

All,

First, for those of you who I have not yet met, spoken to or corresponded with, allow me to introduce myself and please accept my thanks for all your hard work and dedication in everything you do to support the MARS program. I am the new interim Chief of AF MARS and as with outgoing chief Al Eiermann, this will be collateral duty for me until a new, permanent Chief can be hired and/or installed.

Now, some business: There has recently been some confusion regarding MARS operating procedures in light of the new DoD Instruction (DoDI) 4650.02. All current USAF MARS operating procedures are based on the Allied Communications Publications procedures and consistent with DoD guidance identified in DoDI 4650.02. Accordingly, all USAF MARS auxiliary members and other service MARS members operating on AF MARS nets shall comply with existing procedures, including the November 2007 Joint MARS Voice Standard Operating Procedure ("Joint SOP"), unless and until subsequent guidance is approved and promulgated.

Please be aware that Army MARS has published guidance which supersedes operating procedures published in the Joint SOP. Any AF MARS member operating on Army nets will be required to follow Army MARS procedures, which may become increasingly different than what is published in the Joint SOP. Likewise, any other service MARS member operating on AF MARS nets will still be required to follow procedure outlined in the Joint SOP.

Thanks again, and 73...

JASON SANDIFER, TSgt, USAF
Chief, AF MARS (AGA5C)
203 W. Losey St, Room 1200
Scott AFB, IL 62225-5222
DSN: 779-6636 C:(618) 229-6636
afnic.mars@us.af.mil