

Prairie Voice 2025 After Action Report

Steve Warner, WA9SWW
Section Emergency Coordinator
Illinois Section
August 9, 2025

Prairie Voice 2025 After Action Report

On Saturday, August 9th 2025, the ARES/AUXCOMM community in Illinois participated in the statewide multi-mode, multi-frequency Prairie Voice Communications Exercise. The goal of this exercise was to demonstrate the ability of amateur radio operators to pass emergency messages from the southern part of the State to the northern part by using various modes of communication available to amateur radio operators.

The exercise began at 8:00 AM with a 2M simplex message to be relayed from Paducah, Kentucky to Libertyville, Illinois in Lake County. The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) located at 4800 Rodger Street in Springfield directed two check-in nets from its station, NC9IL. Atmospheric conditions were unfavorable for the entirety of the exercise, but message traffic did manage to move in many instances. Stations from northern Illinois were able to contact the southern Illinois net control station, K9TJL, in Carterville directly using Morse code (CW). Situation reports to NC9IL were sent from all over the State using Winlink. Digital voice modes such as: DMR, Fusion, D-star and P25 comprised the digital mode portion of the exercise.

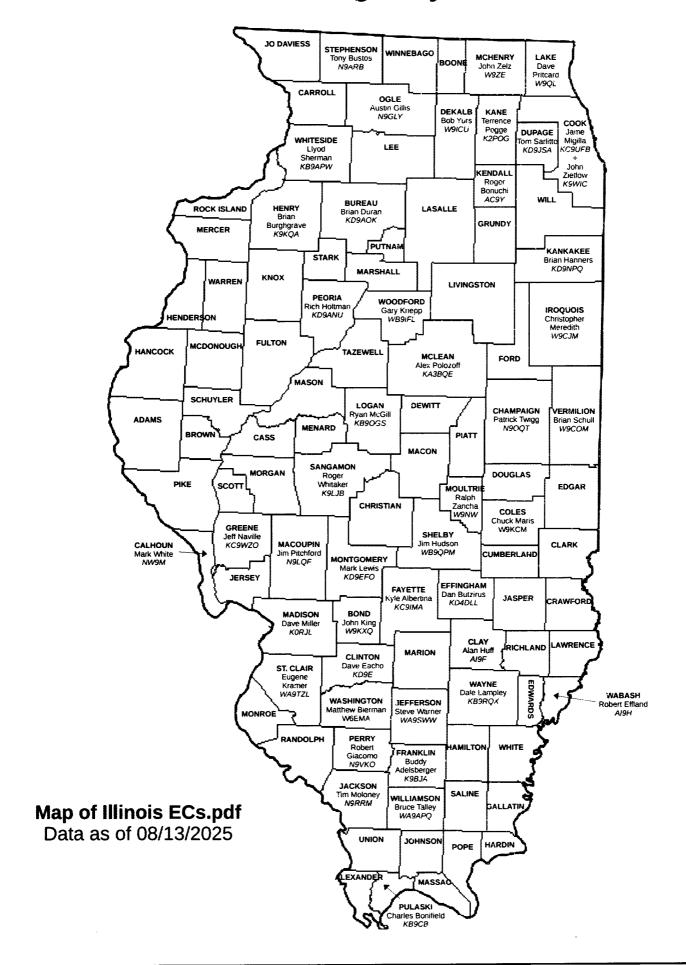
While the exercise was not completely successful due to the poor band conditions, great teamwork was demonstrated by all members of the group. The ability to adapt and improvise is vital in actual emergency situations. Elevated abilities will serve us well in the future. The Prairie Voice exercise was meant to show interoperability among various state agencies and groups. While this was the original plan, the ARES/AUXCOM group however was ultimately not included in any inter-operability exercises. Approximately 20,000 amateur radio operators are currently licensed in Illinois. Even if only 1% of these operators were able to assist in an emergency, situational awareness information from many parts the state would be significantly missed. It is very short-sighted in my opinion to ignore this valuable resource. My suggestion would be to establish a common group of frequencies potentially be used in emergency situations by all state agencies. For example, agree upon one frequency on 75 meters, one on 40 meters and a Winlink digital channel. All on amateur frequencies to facilitate sharing of information from various locations in the State.

Summary

Overall, I was very happy with the Prairie Voice 2025 Communications Exercise and with the learning opportunities it provided for the ARES/AUXCOM community in Illinois. See the attached logs and narratives from various portions of the State to document participation.

Steve Warner, MPA, PDS WA9SWW ARES Section Emergency Coordinator-Illinois Section

Illinois ARES Emergency Coordinators



801 R WA9APQ 18 1200Z August 8

W9QL David Pritchard, Lake Co EOC No Telephone

This message is delivered to you using 146.5200 VHF simplex relay only X Please call

6183150968 when received

Steve W4WWS



Steve Warner <wa9sww@gmail.com>

Prairie Voice Summary - Lake County

1 message

David Pritchard <dave@w9ql.com>
To: Steve Warner <wa9sww@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 11, 2025 at 10:11 AM

Hi Steve,

Below is a summary of our team's participation in the Prairie Voice exercise. Overall, I was pleased with the results. We accomplished all of the published tasks with the exception of the GMRS net (we had no licensed GMRS operators available). There were eight participants from our club. Our biggest challenge was propagation, which appeared to pretty much affect everyone, statewide.

On Friday, K9TJL attempted to pass traffic to me on 7.114 via CW. The message, as I received it, is attached. At your request, we also attempted a contact at QRP, which was about 95% successful at 533 signals and QRM. This was from my home QTH, roughly 5.5 miles north of our Auxcomm Center.

On Saturday at 0830, we began calling NC9IL on 7.227 with no response. After coordination on the Zoom call, we finally were to reach NC9IL at 0858 on 3.925.

John, W9ZE originated a net on the local wide-area K9SX UHF repeater using the McHenry EOC club call, K9ESV. We were able to check into his net and then move to the North simplex frequency 146.475. We had successful contacts with K9ESV and then KC9IL and K9WIC in Cook County. We were unable to make simplex contact with DuPage County.

One of our club members, KD9EMA, is also our local Lake County EMA liaison. We have Starcom capability and monitored the Incident 5 TG, which was used for statewide coordination and also the 7AG68 TG. At 0-940, we responded to a radio check request from Hurricane 1139 on the air-to-ground TG who stated he was at 8000 ft. over Rockford, IL.

At 1000, we called a local net on our K9IQP club repeater. We had a total of five check-ins. We then called for simplex check-ins on our repeater and received one response.

Also at 1000, we checked into the Illinois digital network via a Hot Spot in our Auxcomm Center. We were successful on both DMR and D-STAR, although we noted the D-STAR voice quality was marginal.

At 1055, we checked in with K9TJL on his CW net on 7.114.

at 1115, we sent three messages via Winlink:

- 1. Situation Report to NC9IL
- 2. Generic greeting to WA9SWW
- Generic greeting to W9RY

Also at 1115, N9LQF requested via Zoom that we attempt to originate a voice message from North to South on 146.52. We attempted to contact K9ESV, and K9WIC to pass traffic but learned that they had both already shut down for the day. we also tried to call N9HJR in Will County, with no luck. We reported this back to N9LQF via Zoom.

At 1200, we terminated the exercise but were unable to reach NC9IL to formally check-out. We then went to Zoom for the Hotwash.

I should note that we had hoped to activate our "new" Auxcomm Center in the Late County Regional Operation Center for this exercise, but the logistics of site access and security have not been completely worked out. We believe simplex operations will be significantly improved from our new 70' tower and antennas, once we are fully operational.

This summary was compiled from ICS-214 forms completed by all participants. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Dave W9QL			
Msg 801.	.txt		PRO ARTAMA — A MONTH PROPERTY AND A MINISTER



Steve Warner <wa9sww@gmail.com>

Prairie Voice 2025 Report - Peoria County

2 messages

Rich Holtman <rich.holtman@gmail.com>
To: Steve Warner <wa9sww@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 9, 2025 at 2:05 PM

In addition to the 214 Log by Bill Genter KE9BPB, I had the following:

- 1 Checked into NC9IL on HF with 39 watts on NVIS antenna.
- 2 Checked into Illinois Digital Link via DMR from my HT using a mag mount antenna via the Morton IL repeater.
- 3 Sent a Winlink Field Situation Report over RF to the Gateway KD9ANU-10, addressed to NC9IL and WA9SWW.

73,

Rich Holtman
rich.holtman@gmail.com
cell 309-256-4272
KD9ANU
HamsOverIP 101989
Peoria County ARES - Emergency Coordinator

Steve Warner <wa9sww@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 9, 2025 at 2:08 PM

To: Rich Holtman < rich.holtman@gmail.com>

Rich

Great thanks for all be your efforts. While today wasn't totally successful we had a great turnout and team work was clearly in evidence that will serve us well in the future

73 Steve Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 9, 2025, at 2:05 PM, Rich Holtman < rich.holtman@gmail.com > wrote:

<IMG_1658.jpeg>
[Quoted text hidden]

1. Incident Name:	ACTIVITY LOG (ICS 214) 2. Operational Period: Date From: 8-9-25 Date To: 8-9-25 Time From: 0800 Time To: 1200 Time From: 0800 (and Unit):					
Exercise Pr	and Unit:					
3. Name:	14. 103 1 00 11. 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1					
	Bill Genter Peona County ARES/EUC PEONE Carry					
6. Resources Ass	igned:					
	me County Alek					
Rich Hols	fman / KDASNy consu Conta ARES EC FO					
7. Activity Log:	The state Actions					
Date/Time	Arrived at feorer EAR W/ 12D9ANU Rich Hithman					
8-9/0730	Arrived at feorer Eac. Of 100471111					
0800	Start Exercise					
0800	2M Simplex Checkin W/NGI OF Some track hand unable to copy					
0800-0120	KILIXZ - Pappied Exercise message from annother					
0821	Station - unable to copy all.					
0819-0910	Some I'm Simplex Traffic - (while to Cofy					
0910	1 1 20 0=2 1 100					
0950	I LUGUAL IN LOUGH TO THE TOP CO					
1114	KABBOE called For US at Peorla County ECC >					
经营营 一	He was not able to how us peply.					
1128	IKAZ BOX Called for us at forty bunker again ->					
	He was not able to hear us Reply					
1148	1148 mode contact w K9LTB (NCTIL) on WS9V					
	Repeater - Was Requested we see if we can					
	Contact any Startlins NorTh of Provide					
1149	to 1205 - Called For any Startion Movin of					
PERMA ON SUMPLEX 14/520, KANTHER ROBBOTO WAGED						
	and Princeton Reporter KD91Bx > No Resonse on Simil					
1001	COMENT back The Equel on CiTher Repentar					
1206	Exercise End.					
	Jame: Bill Courty Keep Position/Title: Rand Signed					
	Malus A Signature: 74					
. Prepared by: N						
cs 214, Page 1	Date/Time: 1/12/1/					

Steve,

	NCS	NC9IL ARES Check in net log	net log		
Date:	2025-08-09	2025-08-09 Start Time:	830	830 End Time:	
NCS OPERATOR:	OR:	W9RX/KA9VYN			
Call Sign	Zone	County			
k9uxz		Effingham			
w9fe		Macoupin			
k9kqa		Henry			
kd9llg		Perry			
k9iqp		Lake			
kd9syq		Pope			
kd9zpk		williamson			
nc9y		williamson			
n9lqf		Macoupin			
kd9aok		Bureau			
Kd9npq		Kankakee			
K9iqp		Lake			
Kg9cd		perry			

	NC9	NC91L ARES Check in net log	net log		
Date:	2025-08-09	2025-08-09 Start Time:	830	830 End Time:	
NCS OPERATOR:	IOR:	W9RX/KA9VYN			
Call Sign	Zone	County			
kd9anu		Peoria			

		INCAIL ARES CHECK IN HET 10g	net 10g		
			o I		
Date:	2025-08-09 Start Time:	Start Time:	1200	1200 End Time :	
NCS OPERATOR:	OR:	W9RX/KA9VYN			
Call Sign	Zone	County			
k9ljb		Sang			
kd9dtm		Sang			
k9kq		Sang			



Steve Warner <wa9sww@gmail.com>

//WL2K R/ Routine/ Field Situation Report 2025-08-09 13:58:22Z

1 message

KB9AA@winlink.org <KB9AA@winlink.org>

Reply-To: KB9AA@winlink.org
To: wa9sww@gmail.com

Sat, Aug 9, 2025 at 9:04 AM

PRECEDENCE: R/ Routine

DATE/TIME Group: 2025-08-09 13:58:22Z

TASK# AGENCY: FROM: KB9AA

TO: NC9IL; WA9SWW@GMAIL.COM

INFO (CC):

BT

UNCLASS

SUBJ: Field Situation Report 2025-08-09 13:58:22Z

1.EMERGENT/LIFE SAFETY Need NO

Needs:

- 2. City:Mount Vernon County:Jefferson State: IL Territory:
- 3. Latitude:38.3221175 Longitude:-88.859038 MGRS:16SCH3749143190 Location source:Form entry
- 4a. POTS landlines functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 4b. VOIP landlines functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 5a. Cell phone voice calls functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 5b. Cell phone phone texts functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 6. AM/FM Broadcast Stations functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 7a. OTA TV functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 7b. Satellite TV functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 7c. Cable TV functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- Public Water Works functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 9a. Commercial Power functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 9b. Commercial Power Stable: [Unknown N/A]
- 9c. Natural Gas Supply functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 10. Internet functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 11a. NOAA Weather Radio functioning: [Unknown N/A]
- 11b. NOAA Weather Radio Audio degraded: [Unknown N/A]
- 12. Additional Comments: EXERCISE, EXERCISE, EXCERISE
- 13. POC WA9SWW

BT NNNN

[No changes or editing of this message are allowed]

Express Sending Station: KB9AA

Express Version: 1.7.25.0

Template Version: Field Situation Report V 0.2.10

Map File Name: Field Situation Report



Field Day Log
Call Used | Seption | Time (UTC) | Station W

Call Use	ea Re	D UDI		Exchange Sent	
Frequency	Mode	Date	Time (UTC)	Station Worked	Exchange Received
ARCOM	2M	8-9.25		KBSAA	
Accon	2m	8.9.25	1401	Wagsww	- 1
ARCON	24	8.9.25	1402	WORNE	
ARcon	214	8.9.25	1402	Wag RNE KC9 NPJ	• A
Akcon	27	5.9-25	1430	KC9 NPJ	
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	d'a				
GMRS		8/9/25	14:40	WRTQ 660	
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AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF MT. VERNON PRAIRIE VOICE PARTICIPANT SIGN IN SHEET



Name	Callsign	QTH (Home Location)	Signature
Steve Warner	WASSUL	My Knen	Milla
Waith y. Brown	MAGRA E	Mt Veruer	N. Jewan
KuSisK	KBSIXA	Mt Verson	Krish
Nich Shuns	NABIG	M+Vera	
Phthons Buck	KOSEES	Mt. Vernor	and do bell
Steve BGOEN	KEGSFN		the
John R Tuckou	KOSUTC	Max Voren	Contractory
Alan C. Jully	KB9AA	Mt. Vernon	Change Rolling
Geoff Smit	KOGOWR	My. Lewhoh	Day As
PATRICA PREVIS		Mr. Verson	May 11
2		BlufoRa	book Wied
Jim Bell	K092BW	MtVernen	M. Car
(3) Keith Kone	KE4SUN	M. Vernon	Word Bro
	N N N E		
August 9th, 2025			Page 1

ACTIVITY LOG (ICS 214)

1. Incident Name:	_	2	. Operational Period: Date Fro		Date To: 0800
PRAIRE VOICE 202	?5			om: 08-09-25	Time To: 1200
3. Name:			Position:		ency (and Unit):
Buddy Adelsberger		EC-Fra	anklin County	EMA Franklin	County
6. Resources Assi	gned:			,	
Nan	ne		ICS Position	Home	Agency (and Unit)
Buddy Adelsberger		EC		EMA Franklin	County
7. Activity Log:					
Date/Time	Notable Activities				
8-9-25 0900	net control linked re	peaters	s 146.8800- 146-0900 13 contac	ets	
0915	net control simplex	146.58	00 9 contacts		
0930	GMRS Repeater 46	37.7250	no contacts		
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
			and the second s		
				,	
					4 - 1 40 - 2 - 2
8. Prepared by: Na	ame: Buddy Adelsbe	rger	Position/Title: EC	Signature	9:
ICS 214, Page 1			Date/Time: 8-9-25 1200		

Communications Log (ICS 309)

I. INCIDENT		eVoice 2	025		2 OPERATIONAL From:Date 8-9-25 Tim PERIOD To: Date 8-9-25 Tim	e 0800 ne 1200	
B. RADIO NE	TWORK NAME		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		4. RADIO OPERATOR (Name, Call Sign)		
	146.8800-1	46.0900	Linked rpt	Buddy Adelsberger K9BJA			
	W .			COMMUNIC	ATIONS LOG		
Time	FRO	М	TO)	M		
(24:00)	Call Sign/ID	Msg #	Call Sign/ID	Msg #	Message		
0900	W9RY) ((CHECK IN		
	KC9YKM				CHECK IN		
	KD9ZPK				CHECK IN		
	N9VKO				CHECK IN	-	
	NC9Y				CHECK IN	_	
	W9DL				CHECK IN		
	K9QX			<u> </u>	CHECKIN		
	WA9APQ				CHECK IN		
	K9TJL				CHECK IN		
	KC9				ATTEMPED CHECK IN CALL NOT	COMP	
	KD9SYQ				CHECK IN		
	KA9MZJ				CHECK IN		
0915	WZ4DAY				CHECK IN		
-							
			1				
		1. 12.1					
						· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	1 :						
PREPAREI		Adelsberg	ner FC	SIGNATURE	7. DATE & TIME 8 PREPARED	-9-25 12	

Sheet1

KARS Repeater 2 W9AZ - 145.130

Net Cont	rol Operator: KD9NPQ		Start Time: 09:09:00 AM
	Date: 08/09/25		Finish Time: 09:13:00 AM
Call	T/SS/M/P/EName	QTH	CONFIRMECOMMENTS
1 KD9WJH	DON	AROMA PARK	
2 KD9SKO	JIM	CHEBANSE	
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

Sheet1

KARS Repeater 3 W9AZ - 444.80

Net Control Operator: KD9NPQ Start Time: 09:13:00 AM
Date: 08/09/25 Finish Time: 09:18:00 AM

Call T/SS/M/P/EName QTH CONFIRMECOMMENTS
1 KD9SKO JIM CHEBANSE

2 N9REG KEVIN RT 115 COUNTY 3 N9HJR MOBILE BRIAN

4 KC9HDF TONY BOURB.

Sheet1

SIMPLEX CHECK-IN NET 146.475

Net Cont	rol Operator	Start Time	: 09:18:00 AM		
	Date	: 08/09/25		Finish Time	: 09:18:00 AM
Call	T/SS/M/P/	EName	QTH	CONFIRM	ECOMMENTS
1 KD9SKO		JIM	CHEBANSE	Χ	FULL QUIET
2 KC9HDF	Р	TONY	BOURBONNAIS	Χ	
3 N9HJR	MOBILE	BRIAN		X	TRAFFIC QUALITY
4 N9REG		KEVIN	RT115 COUNTY	X	FULL QUIET
5					
6					
7					
8					

ACTIVITY LOG (ICS 214)

1. Incident Name:	2. Operational Period: Date From					
Prairie Voice 2025	Time Fro					
3. Name: David Lattan - NNA5FU/W9PFD	4. ICS Position: ESF 2					
6. Resources Assigned:		I				
Name	ICS Position	Home Agency (and Unit)				
[Self only]		rieme rigency (and emily				
[con only]						

	444					
7. Activity Log:						
Date/Time Notable Activities	Notable Activities					
09 0800 NNA5FU Monitor	A 4000000000000000000000000000000000000					
09 0800 W9PFD Monitor						
09 0800 W9PFD Monitor						
09 0833 NNA5FU Sent W						
09 0859 W9PFD Sent W						
09 0913 W9PFD Contact						
09 1000 NNA5FU Genera						
09 1003 W9PFD DMR C	477					
09 1005 NNA5FU Genera						
09 1010 NNA5FU Genera						
09 1015 NNA5FU Genera						
09 1020 NNA5FU General						
09 1025 NNA5FU Genera	exercise call on SBA0					
09 1030 NNA5FU General	exercise call on SBA0					
09 1035 NNA5FU General	exercise call on SBA0					
09 1040 NNA5FU General	exercise call on SBA0					
09 1045 NNA5FU General	exercise call on SBA0					
09 1050 NNA5FU General	exercise call on SBA0					
09 1055 NNA5FU General	exercise call on SBA0					
09 1100 NNA5FU General	exercise call on SBA0					
09 1105 NNA5FU General	exercise call on SBA0					
09 1110 NNA5FU General	exercise call on SBA0					
	exercise call on SBA0					
	exercise call on SBA0					
8. Prepared by: Name: D. Lattan		OP_Signature: David Lattan				
ICS 214, Page 1	Date/Time: 8/9/2025 12:40 CD	T				

ACTIVITY LOG (ICS 214)

1. Incident Name:			2. Operational Period:	Date From: 8/9/2025	Date To: 8/9/2025
Prairie Voice 2025				Time From: 0800	Time To: 1200
7. Activity Log (co	ntinuation):				
Date/Time	Notable Activ	ities			***
09 1125	NNA5FU G	eneral exer	cise call on SBA0		
09 1130	NNA5FU G	eneral exer	cise call on SBA0		
09 1135	NNA5FU G	eneral exer	cise call on SBA0		
09 1140	NNA5FU G	eneral exer	cise call on SBA0		
09 1145	NNA5FU G	eneral exer	cise call on SBA0		
09 1150	NNA5FU G	eneral exer	cise call on SBA0		
09 1150	W9PFD S	ent Winlink	FSR to NC9IL and WA95	SWW via 2 Meter PACK	ΞT
09 1153	NNA5FU R	eceived rep	oly from bemidgett@ileas.	org to 0833 Winlink mes	sage
09 1153	W9PFD R	eceived rep	oly from bemidgett@ileas.	org to 0859 Winlink mes	sage
09 1155	NNA5FU G	eneral exer	cise call on SBA0		
09 1200	NNA5FU G	eneral exer	cise call on SBA0		
				- 15	
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				//8**	
					, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
8. Prepared by: Na	me: D. Lattan			J/W9PFD OP Signature:	David Lattan
ICS 214, Page 2			Date/Time: 8/9/2025	12:40 CDT	

PRAIRIE VOICE NARRATIVE 2025

I made it to the deployment site at about 7:05 am. The site is a factory chosen because we have not yet done an exercise form any industrial site. Expected a high noise floor. We had permission to use their loading docks to to set up any equipment needed. I parked my jeep 60 feet formt he loaiding docks and unloaded equipment. This included a bag full of wire antennas, 2 fiberglass masts, a go box containing hf,vhf, and uhf capabilities, a bag of coax and jumpers, tool box, 2 batteries, laptop, and exercise plan. Immediately started setting up mast for HF but lashing it to the jeep, attaching a pulley and raising it up 30 feet. Scott, K9ABN, showed and started setting up the VHF/UHF mast while I finished setting up HF for 40 meters with an inverted V. Finished helping Scott with the VHF/UFV mast and antenna, a slimjim made out of ladder line. We set the radios on the shipping docks, connected the coax and separate batteries for the radios. I was surprised that the noise floor was only S5. I had expected closer to S8 or S9. We plugged in the laptop and tested Winlink. It was working. Set up form start to finish was 1 hour. HF was ready in 40 minutes from start and VHF was closer to 15 minutes. The remaining 5 minutes was organizing work space and testing.

At this time Scott had to leave and the plant manager showed up to take a look. I showed him our capabilities and, which being a former Air Force Air Traffic Controller, he took great interest in. This was approx 8:15. Right after he left I tested 40 meters. At 8:30 I moved to 7.227 and listened. Heard nothing. I tried calling NC9IL was immediately asked to move up 2Khz because of a net. I made contact on zoom and recommended moving to 7.230 Mhz. Listened more. I could only vaguely hear others on 7.230 calling for NC9IL but nothing intelligible enough for traffic. On zoom it was decided to move to 3925. I went out and changed legs of the inverted V from 40m to 80m. This took 10 minutes. At this time, others started showing. We made contact with NC9IL on 3925. On site was Joe, KD9FVM and then Bob, NN9T.

At 9:00 am we started nets. Kankakee has 3 main repeaters. I started with 146.940 repeater, then the 145.130 repeater, then the 444.80 repeater, and last a simplex net on 146.475. Brian N9HJR showed up. After the nets we talked over equipment we had on site. Scott, K9ABN came back. It was about 1000. Checked in several times on zoom to see where the message was. During this time we lost the HF radio. Trouble shooting revealed the battery that had been a faithful performer for it fair share of exercises gave out. Discussed running both radios off the 1 battery or getting another battery. Commercial power was a last resort. Scott, K9ABN, who does a lot of POTA supplied another battery that we were able to use and stay off of commercial power.

KD9FVM and NN9T had to leave for other obligations. While the digital and CW nets were going we trained on message handling. We went over Radiogram forms. Then we practiced sending and receiving messages. Made special point of making sure to leave time for the receiving station to write. This was approximately 40 minutes. At this time we knew the message was getting closer Brian, N9HJR left to setup at an Oasis on Interstate 57. This site was chosen for its height being the highest point we knew of in Will County.

Started working on the Winlink SitRep and the laptop, being an older one, decided to do a windows update. What makes this weird is that it did not have internet access. It did not come back up until after the entire exercise was over.

Brian, N9HJR got to his location to relay the message and we tested on 146.520 making sure under current conditions we could still make contact. He was traffic quality. As the message got closer, a good gust of wind knocked the VHF antenna down so that it was dangling on the mast several feet lower and cutting communication between deployment site and Brian, N9HJR. Took 5 minutes to lower mast and set back up using extra tape so that it would not happen again. Having trouble getting the message form Pontiac to Kankakee, I tried getting a hold of Jim, KD9SKO in Chebanse and Bill, N9OE who has helped out before. Neither one at this point was able to help. I put a call out on all local repeaters for help with no replies. I also tried Watseka's repeater, AD9L but got no contacts there

either. It was getting time to check out with NC9IL. We changed legs on the HF antenna to 40 meters, took 7 minutes. No contact after several attempts with NC9IL on 7227. On the message side, I was not able to get a hold of anyone to our South east that could relay the message. It was decided at about 1215 to call it off. I contacted N9HJR and let him know. Tear down took 1 hour at deployment site.

The good and the bad. Some of the good things: We got set up and made contacts on HF, VHF, and UHF. Antennas worked as designed and performed as expected. We proved we could operate out of an industrial area where we were not able to place stakes and have guy wires. The bad: after many uses our main LiPo battery failed. The laptop chose a terrible time to update. No connection between us and Pontiac. Last time we made this work, we had a driver (Scott, K9ABN) positioned around Cabery to relay the message from Pontiac to Kankakee. We did not have that ability this time.

ACTIVITY LOG (ICS 214)

1. Incident Name:			2. Operational Period:			Date To: 8/9/2025
Prairie Voice 2025		,		Time Fro	m: 0800	Time To: 1200
3. Name:		4. IC	S Position:			ency (and Unit):
Brian Duran KD9AC	OK .	RAD	0		Bureau Count	ty, IL ARES
6. Resources Assi	gned:					-
Nar	me		ICS Position		Home	Agency (and Unit)
Brian Duran KD9AO	K	RADO)		Bureau Count	y, IL ARES
7. Activity Log:	1			• ••		
Date/Time	Notable Activities					
8/9/2025 0800	Exercise began, mo	nitore	ed 146.520 (IL2A) for rel	ay messag	e NO COPY, N	NOTHING HEARD
8/9/2025 0830	Changed bands to	40m 7	.227 for NC9IL statewid	e check in.	NOTHING HE	ARD.
8/9/2025 0849	KE9BPB sent a text	to m	e via cell phone that the	net has ch	anged band ar	nd NCS is on 80m 3.925
8/9/2025 0900	I was able to check	into N	ICS NC9IL on 3.925			
8/9/2025 0902	Monitored local 2m	repea	iters and 146.475MHz fo	or any traffi	c. NOTHING H	IEARD
8/9/2025 1000	Checked into the Illi	nois I	Digital Net via Brandmei	ster DMR 3	31171	
8/9/2025 1100	Sent Winlink Situati	on Re	port message via VARA	FM to Gate	eway KD9AOK	(-10 to NC9IL
8/9/2025 1200	Monitored 7.227 40	m for	NC9IL statewide check-	in. NOTHIN	NG HEARD.	
8/9/2025 1205	Attended After Action	n Ho	twash via W9RY ZOOM	•	····	
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8. Prepared by: Na	ame: Brian Duran KD	9AOK	Position/Title: RADO		Signature	:
ICS 214, Page 1			Date/Time: 8/9/2025	1243		

DISTRICT COUNTY		STATION						
DISTRICT 0 OUT OF STATE		KD9FAL						
DISTRICT 0 OUT OF STATE		KC9TYA						
DISTRICT 02 BUREAU								
DISTRICT 02 CARROLL	1							
DISTRICT 02 HENDERSON	SON							
DISTRICT 02 HENRY								
DISTRICT 02 JO DAVIESS	ESS							
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DISTRICT 02 MARSHALL	ALL							
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DISTRICT 02 ROCK ISLAND	LAND							
DISTRICT 02 STARK								
DISTRICT 02 STEPHENSON	NOSN							
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DISTRICT 03 BOONE								
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DISTRICT 04 LAKE		KC9IL	KD9PDE	W9MDD				
DISTRICT 06 ADAMS								
DISTRICT 06 BROWN								
DISTRICT 06 CASS								
DISTRICT 06 CHRISTIAN	AN							
DISTRICT 06 FULTON								
DISTRICT 06 HANCOCK	×							

DISTRICT 06 MASON			
DISTRICT 06 MCDONOUGH	W9PFD		
DISTRICT 06 MENARD			
DISTRICT 06 MORGAN			
DISTRICT 06 PEORIA	KD9ANU		
DISTRICT 06 PIKE			
SANGAMON	W9RX		
DISTRICT 06 SCHUYLER			
DISTRICT 07 CHAMPAIGN			
DISTRICT 07 DEWITT	N9IUA		
DISTRICT 07 FORD			
DISTRICT 07 IROQUOIS			
DISTRICT 07 LIVINGSTON			
DISTRICT 07 LOGAN			
DISTRICT 07 MACON			
DISTRICT 07 MCLEAN	K9SX		
DISTRICT 07 PIATT			
	N9LOB		
DISTRICT 08 JERSEY			
DISTRICT 08 MACOUPIN	W9FE		
DISTRICT 08 MADISON			
DISTRICT 08 MONROE			
DISTRICT 08 MONTGOMERY			
DISTRICT 08 ST CLAIR			
DISTRICT 08 WASHINGTON			
DISTRICT 09 CLARK			
STATE OF THE PERSON.			
DISTRICT 09 CRAWFORD			

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TON N K9WDL ON ON KD9SYQ KI KI MSON KD9ZPK	ISTRICT 11	FRANKLIN	K9BJA				
N K9WDL NO KD9SYQ NC KD9SYQ NI KI	ISTRICT 11	GALLATIN					
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NON NC KD9SYQ KI	ISTRICT 11	HARDIN	K9WDL		Mary and Alle		
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KD9SYQ NEH MSON KD9ZPK	ISTRICT 11	MASSAC					
KI NLPH E MSON KD9ZPK	ISTRICT 11	PERRY					
MSON KD9ZPK		POPE	KD9SYQ				
MSON KD9ZPK		PULASKI					
MSON KD9ZPK	ISTRICT 11	RANDOLPH					
MSON KD9ZPK	ISTRICT 11	SALINE					
MSON KD9ZPK	ISTRICT 11	NOINO					
KD9ZPK	ISTRICT 11	WHITE					
	ISTRICT 11	WILLIAMSON	KD9ZPK	NC9Y			