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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-6//

TO ALCOAST

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ALCOAST 263/13

COMDTNOTE 2000

SUBJ: TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY - 2182 KHZ DISTRESS WATCHKEEPING TERMINATION - 004/13

A. Telecommunication Manual, COMDTINST M2000.3 (series)

1. Effective 01 August 2013, the Coast Guard (CG) will terminate the radio guard for the international distress and safety frequency 2182 kHz and the international Digital Selective Calling (DSC) distress and safety frequency 2187.5 kHz. This closure also terminates the marine information and weather broadcasts transmitted on 2670 kHz. This termination decision was made after a review of CG medium frequency (MF) communications sites revealed significant antenna and infrastructure support degradation that put the CG at risk of not being able to receive and respond to calls for assistance on the 2 MHz distress frequencies.

2. Communication Stations (COMMSTA) and Communication Area Master Stations (CAMS) shall continue to monitor and respond to voice calls for assistance on 4125 kHz, 6215 kHz, 8291 kHz and 12290 kHz and to DSC calls on 4207.5 kHz, 6312 kHz, 8414.5 kHz, 12577 kHz, and 16804.5 kHz. Sectors shall continue to monitor and respond to VHF voice calls on 156.8 MHz Channel 16 and DSC on 156.525 MHz Channel 70.

3. Sectors are directed to secure legacy equipment, and work with their servicing Base Support Unit (C4IT Division) or Electronic Systems Support Detachment (ESD) for final equipment disposition.

4. Concurrent with the release of this message, the public is being notified of the CGs 2 MHz service termination. The effective date is being preceded by a 45-day notification period advising the public of service cessation. Notification of this change shall be published in all District Local Notice to Mariners and in the Federal Register.

5. Commands using MF Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and legacy High Frequency (HF) resources for tactical communications are reminded that Cellular over the Horizon Network (COTHEN) Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) has been designated as the system of record for tactical voice over HF. COTHEN Remote Communications Consoles (RCC) have been installed, and are operational at every Sector. All CG aircraft and surface assets have been supplied with HF ALE capable radios. Commands are directed to secure legacy equipment and work with their servicing Base Support Unit (C4IT Division) or Electronic Systems Support Detachment (ESD) for final disposition.

6. This change will be published in the next revision to Ref (A).

7. POC: Sonia Kendall (COMDT (CG-652), Telecom Policy), 202-475-3647 Email: Sonia.L.Kendall(AT)uscg.mil, LT Jon Parker (COMDT (CG-642), HF/MF Asset Manager), 202-475-3454

Email: Jon.P.Parker(AT)uscg.mil,

LCDR Connie Braesch(COMDT (CG-0922), Public Affairs), (202) 372-460

Email: Connie.L.Braesch(AT)uscg.mil.

8. Released by RADM Robert Day, Assistant Commandant for Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Information Technology.

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