



# CARES

## Cupertino Amateur Radio Emergency Services



### CARES Drill CD-0101 Final Report

February 11, 2001

#### Summary

This report covers the results of the CARES Drill #CD0101 on the Preliminary Damage Assessment Drill. Seventeen CARES members participated over a two-day period on February 10<sup>th</sup> and 11th. All feedback was collected and logged for action as appropriate.

## 1 Plan for the Drill

#### Background

One of the first things CARES will be asked to perform is a roll-up of the state of the city. We refer to this as a Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA). Because of the significant value expressed by the City for this assessment, CARES developed and has maintained Section 7.4 of the CARES SOP to address the PDA process.

#### Goal

CARES members are confident with their abilities to pass traffic during the early states of an emergency.

#### Approach

This will be a Field Communications Drill. This includes:

- Hold 2 sessions (2 separate days, different times) to allow for maximum membership participation
- Scripted drill traffic for different participants
- Remote NCS operation
- Simulated EOC activation

#### Purpose

The purpose of this drill is to (i) practice the PDA process and (ii) test new philosophies previously discussed with regard to NCS and EOC operations.

#### Objectives

- Practice the PDA Process.
- Test traffic handling between a field station, the NCS, and the EOC.
- Develop refinements for evolving the NCS and EOC operational plan.

#### Schedule

Saturday, February 10, 2001  
10:00am Drill begins  
11:00am Drill ends

Sunday, February 11, 2001  
1:00pm Drill begins  
2:00pam Drill ends

### **General Drill Plan**

1. At 10:00am, listen for the CARES net on 147.570 s.
2. The scenario will be read, then check-ins will be taken.
3. The EOC Station will announce his/her presence at the EOC.
4. Field stations will report Immediate, Priority, and PDA traffic.
5. Around 10:45am, we will secure the drill and hold an on-air debrief.
6. We should be done by about 11:00a.
7. This plan repeats on Sunday, expect the drill begins at 1:00pm.

### **Drill Assumptions**

- The event happened 1 hour prior to this drill
- The weather is as it is that morning
- All the power is out
- The EOC is getting staffed, and the CARES EOC radio operator just arrived at the EOC.

### **References**

CARES Standard Operating Procedures

### **Exercise control**

The exercise will be controlled by the sequence of events outlined in the individual scripts.

### **Evaluation**

The drill will be evaluated immediately afterwards.

## **2 Preparation**

### **Orientation**

No orientation was held prior to this drill. However, the SOP PDA Process Section 7.4 was e-mailed to all CARES members (for whom an e-mail address was known).

### **Drill Material**

Drill material was prepared in the form of 16 scenarios to be distributed to all CARES members by e-mail. In all cases, the information contained in the scenario required a transmission of information or a request to the EOC.

### **Logistics**

NCS and EOC stations were identified prior to each drill.

## **3 Results**

### **Participants**

The following members participated in the Drill:

Al	K6AB
Andy	W9BJX
Ken	KR6CO
Greg	WD6EHB
Jack	W6MGL
Kurt	N6OLQ
Jim	KN6PE
Janet	KF6PUQ
Stuart	xx6RZR
Vince	K6TEN
Bill	KD6TQJ
Skip	WA6VFD

Bob KD6US  
Bryn N1UZW

### **Narrative**

On Saturday, the drill started at 10:00a with the activation of the CARES emergency net. Ken KR6CO opened the net as NCS, Jim KN6PE read the drill scenario. Jim KN6PE announced he was at the EOC as the first EOC operator. Immediate, Priority, and PDA traffic was prioritized and directed from field stations to the EOC.

### **What worked**

During the debrief, the following comments were made on what worked well.

1. Overall, the drill went very well, general agreement
2. Liked the NCS polling the members prioritized traffic before passing traffic to the EOC.
3. Felt this drill was orderly, better than drills in the past; went smooth.

### **What didn't work / needs improvement**

During the debrief, the following comments were made on areas that didn't work or need improvement.

1. There was confusion over the degrees of message classification
2. Liked feedback from the EOC back to the field
3. Multiple comments on confusion over the map grid coordinates... which map to use. In the EOC, we need to be prepared for any map coordinates.
4. The speed of traffic passing.
5. How do you check out of the net?
6. For drills, need to remember to report this is a drill.
7. Reduce the PDA drill to one day in the future.

### **Conclusions / Recommendations**

1. All drill objectives were met.
2. This drill confirmed the conclusions from the January General Meeting of the roles of the NCS and EOC station operator. The lessons learned here will be integrated into subsequent drills and the CARES Operational Procedures.

END OF REPORT