

## DESCRIPTION

1. Project Guardnet is a network of base stations, each in the same simplex frequency installed in ten police control rooms across the country. The project was conceived to support the Private Security Act of 2003 and to allow all security folk, most of whom communicate using 2 metre band radios, access to police control centres countrywide. With the massive increase of tour guides on the sea and land, and other 2 metre users, the idea was expanded to include all registered users. This will make use of the increased amount of eyes and ears on the ground able to report crimes in progress.
2. As the operating radius of each station does not overlap relay procedure will be necessary. This operating radius is about 10 to 15 miles depending on the height of the police mast. Being a line of sight system it is also affected by terrain obscuration, especially in hilly areas where excellent communications are possible at the top of a hill while there is none at the bottom. Over the sea radio ranges are much better but with the range of transmit base usually greater, owing to the greater height of the police mast than a handheld user.
3. As the amount of users increase over time voice and other procedure, not unlike that in use with our military will have to be utilized in order that the system is efficiently used with courtesy and discipline.
4. Unregistered user will strictly not be allowed to use Guardnet.
5. This operating manual is intended for the use of Project Guardnet. Be a part of this unique and important project as we all work to make Belize safer for ourselves and visitors to our country.

## USER INSTRUCTIONS

6. Registration forms are obtainable from all police stations countrywide. These forms will include other contact details and information on the users operation. This is for the purpose of verification or notification on behalf of the caller. Your registration particulars, assigned call sign and unique authentication codes will be passed to each of the 10 police centres. In effect a user registering in Caye Caulker will be known to the police control in Punta Gorda including his authentication codes and call sign as well as the contact details of the users home base.
7. On registration, the applicant will be issued a call sign and a set of authentication codes. New codes will be issued at renewal of registration each year.
8. It is recommended that:
  - a. The frequency be programmed into the user's radio and put in the scanning sequence (if available).
  - b. As the user launches to sea or land, he makes a radio check with his local police control center then with "all stations".

- c. An all stations radio check is made on return and information broadcast when closing down. This will give comfort to other users and indicate to the police (who will maintain a log) of who all are “out there” on any given day.
- d. You are not routinely required to do any of this or even give your location. However, in the event of an incident it will make it easier to locate you.

## CALLSIGN

- 9. The call sign to be issued by the police is the unique identifier of the user station; no one else will ever be issued this call sign even if this particular user does not wish to continue at some point in the future.
- 10. A call sign list will be issued on registration and updated annually at re-registration for notification of all registered users.

## AUTHENTICATION

- 11. Authentication is a security challenge by the control station to the user for passing executive information to the control. This is necessary to reduce prank calls or criminal diversion of security forces. A correct response to the challenge by the user will assist in a more rapid decision by the police to respond to the information. In this case the challenge consists of a bigram with a similar bigram for the response. Neither challenge nor response will be used again in that control area. It is unnecessary to use authentication for radio checks.
- 12. In the below example of a table, the challenge is in bold and the response is the bigram at the intersection of the table. E.g.: If the Challenge by the control is **W8** the correct response is **N4**. **N4** is then crossed off by both the control for that area and the user.

	F	<b>8</b>	N
H	CO	<b>2N</b>	SR
W	8S	<b>N4</b>	NF
G	DO	2I	8S

## WORD SUBSTITUTION

- 13. Phonetic Alphabet. Use of the internationally recognized phonetic alphabet is necessary when communications are difficult. Users could then resort to spelling of words, names, etc by using substitutes.
- 14. International Phonetic Alphabet is below, learn it!  
*A-Alfa, B-Bravo, C-Charlie, D-Delta, E-Echo, F-Foxtrot, G-Gulf, H-Hotel, I-India, J-Juliet, K-Kilo, L-Lima, M-Mike, N-November, O-Oscar, P-Papa, Q-Quebec, R-Romeo, S-Sierra, T-Tango, U-Uniform, V-Victor, W-Whiskey, X-X-ray, Y-Yankee, Z-Zulu.*
- 15. Other Word Substitutes. Due to sound alike especially by Creole speakers important words Yes and No could be substituted with Affirm or Affirmative and Negative respectively. Roger is often used to indicate the transmission is

received and understood. WILCO is often used to indicate the transmission is received, understood and **will be complied with!**

## VOICE PROCEDURE

16. Voice procedure is used to ensure disciplined, efficient and accurate passage of information especially on a crowded net. Stations commence each transmission with the word 'Hello' the call sign of the station with which he wishes to speak, followed by his own call sign. Thereafter each transmission is prefixed by the caller's own call sign indicating to all listeners, the identity of the station transmitting.
17. Each transmission is ended with the word OVER if a reply is expected; or OUT if no reply is necessary. It is courteous for the initiating station to terminate the conversation by using the word OUT.
18. Several specific procedures are below; it's really just like having a normal conversation but saying your name and ending each transmission by saying over and out! **(In the below examples your call sign is indicated by the symbol "\*", the police "%" and another station "@")**.
  - a. Radio Check:
    - i. "Hello Police Control this is \*, radio check, over."
    - ii. "\*, This is Dangriga Control OK, over."
    - iii. "\*, OK, out."
  - b. All Stations radio check:
    - i. "Hello all stations this is \*, radio check, over"
    - ii. Each station hearing and deciding to answer responds in turn commencing with his call sign followed by "OK, over".
    - iii. "\*, OK, out."
  - c. Initiating or answering a Call:
    - i. "Hello, % this is \*, message over".
    - ii. \*, This is %, send, over".
    - iii. "\*, Suspicious looking characters in a black boat are approaching my boat, over".
    - iv. "%, Message copied, say location over".
    - v. "\*, I am anchored 3 miles south west of Middle Long Caye, over".
    - vi. "%, Message received standing by, over".
    - vii. "\*, Will continue operations and observing, out".
    - viii. "Hello %, this is \* suspicious boat was another tourist vessel named "Jan", they asked for sprat and departed to the south, over".
    - ix. "%, Roger, over".
    - x. "\*, Out".
  - d. Relay Procedure. In this scenario after several calls with no response from the station being called another station, preferably one who has had recent contact with police control could answer and offer to relay the

message. Messages could be relayed by more than one station. Example follows:

- i. "Hello %, this is \* message, over". (Several times)
- ii. "Hello \* this is @, through me, over".
- iii. "\*, The black boat has returned and the occupants are firing shots at my boat", over.
- iv. "@, Out to you, hello % this is @ message from \*, "the black boat has returned and the occupants are firing shots at my boat", over.
- v. "% Roger, we will be diverting a patrol boat to the area immediately with estimated time of arrival at 1500hrs, over."
- vi. "@, Roger, out to you, hello \* message passed, over".
- vii. "\*, Roger, out."

e. Information Broadcast. This is to send your location and status to anyone listening on the net or to a specific station as follows:

- i. "Hello [any station] [all stations] [Dangriga Control] this is \*, I am at [location] with school children on tour, over".
- ii. " \* This is India43, roger, over".
- iii. " \*, Out".

## CODE WORDS

1. Code words must not be confused for nicknames. While nicknames are used to disguise the identity of person, place or thing, code words have a specific meaning. The use of code words in this case is to describe a specific situation that may be too rapidly occurring or frightening for the caller to immediately describe. Most certainly the police control will ask for authentications and a location. So frequent information broadcasts are helpful so most users on any given day will know roughly what other users are doing and importantly where.
2. Code words for use by Guardnet and the meaning follow:
  - a. Distress. This is the international declaration of distress which is a state of adversity caused either by mechanical failure to ships, aircraft or vehicles. The location and an indication of the calamity are sent along with the identification call sign. An example follows: "Mayday, Mayday, Mayday, \*, at 17°15'88° sinking".
  - b. Grave Danger. This is unique to Guardnet code word and is for any situation in which life is already lost or immediately in grave danger as a result of unlawful interference. An example follows: Grave danger, Grave danger, Grave danger, \*, I am being attacked by masked men with guns, three miles south of Maya ruin".
3. If time permits more information could be given to any station monitoring. The primary response should be by police control. If there is no police response then any station could offer to relay or offer assistance if nearby and able to do so.

## OTHER MEANS

1. Government has made available other electronic 24-hour service for the passage of public security information or distress as follows:

- a. Telephone number **911** rings in the call center at the Raccoon Street police station and is used to report crime in progress.
- b. Telephone number **922** terminates in Miami Crime Stoppers International communications center for the purpose of unanimously passing a crime tip.
- c. Telephone number **999** countrywide is monitored by the Ports Authority of Belize communications centre and is intended for maritime distress.
- d. Ports Authority communications also monitors marine distress Channel 16 (VHF) and 2.182kHz (HF) and the new Channel 70 (DSC). The later is digital capable and will soon include weather information.
- e. Massive upgrading of police communications countrywide has placed a radio with almost every beat officer and patrol car. Likewise several new police booths in the urban areas are all fitted with either radio or direct link telephone so walking up to any police officer of patrol vehicle, police booth or station and declaring an emergency should precipitate an appropriate response to an incident in progress.