

ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND TEST (11 May 2024)

The Department of Defense will host this year's Armed Forces Day (AFD) Crossband Test, scheduled for May 11, 2024. This annual event is open to all licensed amateur radio operators and will not impact any public or private communications. For more than 50 years, military and amateur stations have taken part in this event, which is an interoperability exercise between hobbyist and government radio stations.

The AFD Crossband Test is a unique opportunity to test two-way communications between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service (ARS), as authorized in 47 CFR 97.111. These tests provide opportunities and challenges for radio operators to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly controlled exercise scenario that does not impact any public or private communications.

Military stations will transmit on selected military frequencies and will announce the specific ARS frequencies monitored. All times are ZULU (Z), and all frequencies are Upper Side Band (USB) unless otherwise noted. The frequencies used for the test will not impact any public or private communications and will not stray outside the confines of the exercise.

The following stations will be making two-way radiotelephone contacts with stations in the ARS between the time periods listed on the frequencies listed in Kilohertz below.

AAC / BARROW ARMY RESERVE CENTER, KY (USB + RTTY)

1100Z - 2259Z	4011.0 kHz USB	5,346.5 kHz USB	6,968.5 kHz USB
13,963.5 kHz USB	18,254.0 kHz USB		

AAN / U.S. NORTHERN COMMAND, CO (USB + RTTY)

1300Z - 2000Z	6,970.5 kHz USB	14,550.5 kHz USB	
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AAZ / FT HUACHUCA, AZ

1500Z - 2359Z	7,645.0 kHz USB	14,579.0 kHz USB	18,211.0 kHz USB
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ADB / CAMP FOSTER, OKINAWA

1500Z - 2359Z	14,487.0 kHz USB	20,994.0 kHz USB	
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AFM4NPD / NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY MID-SOUTH, MILLINGTON, TN

1200Z - 2200Z	4,575.0 kHz USB	7,540.0 kHz USB	13,993.0 kHz USB
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AGA0WJ / NAS WHIDBEY ISLAND OAK HARBOR, WA (USB + RTTY)

1600Z - 2200Z	5,403.5 kHz USB	7,431.5 kHz USB	13,528.5 kHz USB
18,272.5 kHz USB			

AGA2SY / HANCOCK FIELD, NY

1200Z - 2000Z	4,540.0 kHz USB	7,473.5 kHz USB	15,807.0 kHz USB
19,955.0 kHz USB	20,740.0 kHz USB	27,736.0 kHz USB	

AGA5SC / SCOTT AFB, IL

1600Z - 2300Z	5,186.0 kHz USB	7,938.0 kHz USB	14,832.0 kHz USB	27,736.0 kHz USB
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AGA9TR / TRAVIS AFB, CA

1700Z - 2359Z	7,329.0 kHz USB	14,411.0 kHz USB	20,873.0 kHz USB
27,877.0 kHz USB			

GRIFFIN1 / 193rd RTI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD BETHANY BEACH, DE
1300Z – 1800Z 7,533.5 kHz USB 14,441.5 kHz USB 18,293.0 kHz USB

NAF / NEWPORT NAVAL RADIO STATION MUSEUM NEWPORT, RI (USB + CW)
1400Z - 2300Z 7,498.5 kHz USB 14,463.5 kHz USB

NBGC/ USS HORNET AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ABLEMEDA, CA (USB + CW)
1500Z – 0000Z 7362.5 kHz USB 14,375 kHz USB 21,886 kHz USB
27,860 kHz USB

NEPM / USS IOWA BB 61 LOS ANGELES, CA (USB + RTTY +CW)
1400Z - 2300Z 7,469.0 kHz USB 14,667.0 kHz USB 18,444.0 kHz USB
21,856.0 kHz USB 21,918.0 kHz USB

NIIW / USS MIDWAY CV-41 SAN DIEGO, CA (USB + CW + RTTY)
11May 0001Z-0400Z & 11May 1400Z-12May 0300Z 4,010.0 kHz USB 5,371.5 kHz USB
7,455.4 kHz USB 14,476.0 kHz USB 18,060.0 kHz USB

NMC1/ US COAST GUARD BASE ALAMEDA, CA (USB + RTTY)
1700Z - 2359Z 7,3530.0 kHz USB 14,461.0 kHz USB

NSS / US NAVAL ACADEMY ANNAPOLIS, MD (USB + CW)
11May 1300Z – 12May 0200Z 4,038.5 kHz USB 5,330.5 kHz USB 7,533.5 kHz USB
9,447.0 kHz USB 14,487.0 kHz USB

NWKJ / USS YORKTOWN PATRIOTS POINT, SC
1400Z - 2300Z 4,027.0 kHz USB 7,360.0 kHz USB 14,438.5 kHz USB

NWVC / LST-325 EVANSVILLE, IN (USB + CW)
11May 1200Z – 12May 0300Z 3,325.0 kHz USB 6,913.0 kHz USB 9,988.5 kHz USB
13,974.0 kHz USB

WAR / PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC (USB + CW + RTTY)
1200Z - 2400Z 4018.0 kHz USB 5,357.0 kHz USB 7,305.0 kHz USB
14,383.5 kHz USB 20,997.0 kHz USB

An AFD message will be transmitted utilizing the Military Standard (MIL-STD) Serial PSK waveform (M110) followed by MIL-STD Wide Shift FSK (850 Hz RTTY) as described in MIL-STD 188-110A/B. Technical information regarding these waveforms is provided at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pYDj7kQbm-QAyY4RPtx0dOXKohjaEjq9?usp=sharing>

The AFD Defense Message will also be sent at 1400Z and 2000Z on the frequencies designated below.

AAC:	MILSTD110/RTTY	13,963.5 kHz USB
AAZ:	MILSTD110	14,579.0 kHz USB
ADB:	MILSTD110	20,994.0 kHz USB
AGA0WJ	MILSTD110/RTTY	13,528.5 kHz USB
NEPM:	RTTY	14,667.0 kHz USB
NIIW:	MILSTD110/RTTY/CW	14,476.0 kHz USB
NWKJ:	MILSTD110	14,438.5 kHz USB
NWVC:	CW	13,974.0 kHz USB
WAR:	MILSTD110/RTTY/CW	14,383.5 kHz USB

For those who wish to document their contacts with a QSL card, go to <https://www.usarmymars.org/events> and complete the request form.