

FILE NO.
EG3/S67(B)
Serial S-291
JDR/ahb

COMMANDER, ALASKAN SECTOR
NORTHWEST SEA FRONTIER

Naval Operating Base
Adak, Alaska
11 September 1943

~~SECRET~~

From: The Western Aleutian Loran Siting Party consisting of
Col. T. H. Baxter, U.S.A.
Lt. (jg) A. J. Summerfield, U.S.C.G.
Lt. (jg) J. D. Roberts, U.S.N.R.

To: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Via: The Commandant, Naval Operating Base, Adak, Alaska.
Commander, Alaskan Sector.

Subj: Loran Monitor Station, Selection of Site for.

Ref: (a) VCNO conf. ltr. Op-20-E/cm (SO)A6-2(29) Ser. 01262320
of 11 August 1943, to Comit., Coast Guard, copy to Comalsec.
(b) VCNO conf. dispatch 311404 of August 1943 to Comalsec.

1. Paragraph (4) of reference (a) suggests that a study be made by the Western Aleutian Loran Siting Party of the possibility of locating a monitor station which would be satisfactory for monitoring the five Loran stations installed and proposed. Reference (b) requests that an investigation be made of sites to monitor the Western Aleutian Stations only.
2. The Commanding Officer of the NTS (Navigation) at Adak Island was contacted. Receiving equipment is installed at this training school and signals have been received from the stations now installed on St. Matthews, St. Paul, and Umanak Islands, respectively. It was indicated that these signals were strong and it is considered that they are of sufficient strength to use for monitoring purposes. The two proposed stations, one on Amnitchka Island and one on Attu Island, are both at a distance from Adak Island which is much less than from Adak to the farthest station now installed on St. Matthews Island. Therefore, it is thought that a monitor station on Adak Island would be able to monitor satisfactorily the two proposed stations as well as those now installed. It is recommended that such a monitor station be installed.
3. Adak Island was investigated to determine the best location for the monitor station. The location which it is thought will give the best reception from all of the Loran stations and will be the most practical from a construction viewpoint was determined to be at Latitude 51° 51' N and Longitude 176° 41' W by reference to War Department Map N5151-W17640. This location is approximately 900 yards north of the triangulation station located at point "Lee" and 700 yards east of Lake Heart. It has been marked with a rock cairn and stake. The letters "LRN" have been printed on the stake together with a warning "Do not Disturb". This location has been determined to give most nearly an overwater path to all of the stations to

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3. (cont'd) be monitored and still be at a point which is readily accessible. A road has been built which ends approximately 100 yards from the top of the hill on which the site is located. Plans have been made to extend this road, and if this is done, the road will pass within 100 feet of the nearest part of the site. Water is available at several lakes within 400 yards of the site but pumping and water treating equipment will be required. There are several protected places within 100 yards of the site where it would be practical to build quarters for personnel. It is recommended that the decision for the location of the required buildings be left to the discretion of the construction crew. Sand and gravel are obtainable approximately 1/2 mile from site. The ground at the site consists of very shallow tundra with frequent gravel outcropping.

4. The location of this site was coordinated with both the Commandant, NOB, Adak and ComGen., Adak Island, and it was indicated that the site location was satisfactory.

5. In accordance with reference (b), Kiska Island was investigated to find a satisfactory site from which to monitor the proposed stations on Attu and Amchitka Islands. It is understood that the installation of this monitor station would be undertaken only in the event that it was decided not to install a combined monitor station at Adak Island to monitor all five of the stations.

6. The site selected which it is considered will obtain satisfactory signals from the stations to be monitored is located on Monument Hill as shown on War Department, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army Map N5150-E17711 Edition of July, 1943, printed at the 29th Engineer Reproduction Plant, Portland, Oregon. The location of Monument Hill on this map is Latitude 51° 59.5' N and Longitude 177° 31' E. This hill has an elevation of approximately 1,000 feet and any location on it which is satisfactory from a construction viewpoint will be satisfactory technically. Water is not immediately available and provisions will have to be made either by pumping or storage to obtain the water required for the station operation. A road runs within 500 yards of the top of the hill and the ground is shallow tundra and gravel underlay.

Copies to:

Comdt., U.S.C.G., Wn., D.C.
BuShips
Comdt., NOB, Adak
Com. Gen., Adak Island
OC&R, H.Q., AAF
ComNorPacFor
ComNorWestSeaFron
Comalsec
ComTaskUnit 16.2.1

ComGen., Kiska Isl.
Cincpac

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A. J. SUMMERFIELD,
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NOB/Adak
367
Serial S-1008

U. S. NAVAL OPERATING BASE
ADAK, ALASKA



16 September 1943

SECRET

End-1 on The Western Aleutian Loran Siting Party **SECRET** ltr. HQ3/367(B)
Serial S-291 of 11 September 1943.

To: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.
Via: Commander, Alaskan Sector.

Subj: Loran Monitor Station, Selection of Site for.

1. Forwarded.

By direction of the Commandant.

MILTON H. ANDERSON
Chief Staff Officer

HQ3/367(B)/A/-2
Serial S-301
GH/wbf

COMMANDER, ALASKAN SECTOR
NORTHWEST SEA FRONTIER

END 2 19 September 1943 - Adak, Alaska.

From: Commander, Alaskan Sector.
To : The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

1. Forwarded.

A. P. STORRS
Acting Combase

www.loran-history.info

Secret

10/20

Brief of attached letter:

VCNO in ref (a) suggested the siting party (siting ATHU & Amchitka shore stations) be used to locate a monitor station for all Norpac Korean transmitters, ^{5 in No.} 1. In ref (b) VCNO requested siting a monitor station for the ATHU & Amchitka transmitters only.

Siting party found a good location on Adak for monitoring all 5 transmitters and recommends monitor station be built. Kiska was looked over in response to ref (b) and site picked out but has many disadvantages.

Comment:

Since the siting party probably wondered why the two directives from VCNO they (purposely?) made no recommendation re the Kiska monitor station, hoping (in all probability) that VCNO would approve their recommendation for Adak and thus have one monitor for the five transmitters. No action required by Cinpac.

Respy

HET.

We have ref (b) in Korean files. Ref (a) not in Cinpac files.