News for 8-6-2004

Every station with the exception of the 4 stations inside the RAAP should be set up prior to 8:30 a.m.   Those that are traveling from outside the area, tune to 146.985 and 146.895 for talk-in. We will be looking for Montgomery County ARES to provide information on the talk-in frequencies.

Once the nets are activated, make frequent announcements about "**This is a drill and not an actual emergency.**

If you are operating from a position outside an existing building, bring chairs and tables to use at your station. Bring long heavy-duty extension cords to allow for separating station positions. Make use of efficient antenna systems to reduce your power requirements. Have at least one extra power supply and rig for each location, in the event that you experience equipment failure. Bring drinks, the August sun can dehydrate you.

There will be a heavy flow of traffic from the arsenal on three separate nets and one digital packet system. All traffic that is received at the final destination and has handling instructions that require a response, will respond on voice. For example, if your receive a book of ten messages and your are the destination station and the handling instructions are "HCX" your are being told to report date time to the originating station. You will do this on voice and an example is "Galax Red Cross" net control would respond. Galax Red Cross, you would reply, this is Galax Red Cross I have a book of ten priority for the Arsenal West. Net control will reply call your traffic, Arsenal West would say ready to copy. You would say, delivered messages 141 through 150 at 9:30 hours. Arsenal West would reply roger, your 10 priority.

The traffic count for this exchange is 10 sent by Galax Red Cross and 10 received by Arsenal West, for a total of 20 pieces of traffic. All stations need to maintain a station log that keeps an accurate account of all traffic. I will be posting a printable log form, before the end of the day.

Many of the messages will use the ARL numbering system and we are asking every station to write at least on of these messages with all deliverable information (Just like what you would have to read the family member receiving the message). Then call and deliver this message back to the originating station in plain test.