



**Homeland
Security**

**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



Date: September 2007
To: Mike Williams, VCO & District Board/Staff
From: D11N DSO-OP
Subject: District OPS Report

Attention Boat Crew, Coxswain, PWC Candidates and Mentors:

Prior to going before a Qualification Examiner (QE) for your qualification please have the following tasks finished, if they are not done you will be wasting not only your valuable time but that of the QE.

- a. Candidates: Ensure each Mentor has signed Appendix B and initialed and dated every task on pages B-2 through B-5. Also ensure your Mentor signs and dates each task in Chapter 2 and has initialed each Performance Criteria. You can, and should, have various mentors sign your guides, even active duty coxswains.
- b. Mentors: Sign Appendix B (Mentor Tracking Form) in the Auxiliary Boat Crew Qualification Guides along with every applicable task (see above). Ensure you initial each Performance Criteria for each task. Also do not sign off all the tasks in one day. Only sign them off in accordance with Chapter 1, Section C of each guide. Please read this section thoroughly. You owe this to the candidate.
- c. Candidates please bring proof of your completed TCT, ICS and if Coxswain candidate your NAV Rules test, OPS Policy Manual test results, and proof of your crew hours.

Station & Sector San Francisco Important Info Relayed by Linda Vetter:

All coxswains who patrol in Station SF's AOR (Area of Responsibility) please note that effective immediately there is a change to the procedures for radio communications while in Station SF's AOR.

Since both Station SF and Sector SF are co-located on YBI, and Sector SF maintains a 24 x 7 radio comms facility, Station SF has reduced its staffing of their own radio comms room, allowing them to use their station personnel for other duties some of the time. Station SF will staff their comms room whenever they have station boats underway, but not typically for any other periods if none of their boats are underway or doing morning engineering/radio checks, etc. (For those familiar with some other units, such as Air Station SF, this is similar to their procedures).

This has a couple of impacts on Auxiliary radio comms while within Station SF's AOR, however, primarily because when assuming patrol it not obvious or likely that the Station SF's comms room is active. Please note the following procedural changes effective immediately:

When assuming patrol, while maintaining non-SAR (e.g., "Ops Normal") regular 30-minute interval reporting traffic, and when securing your patrol at the end of the day, Aux. units will utilize Channel 21A and report directly to Sector SF. Sector SF, of course, can dispatch Aux. units on SAR cases or other assistance within the AOR, and/or may ask the Aux. unit to switch to another channel (e.g, 23A or 22A) and chop their communications to Station SF if there is a case or other activities where Station SF units are involved and Station SF comms is active.

If an Aux. unit is on patrol expecting to work with Station SF for training, STAN, or other exercises, they may initiate communications with the Station for the scheduled work at the appropriate times and if comms is currently manned, but always be sure to secure with one unit if assuming radio comms with another unit each time. Remember that Station SF's regular working frequency is Channel 23A.

Aux. units may, of course, always call Station SF land line (415-399-3478) if needing to establish some comms with them or needing to clarify times or comms for training or other activities when the Station is not already maintaining an active radio guard.

This change does NOT effect radio communications with any other boat stations at this time. So if you cross AOR boundaries between Station SF's AOR and Station Golden Gate or Station Vallejo's AORs, be sure to chop your radio guard to/from the appropriate other Stations/Sector on their appropriate working frequencies.

Also note that this change does not affect the "special" AuxComms process for Fleet Week, or possibly for other special events that have their own Comms plans that should be adhered to for those events.

Remember that whenever chopping or changing radio guards between Stations or between Sector and any station, be sure to notify the "departing" comms that you are switching your radio guard to someone else. And always be sure to secure with your current radio guard entity when done for the day!

Items and questions of interest that have come up this month:

Question: When is the next available Team Coordination Class (TCT) being given?

Answer: Sunday the 18th of November at Coast Guard Island. You need to sign up prior and the deadline for sign ups will be the Tuesday the 13th of November. Please e/mail me (Gail.L.Ramsey@uscg.mil) if you plan on attending. This will be the last class of the year so check your TCT due date and take advantage of this class.

Question: When I do repairs to my facility am I upgrading the value of my vessel on the offer for use form (ANSC7003)?

Answer: If you add a new, not replacing nor repairing, item such as a new radar that would be considered a new value in electronics. If you are doing a repair such as a water pump or other mechanical repair that is considered repair or maintenance and is not adding to the value of the vessel. Standard AUX Maintenance Allowance (SAMA) is for the purpose of maintaining or assistance with large repairs of your vessel. You are paid, in addition to fuel costs, so much per hour depending upon the number of engines and horsepower.

- Only a set amount of SAMA funding is available each fiscal year, once used no more available until following year
- First come, first served!
- Turn in your requests for reimbursements as soon as possible after each patrol before SAMA runs out
- SAMA Rates can be found at: <http://cgauxsurfaceops.us/sama.htm>

Question: How do I get a copy of my patrol order reimbursement document?

Answer: (From Mike Williams, VCO) For those of you who have ever wondered how in the world do I get a copy of a document that will let me know what my patrol reimbursements are when it was deposited to my account and did I receive the correct amount, well; here is the answer.

The USCG Finance Center provides a web based service that will provide you, the member, with a document that will answer your questions and provide you with a document for your records.

The first thing you must do is go to the USCG Finance Center located at <http://www.fincen.uscg.mil/>. Also you must have the order number; it appears in the upper right hand corner of your Coast Guard Auxiliary Patrol Order document CG-5132. Now do not get excited you don't have to enter the entire patrol order number.

Once you have the site on you screen review the upper left side of the screen and locate the topic "**Auxiliary Interests**" select and open that link. This will take you to another screen the title of

which is **Auxiliary Interests**. Good you're on the right path. Next look down the page and locate "**Auxiliary Links**" and select "**Auxiliary Reimbursement Detail Reports**". Hey we're almost done. This will take you to the most important page the heading will be "**Auxiliary Reimbursement Detail Reports**". Now select **Auxiliary Reimbursement Detail Reports**. Now the suspense will end, at the top of the page you will see the title **Auxiliary Report Retrieval Form**. This is the real hard part; not really, enter the patrol order number in the box provided, not the complete number but say, the letter B9 which appear in the patrol order number. Select **Retrieve** and on your screen, in a few seconds, will be populated with all the order numbers in which B9 appears. Screen through the list and find your order number, select it, highlight, the report will appear on your screen. You can now print the document for your files.

*For those of you who travel with orders received from DIRAUX you can also find the link from the Auxiliary Interests page and select the **Claim Status Travel /Voucher Summaries** link. This tracks where the claim may be in the processing flow. You can also print out a copy of your completed processed voucher for your records. **Good luck as you use technology to answer your questions.***

OPTREX SCHEDULE:

At this time the OPTREX listing & information links on the District Calendar are as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOST</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CONTACT INFO</u>
SEP 22/23 RD - 2007	DIV 5	BRANNAN ISL	PHIL SANCHEZ
SEP 28/30- 2007	FLOTILLA 39	LAKE ORVILLE	HANNELORE MADDOX COMO MIKE MADDOX
OCT 12/14 TH - 2007	FLOTILLA 88	CLEAR LAKE	RICH THOMAS
OCT 26/28 TH	FLOTILLA <u>3-10</u>	BRANNAN ISLAND	DAVE CHAMBERLAIN
APR 12/13 th 2008	DIV 12	2008 OPTREX (12-13 April 2008)	

The above information is compliments of our OPTREX Coordinator, Dean La Chapelle, who is doing a great job on keeping all of us straight.

- There are ten OPTREX's listed for 2007
- Three are listed for 2008
- Three are listed for 2009
- Two Divisions plan on hosting two or more OPTREX's:
- Division 5 will host two events, May and Sep.
- Division 7 will host two events in August
- Division 3 is hosting events, May, June, Sept and Oct.

Respectfully,

Gail