

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Chief of Staff *JM 8/14*  
Via : Chief, Operations Division

DATE: 13 August 1973

FROM : LT R. E. Harrington Jr.

SUBJECT: Trip Report

## Spruce Cape - Visited 9 July 1973 1100 - 1400

Clean, well maintained, high morale, efficient.  
New Officer-in-Charge aboard.

No problems that were mentioned.

*P* | Haircuts needed, uniforms in poor shape (work) for a few crewmembers.  
Officer & CPO personnel at CG Base Kodiak indicate a willingness to issue reminders regarding these deficiencies.

Station experienced a commercial power failure during visit - power restored in just over 2 minutes.

*P* | Two enlisted men have aspirations of applying for OCS as soon as promotions to E-5 are made. A very enthusiastic crew.

## Sitkinak - Visited 9 July 1973 to 11 July 1973

*f* | Arrived in Cessna 185 on floats - landing in 20+ kts gusting. Crew lack-  
adasical about helping to load or unload airplane - SS departing on mid-  
tour leave. No firm arrangements for replacement cook during his absence,  
although EM1 Jarina is an ex-steward and could no doubt do the cooking  
chores well. Dinner open galley - fend for yourself. Many hairstyles among  
*P* | junior men unacceptable by COMDT's standards. Not just a little long, but  
shaggy - over ears, chopped off at collar-level, over eyes etc. SS leaving  
not quite as bad, but neither was he acceptable. Discussed this at some  
length with the CO, whose idea is that a certain amount of permissivness  
*Disagree* | promotes harmony. (Why is this so?) One crewmember has recently received  
NJP over failure to get a haircut when so ordered by a SR Petty Officer.  
Believe NJP has been ineffective since the three dispensed under present  
CO have resulted in (1) dismissal and (2) 90 day suspended punishments  
with one 14 day extra duty award being executed. (Horseplay resulting  
in off-air-on 3 June 73).

*ecv* | Generator problems exist on one generator - the one that will not idle  
without manual override of the low lube oil pressure, high water temp  
auto shut down group. Believe ECV assistance indicated. EN div personnel  
have experience and initiative but no formal CAT 397 training. Generators  
are started only by EN ratings and there have been no power failure drills  
held.

Pointed out to CO the necessity for all hands to respond to power failures  
and recommended he hold a power failure drill at the time of each weekly  
generator change.



di | Observed fire drill held and noticed there are no CG approved hard hats with DC gear, all the present hats are aluminum cap style. Recommended this be corrected immediately, since any fire might be in the vicinity of very high power sources. There are no foam pick up tubes on the station allowance. Class B fires necessitate carrying a foam can with the No. 1 hose. Recommended consideration be given to allowance change request.

ccv | There is an extreme need for additional lighting in many areas. The mess deck in particular is dark, gloomy and uninviting. There is a work order for installation of lighting aboard, pending. The bulk of the work is to be accomplished by station personnel under the supervision of Base Ketchikan personnel.

ccv | There are several minor roof leaks that require attention, as previously reported in an inspection report by Commanding Officer, Base Ketchikan.

P | The district personnel division is commendably providing some overlapping replacements for crewmember rotation. Pre-training for the ENC or ENL in Caterpillar 397 maintenance and one in refrigeration-air conditioning is considered the minimum standard for engineering ratings. This is truly an isolated station and must be as self-sufficient as possible. The pre-trained technicians cannot furnish reliable loran without reliable power production.

Held request mast with four crewmembers attending:

HM2 Moss was concerned about no response to his March 73 request for an early discharge to attend pre-medical school. (P) advised by separate memo.

P | Two crewmembers expressed concern about morale in general, consistence in observance of regulations and grooming standards in particular. My personal intepretation of their complaints is a lack of definite understanding on the duties and responsibilities of many crewmembers. This lack of crew cohesivness was noted throughout my visit. The evening movie was the only occasion for a large number of the crew getting together.

P | The other crewmember told of irritating harrassment by another non-rated man. After counseling and inquiring into the degree of the harrassment, he believed he could "take it" until rotation. He had presented this problem to the CO who talked and advised him in a like manner.

di | In conclusion, I believe this station should be visited more frequently (at least every six months) until the attainment of acceptable morale standards and organization efficiency.

*R. E. Harrington*  
R. E. HARRINGTON JR.

Encl: CO CG LORSTA Sitkinak memo of 10 July 73