

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Folder Title: National Telecommunications Management Structure/National Communications System [NTMS/NCS] News - 1993				
Staff Office-Individual: Science Technology Policy-O'Neil, John				
Original OA/ID Number: CF 99				
Row: 23	Section: 6	Shelf: 10	Position: 2	Stack: V

Mr. John F. O'Neil Retires

Mr. John F. O'Neil, a Senior Policy Analyst in the National Security Affairs Directorate of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, retired in June, 1993. Mr. O'Neil served in the position since May, 1988, and was primarily responsible for National Security and Emergency Preparedness telecommunications management and science and technology matters dealing with the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union. He was also responsible for policy issues dealing with national security telecommunications and continuity of government. He served as a member of several interagency groups and was the leader of the NTMS National Emergency Management Team Communications Functional Group (NEMT CFG).

The members of the NTMS Program Management Office staff wish Mr. O'Neil the best of luck in his new life in Monterey, California. □

Around the Regions Profiles



Name: Mr. Dan Smith
Team Assignment: CFG Team Leader, Battle Creek, MI
Organization: GSA, Chicago, Illinois
Title: GSA, Regional Emergency Communications Planner and NCS Regional Manager

"The Battle Creek, MI, CFG has the longest continued membership, with virtually no turnovers, since the inception of NTMS. The group is one the most cohesive and well organized I have ever worked with." □

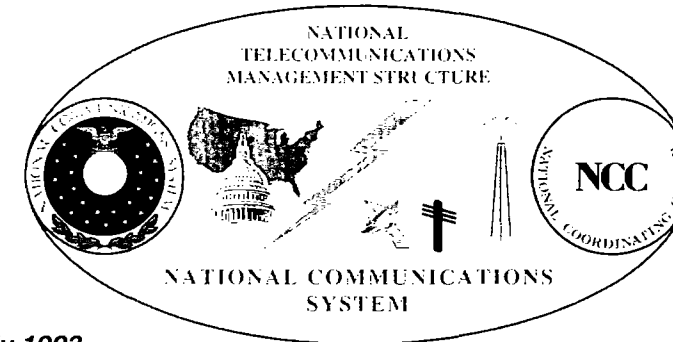
Questions and Concerns

Q. Has there been any resolution to the FRC communications issues addressed in the OSTP letter to FEMA?

A. FEMA has received the letter and is currently working with the NTMS Program Manager to find the best possible solutions to these and other related communication issues. □



Office of the Manager, NCS/NPM
701 S. Court House Road
Arlington, VA 22204-2198
(703) 692-8506



July 1993

Volume 3 Number 2

NTMS News

New Director, OSTP



Dr. John H. (Jack) Gibbons took the oath of office as Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy on February 3, 1993. In these capacities, Dr. Gibbons is charged with providing technological and communications

advice to the President, federal officials and Congress, and with coordinating science and technology policy throughout the Federal Government.

Dr. Gibbons is an internationally recognized scientist and expert in energy and environmental issues. He is deeply interested in, and concerned about the impacts of technology on society and how they should affect the formulation of sound public policy. From 1970 until his appointment by President Clinton, Dr. Gibbons directed the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment. Previously, Dr. Gibbons served as the Director of the Energy, Environment and Resources Center at the University of Tennessee. Prior to that, at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, he conducted physics research and later directed projects on energy and material conservation, and on the environmental consequences of power production.

Dr. Gibbons is a graduate of Randolph-Macon College and Duke University (Ph.D., Physics). He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. □

Deputy Manager, NCS Retires



Mr. Ben Morriss, Deputy Manager of the National Communications System (NCS), retired in June 1993 after 30 years of government service. Mr. Morriss spent most of his federal career with the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), formerly the Defense Communications Agency. He served as the Assistant

Deputy for National Military Command System Technical Support, and as Director, Defense Systems Support Organization, Command and Control Technical Center, and Joint Data Systems Support Center. Mr. Morriss served as the Deputy Manager, NCS, from September 1984 to June 1993. Prior to his federal service, Mr. Morriss was a Division Manager for the System Development Corporation responsible for all technical and administrative functions in the Washington area. He has also been a Group Leader at MIT's Lincoln Labs and an Instructor of Electrical Engineering at Virginia Military Institute.

The members of the NTMS Program Management Office wish Mr. Morriss the best of luck in his retirement.

Until Mr. Morriss' replacement is selected, COL Victor Bowser will serve as Acting Deputy Manager, NCS. □

Validation Activities

The National Telecommunications Management Structure (NTMS) was successfully validated in the Thomasville, Georgia, region on February 4 and 5, and in Denver, Colorado, on April 28 and 29, 1993. The agenda for these validation events was similar to that used at previous events, with some specific regional variations. Representatives from NCS Offices of Plans and Programs and Emergency Preparedness, GSA, FEMA, the National Defense Executive Reserve (NDER), Individual Mobilization Augmentees (IMA) attended both events. The industry telecommunication experts were from AT&T, BellSouth, GTE, MCI, SPRINT, and US West.

Mr. John O'Neil, Senior Policy Analyst and former Acting Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), was the senior White House representative at both events.

The Office of the Manager, National Communications System (OMNCS) team conducted the validation events for the Regional Emergency Management Team Communications Functional Group (REMT CFG) at the GSA Regional Headquarters in Atlanta, and at the GSA Regional Headquarters and the Federal Regional Center (FRC) in Denver. Mr. Guy Darden, GSA/NCS Regional Manager serves as the CFG team leader in the Thomasville region and Mr. Dave Vest, GSA/NCS Regional Manager is the team leader in the Denver area.



COL Vic Bowser gives thumbs up to NDER member Don Rodgers, LTG USA (Ret)

Both events began with a series of introductions by the NTMS Program Manager, Ms. Peggy Newland, followed by introductions of the CFG team members. Following the CFG team member introductions, COL

Victor Bowser, NCS, welcomed the Thomasville participants. At the Denver event, Mr. O'Neil welcomed the participants on behalf of the White House and the President. Mr. O'Neil was followed by Col Paul Hamilton, NCS, who welcomed the group on behalf of the Manager, NCS.



GSA Members, Guy Darden and Mimi Lauder milk in Atlanta

At the Thomasville event, the second day began with a presentation by Mr. Guy Darden of certificates of appreciation for efforts in support of the Hurricane Andrew response. These presentations were followed by additional briefings and the tabletop discussion. The second day's events in the Denver region began with a tour of the FRC and were followed by the tabletop exercise. When the events ended, Ms. Peggy Newland thanked the participants for their support and presented each of them with an NTMS certificate.

Immediately following the day's formal events in Denver, the team members toured the FEMA Mobile Emergency Response System (MERS) vans. Following the MERS tour, the team members received a briefing at the AT&T Operations Center located in downtown Denver. □



John O'Neil, COL Paul Hamilton, Peggy Newland, and Dave Vest in Denver

NTCN Radio Installations Continue

The National Telecommunications Coordinating Network (NTCN) is the primary telecommunications capability designed to support the operations and functions of the NTMS. Currently, the NTMS Program Management Office (PMO) is actively engaged in managing the installation of over 60 high-frequency (HF) radio systems in Operating Center locations across the continental United States, Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico. Thus far, a total of 16 HF radio systems have been successfully installed. Installations completed in the last quarter include Hagerstown, MD (GSA), Ferndale, WA (FCC), Allegan, MI (FCC), Livermore, CA (FCC), and Gadsden, AL (BellSouth).

Following each radio installation, Operating Center personnel are given the opportunity to participate in Operator Training. This training session is conducted by members of the NTMS PMO and is designed to provide basic operating instructions on the Harris RF-3200 radio system, as well as to describe the fundamental responsibilities and procedures for supporting an NTMS activation. To date, several NTMS Operating Centers have taken advantage of this training activity and have found it to be beneficial to their understanding of the NTMS program.

On May 19, 1993, the NTMS PMO conducted a communications test to exercise NTCN participants' ability to successfully transmit and receive messages using the Harris RF-3200 radio system, and to evaluate the HF radio operating procedures currently in place. Participants included NTMS Operating Centers, primarily from Region One, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). During the four hour exercise, stations transmitted and received several pre-scripted messages, and logged each message using procedures defined by the NTMS Operating Center Handbook. Communication test results show that over 85% of the messages scheduled for the exercise were successfully transmitted and received. The next NTCN communication test is projected for Fall 1993. □

CSI Exercise

The Commercial SATCOM Interconnectivity (CSI) program is one of the three programs that make up the NCS National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) Telecommunications Program (NLP), which is designed to improve telecommunication services to NS/EP users in the event of major disasters, including war. The CSI network, as currently configured, is designed to enhance the post-attack connectivity of the public switched networks.

CSI Exercise (continued)

The CSI PMO conducts annual tests and exercises to verify that the service contractors responsible for the CSI program can properly configure, activate, and operate CSI facilities, and meet network performance requirements. Additionally, these tests and exercises provide an opportunity to verify the interoperability of CSI with the public switched network and other NLP initiatives.

The CSI Program Management Office conducted its annual CSI exercise during the week of June 27, 1993, at Ellenwood, GA. Representatives from the Regional Emergency Management Team (REMT) Communications Functional Group (CFG), Thomasville, GA, the National Coordination Center (NCC), Arlington, VA, and the NTMS Program Office were on hand at the CSI exercise to play an interactive role in the many decisions associated with CSI activation and implementation. These team members received briefs on the CSI and NTMS programs, toured the Ellenwood, GA, GTE Satellite Facility and monitored the progress of CSI implementation at the Control Center throughout the exercise play. □

Validation Completion

On June 14, 1993, the NTMS PMO celebrated the validation of the sixth and final regional REMT/CFG. The Denver validation, which occurred on April 28-29, 1993, was the last in a series of validation events which started in Maynard, MA, on October 18, 1990.

The celebration was attended by government and industry telecommunication representatives who participated in the validation activities from the initial operating capability (IOC) event at Maynard, MA, to the final validation in Denver, CO.

The celebration began with a series of briefings and program update information. These formal briefings were followed by a slide presentation which highlighted some of the more memorable moments from each of the six regional validations.

After a short break, Ms. Newland, the NTMS Program Manager, presented each industry representative and government participant with certificates of achievement for "Outstanding Performance" in several categories. After these certificates were presented, Ms. Newland then presented each validation participant with an official Certificate of Appreciation for their individual contributions to the NTMS.

Following the formal briefings and presentations, the group participated in a small social activity. □