

# ORDER

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
GREAT LAKES REGION

GL 6610.1



MAY 30 1973

SUBJ: UHF GUARD CHANNEL, TRANSMITTING 243.0 MHZ

1. PURPOSE. This Order establishes a MAINTENANCE limitation to the radiation of UHF 243.0 MHz RF energy from air/ground antennas.
2. DISTRIBUTION. This Order is distributed to section level and above in the Airway Facilities and Air Traffic Divisions, all Airway Facilities Field Offices, and all Air Traffic Field Facilities.
3. CANCELLATION. This Order cancels Order CE SM 6500.11 dated 29 May 64.
4. BACKGROUND. It has become evident that spurious test and non-emergency use of the 243.0 MHz channel has depreciated the usefulness of this frequency as a guarded emergency channel. Air Traffic Service personnel and United States Air Force personnel are establishing procedures to restore the emergency function of the 243.0 MHz guard channel. To avoid any semblance of maintenance activity contributing to the problem, Airway Facilities Sector electronic technicians are requested to perform routine and nonroutine maintenance in a manner that will not generate 243.0 MHz RF radiation from air/ground antennas.
5. REQUIREMENT. Airway Facilities Sector personnel shall not cause spurious or test radiation of 243.0 MHz RF signals from air/ground antennas during routine and nonroutine maintenance activity.
6. GENERAL.
  - a. All routine and nonroutine checks of UHF transmitters on 243.0 MHz which require activation of the transmitter, shall be made with a dummy load connected to the RF output.
  - b. The 243.0 MHz frequency shall not be used for routine or nonroutine checks of antenna and transmission line systems.
  - c. Off-frequency test crystals, that will produce an antenna frequency 0.3 MHz above or below 243.0 MHz, shall be used as an aid to maintenance of the 243.0 MHz transmitters and antenna/transmission line assemblies.
7. COORDINATION. Airway Facilities Division personnel are requested to cooperate fully with Air Traffic personnel and Air Traffic's procedures

Distribution: RAF/RAT-4, FAF-0 (Normal), FAT-0 (Minimum

Initiated By: AGL-433

MAY 30 1973

in the utilization of the 243.0 MHz guard channel. Where practicable, the operation of 243.0 MHz transmitters should be monitored by Airway Facilities Sector maintenance personnel during scheduled tests by Air Traffic personnel.

8. RESPONSIBILITY. Airway Facilities Sector Managers shall augment and revise sector maintenance procedures to insure that the requirements of this Order are fulfilled.

  
LYLE K. BROWN  
Director