

SIMULIATED EMERGENCY TEST

CMSARA SET Discussion

10 Feb 2026

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It only takes one bite!





Topics covered:

Simulated Emergency Test (SET): Overview and Review
Scenario Focus: Operation Undead

- Strong use of SM for initial notification and hourly updates
- Testing of all radio networks, Analog, Digital as well as infrastructure and non-infrastructure based systems

SET: Operation Undead

The main purpose of the SET is to evaluate strengths and weaknesses in Amateur Radio emergency preparedness as well as to demonstrate amateur radio to our served agencies and the general public.

We plan to use the following bands and modes from the field, in the mobile, at EOC's and at other served agency locations:

- HF, VHF, UHF
- Analog Voice, SSB,
- Digital voice and data,
- Packet and APRS for good measure.



COMMUNICATE. COORDINATE. SURVIVE.

SMEAC Operations Order Format

SMEAC is an acronym used to structure military operations orders in a clear, standardized format. It stands for:

1. Situation
2. Mission
3. Execution
4. Administration & Logistics
5. Command & Signal

SMEAC



ZOMBIE OVEROIRN

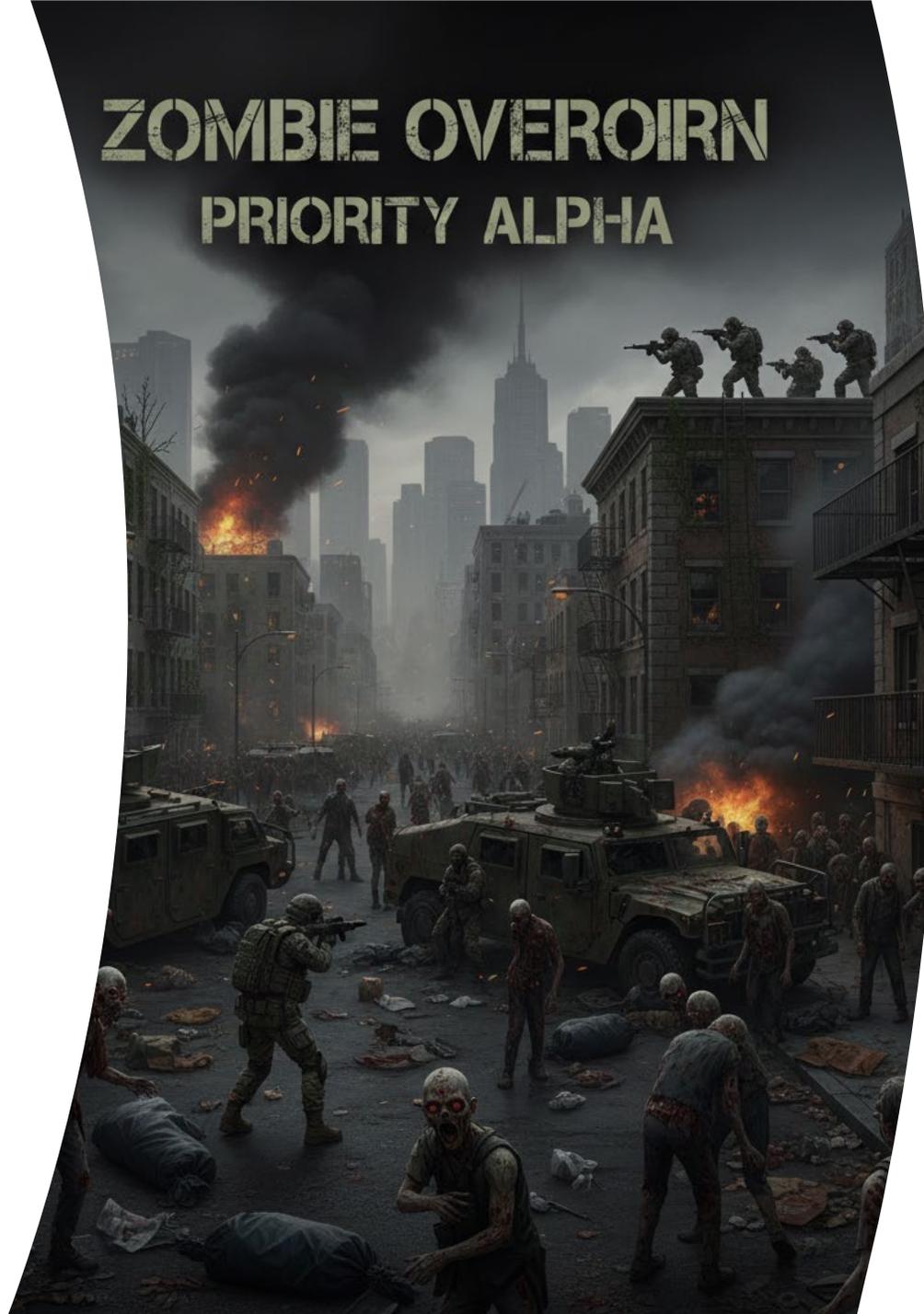
PRIORITY ALPHA

Breakdown of SMEAC

Situation: Provides operational context: enemy and friendly forces, terrain, weather, civil considerations, and attachments/detachment

Answers: What is happening? What are the threats and assets?

Mission: States the unit's specific task and purpose: who, what, where, when, and why. This is the concise statement of what must be accomplished.



Execution: Outlines the concept of operations, commander's intent, scheme of maneuver, subordinate tasks, and coordinating instructions. Describes how the mission will be carried out, including contingencies and benchmarks.

Administration & Logistics: Addresses sustainment needs: supplies, medical evacuation, resupply, handling of prisoners, and supporting fires. Covers practical support for the operation.

Command & Signal: Specifies the chain of command, leadership roles, and communication protocols (radio frequencies, call signs, signal instructions). Ensures everyone knows who is in charge and how to communicate.

What is the
SITUATION ?

ARRL

ARES

ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE OPERATION UNDEAD ALERT

COMMUNICATE. COORDINATE. SURVIVE

SITUATION REPORT

BROADCASTS DOWN

CELL NETWORKS CRITICAL/FAILING

∞ INFECTED: 70% URBAN, 30%, RURAL
∞ PRIMARY THREAT: BITE/SCRATCH
∞ SECONDARY: ISOLATION/LOOTERS

**PRIMARY DIRECTIVE:
NO VOICE TRAFFIC ON EMERGENCY
FREQS - UNLESS CRITICAL!**

ARES MISSION

MAINTAIN COMMUNICATIONS RELAY

→ EMERGENCY TRAFFIC
→ FUAFFCC
→ HEALTH & WELFARE

SUPPORT SHELTER OPS / SUPPLY LINES

RECON / INTEL GATHERING

YOUR GEAR CHECKLISTS

HT/MOBILE RADIO (CHARGED)

EXTRA BATTERIES / POWER BANK

ANTENNA (ROLL-UP JOINT/MAG-MOUNT)

NOTEBOOK & PENS

MAPS, PHYSICAL

WATER & RATIONS (3 DAYS)

FLASHLIGHT / HEDMAP

FREQUENCIES & PROTOCOLS

PRIMARY ARES NET: 146.550 MHz SIMPLEX	DMR TALKGROUP: MS ARES TAC-1 (TG 31281)	EMERGENCY LIAISON: 7.238 MHz (HF)
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AUG 8, 2026
AUG 8, 2026 , Z-TWO", ETC. _____ TRAFFIC TYPE: "ALPHA" (BRAVO", WELFARE), CHARLIE", INTEL)

DATE: OCT 26, 2024 | TIME: 0900L - 1600L | INFO: MISSISSIPPI ARES WEBSITE

Key Elements of The SET

Simulated Disruptions during the Test:

1. **Biological Threat:** Resource allocation and quarantine coordination for a novel pathogen mimicry outbreak.
2. **Infrastructure Failure:** Large disruption of hardline and wireless communications infrastructure.
3. **System Overload:** Major overloading of Federal, State, and local public safety/service radio systems.



Mission

The Mississippi Section Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) aims to coordinate amateur radio operators in supporting communications during emergencies. We will be doing everything to survive the onslaught of the undead and provide emergency radio comms and coordination to our served agencies.



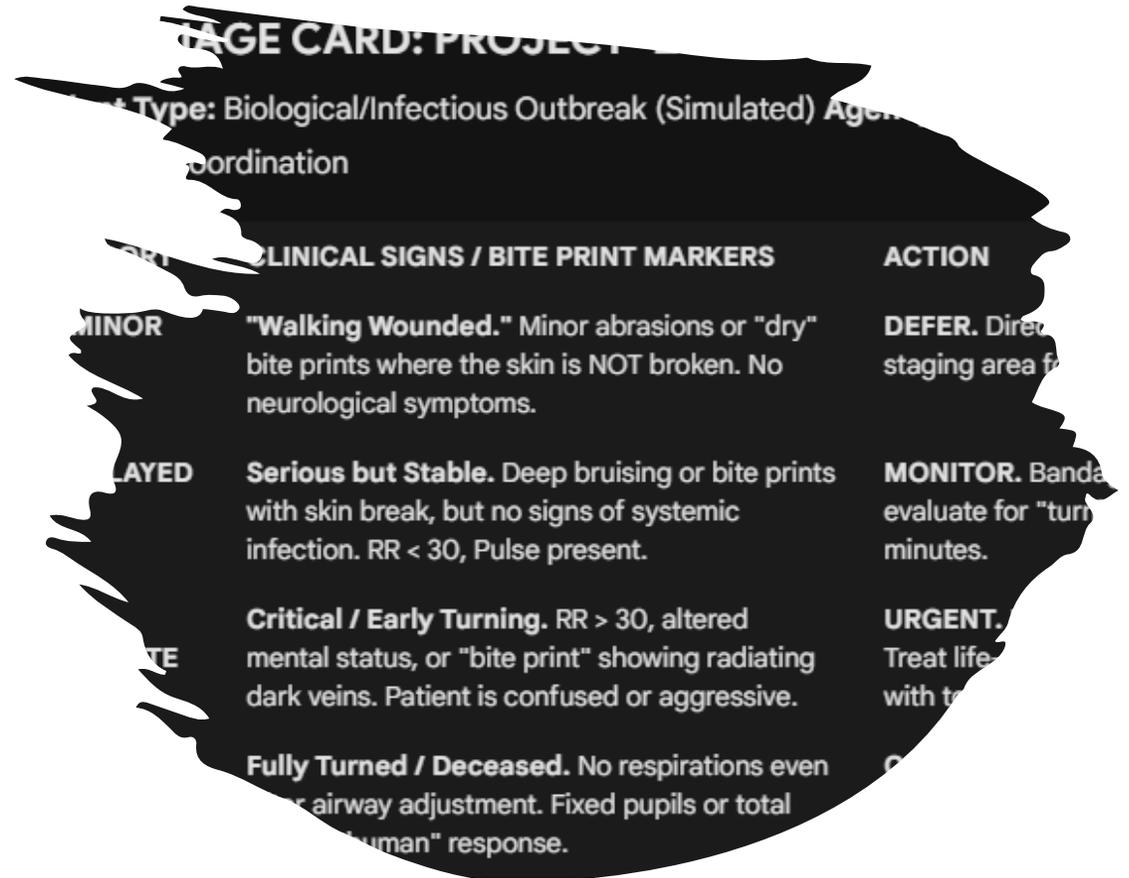
MISSION STATEMENT
The Mississippi Section Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) aims to coordinate amateur radio operators in supporting communications during emergencies



EXECUTION:

Enhancing Statewide Amateur Radio Emergency Services with VHF/UHF Analog Repeaters, DMR, and HF-NVIS

- For 2026, the SET will be managed via all three services; Analog Repeaters, Networked DMR (repeater and hot-spots), as well as HF-NVIS (3862 KHz SSB and 3581 KHz Digital Operations).
 - We will need net control operators for DMR and HF-NVIS as these two services cover local, regional, and intrastate communications.
 - ARES team members will use local Analog Repeaters to provide and receive tactical information to other ARES team members and served agencies.
- Each district Emergency Coordinator shall establish processes to provide information to and from tactical scenes.
 - It will be at the DEC's discretion on which of the three services will be used to pass traffic.



Execution

- **Deployment:** ARES members will operate from home stations, mobile units, and portable setups, with strategic positioning at EOCs and public health agency locations.
- **Purpose:** To evaluate strengths and weaknesses in emergency preparedness and demonstrate capabilities to served agencies and the public.
- **Coordination:** County Emergency Coordinators will oversee regional ARES teams and facilitate welfare communications among local responders and health organizations.
- **Strategy:** While initial notifications may use social platforms, Ham Radio RF networks will become the primary reliable communication channels as the exercise progresses.

EMERGENCY RADIOGRAM

PRECEDENCE: EMERGENCY STATION OF

ORIGIN: K5MS (MS ARES) **CHECK:** 45 PLACE

OF ORIGIN: VICKSBURG MS **TIME FILED:**

1730Z **DATE:** FEB 10

TO: ALL MISSISSIPPI ARES DISTRICTS / STATE

EOC ADDRESS: STATEWIDE DISTRIBUTION

TEXT: SITUATION UPDATE INTERSTATE 20

BRIDGE X ROADBLOCK AT MISSISSIPPI RIVER

OVERRUN BY UNDEAD FORCES AT 1715Z X

HEAVY CASUALTIES REPORTED X HORDE

MOVING EASTBOUND INTO VICKSBURG X ALL

AGENCY

<

SENT

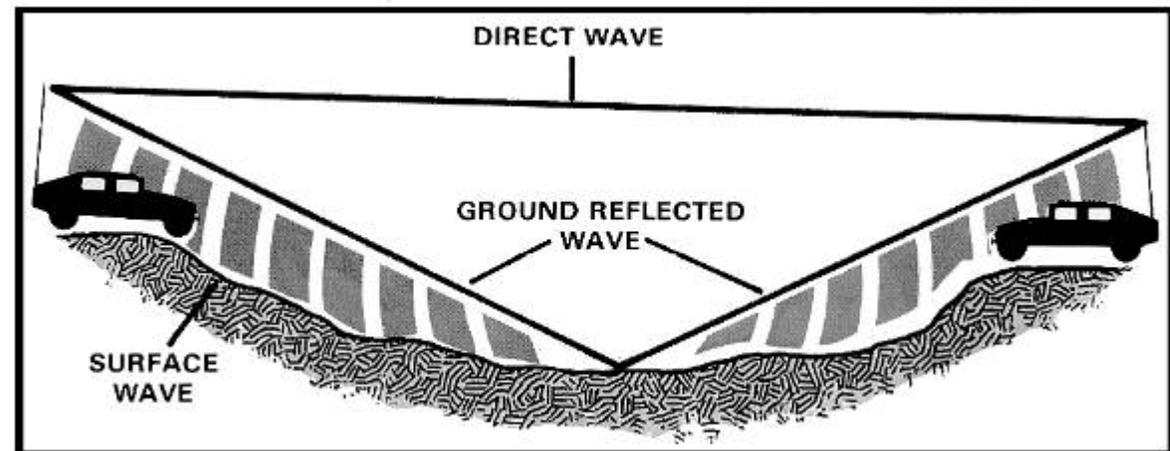


Figure 2-12. Possible routes for ground waves.

ADMINISTRATION & LOGISTICS -cont.

Training: Coordination teleconferences and sign-up links for Net Control Operators (NCOs) and traffic handlers will be disseminated in follow-up communications.

Inter-state Cooperation: The goal is to simulate traffic exchange with neighboring states' ARES organizations regarding the multi-state biological threat.

COMMAND & SIGNAL



Command: The MS Section ARES SEC will assume command throughout the event.



Signal Instructions: Communication will utilize HF, VHF, UHF, analog voice, SSB, and digital modes.



Activation/Termination: The SEC shall initiate and terminate the event via voice call over 3862/7238 KHz and DMR TG 31285.



Compliance: All transmissions must begin and end with a disclaimer that this is a drill. FCC regulations apply.

ADMINISTRATION & LOGISTICS

Reporting: Participants are required to submit online reports of their activity post-event.

The electronic reporting forms are hosted on the ARRL ARES field reports portal.

[Form A:](#) Emergency Coordinator (EC) SET Report
Used by ECs or DECs to report local/district participation and results.

[Form B:](#) Net Manager (NM) SET Report
Used by Net Managers to report net statistics, traffic totals, and liaison details.

Use this [link](#) to upload your After-Action Reports (AAR), photos, press releases, or other narrative documents.

SET SCENARIO SCRIPT

Sample Transmission Script

- Station A: "[Tactical Call] from [Your Call Sign], this is a test, this is not real, this is a drill."
- Station A: "Public Health District 3 reports a critical shortage of medical supplies at the simulated quarantine zone in [County Name]. Requesting status of resource allocation and relay to State EOC."
- Station A: "This is a drill, this is not real, this is a test."

ISC-205 For Mississippi

- The Incident Radio Communications Plan (ICS 205) provides information on all radio frequency or radio system talkgroup assignments for each operational period
- The MS version is a living document, available online upon request.
- The document is tabbed by district
- Please take the time to review and report errors and updates

HOW TO FILL-UP THE FORM:

BLOCK NO.	BLOCK TITLE	INSTRUCTIONS
1	Incident/Event Name	Enter the name assigned to the incident/event
2	Operational Period	Enter the start date (month-dd-yyyy) and time (24 hour format) and end date and time for the operational period to which the form applies.
3	Basic Radio Channel Utilization	<p>Enter the details of the radio communication methods assigned and used for the assigned ICS position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio Type – enter the type of communication device used (e.g. VHF, UHF, HF etc.) • System – enter the specific location (e.g. city/municipality) covered by the communication • Channel – can be named by number or alphabet (e.g. 1, 2, 3 or A, B, C) • Function – enter the specific function of the channel (e.g. Command, Tactical, etc.) • Tone/Offset – blank field indicates that the transmission is SIMPLEX. If filled, the transmission is DUPLEX. Indicate the tone/offset (e.g. +0.06 or -0.06) for DUPLEX transmissions. • Frequency – enter the VHF, UHF, and HF frequency (e.g. VHF – 145.500MHz) • Others – enter details for other forms of communication such as mobile phones and satellite phones. • Assignment – indicate where the communication is assigned, i.e. IMT member, branch, division, group or other units. • Remarks – enter the status of the communications (e.g. functional/ operational or non-functional / non-operational). You may enter other miscellaneous information concerning repeater locations, information concerning patched channels or talkgroups using links or gateways, etc.
4	Coordinating Instructions	Add other special instructions or reminders for communications.
5	Prepared by COML	Enter complete name of the COML, signature, date (month-dd-yyyy), and time (24 hour format) the form was prepared and completed. In the absence of COML, it shall be prepared by the LSC.

MS ICS-205 Online Resource

MS BASELINE INCIDENT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PLAN				MS SECTION ARES HF/VHF/UHF Analog and Digital			2024 Emergency Communications Plan		Operational Period: Winter-Spring 2024	
CH Designator	Function	Repeater Callsign Or Net Name	Jurisdiction-County	Assignment	RX Freq	RX Tone	TX Freq	Tx Tone	Mode	Remarks
6 Meter Coord	Support	MS ARES 6 Meter Support Coordination	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	50.165	None	50.165	None	SSB	New for 2023
6 Meter Tact	Tactical	MS ARES 6 M FM TACT CH	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	52.510	88.5	52.510	88.5	FM	New for 2023
2 Meter Calling	Tactical	146.52 National Calling 2 Meter	All	All MS ARES 2 Meter Radios	146.520	None	146.520	None	FM	For Initial comm support
ARES Simp 1	Tactical	146.54 ARES 2 Meter Simplex	All	All MS ARES 2 Meter Radios	146.540	88.5	146.540	88.5	FM	For operations coordination
ARES Simp 2	Tactical	146.57 ARES 2 Meter Simplex	All	All MS ARES 2 Meter Radios	146.570	88.5	146.570	88.8	FM	For operations coordination
ARES Simp 3	Tactical	446 ARES 440MHz Simplex	All	All MS ARES 440MHz Radios	446.000	100	446.000	100	FM	For close range
MSN 75M	Command	Magnolia Section Net 75 Meter	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	3.8625	None	3.8625	None	SSB	Morning HF Command Net
MS ARES 40M	Command	MS ARES Daytime 40 Meter	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	7.238	None	7.238	None	SSB	Daytime Command Net
MSPN 75M	Command	MSPN 75 Meter	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	3.862	None	3.862	None	SSB	Evening Command Net
MS-NBEMS	Command	MS ARES NBEMS Net 80 Meters	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	3581.000	None	3578.000	None	HF Digital	Freq 3.594.4, USB, Olivia
BPQ32 - W5WA-1	Support	MS ARES BPQ32 Node	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	3589.5 Dial	None	3591. Center	None	HF Digital	Winlink Express in VARA or
MS Winklink NET	H&W	MS ARES Winlink NET - See NCS in	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	Various	None	Various	None	HF Digital	Winlink Express in VARA
Intra-State Coord 60M	H&W	Intra-State 60 Meter CH#4 Coordination Net	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	5.3715	None	5.3715	None	SSB	For Intra-State
Delta ARES Net	Command	Delta Section ARES Net 40 Meters	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	7.275	None	7.275	None	SSB	Daytime Freq. Net will be
Delta ARES Net	Command	Delta Section ARES Net 75 Meters	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	3.890	None	3.890	None	SSB	Night time Freq. Net will be
DR5N	H&W	Daytime Region 5 Net 40 Meters	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	7.280	None	7.280	None	SSB	1525z and 2025z Daily
Open	Command	Daytime Region 5 Net 80 Meters	All	All MS ARES HF Radios	3.567	None	3.567	None	CW	0030z Daily
MS RMS Gateways	Command	RMS Gateways/P2P	All	MS Southern Counties	145.010	None	145.010	None	FM-AFSK	5-10 Gateways Available
ARES/Ntl WX service	Command	W5SLA	All	MS Southern Counties	147.270	None	147.870	114.8	FM	Ntl WX Service Slidell tie-in
ARES tactical repeater	Command	Winlink Gateway KB5VE-10	All	District 8 & surroundings	145.030	None	145.300	None	FM	Data gateway
Open	Command								FM	
Open	Command								FM	
Open	Command								FM	
Open	Command								FM	
Prepared By (KC5IMN)				Incident Location		Mississippi				
Robert Hayes KC5IMN Section Emergency Coordinator MS ARES				County State		Latitude Longitude				

The convention calls for frequency lists to show four digits after the decimal place. All channels are shown as if programmed in a control station, mobile or portable radio and assumes a radio can use channel names and numbers. Repeater and base stations must be programmed with the Rx and Tx reversed

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