



SEVENTEENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

GENERAL INFORMATION

RELATING TO THE

LORAN TRANSMITTING STATION

OCEAN CAPE



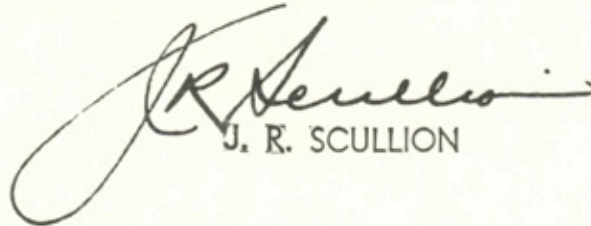
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Address reply to:
COMMANDER
Seventeenth Coast Guard District
P.O. Box 3-5000
Juneau, Alaska 99801

• 3262
1 March 1968

LETTER OF PROMULGATION

1. This letter promulgates a Loran Station Information Book for each of the nine Seventeenth District Loran Stations. These books are designed to provide information to commands and staff components concerned with the stations logistic support, operation and administration, and to training commands to familiarize themselves and their students with station equipment, environment, problems and routines. The books purposely omit unnecessary details. Additional information regarding any phase of the stations operation, equipment, or plant can be obtained from Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District, Juneau, Alaska.
2. Loran Station Information Books will be reviewed periodically and new additions issued as the need arises.



J. R. SCULLION

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U. S. Coast Guard Loran Station

Ocean Cape

General Information Book

1 December 1967

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GENERAL INFORMATION

U. S. Coast Guard Loran Transmitting Station Ocean Cape

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Ocean Cape Loran Transmitting Station is located on the Gulf of Alaska just southeast of Yakutat Bay, approximately 200 miles north of Juneau, Alaska. The station is situated in the Tongass National Forest approximately 5 miles south of the City of Yakutat.

Topographically, Ocean Cape is in the area known as the Yakutat Foreland. The Foreland is a flat area that has been built up from the glacial deposits left millions of years ago. The area immediately surrounding the station is covered by a dense forest of spruce trees and other vegetation. There are also numerous lakes and ponds within short walking distance from the station. In back of the Yakutat Foreland lay the glacier covered Saint Elias Mountains which can be easily seen on a clear day. Among these is Mt. St. Elias which rises 18,009 feet above sea level.

When one hears mention of Alaska, it is usually thought of as bitterly cold and desolate, a place where heavy clothing is necessary year round. This is only partially true of the Yakutat area. The winters are characterized by moderate snowfall and temperatures ranging from ten degrees below zero to thirty or forty degrees above, the mean being in the mid-twenties. During spring time, the melting snow, aided by heavy rainfall, creates marshes in the woods.

Summers are relatively cool with temperatures in the fifties and sixties, rains are frequent. During this season the woods and flats turn into a panorama of green foliage and multi-colored wild flowers. With the onset of Fall, the days become shorter and cooler with much of the vegetation changing from green to brown before the winter snow.

The population of the City of Yakutat varies from three hundred to a summer high of seven hundred. The civilian populace includes; Alaska Natives, Federal Aviation Authority and Weather Bureau families, and a few others employed by a local logging company. A focal point of local activity is the Yakutat Airport which houses the Federal Aviation Authority, Weather Bureau, two airlines, and the Yakutat Lodge. The lodge includes living accommodations, restaurant, and bar. Charter aircraft are also available. The Coast Guard is the only military organization in the area.

II. OPERATIONS

Ocean Cape is a double-pulsed, master Loran A Station with slave stations at Biorka Island and Spruce Cape (Kodiak Island) Alaska. This net provides loran coverage for the entire Gulf of Alaska on the 1L6 and 1L7 rates.

Communications gear consists of one AN/URC 34 transceiver, teletype equipment, and commercial telephone. Also included are three PRC/59 transceivers for station use. The teletype net gives the station direct communications with major Coast Guard installations in Alaska as well as with all other loran stations. Though long-distance rates are high for personal calls, it is possible to reach any point in the U.S. by telephone.

Presently, Coast Guard Law Enforcement activities in the Yakutat area are rather limited. However, a continuing increase in boating activity in Yakutat may require more law enforcement action in the near future.

Participation in Coast Guard Search and Rescue activities is usually limited to communications relay work and initial reporting of an

incident. Requests for Coast Guard assistance are usually received during the busier summer season. Ocean Cape has an allowance for three vehicles; two (2) 3/4 ton passenger pick-up trucks, including one, 4-wheel drive Power Wagon, and one one and a half ton stake truck. The boat allowance is filled by a plastic 16 foot outboard motor boat.

III. PERSONNEL

The station has an allowance of 13 men with the following rank and rates; One commissioned Officer, four electronic technicians, two enginemen, one fireman, one damage controllman, one commissaryman, one hospitalman, and two seamen. Besides carrying out duties normally assigned their ratings, all personnel below E-6 stand loran watches. The Chief Electronics Technician is also the Executive Officer.

The training and education program is an important part of the routine at Ocean Cape, and crewmembers are encouraged to participate in Coast Guard and USAFI Correspondence Courses. Every effort is made to qualify both rated and non-rated for advancement.

Medical facilities in the Yakutat area are limited and the unit hospitalman is the only trained person available. As would be expected, the corpsman is the one often called upon to render emergency first-aid in the area.

Ocean Cape is the perfect station for the outdoorsman. For the hunter and camera bug, there is an abundance of wild game including moose, bear (Alaska Brown, black, and glacier), deer, otter, fox, wolf, seal, ducks, and geese in the immediate area. For the fisherman, Yakutat Bay and the many rivers and streams in the area provide a wide variety of fish including all varieties of Pacific salmon, dolly varden trout, halibut, rainbow, steelhead, cutthroat trout, and crab.

For the hiker and camper, the area provides a northern rain forest, the ideal setting one would desire. Travelling around the Yakutat area is made considerably easier by some 400 miles of dirt roads that were cleared during World War II. The station outboard motorboat is also available for trips in the area. Indoor recreational activities center about the "rec deck". This is a spacious room containing a new pocket-billiard table, ping pong table, stereo phonograph, radio, soft-cushion chairs, and the station library. There are a relatively large number of books available, most of which are fictional. Ocean Cape is also a user of the Alaska State Library, which provides its services by mail. Movies are shown on the Rec Deck, which are generally considered the main recreational event of the day. In addition a large number of parlor games are available. In addition, there is also radio amateur gear on board. It consists of modern equipment, i.e. single side-band, enabling one to communicate with virtually anyplace in the world. It is also considered the emergency radio gear aboard. Mail service at Ocean Cape is excellent. There is at least one scheduled northbound and southbound flight a day, often times more. Personal items can be purchased from the Kodiak Navy Exchange through the Coast Guard Air Station at Kodiak. The two stores in Yakutat also stock toilet articles and other items.

IV. ENGINEERING

Ocean Cape provides its own power for loran and other station requirements. Electricity is generated by one of three GM6-71 electric sets. The three sets permit the use of one as the operating generator, one on immediate standby, and one down for maintenance.

Routine maintenance and minor repairs are effected by unit personnel. The generators, rated at 100kw, provide 120/208 volts which is fed through an auto-transformer.

The station heating system utilizes waste heat from the generator cooling system and a boiler that operates on demand. This system, with some modification is also used to heat the domestic water.

The actual heating system is a circulating hot water type with individual thermostatic control throughout the station. Larger spaces, such as the vehicle garage, have individual space heaters.

Fuel oil is stored in four, 10,000 gallon underground tanks located outside, adjacent to the engine room. By means of a transfer pump, fuel is then pumped into the two day tanks inside of the engine room. These provide for a approximately 12-14 hours of running time. In the event that the storage tanks become contaminated etc., the transfer pump can be utilized to strip the tank for subsequent fuel disposal.

Gasoline is stored in one 3000 gallon tank adjacent to the driveway.

Fresh water at Ocean Cape is obtained from a shallow well a few yards in back of the building. One of two pumps feeds it into an inside storage tank. While passing into the storage tank, the water is automatically chlorinated by a midget Chloro-Feeder. The potable water is also used to maintain the level in a 10,000 gallon storage tank used for firefighting. In the event that the fire alarm is sounded, the fire pump is automatically activated and draws upon this source.

Sewage disposal is accomplished by use of a septic tank. Periodic cleaning of sewer lines and tank will ensure reliable service.

The station's buildings are of standard quonset design. Two large buildings, one housing the barracks, galley and recreation room, and

one containing the engine room and loran spaces are interconnected by a short passageway. A smaller, third building is used as a storage area.

The station's living areas are comfortable and well-equipped. Personnel bunk two to a room with the exception of senior petty officers who have their own rooms. Adequate stowage is provided for personal gear. Laundry facilities are good and include two washers and dryers. Although there are no dry cleaning facilities available in the Yakutat area, suitable arrangements can be made with the Kodiak Air Station.

Damage Control at Ocean Cape is concerned primarily with fire prevention and control, and building maintenance and repair. The Damage Controlman is in fact the First Lieutenant of the station and the immediate supervisor of the aforementioned activities.

V. COMPTROLLER

Ocean Cape commissary stores are replenished every two weeks by Coast Guard aircraft from Kodiak, Alaska. All foodstuffs including fresh fruit and vegetables are available. The Commanding Officer is also Commissary Officer and is responsible for the local administration, including reports, of the commissary. With one or two exceptions, all supplies for Ocean Cape are ordered directly by the station utilizing MILSTRIP. These are prepared by the hospitalman under the supervision of the Commanding Officer, (Supply Officer). It would be worthwhile for the new CO and hospitalman to learn as much as possible about MILSTRIP procedures prior to reporting aboard. The Supply Officer is the administrator of the station allocation, which provides for unit-controlled funding of routine supplies, and fuel and lube oil. The fuel and lube oil is procured from the local Standard Oil distributor.

Pay and allowances are administered by the Seventeenth Coast Guard District Office, in Juneau. Although paychecks are received at Ocean Cape there are no banking facilities in Yakutat and arrangements should be made prior to arrival. Transportation of persons and supplies is no problem at Ocean Cape. In addition to the commercial airlines and Coast Guard log flights, Coast Guard buoy tenders periodically stop at Ocean Cape for discharge of heavy and/or dangerous cargo.

VI. ADMINISTRATION

It should be noted the hospitalman functions as office manager, and as such, carries out the duties of a yeoman and storekeeper in addition to his medical responsibilities. Reasonable typing skill and a knowledge of the "basics" will simplify the job.

Personnel safety is the responsibility of the Commanding Officer. There is a unit safety board comprised of leading petty officers which discusses specific problem areas and ideas for accident prevention. In addition, a safety "check" is made every week in conjunction with the material inspection.

VII. HINTS FOR NEW COs AND CREWS

The mailing address for personnel assigned the station is:

NAME
U. S. Coast Guard Loran Station Ocean Cape
Yakutat, Alaska 99689

Any inquiries should be addressed to the Commanding Officer. There is a post office in Yakutat with full postal services so there is no difficulty in obtaining stamps, postcards etc.,. The station telephone can be used occasionally for personal long-distance calls. The number is 784-3210. Telegrams can be sent

commercially and are handled through the Yakutat Commercial Co.,
When appropriate, Class E messages can be sent in care of the
Commander, Thirteenth Coast Guard District.
There is no government family housing available at Yakutat for
Coast Guard personnel, and Ocean Cape is classified as a restricted
station.
Since Alaska prices are rather high, it is more economical to bring
whatever extra clothing and sports items that are desired. The
following items have been found popular:

- a. Boots, leather or rubber, insulated are best (the station provides hip-length arctics).
- b. Fishing gear, heavy duty.
- c. Rifle, pistol, or shotgun. Ammunition for popular calibers is available through the exchange.
- d. Camera, (film available).
- e. Civilian clothing, primarily for outdoor wear.

The only personnel briefed in the Seventeenth Coast Guard District
Office are the Commanding Officer and the hospitalman. The new CO
will be given a brief orientation trip through the various offices.
Since this will be his only opportunity to discuss station problems
face to face with District personnel, the outgoing CO will keep his
relief informed of current problems that may be discussed during the
orientation period.

The incoming hospitalman stops in Juneau for a briefing on current
medical problems and procedures. He is also briefly indoctrinated
on general MILSTRIP procedures.

Although Ocean Cape is a restricted station, it is located in one
of the last wilderness areas of the United States. The tour of duty
is, surprising to many, interesting and different.

APPENDIX I

EMERGENCY BILL

<u>BILLET NUMBER</u>	<u>RANK/RATE</u>	<u>FIRE BILLET</u>	<u>NBC WAREFARE DEFENSE</u>	<u>FIRE RESCUE & SEARCH PARTY</u>
CO	LTJG	IN CHARGE	IN CHARGE	IN CHARGE
101	ETC	Relieve loran watch/ call FAA fire truck	Secure loran area/ in charge of station	In charge of station
102	ET2	Set fire boundaries	Relieve loran watch	Provide foam & proportioner
103	ET3	Nozzleman Nr.1 hose/ Dry chemical	Communications/ Assists 102	Relieve loran watch
104	ET3	Nozzleman Nr.2 hose/ Dry chemical	Assist 101	Assist 103
201	EN1	Scene leader	Relieve engineroom watch/ secure power except to reefer and loran	Driver/Provide emergency FM Set and lights
202	EN2	Relieve engineroom watch/ secure power to area/ start fire pump	Prepare vehicles for evacuation/Assist 201	Relieve engine- room watch
203	DC2	Provide OBA/Provide DC Kit	In charge/Secure station/close all openings	Driver/Provide OBA/DC Kit/FM Set
204	FNEN	Assist 201/Provide DC Kit	Assist 203	Provide length of hose with applicator
301	CS1	OBA line tender/ Dry chemical	Store food in reefer/Provide food for evacuation	Provide P-60 & equipment
302	HM1	First Aid Kit/Set fire boundaries	Issue sheets/ dosimeters/ First Aid Kit	F/A Kit and Blankets
303	SN	Assist 103/Provide CO2	Assist 301	Assist 301
304	SN	Assist 104/Provide battle lanterns	Assist 203	Assist 301
401	EX	As directed	As directed	As directed

APPENDIX II

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. MONTHLY REPORTS:

1. Loran Charts
2. Loran Operations Report
3. Communications Summary
4. Engineroom Logs
5. Chlorine Residual
6. Rotation Request
7. Report of Medical Relief
8. Commissary
9. Student Progress Report
10. Personnel Roster
11. Movie Attendance Report
12. Personnel Diary
13. Supply Allocation Ledger OPLAN (Annex Q)
14. Movie Report Cards From I&E Books
15. Unit Personnel Roster

B. QUARTERLY REPORTS:

1. Report Loran-A Performance
2. Cost Reduction Report

C. SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS:

1. Report of Title B Inventory
2. Records on Hand
3. Recreation Gear Inventory

D. ANNUAL REPORTS:

1. Small Arms & Ammo
2. Small Boat
3. Alaska Patrol
4. Small Arms Training

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