



The Salvation Army

Emergency Disaster Services

Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network



29 November 2018

Alaska-Pacific Net Quickly Responds To Alaska Earthquake

THQ-West – (11/30/2018) At 0829 (AKST - Alaska Standard Time) a 7.0 M earthquake struck Anchorage, AK, and the surrounding area. A tsunami warning was immediately issued and media reports indicated that there had been serious damage to the infrastructure in and around Anchorage. Liquefaction – a condition when solid ground liquefies - was reported and many roads and buildings were damaged. Some media outlets were temporarily off-the-air. Alaska Governor Bill Walker issued a State of Emergency. President Trump said federal aid would be provided and FEMA responded from its' Alaskan headquarters.



The earthquake struck as the Alaska-Pacific Emergency Preparedness (A-P) Net was beginning the daily net on 14.292 MHz. The A-P Net immediately began monitoring the situation, receiving reports from local amateur radio operators.

A-P Net member Ken Gilliland (AG6SV), who is also the Net Manager for the International SATERN SSB Net, immediately began to provide situation reports from the A-P Net to National SATERN Liaison Bill Feist (WB8BZH). Feist then passed those reports on to Western Territory Disaster Coordinator John Berglund, Western Territory SATERN Coordinator Ian Anderson (KO2IAN) and National Disaster Specialist Tameka Sharp. Feist also began monitoring the A-P net frequency from the WB5ALM SATERN station at the ALM Division's EDS Center in Jackson, MS. As other SATERN members became aware of the situation, they also began to provide additional information to SATERN. This continued into the afternoon.

Both Berglund and Sharp thanked SATERN for the reports as they came in.

The earthquake's epicenter was located some 10 miles north of Anchorage near Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson at a depth of 25 miles. It was followed six minutes later by a 5.7 M aftershock. The earthquake was felt as far away as Fairbanks.

The A-P Net originated in the aftermath of the 9.2 M 1964 Good Friday (or Great Alaskan) Earthquake. The earthquake disrupted all normal communications and amateur radio became the only effective communications to the outside world. The Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management provides some limited support to the Net which has over 100 members. The A-P Net averages 60 check-ins each morning.

National SATERN Liaison to Give Annual SATERN Report At NHQ Next Week



National Headquarters (11/29/2018) – National SATERN Liaison Bill Feist (WB8BZH) will be presenting the annual SATERN Report to the National Disaster Services Committee (NDSC) at its annual meeting next week on 04-06 December 2018. During his half hour presentation, he will discuss SATERN's activities in 2018 beginning with the National SATERN Committee's progress on the Strategic Plan. An activity report will be provided to the NDSC on SATERN's responses during the 2018 Atlantic and Pacific Hurricane Seasons as well as the very successful 30th Anniversary Net Rally. Feist will also present a budget report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 and the proposed budgets for FY 2019 and FY 2020.

The NDSC meets each year at National Headquarters (NHQ) in Alexandria, VA, to discuss policy and program matters for the Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) program which includes SATERN. Members of the NDSC include the Territorial Disaster Coordinators for the Canada-Bermuda, Central, Eastern, Southern and Western Territories, the NHQ EDS staff, the National Community Relations & Development (CRD) Secretary who oversees the Disaster program, Salvation Army World Services Organization (SAWSO) which oversees NHQ support of international Salvation Army operations, including international disasters, and representatives from other disciplines that support the EDS program nationwide.

There will also be time to discuss a variety of SATERN matters with the NDSC during the presentation.

Feist will also have the opportunity to have input on other EDS matters not related to SATERN that will be discussed as part of the annual meeting.



Talk To Your Local SATERN Group or Ham Club About Volunteering To Ring Bells This Year!

