A Tuneup for the National Traffic System

Goal

To increase the <u>quality and amount of communication services</u> available and provided to served agencies, and the public, during Disaster Events; by the amateur radio service.

Observations

1. Most amateurs who check into NTS section and local nets do not regularly handle traffic.

2. Most NTS operators who regularly handle traffic, do so, using a single mode of communication.

3. The NTS and its operators have been sparsely utilized in recent disaster Events.

4. NTS leadership and ARES leadership are reluctant to establish working relationships with each other.

5. Most active HF NTS operators are not active on VHF, nor have VHF equipment.

Principles

1. NTS would be a part of the ARES organizational structure

2. NTS Operators and NTS Stations should be considered to be a Resource for ARES

3. NTS Operators and Stations would strive to serve the needs of the ARES

4. Re-establish the concept of amateur Stations and amateur Operators

> A Proficient Operator does not necessarily have a Proficient Station

> A Proficient Station is not necessarily owned by a Proficient Operator

> ARES would use Proficient Operators at Proficient Stations during crisis Events.

Mechanics

1. During "Normal", non-crisis periods………

> NTS leadership and ARES leadership would establish working relationships with each other

> NTS would maintain the present system of Nets and TCC Schedules, which provide training.

> NTS would offer traffic handling training to ARES operators.

> Use technology, with trained operators; which would support meeting the Goal.

2. During a ARES Event

Based on Client requests, ARES defines the needs for handling Traffic

NTS Leadership assists in defining Traffic Nets and dedicated circuits

VHF/UHF Nets

HF Nets

Dedicated "In" circuits

Dedicated "Out" circuits

ARES Leadership recruits Operators and Stations from NTS and ARES to meet its needs.

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April 16, 2002