

## Change of Command Script

ET1 Bunting: Master of Ceremonies

15 minutes prior: MK1 musters crew.

10 minutes prior: ET1 has crew fall in; dresses the line; then place the crew at Parade Rest.

5 minutes prior: Official Party forms. Chaplain Chapman takes place in front of his seat in the Official Party seating area.

(Bold print is material to be read during ceremony.)

### ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY

[ET1]

**Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen.**

**Welcome to the Change of Command for U.S. Coast Guard LORAN Station Havre. We are glad you are here this morning for this time honored ceremony in which Chief Petty Officer Brinkmeyer will be relieved by Chief Petty Officer Ruch as the Officer in Charge of Coast Guard LORAN Station Havre. The Change of Command Ceremony formally restates to the officers and crew the continuity of authority of command. The occasion ensures that all hands know of the shift in authority, and that a duly authorized officer is placed in charge.**

**Deeply rooted in U.S. Coast Guard history, this formal ritual is unique among the armed forces and publicly underscores the distinctive nature of command in the U.S. Coast Guard. It signifies the total transfer of responsibility, authority and accountability for the command.**

**It marks the end of a segment of the command's history, but most importantly, it signals a new beginning – a new opportunity for even greater achievements in the future.**

[ET1] **Station's Company, Attention. Will the guests please rise and remain standing through the invocation.**

[ET1] **Chief Petty Officer Ruch, arriving.**

[ET1] **LORAN Station Havre arriving.**

[ET1] **Thirteenth District, Prevention, arriving.**

[ET1] **Ladies and Gentlemen, our National Anthem.**

[Play "National Anthem"]

[ET1] **Chaplain Chapman will now offer the invocation.**

*Chaplain Chapman will approach the podium & offer his invocation.  
Following the invocation he will return to his seat.*

[ET1] **Will the guests please be seated. Station's Company, Parade Rest.**

[ET1] **Ladies and Gentlemen, CAPT William Devereaux, Thirteenth District Prevention.**

*CAPT Devereaux makes his remarks. When CAPT Devereaux is ready to read ETC's award, bring Station's company to attention*

[ET1] **Station's Company, Attention.**

*ETI reads award for CAPT Devereaux. At conclusion of award, bring Station's company to Parade rest.*

[ET1] **Station's Company, Parade Rest**

[ET1] **Ladies and Gentlemen, Chief Petty Officer Craig Brinkmeyer, Officer in Charge, Coast Guard LORAN Station Havre will now make his farewell remarks and read his orders.**

*ETC Brinkmeyer makes farewell remarks.*

[ETC B] **I will now read my orders.**

[ET1] **Station's Company, Attention.**

[] CPO Brinkmeyer reads his orders

*ETC Brinkmeyer reads his orders. Afterwhich, he moves to the side of the podium.*

[ET1] **Ladies and Gentlemen, Chief Petty Officer Rebecca Ruch, will now read her orders.**

*ETC Ruch reads her orders. Afterwhich, she move to the side of the podium.*

#### CHANGE OF COMMAND

CAPT Devereaux will rise and stand a few feet back from the podium and centered on the podium. ETC Ruch will oblique towards CAPT Devereaux, salute, and request permission to relieve.

[ETC R] **Sir, I request permission to relieve Chief Petty Officer Brinkmeyer as Officer in Charge, LORAN Station Havre.**

[D13(p)] *Return salute.* **Carry out the relief.**

[ETC R] *Oblique to ETC Brinkmeyer, salute,* **I offer my relief.**

[ETC B] *Face ETC Ruch, salute,* **Very well, I stand relieved.**

[ETC R] *Oblique to CAPT Devereaux, salute,* **Sir, I have properly relieved Chief Brinkmeyer as LORAN Station Havre.**

[ETC B] *Oblique to CAPT Devereaux, salute,* **Sir, I have been properly relieved by Chief Ruch.**

[D13(p)] *Return salutes.* **Very well.**



[ET1] **Station's Company, Parade Rest. CAPT Devereaux will now present Chief Brinkmeyer with his retirement certificates.**

*ETC Ruch returns to seat. ET1 reads certificate for CAPT Devereaux. Chief Brinkmeyer will make final retirement remarks. After which, ETC Brinkmeyer sits, ETC Ruch will rise and approach podium.*

[ET1] **Ladies and Gentlemen, LORAN Station Havre.**

[ETC R] *ETC Ruch will make remarks and finishes with:*

**All standing orders, directive, and procedures remain in effect. ET1 take charge and dismiss the crew.**

[ET1] **Aye, aye, Chief. Will the guests please rise as Chaplain Chapman offers the Benediction and remain standing until the Official party departs. Station's Company; Attention.**

*Chaplain Chapman renders the benediction and then returns standing in front of his seat.*

*"Semper Paratus" is played and the official party departs.*

[ET1] **Thirteenth District, Prevention, departing.**

[ET1] **Chief Petty Officer Brinkmeyer, departing.**

[ET1] **LORAN Station Havre departing.**

*5-10 seconds after the Official party departs, the music volume is lowered.*

[ET1] **This concludes our Change of Command. Station's company; dismissed.**

Thank you Petty Officer Bunting. Good Morning.

It really is a pleasure to get out of the cubicle filled Federal Building of Seattle and come to Big Sky country to officiate this change of command and retirement ceremony. There are not too many folks, even within the CG that know we have Coasties guarding the coast of Havre, MT. I have been lucky enough to get out here 3 or 4 times in my career and have really enjoyed working with the various OinC over the years. Whether it was seeing Havre boldly displayed on the weather channel as the coldest spot in the country on any given winter day or getting the daily rattlesnake count out at the front door of the station on any given summer day, LORSTA Havre is simply just somewhere different from where most CG members ever get to experience. In the course of working in the office of Aids to Navigation from 1996 to 2000 I was awarded by a departing OinC with the coveted LORSTA HAVRE excellent support medal, an award that I am not actually authorized to ever wear. But if there ever was a time and place in which I would be authorized to wear it, it would be here today. So I will assume that the current OinC LORSTA HAVRE will authorize me to wear it for the rest of the ceremony and dutifully remind all active duty members visiting Havre today of the old adage that "What happens in Havre, stays in Havre!"

Long Range Aid to Navigation signals radically improved the ability of vessels and aircraft to navigate. From early LORAN days of trying to line up signal pictures to figure out where you are, to now, where you get a number that you can interpolate to a line of position on a chart, LORAN has fit the bill for the movement of commerce. My Dad was a CG LT working as a project officer building one of the early versions of a LORAN Station in Thailand during the Vietnam War. I used LORAN sailing the waters around the Hawaiian island chains and throughout the waters of Alaska. But for the last 10 years, the LORAN program has been on the verge of being decommissioned. GPS and Differential GPS has taken over much of the business due to the amazing accuracy they provide. However, DGPS has not reached every where and it turns out that it can easily be electronically jammed. So LORAN remains an important piece of the National navigation system.

I don't even pretend to know how it works. I do know that it has something to do with a precisely timed signal being sent out. When your LORAN unit on the ship receives it, it notes the difference between the time it was sent and the time it was received. By knowing how fast the signal travels, you



know how far away you are from the tower. Do this for several towers and you have a three distances that cross into a navigational position. When I say precisely timed signal, these technicians deal with increments of nanoseconds – that is a billionth of a second. So <sup>LOPAN</sup> these folks tell their spouses and kids <sup>when they are called</sup> that “they will be there in a billion nanoseconds”. They know the world record in the 100 meter as just over 9 billion nanoseconds. There is a lot of high tech equipment to take care of and these folks do it exceptionally well.

So we are here first to say farewell and congratulations on a fine career to Chief Craig Brinkmeyer.

No one ever gets it exactly right on the first try, as so it was with Chief, deciding to join the Navy, entering from Houston, TX in August of 1982. Which just happens to be the same summer I got to do my entry level push-ups and floor mopping at the Coast Guard Academy. The price of gas in 1982 was \$1.28. <sup>1981</sup> So what this means is that you, along with me chief, are officially “old”. After six years of service (and not a day more!), he left the Navy (having served aboard the USS Enterprise) and went back to Texas. He soon saw the error of his ways and joined the CG in July of 1989,

entering from Dallas, TX. He traveled the world with the CG, predominately as a LORSTA crew member in far way places from Italy to Kodiak to Florida to Minnesota to Montana. He did serve aboard one buoy tender (the Acacia) so that immediately brings him up in standing with me. In all of these travels I was surprised that he had no duty stations in TX. Chief told me that he has been trying to get to Texas his whole career. Not many people join the military service from Texas so that they can see Texas, but there you go – somebody did.

There is a quote in the movie A River Runs Through It that says:

**“I am in love with Montana . . . Montana seems to me to be what a small boy would think Texas is like from hearing Texans.**

So perhaps Chief Brinkmeyer got something better than Texas, a CG station in Montana! Congratulations Chief on a job well done and an outstanding Navy and CG career. If you will join me at the podium I will now formally recognize your work here at LORSTA HAVRE.

PRESENT AWARD





# UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT  
THE COMMANDANT OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
HAS AWARDED THE  
**COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL**

TO  
**CRAIG C. BRINKMEYER**  
CHIEF ELECTRONIC'S TECHNICIAN  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
FOR

**SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE FROM JULY 2007 TO JULY 2008**

GIVEN THIS **19th** DAY OF **May 2008**



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Devereaux", is written over a horizontal line.

For the Commandant,  
**W. T. DEVEREAUX**  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Prevention, 13<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District

**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE COAST GUARD ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL**

**TO**

**CRAIG C. BRINKMEYER**

**ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN CHIEF**

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Chief Petty Officer BRINKMEYER is cited for superior performance of duty while serving as Officer-in-Charge Long Range Aid to Navigation Station HAVRE, Thirteenth Coast Guard District from July 2007 to July 2008. Demonstrating exceptional technical expertise, he led the station to two consecutive operational performance awards for ninety-nine percent signal transmission. Chief Petty Officer BRINKMEYER's crew was able to maintain signal with only eleven minutes of off-air time, a direct result of his innate command of technical publications, electronic systems and casualty procedures. Long Range Aid to Navigation Station HAVRE's transmitter tower lights were repaired as a result of his superior coordination and cooperation with Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit Oakland and Long Range Aid to Navigation Stations Gillette and Fallon. Chief Petty Officer Brinkmeyer diligently tracked progress of a severe housing discrepancy, ensuring sufficient repairs to the facility, and minimizing the impact to the member's family. Chief Petty Officer BRINKMEYER's diligence, perseverance, and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.



Finally, Chief Ruch, welcome to you and your family – husband Darren Hansen, son Calvin, and those other family members who were able to join you today (Diane Silva, Debbie Davis, other?). I am quite pleased that you come to us from another buoy tender (CGC Willow). You can tell that I am an Aids to Navigation guy. The Navigation Center and 13<sup>th</sup> CG District stands by to help you maintain an excellent readiness condition here at Havre. Admiral Currier, the 13<sup>th</sup> District Commander's emphasis is Operational Excellence and watching out for your shipmates and crew. Please feel free to call us if you need any help from us cubicle dwellers in Seattle.

It is indeed an honor to be here today and I wish you all a great day. Thank you.



**CPO BRINKMEYER'S ORDERS**

**FROM: COMMANDER, COAST GUARD  
PERSONNEL COMMAND  
WASHINGTON, DC**

**TO: OFFICER IN CHARGE, USCG  
LORAN STATION HAVRE, MT**

**SUBJECT: ORDERS; NEW ASSIGNMENT,  
CPO CRAIG C. BRINKMEYER  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

**UPON RELIEF AS OFFICER IN CHARGE, USCG LORAN  
STATION HAVRE, MT. PROCEED AND RETIRE.**

[www.loran-history.info](http://www.loran-history.info)

**CPO RUCH'S ORDERS**

**FROM: COMMANDER, COAST GUARD  
PERSONNEL COMMAND  
WASHINGTON, DC**

**TO: COMMANDING OFFICER, USCG  
CGC WILLOW  
NEWPORT, RI**

**SUBJECT: ORDERS; NEW ASSIGNMENT,  
CPO REBECCA L. RUCH  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

- 1. UPON DEPARTURE, PROCEED AND REPORT TO  
COAST GUARD LORAN STATION HAVRE, MT FOR  
ASSIGNMENT TO DUTY, AS OFFICER IN CHARGE.**

# CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

FOR SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES

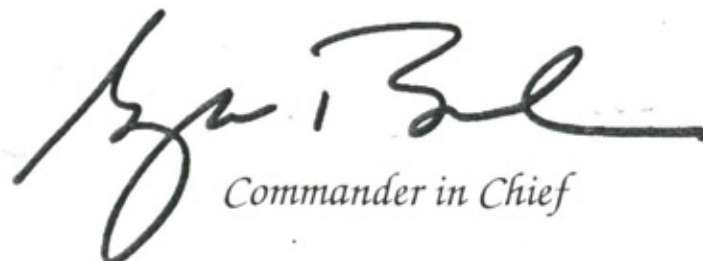
CHIEF ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

CRAIG C. BRINKMEYER

*I extend to you my personal thanks and the sincere appreciation of a grateful nation for your contribution of honorable service to our country. You have helped maintain the security of the nation during a critical time in its history with a devotion to duty and a spirit of sacrifice in keeping with the proud traditions of military service.*

*Your commitment and dedication have been an inspiration for those who will follow in your footsteps, and for all Americans who join me today in saluting you for a job extremely "well done."*

*My best wishes to you for happiness and success in the future.*

  
Commander in Chief







# CERTIFICATE OF RETIREMENT

FROM THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETINGS:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

**CHIEF ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN  
CRAIG C. BRINKMEYER**

HAVING BEEN RETIRED AFTER HONORABLE SERVICE

IN THE

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

IS AWARDED THIS TESTIMONIAL AS AN

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DUTY FAITHFULLY PERFORMED

DURING A PERIOD OF OVER 25 YEARS

DONE AT WASHINGTON, DC THIS FIRST DAY

OF SEPTEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thad W. Allen", written over a horizontal line.

THAD W. ALLEN  
ADMIRAL, U.S. COAST GUARD  
COMMANDANT

**ETC Ruch remarks**

**CAPT Devereaux, invited guests, my family and friends, welcome.**

**I wish to thank you all for coming today. Additionally I would like to thank Chief Brinkmeyer and the Crew of LORAN Station Havre for the superb job they have done in preparing for today's ceremony, and to wish Chief "Fair Winds and Following Seas" as he takes on a new voyage in life.**

**I look forward to leading LORAN Station Havre into the future of Radio navigation and timing.**

**To the crew of LORAN STATION Havre "All standing orders, directives, policies and procedures remain in effect." Petty Officer Bunting, take charge and dismiss the crew.**