

GUIDE TO THE ARMED FORCES DAY... REGIONAL EXERCISE+TEST With Voice & NBEMS Activity



A MULTI-CLUB, MULTI-AGENCY PRE-HURRICANE SEASON TEST

of Florida-wide communications focusing on the use of 60 meters

and the opportunity to test with Armed Forces and MARS stations

May 14th – Saturday – Split hours to test day & night propagation

0900 to 1300EDT & 1600 to 2000EDT / 1300 to 1700Z & 2000 to 2400Z

YOU'RE INVITED... OPEN TO ALL!

Groups & Individuals...

CONFIRMED PARTICIPATING GROUPS:*

- Coast Guard Auxiliary-Div. 5
- Cocoa Amateur Radio Society
- PBC Red Cross Chapter
- Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society
- SATERN-Palm Beach County
- SATERN-Southern Territory
- Titusville Amateur Radio Club
- Wellington Radio Club

* As of 4-26-16

ARMED FORCES STATIONS WORKING 60 METERS

MILITARY STATION	TIME	FREQUENCY
AAZ / FT HUACHUCA, AZ	(14 MAY 1500Z - 2359Z)	5,330.5 kHz
AAV / CAMP EVANS, NJ	(14 MAY 1400Z - 2100Z)	5,330.5 kHz
AAC / BARROW ARMY RESERVE CENTER, KY	(14 MAY 1300Z - 15 MAY 0100Z)	5,346.5 kHz
ABH / SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, HI	(14 MAY 1600Z - 2300Z)	5,357.0 kHz
ALT / CAMP MABRY, TX	(14 MAY 1300Z-15 MAY 0200Z)	5,357.0 kHz
WAR / PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC	(14 MAY 1200Z - 2400Z)	5,357.0 kHz
WUG-2 / ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TN	(14 MAY 1300Z-15 MAY 0200Z)	5,403.5 kHz

Each group establishes its own exercise hours, modes and bands!

Please check with your local group about their plan.

WHY NOW... WHY 60 METERS?

If we truly are to be available "when all else fails," we need to periodically test our resources and have tool redundancy in the emcomm box. There's no better time than BEFORE the Hurricane Season. Increased 60m exercise and test activity countrywide has shown promising results. Yet in Florida, 60m activity remains very light...personally confirmed after days of monitoring on several antennas. But Saturday, May 14th, presents us with several 60m test opportunities.

One will be increased 60m activity because of the *Armed Forces Day Communications Test*. Nationwide, MARS and military stations have been authorized to make contacts on the SAME 60 meter frequencies as used by radio amateurs.

A 60m exercise is special because of the unique ability to use both data and voice modes on the same 60m channel. This allows those who have practiced mixed mode, voice and Basic NBEMS on 2m to do the same on HF.

Lastly, an important exercise goal is making the emergency communications scenario realistic and interesting. In this exercise, instead of simulated traffic, a participant can send, receive or relay REAL Armed Forces Day greetings or even the message from the **Secretary Of Defense!** Or, you can exchange signal reports along with a description of antennas and power level.

Working 60m is easy... it is a cross between channelized operations on VHF and the skip of HF. So make a simple 60m dipole or dig out your antenna tuner and try loading your existing antennas on 60m! You will be pleasantly surprised!

Remember... Everyone is at risk during disasters, so don't stand on the sidelines!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Before you jump into the exercise, please review the information unique to 60 meters. Examples: we are SECONDARY users, operation ONLY on 5 selected CHANNELS, etc. (Detailed info at: [ARRL 60M-RECOMMENDED PRACTICES](#))

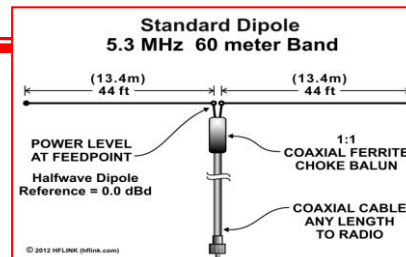
STATEWIDE COORDINATION ON SARNET: Very BRIEF transmissions for coordination, such as the channels being used by primary users, have been authorized on the FLDOT's SARNET system. For your nearest access repeater and how-to info check www.sarnetfl.com.

CW or DATA MODE OPERATION: Use the non-voice frequencies shown. Data users, make sure to enable the Reed-Solomon TX+RX ID modes. Tailor the FLDIGI "BRAG" macro to your 60m station parameters.

AFD 2016 COMM TEST INFO: [FINAL 2016 ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY.pdf](#)

60M OPERATIONS & TECHNICAL INFO: [5MHz 60 meter band](#)

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFO, LARRY KS4NB: larry33414@aol.com



USB	CW + DATA
Channel 1: 5330.5 kHz	5332.0 kHz
Channel 2: 5346.5 kHz	5348.0 kHz
Channel 3: 5357.0 kHz	5358.5 kHz
Channel 4: 5371.5 kHz	5373.0 kHz
Channel 5: 5403.5 kHz	5405.0 kHz