



16562.1
17 Nov 93

From: Coordinator of Chain Operations, U.S. West Coast and
North Central U.S. LORAN-C Chains
To: Commanding Officer, USCG Loran Station Havre, MT
Subj: COCO OPERATIONS INSPECTION OF 18-22 OCT 93

1. I conducted the annual LORAN Operational Inspection of your station from 18-22 October 1993. LCDR Skorupa represented PACAREA (Ptl) during this inspection. During our visit we completed the PACAREA Inspection Checklist and conducted operational and technical drills and checks. These drills included casualty recovery, safety, and watchstanding.
2. Enclosure (1) is the completed PACAREA (Ptl) Quality Assurance Checklist (Rev 3/01/1993). Discrepancies were noted for the station's action. All discrepancies found are listed in enclosure (2). I reviewed these items with you during the Inspection outbrief, and assigned estimated completion dates. Action Item List status and completion updates are required monthly, with the first report due 1 January 1994.
3. My particular interest was to investigate the station operational training program and causes of personnel recall. All station personnel took and passed the Operational Exam with an outstanding overall average of 95.3%. Also, the MK1 is a qualified watchstander and both I and LCDR Skorupa were very impressed by his knowledge and abilities. The new SK2 is making excellent progress towards qualification as well. The quality of your training program is well represented by the skills shown by all station personnel. The exam pointed out the need for additional training in passing control and the effect of loss of backup power supplies. The practical drills were an overall excellent, and pointed out the need for more practical drills in coordination with the Control Station. The OJT training program was also excellent, and was well documented. Overall the training program was excellent to outstanding. The causes of recall are being documented, and following the installation of the Remote TOPCO Reset Field Change, we will analyze the data to determine the continuing causes of operational alarms resulting in recalls, momentary signal outages, and equipment failures. Especially important to this effort will be the data on commercial power you are gathering.

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4. Your staffing is currently adequate. All personnel seem to be utilized to very good effect. I have noted the positive effort your crew puts forth in response to efforts to improve station performance and to correct any operational problems found. I have also noted the outstanding effort you have put forth to develop personnel and establish a benchmark of excellence at your station.

5. Your operational performance October 1992 through July 1993 was outstanding. During this period there were 4 minutes of unusable time (UT), for an availability of 99.999%. Following this exceptional performance, there were two events of failed Output Coupler Net (O/C Net) Switching which resulted in 72 minutes of UT. The station showed good initiative in researching and providing information on the cause of these failures. The cause was a loss of commercial power while the O/C Net Switch was occurring, leaving the transmitter unable to complete the switch and return on air. As a direct result of this effort potential solutions have been identified and further investigation to correct the problem requested (my letter 16562 1 September 1993 NOTAL). From October 1992 through August 1993 you had a total of 88 momentary signal outages of less than one minute, for an outstanding average of just 12.6 per month. Your station's outstanding overall performance is noted.

6. Overall, I and LCDR Skorupa were extremely impressed by your very motivated and enthusiastic crew. You have an extremely neat and well run station. Keep up the good work. As discussed previously, you can expect a training visit in about six months. I look forward to working closely with you and your crew in the future to continue providing outstanding service to the LORAN user community while meeting all operational challenges.

E. V. L. VOGT
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Encl: (1) Inspection Checklist
(2) Action Item List

Copy: CG PACAREA (Ptl)
CGD THIRTEEN (oan) w/o encl (1)
CO MIDDLETOWN w/o encls

LORSTA Havre Action Item List
COCO's Operational Inspection
of 18-22 OCT 1993

Item # Discrepancy Description & Due Date Assigned

1. Receive antenna and receivers:

- A. Order new 8290Y receiver. Install, evaluate sample point
and report results to COCO.
Complete by 1 Feb 1994

2. Miscellaneous:

- A. Establish Distribution Amplifier Baseline readings.
Record in logs for reference.
Complete by 1 Jan 1994.
- B. Post "Danger High Voltage" sign on gate to tower base.
Ensure gate is locked with a lock which can be cut off
when frozen or iced over.
COMPLETED.
- C. Document alarms resulting in station personnel recall.
Correlate with momentary outages and power problems.
(Pends installation of Remote TOPCO Reset Field Change)
Complete by 1 May 1994