



**Homeland
Security**

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



Date: November 2011
To: COMO Angelo Perata, COS & District Board/Staff
From: D11N DSO-OP, Commodore Gail L. Ramsey
Subject: District OPS Report/ Respectfully Submitted

INDEX OPERATIONS REPORT:

**COMMUNICATIONS: GOOD RADIO PRACTICES
QUALIFICATION EXAMINERS 2011 BRIEF REPORT
2012 OPERATIONS CALENDAR OF EVENTS
TCT CLASSES
CALENDAR OF 2012 OPTREX/OPTEXs
UNDERWAY D11N HOURS RECAP TO DATE**

COMMUNICATIONS: GOOD RADIO PRACTICES:

I have been on the water quite a bit the last few months and see where many of our members are slipping into bad habits. Remember our controlling agencies as well as the general public judge us by how we sound on the radio and we need to be professional. When listening I heard some very poor communications from our members. Keep it simple and succinct.

I requested from Linda Vetter some written guidelines for our surface facilities regarding radio communications and she has put together an excellent summary.

Good Radio Practices

All operations personnel that use the VHF Marine radio for any communications activities are reminded that the CG, the public, and others often can only judge the competency and professionalism of Auxiliary members by how they sound and respond on the radio. Please ensure you are following all the basic good practices, such as always listening first on a channel to ensure it is clear of other traffic before transmitting and ensuring you pause after depressing the PTT (press to talk) key before starting to speak to avoid clipping off your first word or two. We need to keep transmissions to the minimum, so please use proper pro-words and established acronyms (e.g., Persons on Board (POB), Return to Base (RTB)). Also, it is not necessary to repeat the station you are calling and your call sign three times. Sometimes for the initial call you might repeat their name twice, but most on-going transmissions can get by with once only. Know the Coast Guard or other controlling agency requirements – most inland stations only want geographical positions, while shore-side stations may require a lat/lon position. When making initial contact verify what your controlling agency wants: lat/lon or geographical.

Always be sure you know what you are going to say and your actual location before keying the microphone. When assuming patrols, be ready with your GAR score (total number, not just a color, and be prepared for numerical breakdown if asked), the number of Persons On Board

(POB), and your current location and destination. Also be prepared to provide your Patrol Orders Number if asked. Normally the stations do not want or need that information, but they can ask and remember that you are required to have a printed copy of your current activated orders on board. You should be prepared to pass similar information whenever you “chop” (CHange OPerations) to another station/PATCOM.

You should initiate the status call every 30 minutes, and of course should always notify your station promptly if your GAR, POB, or operational status changes. Use “Ops Normal” for your operational status only when you are underway and not engaged in any particular tasking or activities. If you are moored getting fuel, docked for a break and in Bravo status, towing a boat, involved in training evolutions with a helo or boat, etc., than your operational status statement should report that status rather than “Ops Normal”.

Last but not least, be sure to always maintain a good radio guard on the required channels and respond promptly to any requests.

2012 CALENDAR OF OPS EVENTS:

Now is the time to plan your 2012 schedule for all events and,(being a bit partial) especially for OPS events. Pick a weekend, after you consult the District Calendar, for your Operational Exercise. Be certain the date you pick does not conflict with weekends that others have chosen or an event (District Meetings, COWs, DTRAIN) that will diminish your attendance. We have one Flotilla so far, that has had the future in mind and has chosen April 26-29th for their event. Hopefully you all will do the same soon. Remember to send your chosen date to the following:

Dean V. LaChapelle
D-11NR USCGAUX
(916)-686-6065
deanvic@yahoo.com <<mailto:deanvic@yahoo.com>>

Dean will verify that no one else has chosen that date prior to you. He will OK it and have it put on the District Calendar. If there is another OPS Event that weekend that requires Qualification Examiners (QEs), your date may not be approved if you also require QEs. First request for QEs will have priority.

QUALIFICATION EXAMIER 2011 REPORT:

2010 QE MISSIONS:

TOTAL CURRENTLY QUALIFIED CREW/COX= 387 - - 136 QE MISSIONS

2011 QE MISSIONS:

TOTAL CURRENTLY QUALIFIED CREW/COX = 358 - - 95 QE MISSIONS

TEAM COORDINATION TCT) CLASSES:

Jim Blackburn has been facilitating many TCT classes and has volunteered to give me future dates that I plan on putting into these OPS reports. Please contact him (if you desire to attend classes) jimblackburn@comcast.net

22 & 23 Nov 2011 - 16 hour, Pacific Strike team in Novato, start time - 0800

2012 OPERATIONS CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

LOCATION	SPONSOR	EVENTDATE & CONTACT		NOTES
LAKE SHASTA	FLT 3-9	OPTREX	APR 25 TH – APR 29TH	POC CARL PIERCE OR CHARLIE DUNCAN cpierce7223@sbcglobal.net

UNDERWAY D11N HOURS 2011 RECAP TO DATE

Mission Hours as values	11NR - Div 01	11NR - Div 03	11NR - Div 04	11NR - Div 05	11NR - Div 06	11NR - Div 07	11NR - Div 08	11NR - Div 10	11NR - Div 11	11NR - Div 12	D11N
AUXMP - Marine Patrols (01a,01b,02,03,22a,54a,55a)	1,623.60	3,052.70	783.70	3,577.70	1,799.00	3,094.10	777.30	210.40	1,208.60	1,486.50	17,613.60
GOVSUP - Government Agency Support (41,42,43)	0.00	162.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	42.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	210.30
MEP - Marine Environmental Protection (28)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.40
MS - Marine Safety	0.00	23.00	0.00	0.00	9.00	0.00	19.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	51.00
SAR - Search And Rescue (23,24)	19.40	58.70	0.00	108.70	4.50	190.90	253.50	1.60	10.70	39.70	687.70
All Missions	1,643.00	3,296.70	783.70	3,686.40	1,812.50	3,327.00	1,070.20	212.00	1,219.30	1,526.20	18,577.00

HAVE GREAT HOLIDAYS:

This will be the last DSO-OPs report for 2011.
Have great Holidays, next report will be in January 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Ramsey