

COMMANDER, 1st CG DISTRICT  
BOSTON 13, MASSACHUSETTS  
Refer to File: oan-626

16 May, 1949

Ind-1.

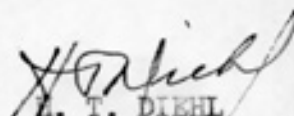
From: Commander, First Coast Guard District  
To: The Commandant (OAN) (OSU)

Subj: Loran Station Operational Data Report; forwarding of

Ref: (a) Headquarters Operations Memorandum No. 9-48, 12 August, 1948.

1. Forwarded.

2. Item 6(a)(1) should be amended to read "Freight normally forwarded from Boston by rail, or from Boston to Argentia by logistic vessel thence by rail. Personnel are transferred from Boston to Fort Aux Basques by rail.

  
E. T. DIEHL  
By direction

J.S. COAST GUARD  
OPERATIONAL DATA REPORT  
PART I

15 December 1948  
(date)

1. Reporting Unit: Loran Transmitting Station ; First Coast Guard District  
Port aux Basques, Newfoundland

2. Operations:

(a) Mission, primary (refer OPFAC, Part III, Section A):

- (1) Rate (s): 1 L 7
- (2) Type of station (slave, monitor, etc.): Single Slave
- (3) Other stations in chain (list):  
Demming, Nova Scotia (Canadian manned)

(b) Additional tasks (list any operational or administrative duties performed, or for which the unit is responsible, other than those incident to primary mission, above; indicate amount of work performed under each type of duty listed):

None

LTS Port aux Basques, Nfld.  
(unit)

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(date)

- (b) Berthing and messing capacity of unit as now equipped: One officers;  
Fourteen enlisted.
- (c) Maximum berthing and messing capacity of unit, conditional upon provision of additional equipment as listed in "inclosure 6": Three officers;  
Thirty enlisted. (prepare, mark "inclosure 6", and append a list of items required by the unit to permit full utilization of available berthing and messing space.)

5. Communications:

(a) Mail:

- (1) Mailing address: Port aux Basques, Nfld., c/o FPO New York
- (2) Normal routing of mail and method of delivery (fill in only if beyond Continental U. S.): Regular mail direct and via FPO. Air mail via Gander Air Field and Nfld. Rwy..
- (3) Normal frequency of delivery:  
Four to six times weekly
- (4) Normal time-delay in transit and delivery at the unit of mail from Continental U. S. (fill in only if beyond Continental U. S.):  
From ten to fourteen days.

(b) Radio:

- (1) Is voice radio communication equipment installed? No
- (2) Is CW radio communication equipment installed? Yes

(c) Telephone:

- (1) Number (if connection to commercial exchange):
- (2) Other connections to outside points:  
An extension on the U.S. Army line to Port aux Basques. Not as a rule very satisfactory, due to weather.

(d) Teletype:

- (1) Coast Guard net? No
- (2) Commercial (TWX)? No
- (3) Others (list): None

6. Transportation:

(a) General:

- (1) Indicate normal method of routing freight and passengers to unit:  
Freight: Major items received via First District logistics vessels.  
Commissary generally received via Newfoundland Railway.

Passengers:

Personnel is generally routed via Argentia when reporting to the station, but transferred directly to Boston via rail when detached. It is more convenient and more economical to send them directly by rail.

LTS Port aux Basques, Nfld.

(unit)

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(date)

(2) Are indicated methods reliable? Usually Adequate? No

If unreliable or inadequate, indicate why and, if possible, recommend more satisfactory routing:

Due to extreme weather conditions it is considered better to send personnel both to and from the station via the Canadian Railways.

(b) Air:

(1) Airfields accessible to unit by vehicle or boat:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Distance from Unit</u>	<u>Via Vehicle or Boat (show which)</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Airlines Serving</u>
Harmon Field	Stevensville, Nfld	100 mi.	Boat and rail	US	Air Force
Argentia	Argentia, Nfld.	400 mi.	Boat and rail	BS	USN and USCG

(2) Seaplane landings accessible to unit by vehicle or boat:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location of Anchorage or Ramp</u>	<u>Distance from Unit</u>	<u>Via Vehicle or Boat (show which)</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Airlines Serving</u>
Harbor at Port aux Basques, Nfld.		3 mi.	Vehicle		

(c) Land:

- (1) Highways (cite main roads linking unit with, and distances from unit to, populated centers): **None. There is a very narrow and extremely hilly road connecting the base with Port aux Basques, but cannot be used for about three months during the winter. No main road out of Port aux Basques.**
- (2) Bus lines (cite bus lines linking unit with, and distances from unit to, populated centers): **None**

(3) Railroads:

(a) Terminals accessible to unit by vehicle or boat:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Distance from Unit</u>	<u>Via Vehicle or Boat (show which)</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>RR Lines Serving</u>
Nfld. Rwy.	Port aux Basques	3 mi.	Vehicle	Freight & Passenger	Newfoundland,
Sydney, N.S.	Sydney, N.S.	90 mi.	Nfld. Rwy. ferry	Freight & Passenger	Canadian Nat.

(b) Unit's RR freight address:

Port aux Basques, Nfld. (Mouse Island)

LTS Port aux Basques, Nfld.  
(unit)

15 December 1948  
(date)

(d) Sea:

- (1) Terminals (for ocean-going-vessels) accessible to unit by vehicle or boat

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Distance from Unit</u>	<u>Via Vehicle or Boat (show which)</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>SS Lines Serving</u>
Newfoundland Railway,	PortauxBasques	3mi.	Vehicle	Freight & Passenger	Nfld. Rwy. ferry to Sydney, N.S.

This ferry makes three round trips weekly during the summer, spring and fall, and two weekly during the winter months.

- (2) Anchorage (for ocean-going vessels) in vicinity of unit:

- (a) Location: Port aux Basques, Nfld. Harbor  
(b) Controlling depth: Estimated twenty five feet  
(c) Holding ground: Must moor to pier at Rwy. terminal  
(d) Protection from wind and sea: Harbor fairly well protected except in SE gales.

Anchoring poor due to rock bottom.

- (e) Average sea conditions:

Generally fairly smooth, except for southerly winds. Very little ground swell at any time.

- (f) Distance to landing beach or wharf:

Three miles to Rwy. pier.

- (3) Wharf at or near unit for landing supplies by boats:

- (a) Location: Railway Terminal, Port aux Basques  
(b) Type of construction: Wooden piers.  
(c) Controlling depth of channel: Twenty-five feet  
(d) Range of tide: Four feet  
(e) Length of berth across face: None; depth of water at MLW —  
(f) Length of berths alongside: 600; depth of water at MLW 20 feet  
(g) Cargo handling facilities: None available. Booms used on logistics vessels. Difficulty experienced in getting suitable location at pier to unload due to Rwy. vessel using pier.  
(h) Normal routes and methods of moving supplies to storage (indicate distance and type of terrain and roads traversed):  
All material must be transported to the base by truck over a road that is dangerously narrow and very steep hills.

- (4) Landing beach at or near unit for landing supplies by boats:

- (a) Location: None due to rocky nature of coast line.  
(b) Nature of beach:

- (c) Bottom:

- (d) Slope above and below waterline:

- (e) Usable length:

- (f) Reefs, etc., limiting access:

(g) Surf and wind conditions affecting use:

(h) Precautions:

(i) Types of boats suitable for landings:

(j) Normal routes and methods of moving supplies to storage (indicate distance and type of terrain and roads traversed):

The road connecting the station with the town of Port aux Basques is very narrow, rough, and in several places quite treacherous. The distance from the station to the Railway Wharf is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

LTS Port aux Basques, Nfld.  
(Unit)

15 December 1948  
(date)

7. Logistics:

(a) Indicate sources of supply, etc., of following:

	Normal Source	Frequency Of Delivery	Via (Method of Delivery)	Alternate Source	Local Source	Remarks
<u>Meat</u>	Harmon A.F. Base	When ordered	Nfld. Rwy.	Argentia, Nfld. Boston, Mass. via logistics vessel	Port aux Basques The local source would have be able to supply the base for any length of time.	
<u>Dry Provisions</u>	Harmon A.F. Base	When ordered	Nfld. Rwy.	Argentia, Nfld. Boston, Mass.	PAB	As above
<u>Fresh Fruits &amp; Veggies</u>	Harmon A.F. Base	When ordered, Nfld. Rwy. but limited as to variety	Nfld. Rwy.	Argentia, Nfld. Logistics vessels usually "stock up"	PAB	As above, but very limited as to variety
<u>Personal Stores</u> (candy, tobacco, etc.)	Harmon A.F. Base	When ordered	Nfld. Rwy.	Argentia, Nfld. From logistics vessels.	PAB	
<u>Clothing</u>	NOB Argentia	When ordered	Nfld. Rwy.	None	None	
<u>Fuel</u>	From logistics vessels, pumped into drums.	During the summer months		Imperial Oil Co.	Imperial Oil Co.	
<u>Machinery Parts</u>	CICGD Boston	On logistics vessels		None	None	
<u>Electronic Parts</u>	CICGD Boston	On logistics vessels		None	None	

- (b) Indicate source, method, and adequacy of water supply:

Taken from a well, chlorinated, filtered and stored in an elevated tank. Inadequate during dry summer months, and in extreme winter months.

The water is pure, but highly discolored due to filtering thru peat bogs.

- (c) Indicate source, method, and adequacy of electric power supply, including emergency supply:

Power is normally obtained from the West Coast Power Co. locally with the base generators used as emergency supply.

- (d) Storage space:

	<u>Cu. Ft.</u>	<u>Adequate?</u>	<u>Additional Required</u>
Frozen Storage:	150	Yes	None
Chilled Storage:	150	Yes	None
Fresh Frts. & Vogs:			
(except chilled)	None	No	100 cu ft shed
Dry Provisions:	350	Yes	None

	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>How Stored</u>	<u>Adequate?</u>	<u>Additional Required</u>
Drinking Water	Pumped daily as required.		No.	None available
Diesel Oil	23,000	In drums	Yes	None
Gasoline	1,000	In drums	Yes	None
Kerosene	None	- -	- -	- -
Coal (Tons)	None	- -	- -	- -

- (e) Fuel requirements, annual; List:

Diesel fuel - 400 drums

Gasoline - 25 drums

- (f) Comment on adequacy of existing method of procuring, handling and storing supplies:

All supplies are considered adequate and the methods of procuring, storing, and handling are considered fairly adequate. A 20 x 20 storage shed was erected this year and has facilitated the storage problems somewhat.

## 8. Security:

- (a) Describe provisions made and measures being taken to limit access to the unit (fences, gates, security watches, etc.):

There is a two strand barb wire fence surrounding the base but no gate. There are but few ever pass thru the base. Security watches are stood by the non rated personnel, but rather a fire watch in lieu of actual security.

- (b) Are these provisions and measures adequate? No If not, explain:

The fence should be of the woven type, a gate installed, and sufficient personnel authorized to enable a constant watch. Due to the constant maintenance required there are only four men available for watches and they work as day workers about the base.

- (c) Is trespass or attempted trespass by unauthorized persons considered likely?

Explain: No. The local residents are all known by the station personnel and have but very little interest in the base. The above is requested in the event of a crisis or an emergency.

- (d) What means has the unit at hand to defend itself against armed attack, sabotage, etc.? (Small arms, ammunition, etc. List):

<u>Allowed</u>	<u>On Board</u>	<u>Adequate?</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Rifles, M1.	6	Yes	
Pistols, .45	6	Yes	

There is no ammunition for the rifles, but it has been ordered.  
There are 1600 rounds of .45 ammunition.

- (e) What local sources of armed assistance may be depended upon? (U.S. Army or Navy units, etc. List):

U. S. Army at Ernest Harmon Air Force Base at Stevensville Crossing, Nfld.  
at distance of about 100 miles.

U. S. Navy at Naval Operating Base at Argentia, Nfld..

- (f) Firefighting equipment at unit:

<u>On Board</u>	<u>Operative?</u>	<u>Adequate?</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Chrysler-Hale Portable mounted on trailer	Yes	Yes	
Chrysler-Hale on skids	No	--	Being overhauled

- (g) Are fire mains well-located and operative? No. If not, explain:

There is only one fire outlet on the base, which is connected directly to the fire pump house. It is centrally located but is not usable during the winter. There is no available fire fighting water in the winter.

(Note: Indicate fire hydrants in red on inclosure 3)

- (h) What type of fire watch is maintained?

The security watches maintain a constant check throughout the base.

- (i) What firefighting assistance from other sources may be depended upon?

There is a portable fire pump located in Port aux Basques which can assist providing the roads are passable.

## 9. Sanitation and Health:

- (a) Drinking water:

- (1) What precautions are taken to insure that the supply is fit to drink?

A new water system has been installed where by the well water is chlorinated and filtered thru a sand pressure filter and then stored in an elevated tank which provides the operating pressure. The water is somewhat discolored but considered safe.

- (2) Are these precautions considered effective? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, explain:

Yes. The water has a decided chlorine taste and in the summer when the discoloring is greatest it is quite disagreeable. The installation of an evaporating plant would be the only improvement over the present system, which is decidedly improved over the prior one.

(b) Garbage:

- (1) How is garbage disposed of? All garbage except paper and cans is picked up by the residents for pig swill.  
(2) Is this method satisfactory? Yes If not, explain:

(c) Sanitary System:

- (1) Are adequate lavatories, bathtubs, showers, waterclosets, sinks, laundry tubs, etc., available and operative? Yes If not, explain:  
(2) How is sewage disposed of? The sewage is piped to the sea.  
Is this method satisfactory? Yes. If not, explain:  
There has been considerable difficulty experienced in the past with the line becoming plugged by small storm tossed rocks, but the line has been removed slightly from the sea front and is believed to be improved.

(d) Refuse matter:

- (1) What precautions are taken to prevent propagation and spread of disease germs from refuse matter? All refuse except that used for swill is dumped at a dump approximately one half mile from the station. No other precautions are taken.  
(2) Are these precautions considered effective? Yes If not, explain:

(e) Insect pests:

- (1) What precautions are taken to safeguard personnel against insect pests?  
There are no insects in this locale except flies. Screens should be fabricated.  
(2) Are these precautions considered effective? Yes If not, explain:

- (f) Diseases: Prepare, mark "inclosure 7", and append: (1) list of diseases common to the area against which, according to your best knowledge or belief special inoculations or other precautions are necessary. Indicate whether or not such inoculations or other precautions are being carried out; give details of precautions. (2) List of diseases or ailments which occur most frequently among unit's personnel. (Note: If in doubt as to precise medical nomenclature, give best information available.)

(g) Medical aid:

- (1) Nearest hospital available for unit's use:  
**Ernest Harmon A.F. Base**  
Distant 100 miles via **Newfoundland Railway**
- (2) Nearest regularly authorized source of professional medical treatment  
**None other than that listed above.**  
Distant \_\_\_\_\_ miles via \_\_\_\_\_  
Describe employment status of physician (U.S.P.H.S. officer; civilian contract physician, full time or part time, etc.)  
**There is a civilian doctor in Port aux Basques, who also doubles as dentist for extractions only.**
- (3) Nearest regularly authorized source of professional dental treatment  
**Ernest Harmon A.F. Base.**  
Distant 100 miles via **Newfoundland Railway**  
Describe employment status of dentist:  
**No dentist in Port aux Basques.**
- (4) Are services furnished as indicated in (1), (2) and (3) above satisfactory? No.. If not explain:  
**It would be a great help if the logistics vessels were assigned a medical and dental officer for at least one trip per year.**
- (5) Location of more convenient facilities for emergency medical or dental treatment (not regularly authorized):  
**N. Sydney, N.S., a distance of approximately 100 miles via Newfoundland Railway Ferry.**

(unit)

(date)

- (6) What facilities and personnel are available at the unit for providing first aid treatment?

A Hospital Corpsman is attached.

Are these adequate? Yes If not, explain:

- (7) Are there any sanitary or medical service problems which make it desirable for a sanitary engineer or medical representative to visit the unit? (Indicate nature of problem.)

None save those listed in subparagraph four.

10. Welfare:

(a) Family quarters:

- (1) Are government quarters provided at the unit? No. If yes, for how many families? - - -

- (2) Are these adequate? If not, explain:

- (3) Are privately owned rental quarters available in the area in quantities sufficient to meet the unit's reasonable needs?

No.

(b) Recreation:

- (1) What types of recreation and what recreational facilities are available at the unit? (Underscore most popular types).

Pool

Table tennis

Baseball (rather limited due to locale).

Winter sports

Movies

The crew rate watch and watch liberty which they spend in Port aux Basques.

- (2) What additional types of recreational facilities, within reason, might be provided to good advantage at this unit?  
Hunting equipment suitable for hunting moose, caribou etc..  
Fishing equipment complete with boat and out board motor.  
There is also considerable trout fishing near here in the summer.  
The procurement of skis and snowshoes for the winter.
- (3) What types of recreation and what recreational facilities are available in the nearby vicinity?  
There is a movie in Port aux Basques, and a combination pool hall and dance hall with a "juke box" and most of the crew spend their liberties there.

U.S. COAST GUARD  
OPERATIONAL DATA REPORT  
PART III

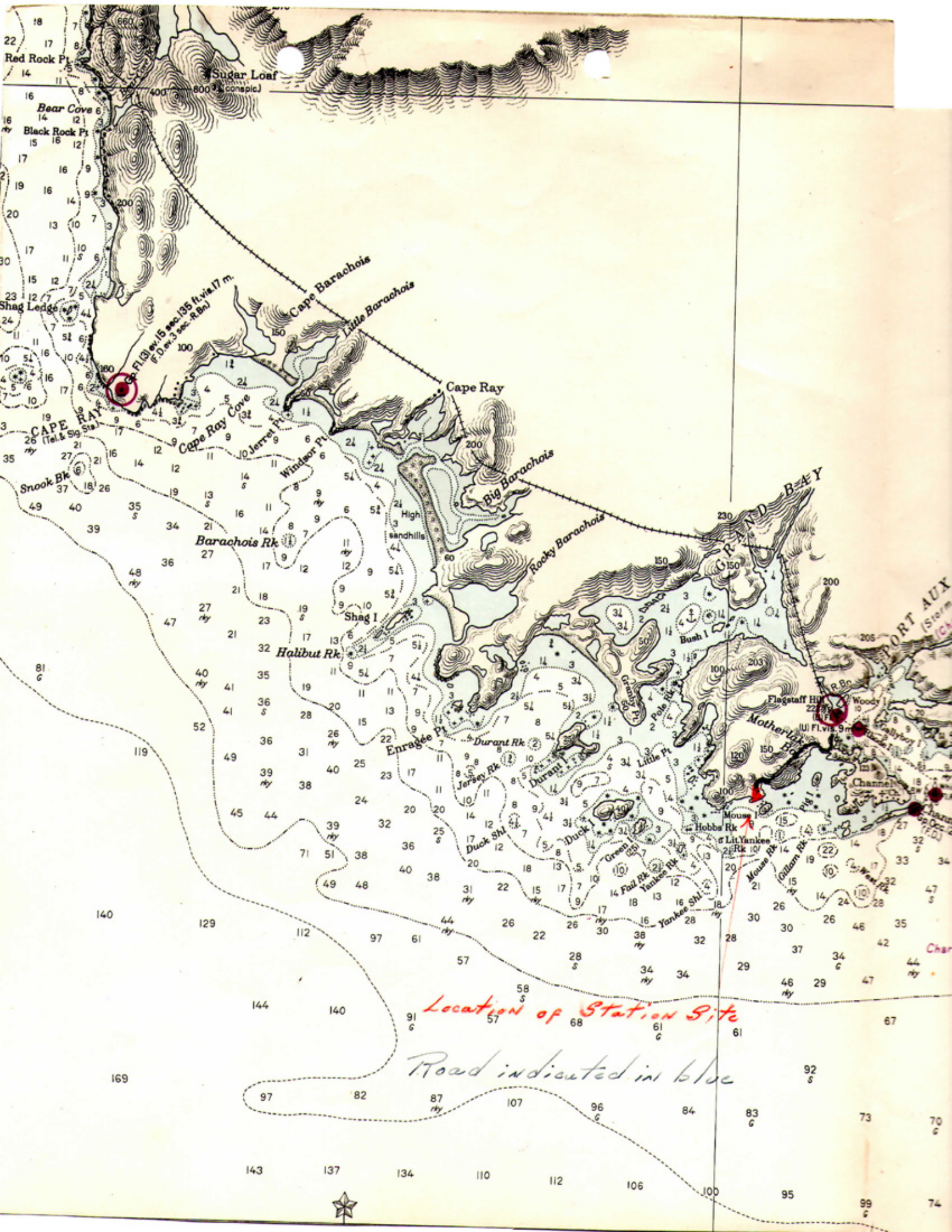
15 December 1948  
(date)

1. Reporting unit: LTS Port aux Basques, Nfld.; First Coast Guard District

2. Work Load Estimates:

(a) As applied to work-loads in inclosure 8 of this report, the term "optimum condition" shall mean "work-load imposed by performance of the unit's assigned tasks, including normal maintenance of unit and equipment"; "minimum condition" shall mean "work-load imposed by performance of the unit's assigned tasks, including emergency minor repair of equipment". The latter term shall represent the minimum work-load below which the unit may expect to cease effective operations.

(b) Prepare, mark "inclosure 8A", "inclosure 8B", etc., and append a Work-Load Estimate sheet for the unit and one for each additional facility attached. In "man-hours/week" column, indicate estimated average work-load in the specific type of activity indicated on left-hand side of sheet. In the "recommended rating structure" column, do not break the rating down into chief, 1c, 2c, 3c; show only the general classification, thus "ET", "EN", etc. (Note: A sample "Work Load Estimate" sheet is attached.)



*whistling*

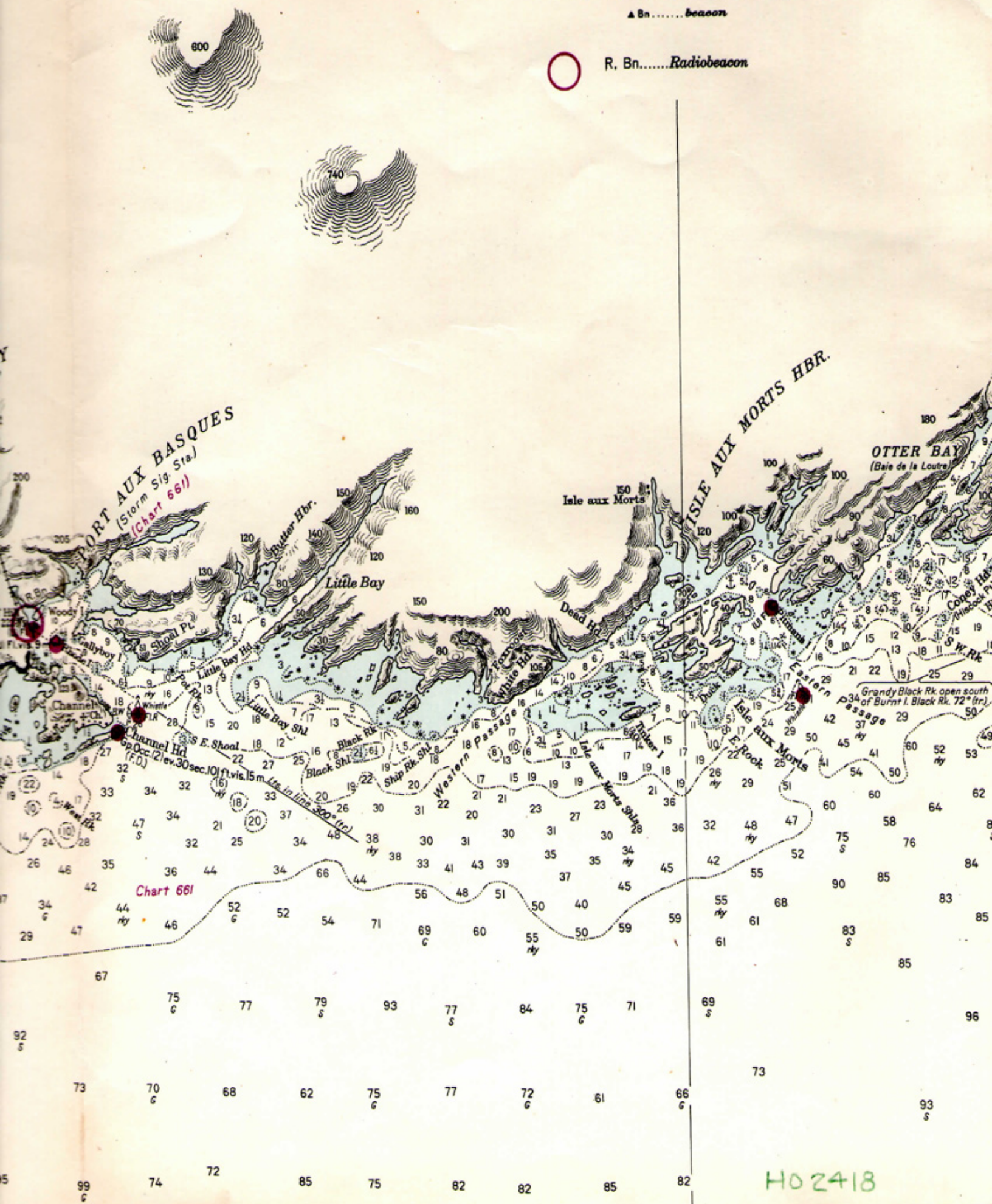
bell

*lighted*

**mooring**

▲ Bn . . . . . *beacon*

R. Bn.....*Radiobeacon*



Inclosure #3

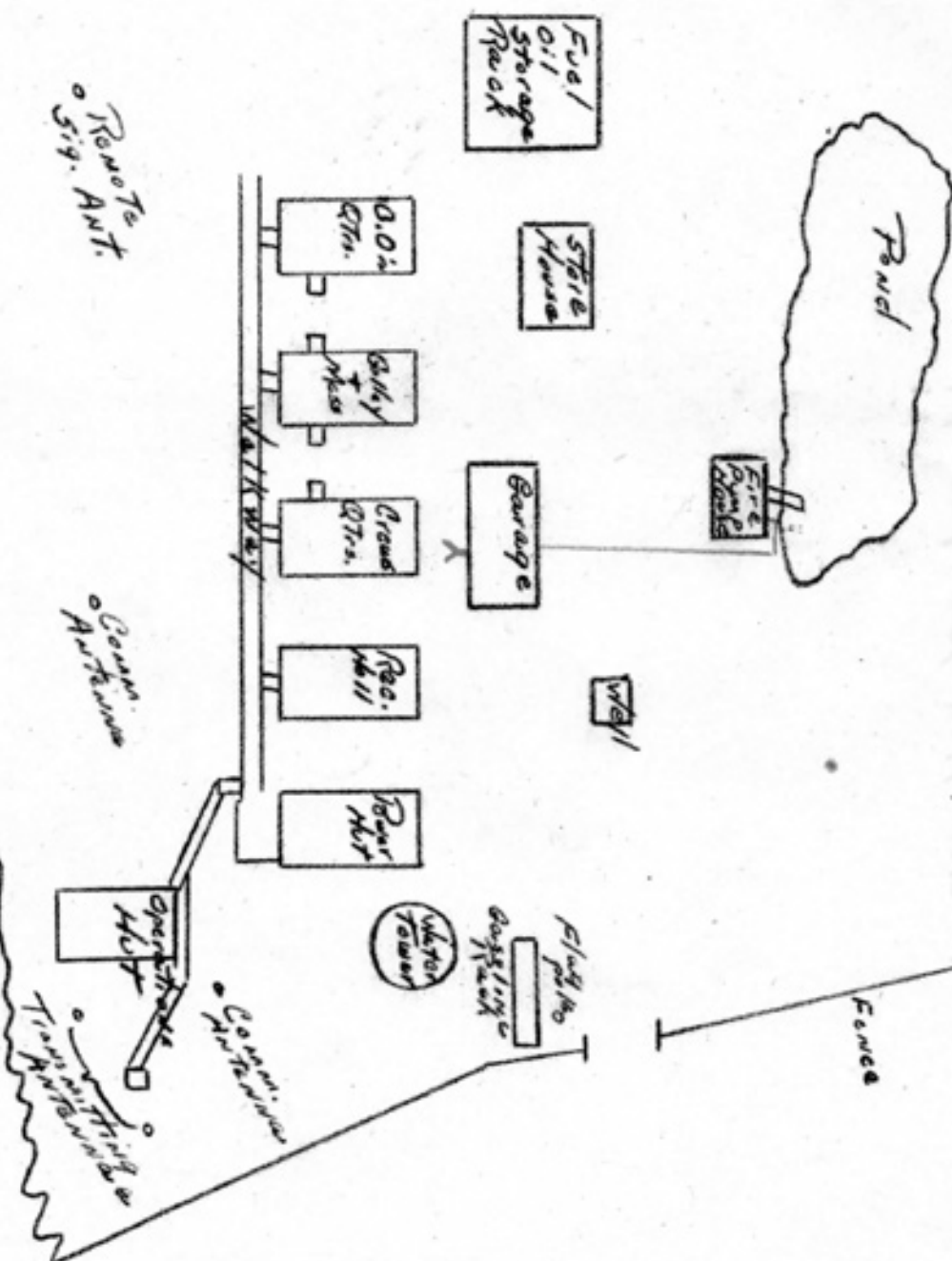
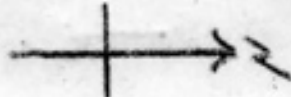
Cabot Strait

Comms. Ant.  
o Remote Ant.

Comms. Ant.  
o Sig. Ant.

Comms. Ant.

Comms. Ant.  
o Remote Ant.



### Physiography of Station Site

The local region surrounding the base is one of numerous small hills and is barren of all vegetation save for tundra grass and some small scrub brush. There is no beach and the sea breaks on the rocky shore making any attempt to erect a wharf impractical.

The station site is located on a gentle slope toward the sea, and the building are erected on a clay fill. This fill has in the past washed away considerably and had begun to wear away back almost to the huts when a retaining wall composed of empty oil drums was erected by the station personnel last summer. The retaining wall is backed by a fill of rock and soil and should be filled up even with the concrete walkways, allowing ample drainage for rain and melting snow. The area surrounding the huts is very muddy throughout most of the year due to the excessive rainfall in this locale.

The climate is fairly moderate but severe winds are frequently encountered. The maximum summer temperature is around eighty degrees, with an average daily temperature of between sixty and seventy. The winters are not especially severe, except for the winds. The lowest expected temperature is fifteen below zero, with an average winter temperature of between zero and ten above. The prevailing summer winds are from the east and south-east, while in the winter they are from the west and north-west.

U.S. COAST GUARD  
OPERATIONAL DATA REPORT  
STRUCTURES FORM; Inclosure 5 (sample)

\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_  
(date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(unit)

1. Name (or number) of structure as shown on sketch, Inclosure 3 of basic report;  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Cubic capacity:      basement \_\_\_\_\_ cu. ft. (approx.)  
                         1st floor \_\_\_\_\_ " " "  
                         2nd floor \_\_\_\_\_ " " "  
                         3rd floor \_\_\_\_\_ " " "

3. Purpose for which used: (Note: If used as barracks or quarters or as galley or messhall, show capacity.)

4. Does structure as now equipped fill its purpose adequately? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, explain:

Inclosure #5

Structures on base

1. The following structures are standard 20' x 48' Quonset type huts:
  - (a) Commanding Officer's Quarters.
  - (b) Galley and Mess Hall.
  - (c) Crew's Quarters.
  - (d) Recreation Hall.
  - (e) Generator Hut.
  - (f) Garage.
  - (g) Transmitting Hut.
2. The storage hut is a 10' x 20' frame structure.
3. The housing over the well is a 8' x 12' frame structure.
4. The housing over the fire pump is a 14' x 14' frame structure.

Inclosure #6.

Items required for maximum berthing and messing.

1. The following list of items is considered necessary for the maximum compliment of three officers and thirty enlisted men;

(a) Single beds	Two
(b) Mattresses, single	Fifteen
(c) Double deck bunks	Twelve
(d) Bedding for fifteen bunks	
(e) Mess tables	Two
(f) Mess benches	Four
(g) Mess gear for fifteen men	

2. It is believed that sufficient galley equipment is on order to enable the preparation of food for this number of men.

3. The current electric stoves are not of sufficient size for a mess of this size, but an oil burning stove is on order for this unit.

4. A crew of the above number of men would of necessity would require an additional cook.

5. There are no facilities for establishing an officer's mess, but there is sufficient room in the mess hall for an officer's table.

Diseases

1. The local health officer has been contacted and has stated that there are no diseases common in the area for which special inoculations could be administered. In addition to the usual childhood diseases the only other disease of any importance in this area is tuberculosis, of which quite a large number of the local population are infected.

2. There have been no diseases occurring to base personnel in this area. The only ailments common here are the usual service requirements for first aid. There is no dentist immediately available in this area and the proper care of teeth is important.

U.S. COAST GUARD  
 OPERATIONAL DATA REPORT  
WORK LOAD ESTIMATES; Inclosure 8 (sample)

15 December 19 48  
 (date)

USCG LTS Port aux Basques  
 (unit) Nfld.

For (unit. ) Strike out one which  
 (~~Radio and Loran Transmitting Station~~) does NOT apply

	Optimum Con- dition (average Man-hrs/week	Minimum Con- dition (average Man-hrs/week)
1. Operational		
Watchstanding:		
(a) Scope - - - - -	168	168
(b) Communications- - - - -	28	28
(c) Duty technician - - - - -	168	168
(d) Duty mechanic - - - - -	56	56
(e) Security- - - - -	56	56
(f) - - - - -		
(g) - - - - -		
(h) - - - - -		
2. Maintenance & Repairs:		
(excess work load over such work performed by watch- standers, item 1, above).		
(a) - - - - -		
(b) - - - - -		
(c) - - - - -		
(d) - - - - -		
(e) - - - - -		
3. Station services:		
(a) Mess; operation of- - - - -	56	56
(b) Stores; procurement/handling of - - - - -	When received	- -
(c) Correspondence/records; preparation/handling of - - - - -	56	56
(d) Training and drills - - - - -	6	6
(e) Medical - - - - -	-	-
(f) Boat duty - - - - -	none	none
(g) - - - - -		
(h) - - - - -		
4. Ineffective time:		
(a) Sick (including travel time)- - - - -	none	none
(b) Absent, temp. duty (incl. travel time)- - - - -	none	none
(c) Leave (including travel time) - - - - -	none	none
(d) Liberty - - - - -	none	none
(e) Vacancy (detachment prior arrival of relief)- - - - -	none	none
(f) - - - - -		
5. Total man-hrs/week: - - - - -	594	594

USCG LTS Port aux Basques, Nfld  
(Unit)

15 December 1948  
(date)

6. Recommended  
rating structure:

Optimum  
Condition

Minimum  
Condition

Rating

Number

Number

Seaman

- - - - -

4

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7. Total enlisted personnel recommended - - - - -

19

- - - - -

11