



To: Deputy Chiefs, NC Task Force 3 Administration, Communications Administration, Field Communications Personnel

From: COML Kenneth Barr and COML Jay Murray

Reference: Caldwell County Swiftwater Response

Dates: April 16, 2011

CFD Incident Number: 11-0132286

On the morning of April 16th (09:00), a request was made through Charlotte Fire Alarm for assistance in Caldwell County due to flooding and the request for additional manpower and equipment from the Charlotte Fire Department. After the request was made, COML Barr and COML Murray were notified to meet at the CFD USAR building to prepare for deployment. COML Barr transported Field Comm. 1 to the USAR building as well. Before departing fire station 1, two cases of vhf infinity radios and a case of Motorola Viper radios were taken off of Field Comm. 2 and placed in Field Comm. 1. Upon arrival at the USAR building, an ICS 205 was filled out and presented to Task Force Leader BC Kent Davis. TFL Davis requested that we be able to supply all CFD members with a radio for communication. As noted on the 205, all cfd members would be using VTAC 11. This channel could be found in the Infinity VHF radio cache on FC1. During our preparation, we were advised that Caldwell operations were using VIPER Delta 1. We requested to use of VIPER delta 2 for our Convoy Channel. Viper Delta 2 and CFD OPS B Bravo were connected via a console/motobridge patch at fire alarm. TFL Davis advised all units to be prepared for up to a 24 hour operation. There were no problems during our convoy. Upon arrival (11:58) at Collettsville Fire and Rescue TFL Davis met with command staff to determine the needs of the current operation. During this time, Infinity VHF radios were handed out to all CFD members and documented on an inventory tracking sheet. The convoy then left the Collettsville Fire and Rescue and headed to a point of entry for the swiftwater teams where they could be deployed. At this point, only the boats and team members on the boats could continue due to flooded roadways. The rest of the convoy would have to travel around the flooded areas to get closer to the affected area (rescue area). This detour was an additional hour of travel using old logging roads and fire service roads. Upon our arrival to the affected area, FC1 staged at the Wilson Creek Visitor center and awaited further instructions from the TFL. During this down time we decided to turn FC1 off attempting to conserve fuel. Also, during this down time, we assisted the other units in the convoy with preparing the ATVs and the Mule in assisting the rescue teams. We were also available to switch out any radio batteries if necessary.

Once the demonization began, we started collecting radios to ensure that all radios were returned. At this time the TFL advised us that one of the infinity VHF radio was destroyed in the flood waters and was not able to be replaced in the cache. After demobilization, the convoy traveled to the closest fueling station to refuel the apparatus's. Field Comm. 1 assignment complete. (18:19)

Positives

- Fast and accurate deployment of USAR comms equipment and personnel.
- All necessary equipment needed for the entire deployment was readily available
- All documentation for checking out radios and equipment was done and maintained throughout the deployment.
- Field Comm. personnel worked well with other USAR members including both communication issues as well as helping where ever else needed.

Negatives

- Due to the terrain and distance (including the detour) fuel became a major issue for Field Comm. 1. By the time we arrived at the rescue site, we were at ¼ tank of fuel. Not knowing how long our operation was going to be and wanting to make sure that we had enough fuel to get to the closest fueling station we had to become very conservative of when FC1 was running. We did talk to other TF members and we did have some 5 gallon gasoline tanks located on the swift water rescue trailer if we had to use additional gasoline.
- The patch that fire alarm made with Viper Delta 2 and B-Bravo, failed to work once we were out of the Charlotte Fire Department radio footprint. Viper radios had been issued early in the event to the administrative staff of the deployment which allowed for everyone to talk to one another.
- Several attempts were made by a CFD PIO to make contact with the CFD TFL. The CFD PIOs are not issued VIPER radios which made the contact impossible. FC1 could have given the PIO a viper radio but at the time of request there was over an hour of treacherous logging road/fire service roads between the two.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Barr
Jay Murray

Incident Communications Plan, ICS Form 205

INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN		1. Incident Name Caldwell SWR	2. Date/Time Prepared 4/16/2011 - 0900	3. Operational Period Date/Time 0900-1600	
4. Basic Radio Channel Utilization					
System/Cache	Channel	Function	Frequency/Tone	Assignment	Remarks
Viper	Delta 1	SWR Ops		Operations	
Viper	Delta 3	Secondary SWR Ops		Operations	
Viper	Delta 2	TF3 Convoy		Convoy	
VHF	VTAC11	TF3 SWR Ops	151.1375	TF3 Operations	
5. Prepared by (Communications Unit) COML-K.Barr					

Caldwell County

Item PCIS



Charlotte Fire Department Communications Division

Inventory Tracking Sheet

Person Loaned To	Portables	Batteries	Chargers	TC
✓ Jeff Field	149			Murray
✓ Stikeleather	147			
Korecki	145			
✓ Ballew	148			
✓ Shaffner	146			
✓ Morley	144			
✓ Smith	143			
Peelue	142			
✓ Haynes	156			
✓ Clark	157			
✓ Retchford	+53155			
✓ Saye	154			
✓ Davis	153			
✓ Goff	152			
✓ Anten	Viper			✓

732

Caldwell County
Mutual Aid- Swiftwater Rescue

Pictures











