Gwinnett County Amateur Radio Emergency Service



Message Handling

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Life of a Message

ORIGINATOR

- Needs to communicate with another location
- Generates message content
- Hands message to station operator or liaison to ARES

RADIO OP

- Takes message from originator
- Adds header information
- Places message in appropriate format with no content change
- Transmits
 message to
 destination or
 relay station
- Records service information

RADIO OP

- Takes message from sending station
- Records service information
- Hands message to addressee or liaison to addressee

ADDRESSEE

- Takes message from receiving station operator
- Reads message
- Reacts to message

Tactical vs. Formal

- Tactical Messages
 - Immediate threat to life and property
 - Rapid reaction required by recipient
- Formal Messages
 - Communicate technical information
 - Highly level of accuracy
 - Detailed record keeping

Radiogram

NUMBER	PRECEENCE	НХ	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED [DATE
TO:					CEIVED AT:		
				STA NAN		PHONE	
Telephon	e number:				DRESS		
REC'D	FROM	DAT	E TIME	SENT	- TO D <i>F</i>	ATE TIME	

Number

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	НХ	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
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• Emergency:

- Any message having life and death urgency to any person or group of persons, which is transmitted by Amateur Radio in the absence of regular commercial facilities.
- This includes official messages of welfare agencies during emergencies requesting supplies, materials or instructions vital to relief to stricken populace in emergency areas.
- When in doubt, do not use this designation.

- Priority
 - This classification is for important messages having a specific time limit to include:
 - official messages not covered in the emergency category
 - press dispatches
 - emergency-related traffic not of the utmost urgency

Welfare

- This classification refers to either an inquiry as to the health and welfare of an individual in the disaster area or an advisory from the disaster area that indicates all is well
- Welfare traffic is handled only after all emergency and priority traffic is cleared
- The Red Cross equivalent to an incoming Welfare message is DWI (Disaster Welfare Inquiry)

Routine

- Most traffic in normal times will bear this designation
- In disaster situation, traffic labeled Routine should be handled last, or not at all when circuits are busy with higher-precedence traffic

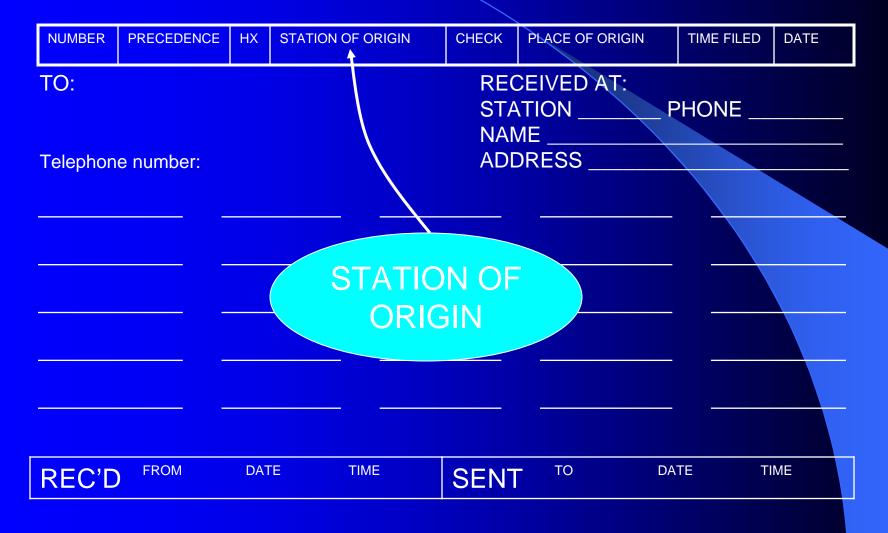
NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX •	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIN	ME FILED	DATE
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				STA NAN	TION	PHC	ONE	
Telephon	e number:				RESS			
			HANDL	ING				
			INSTRUC		S			
			INOTINOC					
REC'D	FROM	DAT	E TIME	SENT	- то	DATE	TI	ME

- HXA (followed by number) Collect landline delivery authorized by addressee within ... miles (if no number, authorization is unlimited)
- HXB (followed by number) Cancel message if not delivered within ... hours of filing time; service originating station
- HXC Report date and time of delivery (TOD) to originating station

- HXD Report to originating station the identify of station from which received plus date and time.
 Report identify of station to which relayed, plus date and time, or if delivered report date, time and method of delivery
- HXE Delivering station get reply from addressee, originate message back

- HXF (followed by number) Hold delivery until ... (date)
- HXG Delivery by mail or landline toll call not required. If toll or other expense involved, cancel message and service originating station

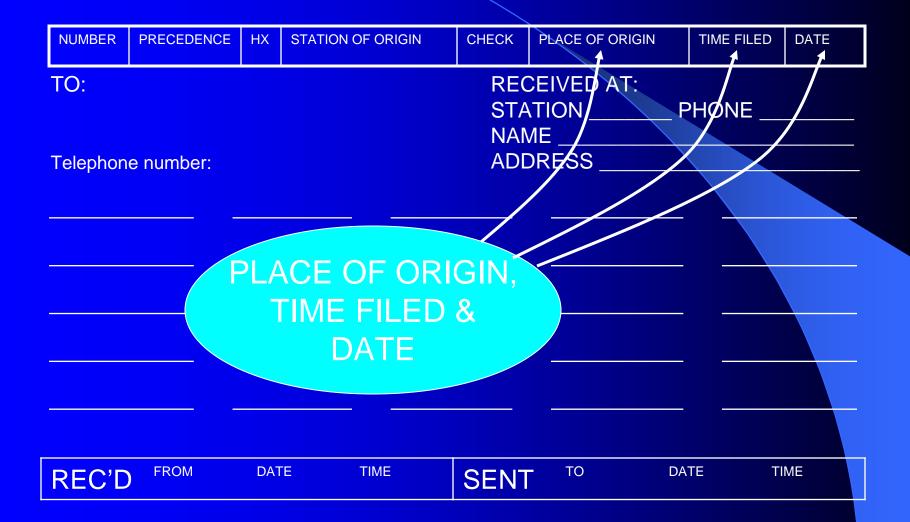
Station of Origin



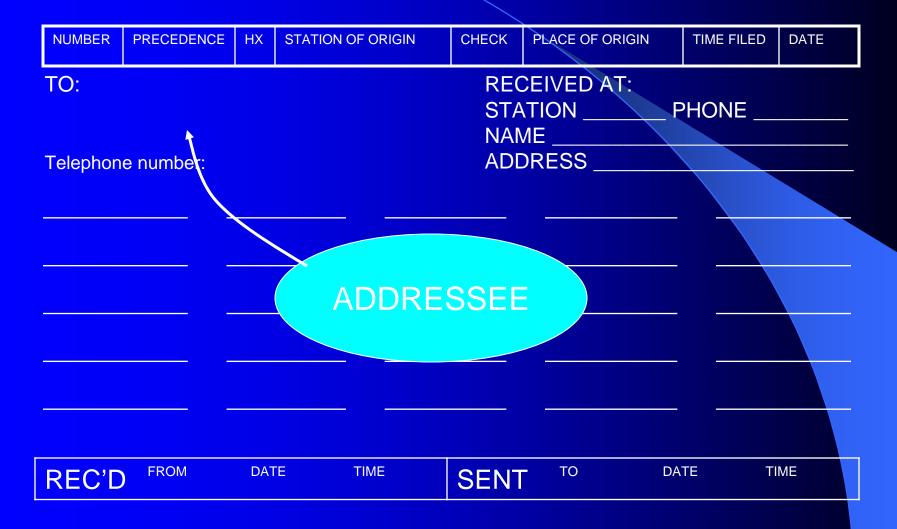
Check

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	НХ	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
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Place, Time and Date



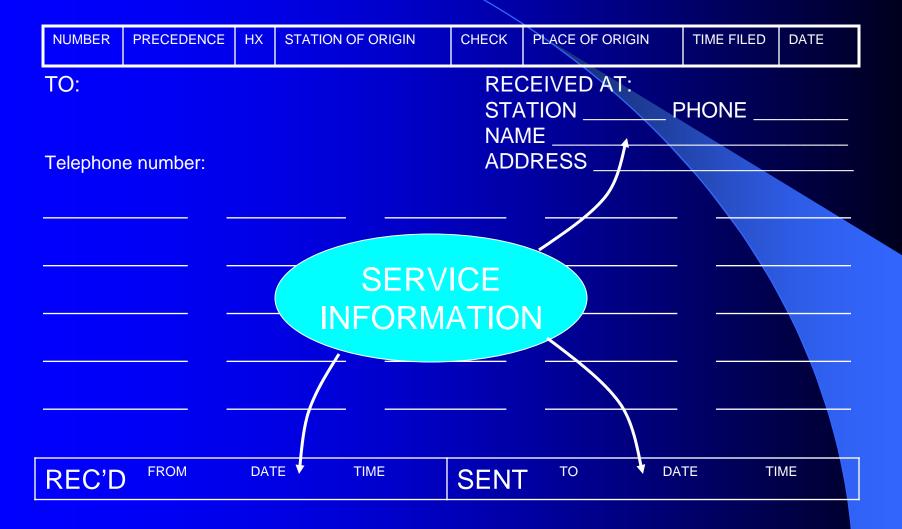
Addressee



Message Text

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	НХ	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
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				STA NAN		PHONE	
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Service Information



- Speeds processing of messages with standard text
- 26 numbered messages designed for emergency operations
- "ARL" is inserted in front of check, e.g.
 ARL 7
- "ARL" is inserted in front of spelled out numbered message, e.g. ARL ONE

ONE – Everyone safe here. Please don't worry.

TWO – Coming home as soon as possible.

THREE – Am in _____ hospital. Receiving excellent care and recovering fine.

FOUR – Only slight property damage here. Do not be concerned about disaster reports.

FIVE – Am moving to new location. Send no further mail. Will inform you of new address when relocated.

SIX – Will contact you ASAP.

SEVEN – Please reply by Amateur Raido through the amateur delivering this message. This is a free public service.

EIGHT – Need additional ____ mobile or portable equipment for immediate emergency use.

NINE – Additional ____ radio operators needed o assist with emergency at this location.

- TEN Please contact ____. Advise to standby and provide further emergency information, instructions or assistance.
- ELEVEN Establish Amateur Radio emergency communications with _____ on ____ MHz.
- TWELVE Anxious to hear from you. No word in some time. Please contact me as soon as possible.
- THIRTEEN Medical emergency situation exists here.

- FOURTEEN Situation here becoming critical.

 Losses and damage from ____ increasing.
- FIFTEEN Please advise your condition and what help is needed.
- SIXTEEN Property damage very severe in this area.
- SEVENTEEN REACT communications services also available. Establish REACT communications with _____ on channel ____.

EIGHTEEN – Please contact me as soon as possible at _____.

NINETEEN – Request health and welfare report on ____ (name, address, phone).

TWENTY – Temporarily stranded. Will need some assistance. Please contact me at ____.

TWENTY ONE – Search and Rescue assistance is needed by local authorities here. Advise availability.

- TWENTY TWO Need accurate information on the extend and type of conditions now existing at your location. Please furnish this information and reply without delay.
- TWENTY THREE Report at once the accessibility and best way to reach your location.
- TWENTY FOUR Evacuation of residents from this area urgently needed. Advise plans for help.
- TWENTY FIVE Furnish as soon as possible the weather conditions at your location.

TWENTY SIX – Help and care for evacuation of sick and injured from this location needed at once.

Passing a Message

- Call NCS and announce your traffic:
 - One priority for Gwinnett EMA
 - One emergency for Newton Medical
 - One priority for all hospitals
- Wait for acknowledgment and instructions from NCS
- For tactical emergency, call "EMERGENCY" when there is a pause between transmissions (NET 1-2, paragraph 5.4.6).

Log

- Keep record of all traffic, both formal and tactical
- Keep record of important events:
 - Operator arrival/departure
 - Incidents at operating location
 - Include date, time and call/initials of person making entry

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TTX

What means: formal vs. tactical & precedence -

- 1. Routine report on the hour
- 2. Need for critical supplies
- 3. Unruly individual(s) causing problems
- 4. Request for status on individual
- 5. Need for relief operator
- 6. Report of ARES station status, i.e. station ready for operation to NCS

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Summary

- Use proper method of conveying information: formal messages vs. tactical communications
- Use proper precedence for all messages
- Use Numbered Radiogram to reduce handling time
- Use proper net procedure

References

- ARES Field Resources Manual (ARRL)
- Gwinnett ARES SOG NET 1-2: Net Operations



