On November 12, 1992, Ranger Activities begin publishing CLEAR TEXT as a new, electronic mail alternative to its predecessor, a newsletter which was laboriously printed and mailed to every park chief ranger in the system on a more-or-less monthly basis.

Since then, we have sent out about 65 "issues" of CLEAR TEXT - first as a bi-monthly publication, then as a monthly newsletter. Although it was originally created for and sent to park chief rangers, regional office ranger staffs and training centers, it has always been our policy to provide CLEAR TEXT to any and all parties who asked to receive it. At present, CLEAR TEXT is "mailed" to about 850 addresses.

But the time has now come to semi-retire CLEAR TEXT and instead utilize the newly upgraded Morning Report to communicate all the same information to you in a more timely fashion. We will accordingly begin phasing regular CLEAR TEXT sections into the Morning Report, effective immediately.

This change will also have the beneficial effect of wider dissemination of important information, as the Morning Report audience is significantly larger. We have found repeatedly in recent months that many people are interested in the information found in CLEAR TEXT, much of which (i.e. fees, regulations, special park uses, uniforms) needs to go to a larger audience than CLEAR TEXT's primary readership of protection rangers.

CLEAR TEXT will still be employed intermittently to send out longer messages or reports of specific consequence to protection rangers only.

The net effect is that you will still receive the same reports but that you will get them in a more timely manner. No ground has been surrendered by the merging of CLEAR TEXT and the Morning Report.

Bill Halainen
Editor