



Monthly Packet Message Passing Exercise Review

Period: 09/18/2024 09:00 to 09/25/2024



Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES

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Messages Passed Summary

Approximate number counts from the Xanadu EOC ICS-309:

Assignments sent (total):	17 + 1 instructor
Actual participating / dropped / MIA	17 / 1/ 0
Actual OP / PFM / Fun	13 / 5/ 0
Content Messages exchanged *:	
2 x ICS213 (sent to XND EOC)	39
1 x EOC213RR	19
Various operator-2-operator	216
Other, testing, etc.	-na-

Thank you for participating in this exercise!

- Excluding DELIVERED: 331 includes resends and testing.
Overall total to/from Xanadu EOC: 617

Practice Objectives

- Based on SCC documentation
 - SCCo ARES/RACES Packet Operations - Type III, Part A and Part B courses
 - How to Send a Packet Message with Outpost - 09/19/2013
 - Standard Packet Message Subject Line - 02/22/2020
 - Standard Packet Check-in/Out Message - 09/25/2024
 - Outpost Users Guide, Basics; Version 3.4 | July 2020
 - RACES Recommended Form Routing Cheat Sheet [Rev: 19-Feb-2024]
- Following Directions
- Exercising simulated 3rd party and operator-to-operator messages
 - Check-In and Check-Out
 - XSCEVENT and XND@XSC Notice retrieval and send messages
 - Operator to operator messages: Check-in and Check-out, notice read, etc.
 - 2 x EOC213RR, 1 x RACES-MR
- Simulated paperwork Turn-in: completed packet ICS309 only

How did we do in general?

- Check-in and Check-out – minor
- City Notice read XND@XSC – good
 - No missing reports
- Shelter Status – very good
- EOC213RR – Very good
- RACES-MAR – Excellent
- ICS-309 – just short of Excellent
 - Modified instructions to add Location worked quite well
- Relief Briefing next message number
 - Great job!

The Assignment:

Simulated Scenario for this month's exercise: Xanadu County resources have been activated to provide immediate short-term aid for residents temporarily evacuated from areas impacted from south bay flooding caused by a recent tsunami that impacted the California coastline on September 17th. SF Bay water levels have temporarily risen in the south bay slightly above the predicted 100-year FEMA flood hazard zones. Water levels are anticipated to recede to normal over the next two to three days. Several aid stations have been established to provide water dispensing, first aid, people location, child care, potential medicine/vaccination services, and more.

You have been assigned to the fictitious H. Morgan Aid Station as a packet radio operator to support communication needs with Xanadu EOC. Your assignment is for the 1st 12-hour operational period on the second day of activation. You taking over from the packet operator from the previous shift who failed to provide you with a relief briefing.

Your communications lead (immediate supervisor) is John Rackham. The aid station manager is Ed Teach. The child care managers are Anny Bonney and Mary Read, The police liaison officer is Captain James B. Hook. The aid station's logistics and supply manager is William Kidd.

Incident Name (all forms):	South Bay Flood
Activation Number:	XND-24-0918P
Your position:	Packet Operator
Tactical call for packet for all BBS interaction:	XND021
Location:	H. Morgan Aid Station
Your message number prefix:	X21
Next packet message number: (from simulated relief briefing)	your_choice
Tactical call for any simulated voice nets:	
Your BBS:	Use your normal primary BBS, if not available use your secondary.
Xanadu EOC mailbox:	XDNEOC@W1XSC.ampr.org (primary)
	XDNEOC@W4XSC.ampr.org (secondary)
XND EOC activation period:	From Wednesday 09/18/24 09:00 until Wednesday 09/25/24 17:00
Participation credit requirements	Packet messages: Check-in, Check-out, and all 3rd party messages Email to instructor, completed: packet ICS-309, as per release instructions. Email to instructor, self-assessment critique message (may be turned in with ICS-309).
Simulate Voice communications with Xanadu EOC:	For simulated voice net messages, call the EOC at 650-542-8987 and leave a voice message., SMS/MMS text messages are also accepted. (Yes, this really works for this exercise).

Note: There will be no Zoom conference call for this month's practice. You are on your own to self-score and assess your experience.

Check-In Ack (same as July)

Check-In acknowledged to the Xanadu County Packet Net for this month's message passing communication practice. You have these guidelines and assignments:

1) Please make sure each message you send has this somewhere in the message content:

**** This is drill traffic ****

2) This month's practice will simulate forms being handed to you by your manager available as PDF via URL.

- a) After they "hand" you the form(s), they walk away and are not available for updates/corrections.
- b) You may need to complete the form using the Radio Routing Cheat sheet and your best judgement.

3) This practice may put some notes into the forms for various fields. A note to you is bracketed by "<" and ">" signs. For example, you may see:

"<your location>"

Simply, replace the brackets and the note text with the requested or instructed text for that field, do not include the brackets or the note text.

4) In any messages you are asked to transmit:

- a) If you see an "XX" (double-X), replace the XX with your assigned tactical number.
- b) If you see an "XXX-" when referencing a message prefix, replace the last two "XX" with your tactical number. Example, your tactical number is 71, "XXX-" -> "X71-"
- c) Replace any "DD" with the actual day value that you are transmitting the form for the practice.
- d) "HH" and "MM" with current 24-hour clock hour value and the current minutes value
- e) If you see a "+time" add the correction to the current time. For example, if the form has "HH:MM+3h", use your current time plus 3 hours, or "04/DD/2024+tomorrow", would be enter tomorrow's date for the DD replacement, also represented as "04/DD/2024 +1 day"
- f) If you see a "+2h", add two hours to your current time.
- g) Replace any "##" with an integer number.

[20240918 1-check-in-ack]

Message Summaries

- Participants were on their own to self-critique on message content for this month
- Listing of message logs lines are presented, per message

Check-In

```
22 | 036P | X22-036P_R_Check-In XND022, H. Morgan Aid Station
23 | 1453P | X23-1453P_R_Check-In XND023, H. Morgan Aid Station
24 | 612P | X24-612P_R_Check-In XND024, Packet Operator
25 | 600M | X25-600M_R_Check-In XND025, H. Morgan Aid Station
26 | 1450P | X26-1450P_R_Check-In XND026, H. Morgan Aid Station
27 | 3939P | X27-3939P_R_Check-In XND027, H. Morgan Aid Station
28 | 2803P | X28-2803P_R_Check-In XND028, H. Morgan Aid Station
29 | 1032P | X29-1032P_R_Check-In XND029, Kira Shelter
30 | 027M | X30-027M_R_Check-In XND030, H. Morgan Aid Station 30
31 | 923M | X31-923M_R_Check-In XND031, H. Morgan Aid Station
32 | 3034P | X32-3034P_R_Check-In XND032, Packet Operator, H. Morgan Aid Station
33 | 569P | X33-569P_R_Check-In XND033, H. Morgan Aid Station
34 | 201P | X34-201P_R_Check-In XND034, H. Morgan Aid Station
35 | 100M | X35-100M_R_Check-In XND035, H. Morgan Aid Station
36 | 225P | X36-225P_R_Check-In XND036, Mark Reynolds
37 | 501M | 037-501M_R_Check-In XND037, H. Morgan Aid Station 37
KK6FMQ | 106M | X32-106M_R_Check-In KK6FMQ, GrantElliot
KM6MCU | 136P | MCU-136P_R_Check-In KM6MCU, Reynaldo Verdejo
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Notes:

1. KK6FMQ didn't set their tactical calls sign in Outpost
2. KM6MCU (brand new user), started exercise before receiving assignment and continued using their FCC call sign throughout – they would have been XND038 had they waited for assignment
3. X29 used last exercise's information
4. X37 had an incorrect prefix used throughout, "037" should be "X37"
5. "Packet Operator" should not be present for two reasons: Xanadu EOC already knows it is a packet check-in and the operator doesn't check in, the served agency does.
6. "H. Morgan Aid Station" is the correct information, the XX number is redundant and not needed. Think of what goes on top of the T-Card: i.e., the served agency checked in on packet

XND@XSC Notice Read (uncorrected)

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23 | 1454P | 9/16/24_18:05 | X23-1454P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/16/24 18:05
24 | 616P | 9/21/24_16:10 | X24-616P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/21/24 16:10
25 | 606M | 9/19/24_13:30 | X25-606M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/19/24 13:30
27 | 3941P | 9/DD/24_12:52 | X27-3941P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/DD/24 12:52
28 | 2802P | 9/19/24_14:26 | X28-2802P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/19/24 14:26
30 | 031M | 9/22/24_19:41 | X30-031M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/22/24 19:41
31 | 926M | 9/23/24_15:06 | X31-926M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/23/24 15:06
32 | 3040P | 9/19/24_16:21 | X32-3040P_R_XND South Bay Flood Notice read at 09/19/24 16:21
33 | 572P | 9/18/24_09:58 | X33-572P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/18/24 09:58
34 | 206P | 9/18/24_20:25 | X34-206P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/18/24 20:25
35 | 109M | X35-109M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09-18-24 09:09_09:09 |
X35-109M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09-18-24 09:09
37 | 505M | 9/22/24_11:48 | 037-505M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/22/24 11:48
KM6MCU | 139P | 9/23/24_21:52 | MCU-139P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/23/24 21:52
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Notes:

1. X35 did not use the date and time as instructed – parser bombed
2. X27 did not replace the “DD”
3. KM6MCU (brand new user), started exercise before receiving assignment

XND@XSC Notice Read (corrected X35 by hand)

23		1454P		9/16/24_18:05		X23-1454P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/16/24 18:05
24		616P		9/21/24_16:10		X24-616P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/21/24 16:10
25		606M		9/19/24_13:30		X25-606M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/19/24 13:30
27		3941P		9/DD/24_12:52		X27-3941P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/DD/24 12:52
28		2802P		9/19/24_14:26		X28-2802P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/19/24 14:26
30		031M		9/22/24_19:41		X30-031M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/22/24 19:41
31		926M		9/23/24_15:06		X31-926M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/23/24 15:06
32		3040P		9/19/24_16:21		X32-3040P_R_XND South Bay Flood Notice read at 09/19/24 16:21
33		572P		9/18/24_09:58		X33-572P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/18/24 09:58
34		206P		9/18/24_20:25		X34-206P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/18/24 20:25
35		109M		9/18/24_09:09		X35-109M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/18/24 09:09
37		505M		9/22/24_11:48		037-505M_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/22/24 11:48
KM6MCU		139P		9/23/24_21:52		MCU-139P_R_XND South Bay Flood notice read at 09/23/24 21:52

Msg 1

22		039P		_P		X22-039P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
23		1457P		_P		X23-1457P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
24		617P		_P		X24-617P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
25		607M		_P		X25-607M_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
26		1453P		_P		X26-1453P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
27		3944P		_P		X27-3944P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
28		2806P		_P		X28-2806P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
30		032M		_P		X30-032M_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
31		931M		_P		X31-931M_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
33		573P		_P		X33-573P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
34		207P		_P		X34-207P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
35		112M		_P		X35-112M_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
36		230P		_P		X36-230P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
37		507M		_P		037-507M_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
48		3041P		_P		X48-3041P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status
KM6MCU		141P		_P		MCU-141P_P_IC213_Aid Station Status

Msg 2

22		042P		_R		X22-042P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
23		1460P		_R		X23-1460P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood, Resource Request
24		620P		_R		X24-620P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
25		612M		_R		X25-612M_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
26		1456P		_R		X26-1456P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
27		3947P		_R		X27-3947P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
28		2809P		_R		X28-2809P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
30		037M		_R		X30-037M_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
31		935M		_R		X31-935M_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
31		935M		_R		X31-935M_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
33		576P		_R		X33-576P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
34		210P		_R		X34-210P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood, Resource Request
35		115M		_R		X35-115M_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
36		233P		_R		X36-233P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
37		513M		_R		037-513M_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
48		3044P		_R		X48-3044P_R_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood
KM6MCU		144P		_P		MCU-144P_P_EOC213RR_South Bay Flood

Notes:

1. X48 appeared from nowhere, figured out that X32 switched for unknown reason
2. X23 and X34 changed the form's Field 1 Incident Name to include ", Resource Request". This is not correct this information wasn't in the field as handed by the manager, and it is redundant information – this is an EOC-213 Resource Request form.

1. Incident Name South Bay Flood

Msg 3

22	045P	X22-045P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
23	1463P	X23-1463P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
24	623P	X24-623P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
25	616M	X25-616M_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
26	1459P	X26-1459P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
27	3950P	X27-3950P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
28	2812P	X28-2812P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
30	041M	X30-041M_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
31	942M	X31-942M_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
33	579P	X33-579P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
34	213P	X34-213P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
35	118M	X35-118M_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
36	236P	X36-236P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
37	517M	037-517M_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
48	3047P	X48-3047P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads
KM6MCU	149P	MCU-149P_R_IC5213_Closed Roads

Notes:

1. X48 appeared from nowhere, figured out that X32 switched for unknown reason
2. X23 and X34 changed the form's Field 1 Incident Name to include ", Resource Request". This is not correct this information wasn't in the field as handed by the manager, and it is redundant information – this is an EOC-213 Resource Request form.

Packet ICS-309

- Realized missing assigned location for real-world incidents
 - Form has incident name and activation number
 - Incidents can be very broad, like with a wild-fire response
- For most of our work incident name and location are assumed the same
- This was an experiment to see if a specific assignment Location could be added easily to both Output and SCCo ICS-309
- Worked out well for this exercise

- Thanks!

Self-assessment email required for participation

- On 10/15/24, after discussion with KE6TIM, CRO/CPM, it was decided to remove this as a requirement for participation credit.
- Participation records have been updated accordingly.

Zoom conference call

- Was not held for this month's practice
 - Real-world time pressures
- Participants were asked to self-assess
- Instructor time limited to document (score) what was required for participation credit.

Summary

- Very good go this September

Next practices:

- October – will be more aligned to simulating actual Mutual Aid process:
 - Mutual aid request -> SCC event posting
 - Operator notifying EOC they are available for assignment → signing up for the event
 - Assignment email from Xanadu EOC will contain two sections (in addition to others)
 - Assignment information – as given to an operator before they depart
 - Operator can accept or reject assignment
 - Local briefing and assignment – tactical call,
 - We may or may not include simulated travel

Draft scorecard posted – send comments via Internet email to instructor

- Reminder, there is no pass or fail
- The scorecard is a tool for indicating areas for improvement