

Tunisian ALE / Pactor-II network

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A network believed to be operated by the Tunisian Ministry of Interior, the Police and/or Border Guards can be heard on various HF frequencies. The network uses MIL-STD-188-141A ALE / USB to make a connection and communicates via Pactor II 100bd/200Hz with an offset of 1700Hz of the carrier frequency.

You can hear the stations with ALE soundings, LQA Requests and calling each other for Pactor-II traffic and op-chat in Morse. The Pactor-II transmissions are used for encrypted HF e-mail. The transmissions include info about the sender and receiver in plain text like "IPM. Note mail.hse DEFAULT@#HFARQ#STAT151 #HFARQ#STAT24 20120329194622:DEFAULT@"

Callsigns:

- Calls beginning with "TU": TUD, TUN, TU1, TU2, TU3, TU4, TU5
- Calls beginning with "STAT" which is either followed by 2 figures or 3 figures. The 3 figure calls are probably sub-stations of the 2 figure stations: STAT1, STAT2, STAT3, STAT5, STAT11, STAT12, STAT13, STAT14, STAT15, STAT16, STAT21, STAT22, STAT23, STAT24, STAT25, STAT151, STAT152, STAT154, STAT155
- Occasionally callsign "RABAT" has been noted, which is very odd as Rabat is a Moroccan city. There might be a city or other place in Tunisia with the same name but it is not logical that they would use a city name and not one of the usual callsigns. It might be a connection to Tunisia's embassy in Morocco.

Frequencies:

7954, 8014, 8180, 10113, 10176, 11111, 12140, 13945, 14700, 15635, 16125, 16285, 18320 kHz.

Modes:

Morse (operator chat)

MIL-STD-188-141A ALE / USB

Pactor II 100bd/200Hz with an offset of 1700Hz

Example:

16285 kHz, 09-08-2013, 0749 UTC, MIL-STD-188-141A / USB:

STAT11: Tunisian MOI net clg STAT151. Followed by hand keyed Morse "U U U U U". Then into Pactor-II 100/200 "IPM.Note mail.hse DEFAULT@#HFARQ#STAT11 #HFARQ#STAT151 20130809 091322:DEFAULT@". Then short ops chat in Morse and into ALE again.

The first part of the string 20130809091322 is the date 2013-08-09 followed by the time 09.13.22. probably the local time when the message was created.

Note:

The Tunisian Republic's Ministry of Interior issued not long ago a "White Paper for a Democratic Public Security System in Tunisia". This is basically a plan to reorganize the security forces. It mentions the issues including a few interesting items that might change the behavior of the above mentioned stations. No further description was added.

Quote:

Radio: Summary report on the radio systems of the National Police, National Guard, and Civil Protection; possible plans for digitalization, convergence of networks, etc.

Information and communications systems:

Because of the current lack of information on this subject, it is difficult to make specific proposals.

In any event, simple objectives, which have been successful in many countries, must be set:

- 1. A shared telecommunications network among the National Guard, National Police, and Civil Protection.*
 - 2. A shared, secure email network.*
 - 3. A shared IT framework (computer servers, choice of office and operating software).*
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Sources:

Logs and information provided by UDXF members <http://www.udxf.nl>

Reform Tunisia website <http://www.reform.tn/publications/index>

download: White Paper for a Democratic Public Security System in Tunisia