

CERT Neighborhood Communications

Always perform a radio check before leaving the command post. Know your primary channel assignment and any alternate channels.

Passing a Message

1. **Know what you are going to say before speaking.** Hint: Write it in your log first.
2. **Listen on your channel before you speak.** Your neighborhood number is your channel and your code. Is the channel clear?
3. **PTT.** Press the transmit button and wait briefly.
4. **Identify.** Give tactical call of addressee and then your tactical call sign. Hold
5. **PTT** Hold the button a second then release.
6. **Wait to be acknowledged.**
7. **PTT. Then pass the message.** Speak S-L-O-W-L-Y.
8. **PTT.** Continue to hold the transmit button briefly, then release

Common Terms

Affirmative - yes.

All After - Request repeat of transmission after the word or phrase given.

All Before - Request repeat of transmission before word or phrase given.

Clear - You are done speaking and now going off the air. Net Control must acknowledge this before you go off the air.

Figures - a numeral or number is to follow.

I Say Again - I am repeating last transmission.

I Spell - I am going to spell the next word phonetically.

Initials - a letter or letters to follow.

Negative - no.

Over - means you are expecting a response and are monitoring.

Out - means you are NOT expecting a response. [But keep monitoring.]

This is - Optional but it clarifies that you are giving your call sign.

Roger- "Yes," acknowledges receipt of the message.

Radio Check - confirm a radio is working by contacting another radio.

"Say Again" - Asking someone to repeat last transmission.

Understanding the Network Control System

1. Network Control is the individual that all messages must pass through.
2. Net Control is in charge of the radio communications network.
3. Never join or leave the net without informing net control.

More Common Terms

“All Stations” - The prelude to a general announcement. When you hear this focus upon the radio and be ready to take notes if necessary.

“Break” - Very high priority interrupt. Should not be necessary to use.

Directed Net - All communication is directed to Net Control. Net Control is the only station anyone may speak to. Net Control may allow you to “go direct” to another team temporarily. But Net Control is always in charge.

“Go direct” - Net Control allow two stations to speak directly to one another instead of passing traffic through the Net Control operator. This is done to speed up communications in special circumstances. It is temporary. Tell Net Control when you are done.

“Nothing Heard” - If Net Control does not hear a response when addressing a particular team then the operator will say “Nothing Heard.”

Roll Call - Net Control will take a roll of all teams. Typically each team name is read. The team then responds as directed. This purpose is to make sure everyone is ok and in place. Net Control will acknowledge each teams response to the roll call.

Round Robin - Stepping through a group of stations all of whom have attempted to reach Net Control at the same time. Take the group in order. This is a quick way to unjam the frequency and get moving. Different from a roll call in that not every team on the net will be participating.

Relay - Passing a message through intermediaries.

ITU Phonetic Alphabet

A - Alpha	N - November
B - Bravo	O - Oscar
C - Charlie	P - Papa
D - Delta	Q - Quebec
E - Echo	R - Romeo
F - Foxtrot	S - Sierra
G - Golf	T - Tango
H - Hotel	U - Uniform
I - India	V - Victor
J - Juliet	W - Whiskey
K - Kilo	X - X-ray
L - Lima	Y - Yankee
M - Mike	Z - Zulu

Numerals

0 - “ZEE-RO”
1 - “WUN”
2 - “TOO”
3 - “TH-UH-REE” or “TREE”
4 - “FOW-ER”
5 - “FI-IV” or “FIFE”
6 - “SIX”
7 - “SEV-EN”
8 - “ATE”
9 - “NIN-ER”
DECIMAL = “DAY-SEE-MAL”