

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

ADDRESS REPLY TO:
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
FIRST COAST GUARD DISTRICT
1400 CUSTOM HOUSE
BOSTON 9, MASSACHUSETTS



Note to Editors:

The enclosed news story although not unusual for the Coast Guard, is one of the items that is not often brought to light.

This is being sent to your newspaper because one of the men stationed on this isolated Loran Station is from your locale.

The statistics on Cape Christian are as follows:

One officer and twenty enlisted men comprise the total compliment of this station located on the eastern side of Baffin Island, Labrador. The term LORAN when broken down means "long range aids to navigation". Men assigned to this station are rotated approximately once a year.

Personnel from your locale are:

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
FIRST COAST GUARD DISTRICT
703 CUSTOM HOUSE
BOSTON 9, MASSACHUSETTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASE NO. 06-57

BOSTON, MASS. FEB 5, 1957 Cape Christian Loran Station is located halfway up the bleak barren Coast of Baffin Island, 400 miles above the Arctic Circle. It is one of the most isolated units of the Coast Guard. Mail is dropped once a month, weather permitting, however, the only out going link with civilization is via radio.

During the past two years the men at this station have planned and provided an exceptionally fine Christmas party for the Eskimos in the area. Due to the hazardous traveling conditions and the distances that would have to be covered, this is the only time of the year that the Coastguardsmen and the Eskimo families get together for any social activities. Some of the families traveled as much as four days by dog sled to be on hand for this event.

In spite of the dark period with no sunrise and temperatures averaging minus twenty-five, personnel at this isolated unit enjoyed a merry Christmas. Festivities were highlighted by a birthday party for LTJG Daniels, Commanding Officer of the Station, of Raleigh, North Carolina, on Christmas evening followed at midnight by Christmas religious services led by Debrowski Bill of South Boston, Massachusetts, and Greene H.C. of Lebanon, Tennessee which concluded by all hands singing Christmas carols.

Announcement of the birth of LTJG Daniels first child reached him via radio, Edwin Jr. weighing in at 7 lbs 6 oz at 1:55 A. M. Christmas morning.

(more)

During the weeks preceding the Christmas party, the entire crew at Cape Chirstian "turned to" making an assortment of dolls and numerous other play things for the children. Each item, hand made was later gaily decorated with paints ribbons, etc. Extra special attention was given to the decoration of the recreation room. Cigars and cigarettes were labled for the adults.

Dinner of turkey and ham with all the trimmings prepared by Arnold CSI of Drums, Pa., and Reed SN of Cincinnati, Ohio, Birth-day party for Richardson AT2 of Toledo, Ohio on the 26th, and climaxed by a Christmas party for Eskimo children this afternoon. In the true spirit of Christmas all hands enjoyed preparing for and enter-taining sixty-two children and adults some having travelled four days by dog sled to attend the party. After an introductory welcome by Corporal Hoodie of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police interpereting for LTC Daniels, a buffet dinner prepared by Arnold and Reed was served. Menu: turkey, ham, salami, bologna, cheese, tuna, fish, salad, stuffed celery, olives, pickles, Christmas decorated cookies and cake, hard candy, nuts, hot rolls, chocolate milk and tea. After dinner and a tour of the station by the adults, several cartoons and the technicolor film Walt Disneys Water Birds were shown to the enthralled children. Apple dunking and pin the tail on the polar bear (Eskimo version) followed with airplanes and a replica of the Coast Guard Cutter PANDORA made by Rosario FN of San Juan Puerto Rico awarded as prizes. After the technicolor movie Lili with Leslie Caron was shown, Tea and Christmas cake were served.

Santa Claus Ronck ET3 of Orlando, Florida then entered and distributed dolls to the girls, balls and cars to the boys, and packages for the adults which were under the embellished Christmas tree decorated by Frazier EN2.

In keeping with the rest of the hand made items, Santa's outfit, composed of red cloth, white surgical tape, white surgical cotton for the whiskers and the eyebrows. Needless to say, Santa felt right at home.

Sleeping accommodations were arranged for the night for the Eskimos to permit rest prior to the long journey home.

Greene H.C in charge of the party planning and organization was largely responsible for the good time had by all in this only association between Coast Guard personnel and the Eskimos during the year.

This party for little children brought a real Christmas to Cape Christian. It is planned to make this party traditional at Cape Christian.

uscg