

Special Event Station TC17A in memory of the 1999 Izmit, Turkey Earthquake

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On Sunday, 16 August around 16:00 UTC a Special Event Station with the call sign TC17A will participate in the Memorial Event for the tragic earthquake, which occurred in the town and region of Izmit (Turkey) on 17 August 1999. The event will be attended by representatives of the countries that provided international assistance following this disaster 10 years ago. In recognition of their key role in emergency communications, the Turkish IARU Member Society, TRAC, has been invited to be part of the official program with a Special Event Station and with two of their emergency communication vehicles.

The earthquake in 1999 occurred in the early morning hours of 17 August, but the official memorial ceremony will start in the evening of 16 August and the the visit of the Ambassadors is scheduled for the period 19:00-20:00 UTC on August 16.

The memorial ceremony is scheduled for 00:02 UTC on August 17 and the plan is to operate until at least 01:00 UTC on August 17 but it may be extended further.

TRAC would in particular appreciate contacts with HQS and other stations from the countries of which official representatives will be present at the event. So far, the embassies of 4X, 9A, A7, DL, ET, EU, G, HA, HZ, JA, LZ, OK, OZ, SV, UA, VE, and YI have confirmed their participation.

TC17A is expected to be qrv on 20m and 40m, primarily in SSB, mostly near the respective Center of Activity Frequencies for Emergency Communications, and on 30m in CW and PSK.

(Reported by Hans, F5VKP / HB9AQS, IARU International Coordinator for Emergency Communications)