



10553
18 JUL 1965
Serial: 32235

From: Commander, Fourteen Coast Guard District
To: Commandant (OAN)

Subj: Conditions at loran stations; comments concerning¹

Ref: (a) Western Inspector's ltr 10500 of 26 Feb 1965
(b) COMDT(OAN-3) ltr of 23 March 1965

1. I share the concern of the former Western Inspector over conditions on our Loran-A stations. His letter accurately describes the most serious problem area which arises from the fact that many men report to loran stations with no prior loran training and no idea of what loran actually is. Loran watchstanders should have an understanding of the principles and procedures of watchstanding at their own station.

2. I agree that traveling instructors would aid in solving our problem. I recommend the following additional ET billets be assigned to this district:

a. One E-7 or E-8 and one E-6. Both men filling these billets would be most useful if they had loran A/C experience and training, although loran experience, whether loran A or C will suffice. These men will be used to inspect stations and to provide training to personnel at those stations whose maintenance and operation indicates such a need. They will also prepare guidelines and standards for use by loran stations in their own on-station training program. Thus on-station training will be improved at the Western Inspector's and my goal will be met at a cost commensurate with the results obtainable.

3. The closing of the Inspector's offices has resulted in increasing the inspection load of the District Commander's staff inasmuch as the Area Commanders presently only propose to carry out a readiness inspection program on search and rescue units. This district, operating 24 loran stations, is particularly faced with a heavy loran station inspection burden. The two billets requested in paragraph 2 above will provide personnel of the proper training and background to form an inspection team and fill this need, as well as having the capacity of providing needed on-station training where such is found necessary.

/s/ T. F. Epley
T. F. EPLEY
Chief of Staff

¹ Transcribe from original located in NARA Washington, D.C.