

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM
Washington, D.C. 20305-2010

NCS DIRECTIVE 3-3

TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS

Shared Resources (SHARES) High Frequency (HF) Radio Program

1. Purpose. This directive establishes National Communications System (NCS) policies pertaining to operation and use of the Shared Resources (SHARES) High Frequency (HF) Radio Program.

2. Applicability. This directive is binding upon NCS and other Executive entities who voluntarily elect to participate in the SHARES HF Radio Program.

3. Authority. This directive is issued under the authority of Executive Order No. 12472, "Assignment of National Security and Emergency Preparedness Telecommunications Functions," April 3, 1984, 49 Federal Register 13471 (1984); and NCS Directive 1-1, "National Communications System (NCS) Issuance System," November 30, 1987.

4. References.

a. Executive Order (E.O.) No. 12472, "Assignment of National Security and Emergency Preparedness Telecommunications Functions," April 3, 1984, 49 Federal Register 13471 (1984).

b. National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA), "Manual of Regulations and Procedures for Federal Radio Frequency Management," May, 1986 Edition as revised May, 1987 or current edition/revision.

5. General.

a. E.O. No. 12472 established national policy guidance in support of National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) objectives. Executive Order No. 12472 mandates that action be taken to "... ensure that a national telecommunications infrastructure is developed ...". Consistent with the Executive Order, functionally similar government telecommunications networks should be designed to interchange traffic in support of national leadership requirements.

-Office of Primary Responsibility: NCS
-Distribution: NCS

b. The SHARES HF Radio Program will provide a backup capability to exchange critical information among Federal entities to support NSEP. Federally controlled HF radio resources will be shared to establish a robust NSEP HF radio communications infrastructure. The program involves a collection of existing Federally controlled HF radio stations that inter-operate to transmit NSEP messages when normal means of communication are not available.

6. Policy.

a. Any participating Federal entity will accept, to the extent that acceptance does not interfere with the mission responsibilities of the entity, emergency messages of other Federal entities, or other components of the same entity, for transmission by HF radio to the addressee or to another participant for relay to the addressee.

b. A SHARES message is an emergency message to be sent via the SHARES network. It consists of information that must be communicated to a Federal entity and is of critical importance to the Federal Government, the entity's mission, and/or involves the preservation of life and the protection of property.

c. Transmission of SHARES messages will be guided by the policy of the agency accepting the message. Advice that a "SHARES Message" is to be transmitted will serve to notify operating personnel that a critical NSEP message requirement exists, and implicitly, that normal communication paths are not available.

7. Responsibilities.

a. NCS entities participating in the SHARES HF Radio Program will, to the maximum extent possible:

(1) Identify HF stations under their control for participation in the SHARES Program.

(2) Maintain the operational readiness of their SHARES HF stations.

(3) Provide updated information as necessary for inclusion in a SHARES HF Radio Program Directory. Use of Federal frequencies for SHARES traffic shall be in accordance with National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) "Manual of Regulations and Procedures for Federal Radio Frequency Management."

(4) Ensure participation of available stations in scheduled exercises.

(5) Provide representation, as required, at meetings, briefings, conferences, and other official SHARES HF Radio Program activities.

b. The Manager, NCS, will administer the SHARES HF Radio Program and perform the management functions defined below:

(1) Publish and periodically update, as NCS issuances, a User Manual, giving detailed procedures for using SHARES HF Radio Program capabilities, and HF Directory of participating Federally controlled HF radio stations.

(2) Develop, schedule, and administer periodic exercises of the SHARES HF Radio Program capabilities.

(3) Perform other functions, as necessary, to improve SHARES capabilities.

8. Authorizing Provision. NCS manuals implementing this directive are authorized.

9. Effective Date. This directive is effective immediately.

10. Expiration. This directive is in effect until superseded or cancelled.



Director
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Date: January 27, 1989



Director
Office of Management and Budget
Date: JAN 19 1989



Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
Date: 6 Jan 89

Summary of Changes: Initial issuance