



Republika ng Pilipinas
PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN NG PATUBIG
(NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION)
Lungsod ng Quezon

MC # 58, s. 2006

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

**TO : DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATORS,
DEPARTMENT MANAGERS,
REGIONAL IRRIGATION MANAGERS,
OPERATIONS MANAGERS, PROJECT MANAGERS,
PROVINCIAL IRRIGATION OFFICERS,
IRRIGATION SUPERINTENDENTS,
AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

SUBJECT : CONTINGENCY MEASURES DURING CALAMITY/TYPHOONS

Relative to the attached "NIA Tele-Communication Equipment Report" dated November 13, 2006, the following measures shall be adopted:

1. That restoration of all HF/SSB stations nationwide shall be implemented immediately instead of heavily relying on commercial landline/mobile telecommunications services for our daily operations;
2. That whenever disruptions of normal telephone services occur due to typhoons or other emergency occurrence, application of HF/SSB communication shall be utilized to communicate directly with the Central Office and other Field Offices in the network;
3. That relocation of HF/SSB units to other field offices tasked to participate/monitor emergency operations like dams and other sensitive structures shall be given priority attention;
4. That the existing VHF communication platforms should be maintained and upgraded to serve as NIA's local back-up systems for early warning dissemination in case of dam water discharged and/or flood control, thus preventing the emergency services from being dangerously vulnerable;
5. That an emergency skeletal force be configured not only at Central Office but also in all regional and field offices having to do with the emergency operations during rainy seasons;
6. That radio operators shall be authorized to render overtime services both at Central Office and field offices whenever the situations so require during typhoon seasons;
7. That the patrol cars for Flood Forecasting Operations be permanently stationed at the NIA FFWS Center at the Central Office and Field Offices of Pantabangan and Magat Dams for quick dispatching at all times for FFWSDO operation and that said vehicles be marked with FFWSDO (Flood Forecasting) & For Official Use Only;
8. That redundant communications network is vital for the Agency's efficient operation;
9. That HF/SSB radio is one of the most important components of the network and is vital when coordinating and interfacing with other governmental agencies.

Non-compliance hereof constitutes violation of reasonable office rules and regulations and shall be dealt with in accordance with Civil Service Law, rules and regulations under Section 52, Rule IV (Penalties).

Strict compliance is hereby enjoined.


Gen. ARTURO C. LOMIBAO
Administrator

December 18, 2006



Republika ng Pilipinas
PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN NG PATUBIG
(NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION)
Lungsod ng Quezon

November 13, 2006

FOR : The Administrator
This Agency

SUBJECT : NIA TELE-COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

1. NIA is presently using the following communication equipment:
 - a.) Landline Telephone
 - b.) Cellular phone
 - c.) Fax Machine
 - d.) E-mail
 - e.) High Frequency/Single Side Band (HF/SSB) Radio
 - f.) Very High Frequency (VHF) Radio
 - g.) Multiplex Communication (Microwave) for our Flood Forecasting & Warning System for Dam Operation (FFWSDO)
2. From the above-mentioned equipment, HF/SSB Radio offers flexibility in terms of operational costs and ease of deployment. It is toll free and offers extreme mobility even in the harshest environment unaffected by geographical obstruction and can be operated either in AC or DC power source.
3. Warning and alarm signals for the resident to be affected by floodwaters in case of Dam Spillage is being supported by a number of warning stations strategically located along the riverbanks and a number of patrol cars equipped with mobile VHF Radios and Public Address System to expand coverage.
4. For our backbone, we have the Flood Forecasting and Warning System (FFWS) Microwave Communication terminal operating in the Ultra High Frequency (UHF) and Giga Hertz (Ghz) frequencies supporting the telemetered rainfall data and Dam Water level both of the Magat and Pantabangan Dams. Being jointly monitored at NIA FFWS Center, PAGASA FFWS Center and NPC FFWS Center in a large graphic display showing data changes every hour of the day, these terminals also provide telephone and fax service lines for Office of the Civil Defence (OCD), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and National Water Resources Board (NWRB) for monitoring and disaster coordination.
5. Subject to the standard maintenance procedures, the following inventory of communication transceivers offers an ideal backup link should any of the above malfunctions:

I. CENTRAL & REGIONAL OFFICES

ITEM NO	RADIO TYPE	QTY	LOCATION	CONDITION	OPERATOR
1	HF/SSB	1	NIA-CO, Quezon City	A1	2-ECSO B
2	HF/SSB	1	CAR, La Trinidad, Benguet	A1	NONE
3	HF/SSB	1	R-1, Urdaneta, Pangasinan	A1	NONE
4	HF/SSB	1	R-2, Cauyan, Isabela	A2	3-ECSO B
5	VHF	1	MARIIS, Cauyan, Isabela	A1	5-ECSO B
6	HF/SSB	1	R-3, San Rafael, Bulacan	R	1-ECSO B(Clerical Job)
7	VHF	5	UPRIIS, Cabanatuan City	A1	4-ECSO B
8	HF/SSB	1	R-4, Pila, Laguna	A1	1-ECSO B
9	HF/SSB	1	R-5, Naga City	R	1-ECSO B(Clerical Job)
10	HF/SSB	1	R-6, Iloilo City	R	NONE
11	HF/SSB	1	R-7&8, Tacloban City	A1	RETIRED
12	HF/SSB	1	R-9, Zamboanga City	A1	1-ECSO B
13	HF/SSB	1	R-10, Cagayan De Oro City	A1	NONE
14	HF/SSB	1	R-11, Davao City	R	NONE
15	HF/SSB	1	R-12, Midsayap, Cotabato	R	1-ECSO B
16	HF/SSB	1	R-13, Butuan City	A1	1-ECSO B

NOTE: SSB units at Central & Regional Offices receive and transmit either voice or data.

A1- Operable

A2- Non-operable but repairable

R- Beyond economical repair/recommended for disposal

ECSO B- Electronic Communication System Operator B

II. PROJECT/PROVINCIAL/NATIONAL IRRIGATION OFFICES

ITEM NO	RADIO TYPE	QTY	LOCATION	CONDITION	OPERATOR
1	VHF	1	ARIIP, Rosales, Pangasinan	A1	NONE
2	VHF	11	BRISRIIP, Bago City	A1	NONE
3	VHF	10	MMIP, Midsayap, Cotabato	A2	NONE
4	HF/SSB	1	BBMP, Matatalaib, Tarlac	A1	1-ECSO B
5	HF/SSB	1	Cebu PIO	A1	NONE
6	HF/SSB	1	Negros Oriental PIO	A2	NONE
7	HF/SSB	1	Western Samar PIO	R	NONE
8	HF/SSB	1	Bohol PIO	A1	NONE
9	HF/SSB	1	Bohol RIS	R	NONE
10	HF/SSB	1	Bao RIS	A1	NONE
11	HF/SSB	1	Northern Samar PIO	A1	NONE
12	HF/SSB	1	Eastern Samar PIO	R	NONE
13	HF/SSB	1	Southern Leyte PIO	A1	NONE
14	HF/SSB	1	SARIS	R	NONE
15	HF/SSB	1	Zamboanga Norte PIO	R	NONE
16	HF/SSB	1	Cabangan RIS	A1	1-ECSO B
17	HF/SSB	1	Pulangi RIS	A1	NONE

NOTE: SSB units at Project Office/PIO/NIS operate for voice only communication.

6. HF/SSB radios were shelved and/or abandoned in favor of cellular mobile phones.
7. To preclude recurrence of an incident where we are caught flatfooted being unable to react decisively during the typhoon onslaught like the typhoon MILEÑO, the following measures are hereby recommended:
 - a. That a skeletal force be maintained at the NIA FFWS Center or as the case may require, be assigned on a shift basis during rainy season.
 - b. That field personnel skeletal force be configured also. That their reporting to their particular stations be done automatically in case of emergency to perform their assigned task.
 - c. That the patrol cars for flood forecasting operations be permanently stationed at the NIA FFWS Center at the Central Office and Field Offices (Magat and Pantabangan Dams) and be made available at all times for use of FFWSDO personnel to enhance FFWS efficiency and mobility during calamities where movements of personnel are hampered due to the absence of said transportation. That these vehicles be marked with FFWSDO (Flood Forecasting) and For Official Use Only.
 - d. That Radio Operators be authorized to render overtime services not only at Central Office but also at all field offices during typhoon seasons.
 - e. That HF/SSB communication equipment be reactivated as they are deemed more reliable especially during typhoons where electric power is cut off.
 - f. That excess operable SSB units in one region be transferred to other regions which units are beyond repair.
8. For your information and approval.

GREGORIO S. DUMANDAN, CESO V
 Manager
 Equipment Management Department

Recommending Approval:

EDILBERTO B. PAYAWAL, CESO V
 Officer-In-Charge
 Office of the Assistant Administrator for
 Systems Operation & Equipment Management

Approved:

Gen. ARTURO C. LOMIBAO
 Administrator