

Dear FCC,

Concerning this petition before the FCC, I have to comment that I believe the term

"core competencies" taken from Joint Publication 0-2, Joint Chiefs of Staff, entitled

UNIFIED ACTION ARMED FORCES(UNAAF) was misinterpreted by Mr. Gordon. The term as I see it means the basics of what each agency does in a broader sense than what modes they may use to do it. For example Amateur Radios "core competency" is the familiarity and use of radio technology, antennas and equipment. I do not believe Morse code is the "core competency" of Amateur Radio any more than APRS, Phone, RTTY, or slow scan TV, not to mention more of the many modes of operation used by all classes of Amateur operators.

Also contained in Mr. Gordon's petition are numerous indications that national security

may be compromised by not testing Amateur Extra class operators on Morse code. It is

my feeling if this were the case, the American Military should immediately begin Morse

code training! Mentions were made of the wars in Iraq and the current war on terrorism

and the need for Amateur Extras to test on Morse code in readiness for any upcoming

emergency. I am not aware of the use of Morse code in these wars mentioned by Mr. Gordon or any other recent emergency. In fact I believe the mode used in emergencies should be the one which might be most understood by the masses of people involved. I don't believe sending Morse code would be as understood by a large number of people as would voice communication.

The FCC has taken the correct course on this Morse code matter. More people are becoming active in Amateur Radio and dropping the Morse code requirement has been the major contributing reason. The FCC has been considering this for over 5 years and I do not believe the decision was made without due consideration. Please do not regress.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments for objection to Mr. Gordon's petition.

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