# ETO US Amateur Radio Message Viewer Exercise

## Summary:

- There are times you may want status information about a message you have sent.  By using the message ID of this message, viewable as the first item within the header, you can find various items about this message via the US Amateur RadIo Message Viewer.  Using other search parameters, you can investigate other messages.  Even to see how frequently a specific RMS Station is used.
- This is a two Part Exercise.  Detailed steps for Part 1 of the Exercise begin on Page 2.  Steps for Part 2 begin on Page 3.
- Using a browser you will Log onto the Winlink.org website and open up the US Amateur Radio Message viewer.
    - This allows viewing of a database of messages sent to or from at least one US-licensed station on amateur radio frequencies (meaning via RF only) within the last 21 days.
    - For those who don't  remember their password goto: "https://winlink.org/user"
- Using a provided Message ID, you must look up the CMS information available for this message.
- Answer a question about the message.  The question is located at step 6.1 of Part 1 on Page 2.
- Send a Winlink Check-in form to your ETO Clearinghouse with the answer to the question placed within the Comments section.

## Some Reminders, Especially for New Arrivals to ETO:

- Read and Follow the Instructions **PRECISELY**.  Details are sometimes missed in the reading, and some of our assignments can be tricky!
- Make Sure you Address the Correct Clearinghouse for Your Geographic Location (especially if you're temporarily in a different region)
    - Our Tactical Addresses are all formatted as "ETO-nn", where nn is *always* either a 2-digit number ("01", "03", …, "10"), "CAN" for Canadian participants, or "DX" for all others.
    - Make sure you type a ZERO, not the letter "O", in the 2-digit number.
    - If you don't know your Clearinghouse's Tactical Address, Use this web page to look it up: https://emcomm-training.org/More_Info.html#Maps
- For our exercises, we recommend that you always check the "Request message receipt" box in your message before you Post it to your OutBox.
- Another suggestion from our Gurus:  put your own "normal" Email Address in the CC box, so that you receive a copy in your non-Winlink Email, as another confirmation that your Winlink message was sent out correctly.
- IMPORTANT!   Just because you receive a CC of your own Winlink submission, and/or receive an ACK from your Clearinghouse, doesn't guarantee that your position will be shown on the Results Map.   Your message needs to follow the exercise instructions 100% correctly, for your location to be plotted.
- IMPORTANT! Always accept form updates (if offered, when starting up Winlink Express) before starting an exercise. Always accept updates to the Winlink Express executable (if offered) before starting an exercise.
- ETO exercises are designed to be completed using the Winlink Express client, in a Windows environment. If you choose to use any other Winlink Client Program, your mileage may vary, and your response may not be mapped or graded as Correct.

## PART 1: Follow Steps 1 - 6  and answer the Question in Step 7

1. Using your favorite web browser, go to the Winlink.org website and login under the "My Account" tab.
   1.1. The User ID and Password should be the same credentials you use within your setup of Winlink Express.  After logging in, click on the "US Amateur Radio Message Viewer" link in the left column.
2. On the page that opens, click on the button that is labeled "Open Viewer in a Separate Window" about halfway down the page.  The viewer opens showing recent messages.
3. Within the Message Viewer, to search by Message ID for a message sent earlier:
   3.1. In the drop down box labeled "Filter Type" select the drop down option "MessageID".
   3.2. Type or Copy & Paste the Message ID "SI7RA1SD5P0R" (without the quotes) into the "Search for:" text box.
   3.3. Click on the "Search" button.
      3.3.1. You should now see two entries.
         3.3.1.1. The RF session for the message being picked up by the Recipient.
         3.3.1.2. The RF session for the message being sent by the Sender.  This is identified by the Callsign, Source, and Sender columns being all the same.
         3.3.1.3. The message with the later timestamp should be the information for the recipient's radio based session that received the message.
4. To view the message and header information.
   4.1. Click on the "View" button for one of the entries to see the message
   4.2. Click in the "Show Message Header" Check Box to see the header information
5. Note the following is just some of the  information that is available:
   5.1. The call sign of the RMS Gateway used by the sender was W7ODN  at a VHF frequency of 144.990 MHz.  This gateway has an SSID of 10, but SSID's are not shown in the viewer..
   5.2. The recipient used the VHF RMS Gateway with a call sign of W7PLK at a frequency 144.970 MHz.  Again, if the gateway has an SSID, they are not shown in the viewer..
   5.3. The Timestamp value for the Sender's entry represents the time the Message was received by the Winlink CMS, the Timestamp in the receiving message represents the time the message was picked up from the CMS.  Clicking on the Show Message header checkbox will show the Message Header.  The date within the message header represents the time the message was created.
      5.3.1. The differences in this time can be large if the message is not sent from the outbox immediately, or for some reason it was held by the gateway prior to being passed to the CMS.
6. Answer the following question:
   6.1. W7OWO was the sender, what is the Call Sign of the Recipient?
      6.1.1. Your answer will be used in step 9.1 of **Part 2**.

## PART 2: Send Your ETO Check-In With Your Answer.

1. Open the Winlink Express application.
   1.1. Accept any Form or Application Updates
2. If prompted, update the Winlink forms and/or Winlink Express Software.
3. Under "Message" open the menu to "New Message".
4. In the new message window, open the "Winlink Check In" using the following menu choices: "Select Template", "Standard Templates"/"General Forms"/"Winlink Check In.txt"
   4.1. Note: The template will open in your web browser.
5. Click on the "Setup" button.
6. Enter "ETO Winlink Thursday" in the popup window.
7. Complete the information in the top portion of the form.
   7.1. Status should be set to Exercise
   7.2. Enter your ETO clearinghouse address in the "Send To:" field
   7.3. Use your call sign for the "Calls Signs of Initial On-Site Operator(s)" field.
   7.4. Use your name for the "Station Contact Name" field.
   7.5. The Station Call sign is prepopulated and is not editable.
8. Fill out all of the fields in the location section of the form.
9. On the first line of the comments section.
   9.1. Enter your answer of the Recipient's call sign to the question asked at step 6.1 in Part 1.
   9.2. Enter the call sign in ALL UPPERCASE letters. No punctuation or spaces preceding or following your answer.
10. Click on the Submit button.
    10.1. Please use the default value provided in the pop-up message as the Subject Line.
11. Close the browser.
12. Optionally, enter your internet email address in the CC: line.
13. Click on "Post to Outbox" on the menu bar.
14. Check the Outbox folder to verify your message is in the Outbox.
15. Select and Open your desired Session type
16. Choose desired session parameters and start sending your Check-In message.
17. **SCORING**
    17.1. 25 points for getting "Setup" information correct
    17.2. 25 points for getting the correct recipient's call sign
    17.3. 50 additional points for correct recipient's call sign on the first line and all upper case letters with no punctuation or spaces preceding or following the call sign.