



# STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING between REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC. and the SALVATION ARMY relating to DISASTER SERVICES

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this statement is to state the terms for an understanding between REACT International, Inc. and The Salvation Army that will serve as a broad framework within which volunteer personnel of the local teams affiliated with REACT may coordinate their facilities and equipment with The Salvation Army for communications in disaster relief to victims of natural or manmade disaster.

# **RESPONSIBILITIES**

Since 1962, REACT International, Inc. has provided a program for organizing local Citizen Band (CB) Radio Emergency groups which when affiliated are known as REACT Teams. Besides supplying local CB and other communications in time of disaster, REACT Teams conduct a routine daily monitoring schedule to receive calls on the official emergency CB Radio Channel 9. It is the goal of every REACT Team to maintain a full 24 hour watch on the emergency channel. In addition, they are encouraged to cooperate with all local emergency agencies and to become part of the disaster communications plan for their community.

The Salvation Army since its first charter on May 12, 1899 (amended April 26,1957) has provided emergency services to individuals and groups in time of disaster, This service has received public recognition. The Congress of the United States of America enacted the Disaster Relief Act of 1970, which was amended by the Disaster Relief Act of 1974. Public Law 93-288 officially recognized the capabilities of The Salvation Army, Since that time, The Salvation Army has entered into specific agreements with other agencies concerned with public and private emergency and disaster relief services.

# RECOGNITION

The Salvation Army recognizes that REACT International, Inc. because of the excellent geographic coverage of the local affiliated REACT Teams, can render valuable aid in maintaining continuity of local communications during disasters and emergencies when normal communications facilities are disrupted or overloaded.

REACT International, Inc, recognizes The Salvation Army as an agency whose corporate charter merits sanction by the Federal Government, through which the American people voluntarily extend assistance to individuals and families in need as a result of disaster.

### ORGANIZATION OF THE SALVATION ARMY

The National Commander of The Salvation Army in the United States is located at the National Headquarters, 615 Slaters Lane, Alexandria, Va. The United States is administratively divided into four territorial areas. There are 39 Divisional Commanders. The Divisional Headquarters are responsible for organizing, directing and coordinating welfare and emergency functions in their assigned areas. Reporting to divisional centers are the local volunteer committees operating in smaller communities.

# ORGANIZATION OF REACT INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Established in 1962, REACT is an international association of Citizen Band (CB) and other communications Teams who volunteer their assistance and provide CB radio communications in local emergencies, REACT International, Inc. is an independent nonprofit public service organization. REACT Teams accept responsibility to maintain a monitoring station or system guarding the official CB radio emergency channel 9.

There are 26 State Councils that act to improve communication and coordination between local REACT Teams within their state, Each REACT Team is a wholly independent entity with its own form of administrative control, worked out to suit local needs and conditions. Because CB radio is designed for local communications, there is no limit to the number of REACT Teams chartered within any given geographical area. REACT International, Inc. accumulates information on new emergency techniques from hundreds of communities and develops materials and programs to assist local teams. REACT International, Inc. on behalf of local teams throughout the nation, works effectively with other national emergency groups such as the American National Red Cross, American Radio Relay League, Federal Communications Commission, FEMA. and other groups to advise on the proper use of local radio communications.

# PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION

In order that the communication facilities of local radio frequencies may be coordinated and utilized to the fullest advantage during disasters and emergencies, The Salvation Army and REACT International, Inc, have agreed to the following:

- Through its Wichita office and/or Government Relations Committee, REACT will maintain liaison with the
  designated Salvation Army headquarters, so that there may be the closest possible cooperation in
  emergency communications planning and the coordination of local radio communication facilities for
  disaster relief operations.
- The Salvation Army welcomes the cooperation and assistance of REACT International and the many affiliated local REACT Teams to extend emergency communications planning into the jurisdictions of the area office, divisional centers and Service Units.
- Whenever there is a disaster or an emergency requiring the use of local radio communication facilities, The Salvation Army or its units may request the assistance of the REACT Teams nearest the scene of disaster or emergency. The assistance may include:
  - 1. The alerting and mobilization of volunteer and emergency personnel in accordance to prearranged plan.
  - 2. The establishment and maintenance of fixed, mobile and portable station emergency communication facilities for local radio coverage and point-to-point contact between The Salvation Army officials and the locations as required.
  - 3. Adequate local area radio communication facilities for the duration of the emergency period of until substantial normal communications are restored.
- Detailed operating plans for the (kill utilization of local radio communication facilities should be developed at the area office, divisional centers, and Service Units in cooperation with local REACT Teams.
- The Salvation Army will furnish, through its area office, copies of this understanding to its administrative officers and field units and REACT International, Inc. will similarly furnish copies to all local REACT Teams.
- This statement of understanding will not apply in countries or jurisdictions where local laws conflict.
- REACT International, Inc. and The Salvation Army will make an effort to coordinate REACT communications with The Salvation Army's S.A.T.E.R.N. radio system.

### AMENDMENT PROCEDURES

- Amendments requested by the President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of REACT International, Inc. shall be forwarded to the Director of National Public Affairs, The Salvation Army, National Headquarters for review. Upon approval by the Director, the amendment shall be forwarded to The Salvation Army Headquarters for approval by The Salvation Army National Commander.
- An amendment by The Salvation Army shall be sent to the REACT International, Inc, Headquarters in Wichita, KS. for review. Upon approval, the amendment shall be sent to the REACT Chairman of the Board of Directors and President for approval.
- Once all parties have reached agreement on the proposed amendment, the Statement of Understanding shall be changed and pages of the Statement on which the amendment appears shall be completely replaced.
- The amendment shall become effective on the last date shown on the amendment when signed by both parties to the Statement of Understanding.
- If both parties cannot agree to the amendment, an effort shall be made to reach an acceptable compromise. If a compromise cannot be reached, the amendment shall not be made. If an amendment is rejected, by either party, the original Statement of Understanding provisions remain in effect.

# **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Statement of Understanding shall become effective on the last date shown below when executed by both parties. This Statement of Understanding is valid and binding until termination by either party upon 60 days written notice.

# **SIGNATURE**

Commissioner Kenneth L Hodder National Commander The Salvation Army Alexandria, VA

Signed: November, 1993

Gregory Seemuth
Chairman of the Board
REACT International, Inc.
Wichita, KS