but they may occasionally have face-to-face contact with players. Simulators function semi-independently under the supervision of SimCell controllers, enacting roles (e.g., media reporters or next of kin) in accordance with instructions provided in the Master Scenario Events List (MSEL). All simulators are ultimately accountable to the Exercise Director and Senior Controller.

Evaluators. Evaluators evaluate and provide feedback on a designated functional area of the exercise. Evaluators observe and document performance against established capability targets and critical tasks, in accordance with the Exercise Evaluation Guides (EEGs).

Actors. (If Applicable) Actors simulate specific roles during exercise play, typically victims or other bystanders.

Observers. (If Applicable) Observers visit or view selected segments of the exercise. Observers do not play in the exercise, nor do they perform any control or evaluation functions. Observers view the exercise from a designated observation area and must remain within the observation area during the exercise. Very Important Persons (VIPs) are also observers, but they frequently are grouped separately.

Media Personnel. (If Applicable) Some media personnel may be present as observers, pending approval by the sponsor organization and the Exercise Planning Team.

Support Staff. (If Applicable) The exercise support staff includes individuals who perform administrative and logistical support tasks during the exercise (e.g., registration, catering).

Exercise Assumptions and Artificialities

In any exercise, assumptions and artificialities may be necessary to complete play in the time allotted and/or account for logistical limitations. Exercise participants should accept that assumptions and artificialities are inherent in any exercise and should not allow these considerations to negatively impact their participation.

Assumptions

Assumptions constitute the implied factual foundation for the exercise and, as such, are assumed to be present before the exercise starts. The following assumptions apply to the exercise:

The exercise is conducted in a no-fault learning environment wherein capabilities, plans, systems, and processes will be evaluated.

The exercise scenario is plausible, and events occur as they are presented.

Exercise simulation contains sufficient detail to allow players to react to information and situations as they are presented as if the simulated incident were real.

Participating agencies may need to balance exercise play with real-world emergencies. Real-world emergencies take priority.

Artificialities

During this exercise, the following artificialities apply:

Exercise communication and coordination is limited to participating exercise organizations, venues, and the Controllers.

Only communication methods listed in the Communications Directory or approved communications preestablished by the Exercise Director and individual agency are available for players to use during the exercise.

EXERCISE LOGISTICS

Safety

Exercise participant safety takes priority over exercise events. The following general requirements apply to the exercise:

A Safety Controller is responsible for participant safety; any safety concerns must be immediately reported to the Safety Controller. The Safety Controller and Exercise Director will determine if a real-world emergency warrants a pause in exercise play and when exercise play can be resumed.

For an emergency that requires assistance, use the phrase **"Break, Break, Break" followed by information pertaining to the "break".** The following procedures should be used in case of a real emergency during the exercise:

> Anyone who observes a participant who is seriously ill or injured will immediately notify emergency services and the closest controller, and, within reason and training, render aid.

> The controller aware of a real emergency will initiate the **"Break, Break, Break"** broadcast and provide the Safety Controller, Senior Controller, and Exercise Director with the location of the emergency and resources needed, if any. The Senior Controller will notify the Control Cell as soon as possible if a real emergency occurs.

Fire Safety

Standard fire and safety regulations relevant to the jurisdiction, venue, or organization will be followed during the exercise.

Emergency Medical Services

The sponsor organization will coordinate with local emergency medical services in the event of a real-world emergency. For this exercise, each site hospital will provide EMS control.

Weapons Policy

All participants will follow the relevant weapons policy for the exercising organization or exercise venue.

Site Access

Security

If entry control is required for the exercise venue(s), each individual facility is responsible for coordinating appropriate security measures. To prevent interruption of the exercise, access to exercise sites and the Control Cell (If Applicable) is limited to exercise participants. Players should advise their venue's controller, evaluator, or agency administration of any unauthorized persons.

Media/Observer Coordination

Organizations with media personnel and/or observers attending the event should coordinate with the sponsor organization for access to the exercise site. Media/Observers are escorted to designated areas and accompanied by site radio commander at all times. Sponsor organization representatives and/or the observer controller may be present to explain exercise conduct and answer questions, however, it is strongly encouraged all communications are to be via the exercise PIO. Exercise participants should be advised of media and/or observer presence.

Exercise Identification

Exercise staff may be identified by badges, hats, and/or vests to clearly display exercise roles; additionally, uniform clothing may be worn to show agency affiliation. Table 2 describes these identification items (if applicable).

Group	Color
Exercise Director	White
Facilitator	White
Controllers	Blue
Evaluators	Red
Support Staff	Orange

Table 2. Exercise Identification

POST-EXERCISE AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES

Debriefings

Post-exercise debriefings aim to collect sufficient relevant data to support effective evaluation and improvement planning.

Hot Wash

At the conclusion of exercise play, controllers facilitate a Hot Wash to allow players to discuss strengths and areas for improvement, and evaluators to seek clarification regarding player actions and decision-making processes. All participants may attend; however, observers are not encouraged to attend the meeting. The Hot Wash should not exceed 30 minutes.

Controller and Evaluator Debriefing

Controllers and evaluators attend a facilitated C/E Debriefing immediately following the exercise. During this debriefing, controllers and evaluators provide an overview of their observed functional areas and discuss strengths and areas for improvement. (If Applicable)

Participant Feedback Forms

Participant Feedback Forms provide players with the opportunity to comment candidly on exercise activities and exercise design. Participant Feedback Forms should be collected at the conclusion of the Hot Wash.

Evaluation

Exercise Evaluation Guides

EEGs assist evaluators in collecting relevant exercise observations. EEGs document exercise objectives and aligned core capabilities, capability targets, and critical tasks. Each EEG provides evaluators with information on what they should expect to see demonstrated in their functional area. The EEGs, coupled with Participant Feedback Forms and Hot Wash notes, are used to evaluate the exercise and compile the After-Action Report (AAR).

After-Action Report

The AAR summarizes key information related to evaluation. The AAR primarily focuses on the analysis of core capabilities, including capability performance, strengths, and areas for improvement. AARs also include basic exercise information, including the exercise name, type of exercise, dates, location, participating organizations, mission area(s), specific threat or hazard, a brief scenario description, and the name of the exercise sponsor and POC.

Improvement Planning

Improvement planning is the process by which the observations recorded in the AAR are resolved through development of concrete corrective actions, which are prioritized and tracked as a part of a continuous corrective action program.

After-Action Meeting

The After-Action Meeting (AAM) is a meeting held among decision- and policy-makers from the exercising organizations, as well as the Lead Evaluator and members of the Exercise Planning Team, to debrief the exercise and to review and refine the draft AAR and Improvement Plan (IP). The AAM should be an interactive session, providing attendees the opportunity to discuss and validate the observations and corrective actions in the draft AAR/IP.

Improvement Plan

The IP identifies specific corrective actions, assigns them to responsible parties, and establishes target dates for their completion. It is created by elected and appointed officials from the organizations participating in the exercise and discussed and validated during the AAM.

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

Exercise Rules

The following general rules govern exercise play:

Real-world emergency actions take priority over exercise actions.

Exercise players will comply with real-world emergency procedures, unless otherwise directed by the control staff.

All communications (including written, radio, telephone, and e-mail) during the exercise will begin and end with the statement **"This is an exercise, this is an exercise, this is an exercise."**

Exercise players who place telephone calls or initiate radio communication with the Control Cell (If Applicable) must identify the organization or individual with whom they wish to speak.

Players Instructions

Players should follow certain guidelines before, during, and after the exercise to ensure a safe and effective exercise.

Before the Exercise

Review appropriate organizational plans, procedures, and exercise support documents.

Be at the appropriate site at least 30 minutes before the exercise starts. Wear the appropriate uniform and/or identification item(s).

Sign in when you arrive with controllers.

If you gain knowledge of the scenario before the exercise, notify a controller so that appropriate actions can be taken to ensure a valid evaluation.

Read your Player Information Handout, which includes information on exercise safety.

During the Exercise

Respond to exercise events and information as if the emergency were real, unless otherwise directed by an exercise controller.

Controllers will give you only information they are specifically directed to disseminate. You are expected to obtain other necessary information through existing emergency information channels.

Do not engage in personal conversations with controllers, evaluators, observers, or media personnel. If you are asked an exercise-related question, give a short, concise answer. If you are busy and cannot immediately respond, indicate that, but report back with an answer as soon as possible.

If you do not understand the scope of the exercise, or if you are uncertain about an organization's participation in an exercise, ask a controller.

Parts of the scenario may seem implausible. Recognize that the exercise has objectives to satisfy and may require incorporation of unrealistic aspects. Every effort has been made by the exercise's trusted agents to balance realism with safety and to create an effective learning and evaluation environment.

All exercise communications will begin and end with the statement **"This is an exercise, this is an exercise, this is an exercise."** This precaution is taken so that anyone who overhears the conversation will not mistake exercise play for a real-world emergency.

When you communicate with the Control Cell (If Applicable), identify the organization or individual with whom you wish to speak.

Speak when you take an action. This procedure will ensure that evaluators are aware of critical actions as they occur.

Maintain a log of your activities. Many times, this log may include documentation of activities that were missed by a controller or evaluator.

After the Exercise

Participate in the Hot Wash at your venue with controllers and evaluators.

Complete the Participant Feedback Form. This form allows you to comment candidly on emergency response activities and exercise effectiveness. Provide the completed form to a controller or evaluator.

Provide any notes or materials generated from the exercise to your controller or evaluator for review and inclusion in the AAR.

Simulation Guidelines

Because the exercise is of limited duration and scope, certain details will be simulated. The physical description of what would fully occur at the incident sites and surrounding areas will be relayed to players by simulators or controllers. The Control Cell (If Applicable) will simulate the roles and interactions of nonparticipating organizations or individuals when needed. Patients will be simulated where applicable.

Medical procedures may be simulated.

APPENDIX A: EXERCISE SCHEDULE

Time	Personnel	Activity	Location
Saturday December 5th 2020			
10:00	All Participants	Exercise Briefing	Various: See Appendix C
10:15	All Participants	Exercise Starts	Various: See Appendix D
12:00	All Participants	Exercise Ends	Various: See Appendix D
12:15	All Participants	Venue Hot Washes/turn in all Participant Feedback Forms	Various: PARTICIPANT INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE After the Exercise pg. 10

APPENDIX B: EXERCISE PARTICIPANTS

Exercise participants indicated are related to this annex ExPlan; a complete list will be with the POC listed above.

Participating Organizations
Federal
State
County
City
Non-Government Agencies
Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council

APPENDIX C: COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Communications for this exercise will be as follows:

APPENDIX D: EXERCISE SITE MAPS

APPENDIX E: ACRONYMS

Acronym	Term
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
ExPlan	Exercise Plan
HSEEP	Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program
SME	Subject Matter Expert
CBRAC	Coastal Bend Regional Advisory Council
EMTF	Emergency Medical Task Force
MAC	Multi-Agency Coordination
NGO	Non-Government Agency
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
HPP	Healthcare Preparedness Program
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
MSEL	Master Scenario Events List
EEGs	Exercise Evaluation Guides
VIP	Very Important Person
PIO	Public Information Officer
C/E	Controller and Evaluator
AAR	After-Action Report
POC	Point of Contact
AAM	After-Action Meeting
IP	Improvement Plan