

Memorandum

(di)

5040

DATE: 11 February 1983

SUBJECT: LORSTA Yap; inspection of

FROM: District Inspector

TO: District Commander

Via: Chief of Staff

1. LORSTA Yap was inspected 31 January - 1 February 1983 and was evaluated as EXCELLENT overall. Electronic engineering/LORAN operation was evaluated at an earlier date and adjudged to be OUTSTANDING. Specific sub-evaluations are contained in enclosure (1) with the exception of e/e-LORAN ops which were:

Departmental Administration	- OUTSTANDING
ERPAL	- EXCELLENT
Test Equipment	- EXCELLENT
Training	- OUTSTANDING
LORAN Timing equipment	- OUTSTANDING
LORAN Transmitters	- EXCELLENT
Communications Equipment	- OUTSTANDING

2. I was not surprised to find that the material condition of this station was still in the outstanding state we found it in last April. I was impressed with the OUTSTANDING appearance presented to me at personnel inspection. This brings home the point that if Yap can do it, despite their logistical handicaps, any unit can do it! The CO (LT ELLIS) seems to have settled into command and has more direct involvement in his unit than he had in the past.

3. The unit has adequate morale gear and does not appear to need anything in particular. As has always been true of this unit, the quality of food was excellent and contributes to the high morale of assigned personnel. I noticed a couple of the rooms I inspected were bright blue and suggested that the CO push lighter colors. One room had a suspicious odor (and candles) which I pointed out to the CO for a close watch.

4. Of special note was the OUTSTANDING material condition of the generator room in the power building. It was clean enough to eat off of (no, I didn't try it). The grounds were also maintained in immaculate condition. This is one big advantage of having the local hires. I was particularly pleased to note the fine workmanship in the asbestos re-wrap project completed last fall. They still need material to complete the elbow, however, I have no doubt that they will complete the task in a professional manner.

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5. I spent quite a bit of time with request/complaint mast. Five people came to see me, four of which complained that the ET staff was working 12-13 hour days (with no let up) over an extended period of time. Apparently, they lost two ET's, without replacement, due to C.P. close down. I told them to give the new watchstanding system a chance to shakedown and then see if the work hours are reduced. At the present time, they are installing the DESLOT system, so they are turning and burning. One man wants to withdraw his contributions to the VEAP but needed guidance. (I asked MARSEC to forward the appropriate forms with instructions). He is the same individual who hopes not to be the first one who does not receive command sponsorship for the transportation of his Yapese wife to his next duty station. MARSEC and the district have asked for Commandant determination on the policy. I agree that these individuals should put in a full accompanied tour of two years or else pay for the ticket. Both the ETC and the MKC were displeased with the level of supply support received. This matter was discussed with MARSEC who is aware of continuing problems with the USAF log flight. CAPT SCHAEFER is also looking into it.

6. I was very disappointed with the results of two "attempted" fire drills. The first was simulated to be in the generator room and the Yapese present didn't know what was happening. When an MK3 came on the scene, he was unable to alert the rest of the station to the fire. Another drill was attempted in the barracks building a short while later and none of the alarms worked. Repairs were effected that day, but I have little confidence in their response system. I tasked them to work out an alert system that would be fail safe.

7. The unit CO expressed concern over the ET workload and the impending loss of his BMC (without replacement). The unit is in the process of carefully documenting their workload over an extended period, and will be in a position to substantiate any requests for additional personnel.

8. The hospitality and cooperation extended by the unit were excellent and they received the critique in a positive manner. They even permitted the (di) volleyball team (old folks) to thrash the station team.


J. R. COSTELLO

Encl: (1) Rating sheet.