



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112-6332

27 July 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR WING AND REGION COMMANDERS

FROM: HQ CAP/CC

SUBJECT: Narrowband Frequency Transition and Repeater Distribution

1. CAP leadership has determined that we must begin the transition to new VHF radio narrowband frequencies. This process will be a major challenge for every wing, and will require strong advance planning and coordination. It will be briefed in detail at the August National Board meeting, but I want to give you advance notice.

2. In 1998 CAP began moving toward full compliance with NTIA rules (47 CFR 300). The process was reaffirmed by the CAP National Executive Committee in 2002. Compliance gives CAP broad capability for interoperability with other federal frequency users, which would not have been possible had we remained static. Because the transition has made many of our former radios obsolete over the course of the last decade, the Air Force has given us millions of dollars to fund our communication equipment requirements. You already have many of these radios in use, and more are to come. Two years ago, wing DCs were required to submit plans to prepare for this transition, however in many cases our commanders and DCs changed since that time. This transition has been called the biggest single project Civil Air Patrol has ever undertaken. I request your support to make it happen smoothly and with a minimum of disruption.

3. Tactical (portable) repeaters will be distributed shortly after National Board. The refrigerator-sized fixed repeaters will follow. You and your Communications teams will need to complete the following tasks in the order listed:

- Sign an agreement about national rules for the fixed repeaters
- Reprogram all radios to a nationally standardized interim channel set combining new narrowband, old wideband frequencies, and your local option frequencies
- Physically change out each fixed repeater
- After the transition is complete, reprogram all radios again to remove old wideband frequencies
- Dispose of replaced repeaters IAW CAP directives

4. This will be a huge undertaking and there will be many details to work out. I hope this advance notice will allow you to begin detailed planning now with your Communications staff so you can effectively meet this major challenge. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the success of this important project.


AMY S. COURTER
Brigadier General , CAP
Interim National Commander

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