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École de l'électronique et des communications des Forces canadiennes
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3352 (OIC Ex NS)

Date as per E-Signature

Distribution List

EXERCISE NOBLE SKYWAVE
2025 INSTRUCTIONS

Reference: C&E Week 2025 General Instruction Annex A

SITUATION

1.   General. The Communications and Electronics (C&E) Branch is holding its annual Professional Development week at Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Kingston, from 20 – 24 Oct 25 at the Canadian Forces School of Communication and Electronics (CFSCE). On behalf of the C&E Branch, CFSCE will use this opportunity to conduct Ex NOBLE SKYWAVE 2025 (Ex NS 25). The exercise will see the establishment of voice and data links between domestic and international teams via High Frequency (HF) Skywave propagation.

MISSION.

CFSCE will organize and facilitate Ex NS 25 from 21 1200Z OCT 25 to 23 1600Z OCT 25 in order to provide an opportunity to confirm HF interoperability and prowess amongst the international community.

EXECUTION

2.   Concept of Operations

    a.   Intent. I intend to build on the success of previous iterations of the Ex NS by involving the C&E Branch, The Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics (CFSCE), and the international community in creating a valuable training exercise that challenges HF Skywave skills across both domestic and international teams. The spirit of the competition will be friendly and emphasize comradery between participants. In accordance with the code of conduct, rude or inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.

b.   Scheme of Manoeuvre. The Officer in Charge (OIC) will retain responsibility for the overall conduct of the competition, including scoring. The exercise and competition will occur in 3 phases:

     (1)   Phase 1 – Preparation (Until 21 Oct 25). The preparation phase will see the Ex-planning team generate the appropriate staff, support, instructions and invitations to participants. Reference Annex A for further detailed instructions. Registration will be made through the NS 25 web application (Web App) at https://nobleskywave.ca/. Teams wishing to conduct a comms check prior to the competition start may do so at their discretion. Note that the Net Control Station (NCS) will not be monitoring on any HF radio net during this phase. Comms checks should be organized between teams. This phase ends upon the establishment of the NCS at CFB Kingston NLT 21 1200Z OCT 25;

     (2)   Phase 2 – Competition (21 – 23 Oct 25). While operating on a 24hr basis in order to accommodate all time zones, teams will earn points for successful radio checks between stations. The competition will consist of 4 Stages including the announcement of the winners for each category following End Ex:

          (a)   Stage 1: Establishing the Net;

          (b)   Stage 2: Free Play Challenge;

          (c)   Stage 3: Team Contact Challenge; and

          (d)   Stage 4: Back to the Future Challenge.

     (3)   Phase 3 – Post-Ex Drills (23 Oct 25 onward). Once the Ex has been completed, the NCS team will close all HF nets related to Ex NS 25 and collect contact information to facilitate call-outs for next year's competition. Prizes and letters of appreciation will be distributed the following day by the Branch Leader MGen D. Yarker to close out C&E week. AAR points and comments from participating teams regarding the Ex will be due to the OIC, Capt LaFleur, NLT 22 Nov 25.

c.   Main Effort. Operation of the NCS to ensure clear and timely communication between participants and the NCS/OIC via the Ex NS 25 Web App, email, and the chat channels.

d.   End State. My end state will be achieved with the publication of results, distribution of awards, collection of contact information, and collection of AAR points for this and future iterations of Ex NS.

3.   Groupings and Tasks.

a.   OIC

     (1)   Ensure continuity of planning by creating timelines and framework for Ex NS teams and staff;

(2)   Book CFSCE HF Lab and establish Exercise Control Command Post (EXCON CP) as the Net Control Station (NCS);

(3)   Identify staff positions required and request support through local or external units;

(4)   Create all Ex NS templates and documents for supporting staff including Ex Instructions, warning order, back brief, FIN request, Call for Participation (CFP) letters, Letters of Appreciation, and competition awards;

(5)   Create the Canada and International email distribution lists for the CFP letters and Ex instructions;

(6)   Create the following training packages and materials for OPIs:

      (a)   HF theory lecture;

      (b)   Voice Procedure lecture; and

      (c)   SOPs for Web App, chat system, and equipment operation and safety.

(7)   Update and maintain the Ex NS NCS planner;

(8)   Supervise competition to ensure fairness to all teams involved; and

(9)   Collect lessons learned / pertinent comments from all competitors and prepare AAR to present to C&E Branch Adjutant.

b.   <u>HF Technician</u>

(1)   Verify radio and antenna serviceability for NCS;

(2)   Oversee setup, operation and maintenance of radio equipment during Ex NS; and

(3)   Provide and deliver HF Theory lecture to staff.

c.   <u>Website Technician</u>

(1)   Setup, monitor, and maintain the exercise Web App and chat channel;

(2)   Create and distribute Web App accounts for NCS and teams as required;

(3)   Confirm registrations and ensure supporting documentation and information is on Web App for teams to download;

(4)   Create Web App, chat SOP, and maintenance instructions for OIC, CCO, and shift supervisors; and

(5)   Generate C/S's from Web App based on team registration and provide list to the CCO for the completion of the calling card.

d.   <u>CCO</u>

(1)   Submit frequency requests;

(2)   Update the CEOI with new frequencies and changes to dates and timings; and

(3)   Complete the calling card and ensure its uploaded to the Ex NS Web App for dissemination to teams.

e.   Participating Teams

(1)   Indicate intent to participate to the OIC as soon as possible;

(2)   Monitor the given email address for updates from Ex NS;

(3)   Register for and join the Discord Channel under the Chat tab on the Ex NS 25 Web App;

(4)   Submit frequency requests / ensure authority to transmit through respective communications staff or national spectrum management organization as applicable;

(5)   Prepare HF equipment and personnel as required in preparation for the competition;

(6)   Participate within the guidelines outlined within this instruction and the CEOIs. Abide by the code of conduct outlined in this document; and

(7)   Provide the OIC with any lessons learned or comments regarding the conduct of the exercise upon completion of Ex NS 25.

4.   Co-ordinating Instructions

a.   Timings

(1)	01 Oct 25	Exercise Instructions & CEOIs released;
(2)	01 Oct 25	Registration Opens;
(3)	03 Oct 25	Staff identified ISO Ex NS NCS operation;
(4)	17 Oct 25	Deadline for registration;
(5)	15 to 24 Oct 25	Frequencies are reserved for use in Canada;
(6)	NLT 20 Oct 25	Participants, C/S, and locations published;
(7)	21 1200Z Oct 25	NCS Start monitoring HF Frequencies;
(8)	21 1400Z Oct 25	Competition begins;
(9)	23 2000Z Oct 25	Competition ends;
(10)	NLT 24 Oct 25	Winner announced; and
(11)	NLT 22 Nov 25	AAR points to OIC.

    b.   <u>Locations</u>

        (1)   <u>EXCON/NCS Primary</u>. CFB Kingston VC-55 Bldg (CFSCE)

    a.   <u>Visits</u>. Visits to the NCS must be coordinated with the Ex OIC prior to arrival.

    b.   <u>Registration</u>. Registration for the exercise can be completed on the exercise Web App at https://nobleskywave.ca/. Recognizing the importance of timely information and the efforts required of the formal application process, an informal email to the OIC signaling the intent to participate will ensure your team receives all pertinent documentation.

    c.   <u>Scoring</u>. The scoring criteria will be released with the CEOIs. Teams which may be unable to participate in various stages of the event due to equipment or personnel are still welcome to participate in any other stages.

    d.   <u>Code of Conduct</u>. All participants and staff will be courteous and respectful at all times on all forms of communication, including the SLACK channels and over the radio. Attempts to cheat and abusive or offensive language will be punished by reduction in score and/or removal from the Exercise at the discretion of the Ex OIC.

<u>SERVICE SUPPORT</u>

5.   <u>Concept of Service Support</u>. Participation in the event is voluntary. Outside of providing the exercise framework and the competition concept, neither CFSCE nor the C&E Branch have deliberately allocated resources to support other units. Support is ultimately borne by the units for their participating teams, detachments, or stations.

6.   <u>Finance</u>.

    a.   The unit facilitating Ex NS will rely on the C&E Branch to support the EXCON. Any financial commitments for the NCS will be confirmed with the Branch Adjt prior to commitment; and

    b.   As a voluntary exercise, all costs are borne by the participating units, and this exercise should not take precedence over an official or operational task.

<u>COMMAND AND SIGNALS</u>

7.   <u>Command</u>

    a.   <u>Command Post Locations</u>

        (1)   HQ: NCS   VC-55, Flanigan, Rm 124

    b.   <u>Key Staff and Appointments</u>

        (1)   Captain K.M. LaFleur, OIC, CSN 271-2347, kevin.lafleur2@forces.gc.ca;

        (2)   MWO Lefebvre D.J.G., CCO, CSN 271-7145 David.Lefebvre2@forces.gc.ca;

8.   <u>Signals</u>. Refer to Annex A – CEOI for CIS instructions, key nets, and frequencies.

A. ElMasry
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commandant

Distribution List (Next Page)

Annexes

Annex A - EX NS - CEOI - 2025.docx
Annex B - EX NS - Land Ack and EX battle rhythm - 2025.docx

Distribution List

Action

All Ex NS 25 Participants
Exercise Officer in Charge
Exercise Chief Communications Operator
1 Cdn Div HQ//J6
2 Cdn Div HQ//G6
3 Cdn Div HQ//G6
4 Cdn Div HQ//G6
5 Cdn Div HQ//G6
1 CMBG HQ & Sigs Sqn//CO/Ops O 2 CMBG HQ & Sig Sqn//CO/Ops O
5 CMBG HQ & Sig Sqn//CO/Ops O
2 Cdn Div//G6/CO 2 CDSG Sig Sqn
3 Cdn Div//G6/CO 3 CDSG Sig Sqn
4 Cdn Div//G6/CO 2 CDSG Sig Sqn
5 Cdn Div//G6/CO 3 CDSG Sig Sqn
7 Comm Gp//Comd
CAFCYBERCOM
CFJSR//CO/Ops O
CFSCE//Cmdt/Ops O
21 EW Regt//CO/Ops O/R Sig O 31 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O
32 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O
33 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O
34 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O
35 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O
36 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O
37 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O
38 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O
39 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O
41 Sig Regt//CO/Ops O 369 Sig BN (US)//CO/Ops O
8 ACCS//CO/Ops O
3 Wg OSS CIS Flight//CO/Ops O
4 Wg OSS CIS Flight//CO/Ops O
8 Wg OSS CIS Flight//CO/Ops O
9 Wg OSS CIS Flight//CO/Ops O
12 Wg OSS CIS Flight//CO/Ops O
14 Wg OSS CIS Flight//CO/Ops O
17 Wg OSS CIS Flight//CO/Ops O
19 Wg OSS CIS Flight//CO/Ops O
22 Wg OSS CIS Flight//CO/Ops O
MARPAC//N6
CANSOFCOM//J6
MARLANT//N6
NAVRES//N6
C&E Branch Advisor
C&E Branch Adjutant
C&E Branch Chief

Strategic A6
Director RCCS

Info

C&E Branch Adjt