

REPORT OF COAST GUARD UNIT ABOARD

13 August 1963

DATE ESTABLISHED:

NAME OF UNIT: Commander, Far East Section

LOCATION: Tokyo, Japan

PURPOSE OF UNIT:

Authorized by Commandant, Coast Guard to; (1) exercise operational and administrative control over loran transmitting stations at Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands; Miyako Jima and Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands; Matsumae and Hokkaido, Hokkaido Island, Japan; Niigate, O-Shima and Miho, Honshu Island, Japan; Pusan, Korea; and Nomaike, Kyusu, Japan; and (2) to maintain liaison with appropriate regional public and private agencies. The isolation of the loran stations is such that one year has been deemed the maximum length of a tour of duty for proposes of efficiency and morale of personnel. This abnormally high turnover results in a large number of personnel relatively new to the loran stations filling required billets at any given time. The climate of U. S. – foreign relations dictates the necessity for maintaining a ranking command of mature, experience judgment readily available for proper administration of these units. One of the most important functions Commander, Far East Section performs is regular inspections of field units, contributing greatly to the overall high efficiency of the loran service. The frequency of inspections is possible only because of close location of the responsible command.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF UNIT:

In addition to coordinating new construction and providing for material support of the loran stations, during the past fiscal year Commander, Far East Section, processed 172 transient personnel. During fiscal year 1964 this figure is expected to increase to 228 as a result of commissioning new loran transmitting stations at Marcus Island and Gesashi, Okinawa.

PROPOSED CHANGES:

None.

EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIONS:

Due to long distances and modes of transportation involved and the complexity of the logistics operations it is not practical to administer the Far Eastern loran operations from a point outside Japan.

ENCLOSURE (3)