

From: A3E MDWG
To: MDWG-INFO
Subject: MDWG-INFO: Emergency Services Training & Exercise Activities in CY2012

This email discusses the upcoming Emergency Services Training & Exercise Activities through CY2012. It also discusses an initiative to enhance our ability to execute missions at locations with minimal accommodations using our mobile/transportable mission assets.

This year, we're scheduled for an USAF *Guided Training Exercise* (GTE) in early June to complement our 2011 and planned 2013 USAF Evaluated SAR Exercise (a.k.a. SAREVAL). Our work-up efforts to prepare ourselves for the GTEs & SAREVALs align well with our need to prepare for the summer season, when folks are more active outdoors (hiking, boating, flying, etc.), hurricane season arrives and folks are more likely to require emergency assistance.

Preparing for the June GTE, especially after 3 months of minimal-funding during the Continuing Resolution(s), means that our schedule for the next 5 months will be somewhat aggressive. Our planning will follow our 5-phase approach, which includes the following activities:

1. **Task Skills Training** – Conducted through One-On-One, Squadron, Group, & Wing training opportunities. Focuses on skills required to perform individual Tasks identified in a rating's *Specialty Qualification Training Record* (SQTR).
2. **Sortie-Based SAR Exercise (SAREX)** - Combines **Task Skills** into the **Capabilities** needed to execute Sorties. Examples of Task Skills and Capabilities include:
 - Task Skills – Using a Compass, Doing a Pace Count, Reading a Map.
 - Capabilities - Land Navigation, Direction Finding, Participating in a Search Line.

Sortie-Based exercises are also the first opportunity for Trainees to function as part of a larger element (e.g. Ground Team, Aircrew and UDF Team).

Canned, unassociated sorties are used to eliminate schedule dependencies between teams/crews. Since every sortie is somewhat independent, the need to hurry is eliminated, affording teams/crews the time to explain/understand what's going on. The use of canned sorties reduces the planning burden on ICP Staff, which allows them to focus on quickly deploying and then more effectively managing teams/crews. That reduces team/crew wait-to-deploy times.

During a Sortie-Based SAREX, ICP Staff Trainees may have the opportunity to focus on Task Skills required in their ES ratings; however, their primary duty is to ensure a safe and effective environment for deployed assets involved in the SAREX.

3. **ICP Staff Table Top Exercise (TTX)** – This is the primary opportunity for Qualified and Trainee ICP Staff Members to develop, refine and exercise the **Capabilities** required to plan and manage a successful mission. Typically, external influences are controlled or simulated. While the availability and need to manage deployed assets may be simulated, the key focus areas are in the processes needed for effective execution.
4. **Scenario-Based SAREX** – This brings it all together. This level of SAREX is conducted in the most real-world, lifelike environment. Controllers introduce simulated clues, but may have only limited control of the environment. The ICP Staff manages all aspects of mission execution. Some canned sorties may be used (typically as inbound sorties) to make the most of the training/exercise opportunity.
5. **GTE/SAREVAL** – Similar to a Scenario-Based SAREX, except that it's coordinated and either unofficially or officially graded by the USAF.

Below is our current schedule of ES activities for CY2012. We're still tweaking some items, but I wanted to get this out as soon as possible so folks can begin planning.

Date	Emergency Services Activity
28 Jan	Emergency Services Training (Classroom) Location: Catonsville National Guard Armory (Tentative) - Familiarization & Preparatory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GTM3 • MS - Basic Communication User Training (BCUT) - Land Navigation Mapping Skills SAREX Planning: Onsite Walk-Through of DMW Airport
25 Feb	MDWG Safety Stand-Down Training Day (Classroom) Location: Carroll County Non-Profit Center - Aircrew Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crew Resource Management (CRM) • Operational Risk Management (ORM) - Ground Team Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hot/Cold Injuries/NatHaz/Fatigue/Hygiene/Sanitation/BBP • Operational Risk Management (ORM) • Mapping & Orienteering - Flight Release Officer (FRO) - HSEEP (2-days; tentative) - Basic First Aid, CPR & AED Training (tentative)
2-3 Mar	Aerial Photo Class Location: TBD
10-11 Mar	AFRCC Basic Inland SAR Course Location: MEMA, Camp Fretterd, MD
18 Mar	SAREX – Sortie Based Location: TBD
14 Apr	ICP Staff Table Top Exercise (TTX) Location: MDWG ICP Assets: MDWG MICP, Group-3 TICP, Group-1 TICP, MDWG MST-2
04-06 May	MER SAR College Location: Fort Pickett, VA
18-20 May	SAREX – Scenario Location: Carroll County Regional Airport ICP Assets: MDWG MICP, Group-3 TICP, Group-1 TICP, MDWG MST-2
09-11 Jun	USAF GTE Location: Carroll County Regional Airport ICP Assets: MDWG MICP, Group-3 TICP, Group-1 TICP, MDWG MST-2
21 Jul – 04 Aug	National Emergency Services Academy (NESA) Location: Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Grounds, IN
26 Aug	NCPSC or Mountain Flying Clinic Location: TBD
13-15 Sep	MDWG Task Based Training Location: Hagerstown (Local Area for GT)
26-28 Oct	MDWG SAREX – Sortie Based Location: St Marys Airport (ICP, Air & UDF) Jug Bay Patuxent River Park (Ground) Coincident w/BSA Orienteering - Jug Bay on 27 Oct

Use of Mobile & Transportable ICPs in 2012:

A number of missions over the past 5 years occurred in locations without an established Mission Base. Over the past 10-15 years, we've dropped to just 3 established Mission Bases that serve as an effective ICP: Martin, Hagerstown and Wicomico. Although we often use the St Marys Airport as an ICP, there are no dedicated spaces/systems in this multi-use facility.

MDWG has obtained 5 Trailers and an RV to support our operational mission needs. Our use has been so rare that we lack the procedures & confidence to deploy them during actual missions. Only 2 are equipped to provide any level of support. Our tradition is to use our primary mission bases for training/exercises. Using 'Train the way you fight', 'Fight with whatever you can get your hands on', and 'Bring what you need' mindset, MDWG exercises conducted in CY2012 will rely almost exclusively on our mobile/transportable mission resources to serve as our ICPs.

As in real life missions, our exercises must be airport agnostic. We'll assume that other than the airstrip, refueling, FBO, and (hopefully) hygiene facilities, all other capabilities can be brought to the fight.

This applies to Training/Exercises Only
We will use whatever resources are available during Real World Missions.

MDWG's mobile/transportable mission resources include:

- MDWG *Mobile Incident Command Post* (MICP) - 1 each
 - Minimum of 2 VHF Radios (3 Operator Positions including driver/passenger)
 - Onboard Generator
 - Inkjet Printer/Scanner/Copier

- Group *Transportable ICP* (TICPs) - 3 each
 - Minimum of 2 VHF Radios
 - Portable Generator
 - Inkjet Printer/Scanner/Copier
 - Standard Configuration (all 3 are the same model and are being configured identically)

- MDWG *Mission Support Trailer* (MST) - 2 each
(MST-1 serving as temp Ops Center during HGR Mission Base Rehab)
 - Inkjet Printer/Scanner/Copier

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns associated with our Emergency Services Program.

Very Respectfully,

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