

**§ 80.314**

emission. Frequencies for distress and safety calling using digital selective calling techniques are listed in § 80.359(b). Distress and safety NB-DP frequencies are indicated by footnote 2 in § 80.361(b).

Frequency band	Emission	Carrier frequency
405-535 kHz .....	A2B .....	500 kHz.
1605-3500 kHz .....	J3E .....	2182 kHz.
4000-27, 5000 kHz ....	A2B .....	8364 kHz.
118-136 MHz .....	A3E .....	121.500 MHz.
156-162 MHz .....	F3E, PON	156.800 MHz 156.750 MHz.
243 MHz .....	A3N .....	243.000 MHz.

The maximum transmitter power obtainable may be used.

[51 FR 31213, Sept. 2, 1986; 51 FR 34984, Oct. 1, 1986]

**§ 80.314 Distress signals.**

(a) The international radiotelegraphy distress signal consists of the group "three dots, three dashes, three dots" (... ---...), symbolized herein by SOS, transmitted as a single signal in which the dashes are slightly prolonged so as to be distinguished clearly from the dots.

(b) The international radiotelephone distress signal consists of the word MAYDAY, pronounced as the French expression "m'aider".

(c) These distress signals indicate that a mobile station is threatened by grave and imminent danger and requests immediate assistance.

**§ 80.315 Distress calls.**

(a) The radiotelegraph distress call consists of:

- (1) The distress signal SOS, sent three times;
- (2) The word DE;
- (3) The call sign of the mobile station in distress, sent three times.

(b) The radiotelephone distress call consists of:

- (1) The distress signal MAYDAY spoken three times;
- (2) The words THIS IS;
- (3) The call sign (or name, if no call sign assigned) of the mobile station in distress, spoken three times.

**§ 80.316 Distress messages.**

(a) The radiotelegraph distress message consists of:

- (1) The distress signal SOS;

(2) The name of the mobile station in distress;

(3) Particulars of its position;

(4) The nature of the distress;

(5) The kind of assistance desired;

(6) Any other information which might facilitate rescue.

(b) The radiotelephone distress message consists of:

(1) The distress signal MAYDAY;

(2) The name of the mobile station in distress;

(3) Particulars of its position;

(4) The nature of the distress;

(5) The kind of assistance desired;

(6) Any other information which might facilitate rescue, for example, the length, color, and type of vessel, number of persons on board.

(c) As a general rule, a ship must signal its position in latitude and longitude, using figures for the degrees and minutes, together with one of the words NORTH or SOUTH and one of the words EAST or WEST. In radiotelegraphy, the signal .-.- must be used to separate the degrees from the minutes. When practicable, the true bearing and distance in nautical miles from a known geographical position may be given.

**§ 80.317 Radiotelegraph and radiotelephone alarm signals.**

(a) The international radiotelegraph alarm signal consists of a series of twelve dashes sent in one minute, the duration of each dash being four seconds and the duration of the interval between consecutive dashes one second. The purpose of this special signal is the actuation of automatic devices giving the alarm to attract the attention of the operator when there is no listening watch on the distress frequency.

(b) The international radiotelephone alarm signal consists of two substantially sinusoidal audio frequency tones transmitted alternately. One tone must have a frequency of 2200 Hertz and the other a frequency of 1300 Hertz, the duration of each tone being 250 milliseconds. When generated by automatic means, the radiotelephone alarm signal must be transmitted continuously for a period of at least 30 seconds, but not exceeding one minute; when generated by other means, the signal must be transmitted as continuously