

**Group 7, C.A.P.  
Radio Communicators' Committee Meeting  
Minutes  
24 June 2006**

The meeting at the Joint Forces Training Center, Los Alamitos, was called to order by Major Dee Osargent.

Members in attendance are as follows:

Majors: Joe Di Mento, Mike Woods

Captains: Michael Cardenas, Chaplain Richard Nelson, William Olah, John Foote

2<sup>nd</sup> Lts: Tom Gibbons, Dave Daniels

Opening invocation given by Chaplain Nelson.

**A. GUEST INTRODUCTION:** Chaplain Capt Richard Nelson

**B. CAWG DC REPORT:**

Major Riddle, CAWG DC, was not present. Maj Osargent presented his report. The USCGA has its repeater working again, and will no longer use Santiago primary repeater. They are very grateful for CAP allowing them to temporarily use the Santiago repeater the last six months or so. Reviewing the OPSEC course on the Wing web site, and approving the NDA statement, is mandatory for all CAP members, cadets and senior members alike. Maj Riddle wishes that this requirement be disseminated to all radio communicators. Maj Riddle is very pleased that a member from OES and a member from Maryland is checking into the Wing nets periodically.

**C. WING'S ANNUAL (Air Force Observed) EXERCISE, 31 MAY:**

Major Di Mento reported that he volunteered to standby on the HF frequency, but never received an acknowledgement from the DOL.

**D. FEMA EXERCISE, 1 JUNE:**

Maj Di Mento reported that fewer Southern California communicators participated in this exercise than the one in March. Although exact numbers are not available, Major Di Mento reported that the participation was disappointing.

**E. NARROWBAND PRESENTATION FOR FUTURE RADIO CLASSES:**

Maj Di Mento distributed a power point presentation of "Narrowband Basics", Wildfire Firefighters Community, to the attendees as a possible addition to future radio classes. The presentation would be modified and shortened to represent CAP. This modified presentation would be part of the radio class curriculum for one year. After reviewing the presentation, the attendees approved that this be added to future radio classes. Maj Di Mento will edit the presentation accordingly.

**F. NEW RADIO CLASS STUDENT CD PROPOSED:**

Maj Di Mento suggested that a CD be given to each radio class student, therefore eliminating much of the paper included in the student manuals. He received an example CD from 2Lt David Holland, SQ 35, Group 1, with much communications resources on it. This CD would be used as well as a CD prepared by Maj David Bowles, which contains much of the manual's contents. Majors Di Mento and Osargent will review the manuals index to ascertain what would remain in the manual and what would be transferred to a student CD.

Capt Tony Diaz would reproduce the CDs. A suggestion to add FAQs, their appropriate reference location and Internet links related to communication. The CD that was distributed at the 2005 Communications Conference will also be used as a resource for the new student CD.

A suggestion that air band radios should also be discussed at the radio classes. 2Lt Tom Gibbons will furnish digital pictures of the two models currently in use in our corporate aircraft. These pictures will be added to the radio class presentation. Maj Osargent will check with Maj Larry Riddle regarding ideas in presenting air band radios and communicating with pilots.

**G. THE NEXT ACUT/MRO CLASS:**

The next ACUT/MRO Class will be 21 October at CSUDH. Maj Di Mento will be the Director.

**H. RADIO CLASS PAPERWORK GUIDE:**

2Lt Bill Phinizy will present a flow chart addressing the paperwork required, at the next Communicators Committee meeting.

**I. GROUP 7 CORPORATE RADIOS USAGE:**

Maj Osargent announced that she is performing an inventory of all Group 7 units' corporate radio usage. She will be contacting all the units to ascertain where these allocated radios are and who is using them. Also inquiring as to all other personal comm. equipment, type and who is the owner. The purpose of this is to create a database of comm. resources in the case of a disaster. 2Lt Gibbons announced that he is willing to furnish an HF antenna for the comm. center at Group 7 HQ. Also he is working on outfitting the comm. room at the Long Beach flight line with an HF antenna. He would like to enhance the comm. capabilities at both sites.

**J. USCGA COMM. DRILL:**

Capt Foote announced that today, 24 June, the USCGA is having their Comm. Field Day, Redmon Field Day. CAP is invited to bring their comm. equipment. Also 2Lt Gibbons announced that there is a Field Day weekend, beginning today, at Long Beach El Dorado Park. CAP is invited.

**K. CUL (COMMUNICATIONS UNIT LEADER) TRAINING:**

Capt Foote announced that he is working on a curriculum for CUL training. It would be semi-annual, for two weekends. The location would be the 222<sup>nd</sup>, SQ 68 HQ, Costa Mesa. He presented his ideas to the attendees who were very excited about this idea. His brief outline suggested that the course cover more technical aspects of Communications as well as complete mission base station set-up (hands-on). The candidates would have to hold an ACUT credential, and have taken the OPSEC course and approved the NDA. An entrance test would be required to be considered for this training. Some possible additional prerequisites might be required as a candidate must be MRO-ES rated, hold a Technician level in their comm. specialty track (CAPP 214) and possible be CPR qualified. This is being confirmed by Capt Olah. Dry run planned for approximately March 2007. More information to follow.

**L. GROUP 7 COMM. COMMITTEE PATCH:**

Capt Foote presented the final version of the patch. The attendees approved. An order of 200 would cost 50 cents each, or an order of 100 would cost \$1.00 each. He will write the heraldry. A discussion followed as to where the patch could be worn on the BDUs. Both sleeves have required patches. One of the front pockets has the member's squadron patch, leaving only the left front pocket possibly free. Another discussion as to who could wear this patch. More discussion at the next Comm. Committee meeting.

**M. THE SOUTHCOAST COMMUNICATOR NEWSLETTER:**

Maj Di Mento requested articles from the members. The OPSEC requirement will be one of the articles.

Capt. Olah, CAWG IT Director, will put this Newsletter on the Wing website, as well as the minutes from our Comm. Committee meetings.

**Capt. Olah discussed OPSEC.** Wing is making it mandatory for all CAP members to review the course and agree to the Non Disclosure Agreement (NDA). It will be required before a member can take a Level I class. The new member must have reviewed the course and agreed to the NDA within six months of joining CAP. Current members must have complied by 15 July or they will be removed from the Wing Traffic distribution list. 31 August will be the deadline to remain on the Redcap list. Non-compliance will result in BCUT and ACUT member credentialing being removed. And this is only the beginning...non-compliance will result in very serious consequences.

**N. CADET NET:**

Maj Osargent announced that currently the SQ 47 is the only Cadet Net NCS (Net Control Station). It is conducted every Tuesday evening, immediately following the Wing Net. She requested that the committee members promote the Cadet Net. We need check-ins for the Cadet Nets and more cadets to act as NCO for the other evenings. Senior members can support the Cadet Net by checking in.

**O. RADIO QUOTES:**

Maj Osargent passed out quotes from several vendors' showing their government (GMS) prices. It was recommended that when a new NTIA compliant radio is purchased, that the radio be P-25 capable or upgradeable. One of the quotes, showing multiple vendors, came from FO Keith Jackson, SQ 68. Email: [kjla04@hotmail.com](mailto:kjla04@hotmail.com)

**P. COMM INSTRUCTORS EMAIL:**

The email for Comm. Instructors only is: [comm-instructors@cawg.com](mailto:comm-instructors@cawg.com)  
Comm. Instructors wishing to be added to this list should contact Maj Joe Di Mento: [joeanddolores@adelphia.net](mailto:joeanddolores@adelphia.net)  
who is the approving authority.

**Q. CAWG/REGION COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE:**

Maj Osargent requested discussion regarding whether or not to have Group 7 sponsor another Wing/Pacific Region Communications Conference 2006. This is tabled for now.

**R. NEXT COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE MEETING:**

The next meeting date is scheduled for Saturday, 30 September, tentatively at 222<sup>nd</sup>, SQ 68 HQ, Costa Mesa.

**S. ROUND TABLE AND ACTION ITEMS:**

Capt Olah announced that there is a possibility that there will be a region-wide HLS exercise, the first weekend in August.

**➤ Capt Olah:**

Will investigate the possibility of obtaining an USAF instructor to teach Majors Di Mento and Osargent USAF radio communications protocol.

Capt Olah reminded the attendees, who are CULs, to learn what a CUL kit is and make one. Also have a Field Guide which addresses the parts needed to repair a radio in the field.

**➤ Maj Joe Di Mento requested that Capt Foote:**

email him the titles of reference books which could be used for the proposed upcoming CUL Training course.

**➤ Capt Foote:**

Will submit a condensed version of his article to Maj Di Mento for the Southcoast Communicator Newsletter. Also Capt Foote will email information regarding "Hitch Hikers Guide to RF Spectrum" to Majors Di Mento and Osargent. All these references' titles will be shared with the Comm. Committee members.

➤ **Capt Foote:**

Will run his idea of a CUL Training Course by Capt Keilholtz and 1Lt Shane Terpstra for approval and input. If approved, the Comm. Committee members would be given a dry run of the course possibly March 2007. A pool of instructors would have to be defined.

➤ **Capt Olah:**

Will investigate if there is a requirement for MROs and CULs to be CPR qualified.

Chaplain Capt Nelson reported that the free Red Cross CPR free training date will be sometime in March 2007. Date to be announced later.

Maj Woods emphasized the importance in supporting the Cadet Net, by checking in and recruiting cadets from their squadrons to be NCO (Net Control Officer) on any Monday through Friday evenings. Contact: Maj Dee Osargent: [ladysarg@adelphia.net](mailto:ladysarg@adelphia.net)

➤ **Capt Olah:**

Will help this Comm. Committee by adding the "Southcoast Communicator Newsletters" and the Comm. Committee minutes to the CAWG website under Operations / Communications.

➤ **Maj Osargent:**

Will discuss FAQs with Maj Riddle. Our thought is to add them to the radio class students' CD. Would he have any other suggestions for the students' CD. Also his suggestions regarding the presentation of air band radio usage to pilots and also inclusion in the radio class.

➤ **Maj Osargent:**

Will perform a radio equipment survey of all the Group 7 units. This is to ascertain the inventory of radio equipment, locations and users, regarding both corporate and personal radio equipment.

Capt Bob Keilholtz was asked via email the status of Santiago repeater to share with the Comm. Committee. His answer:

*Santiago still has interference that kills weak stations and goes off (paging system) the air several times an hour for a few minutes for unknown reasons...*

**T. ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1230.

Respectfully submitted,

Maj Dee Osargent  
Group 7/DC

My appreciation to Maj Joe Di Mento for his editing assistance and contributions.