

# LORAN MONITOR STATION SARDINA

## 1967 STATION INFORMATION BOOK

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by the LHI Team

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# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**LORAN MONITOR STATION**

**SARDINIA**



**COMMANDER  
COAST GUARD ACTIVITIES EUROPE  
LONDON, ENGLAND**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
U.S. COAST GUARD**



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Address reply to:

Commander  
Coast Guard  
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N.Y., 09510

1 July 1967

LETTER OF PROMULGATION

1. This publication was written for the general enlightenment of interested personnel and to provide relevant information for Commanding Officers and Liaison Officers or enlisted men preparing for assignment to this Loran station.
2. In addition to operational and military responsibilities particular to this station, information of a more general nature is included. Men assigned to this station must adjust to native customs and attitudes. A picture is given of the people unique to this area, the topography of the surrounding country, the prevailing climatic conditions and the available recreational facilities. Familiarization with these aspects will enable the prospective relief to prepare himself for his new surroundings.
3. This publication was compiled from information submitted by men actually engaged in active duty on the Loran station. Very few alterations have been necessary, and perhaps one of the values of this publication is to be gained through the tone and manner of expression of the author, who, in many cases, is found to be interesting, informative and imaginative. The insights offered are based on first-hand experience and should prove valuable to an American living in a foreign country.
4. It is requested that errors and omissions noted, as well as suggestions for improvement, be addressed to Commander, Coast Guard Activities, Europe, Box 50, FPO, New York, N.Y., 09510.

R. E. HAMMOND

CAPTAIN, U.S. COAST GUARD

COMMANDER, COAST GUARD ACTIVITIES, EUROPE

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LORAN MONITOR STATION SARDINIA  
CAGLIARI, SARDINIA, ITALY

Chapter I - General Information

Sardinia is an Italian island in the Mediterranean approximately 100 miles west of the mainland of Italy. The island is second in size among all of the islands of the Mediterranean; Sicily being the largest.

Sardinia is about 166 miles long from north to south and has an area of approximately 9,196 square miles.

Sardinia is divided into a northern province of Sassari and a southern province of Cagliari. The two chief cities bear these same names with Cagliari the Capital of the Island.

The Loran Monitoring Station Sardinia is located in the city of Cagliari which has a population of about 149,000.

The climate of the Cagliari area is closely related to that of Southern Florida with respect to the seasonal temperatures. The summer (June to September) is very dry followed by the rainy season from October to January. Normally the winter is very mild with only a few days of freezing temperatures and this occurs only in the early morning hours.

Corsica, a French island, which lies nine miles from the northern tip of Sardinia and across the Strait of Bonifacio, is the nearest body of land to Sardinia. There are local ferries to Corsica daily making it fairly easy to visit this island.

## Sardinia

### Chapter II - Operations

The primary mission at LMS Sardinia is to monitor and control MIKE - ZULU INTERVALS on Rate C-300. Cross-Rate monitoring of MIKE - ZULU INTERVALS on Rate C-300 is one secondary mission.

As the control station for MIKE - ZULU INTERVALS, LMS Sardinia is the Pair Operations Control Officer (POCO) for these respective intervals and assumes the duties such as in accordance with Appendix C to CG-222.

Communications between LMS Sardinia and all other Mediterranean Section Units is maintained by utilizing the SSB Radio-Telephone with Radio Station Naples as the Net Control.

In the event that a unit has traffic, with a precedence higher than routine, after Radio Station Naples secures (From 2000Z to 0700Z), this unit will relay the traffic to Commander Mediterranean Section via landline.

## Sardinia

### Chapter III - Personnel

The normal tour of duty at LMS Sardinia is twenty-four (24) months for married men and eighteen (18) months for single men.

Rotation requests are submitted to the Commander Mediterranean Section six (6) months prior to date of rotation in cases of ET's and five (5) months prior to date of rotation for all other rates.

The following list contains the authorized complement for this unit:

- 1 - C-1000
- 1 - ET1
- 1 - ET2
- 2 - ET3
- 1 - EM2
- 3 - SN
- 1 - PN

Compensatory absence is not authorized for this unit.

Emergency leave is granted in accordance with current Commandant Instructions and is subject, by the Commander Mediterranean Section, of pertinent information from the American Red Cross. Travel at Government expense, priority two (2) Certified, is authorized from this unit to the continental U. S. Upon completion of emergency leave, you report to the CG, Base St. George, Staten Island, New York for transportation.

CG personnel and their dependents are provided medical treatment, excluding dental work, by the RCAF medical facilities and local English speaking doctors. Dental treatment is available through local RCAF and civilian dentists. Personnel requiring extensive dental treatment are sent TAD to Naples to have the required work performed by all dental officers.

Various recreational facilities are available through the RCAF. These are the Maple Leaf Club which has a snack bar, a bar, a lending library, and which sponsors three movies a week. Various dances, a softball team, and a swimming and skin diving club are also sponsored by the Maple Leaf Club. Additionally the station is surrounded by excellent beaches and skin diving areas.

## Sardinia

### Chapter IV - Engineering

For monitor purposes the station has three AM/GPK-29 receivers and associated AM/GPK-9 recorders. SSB communications are maintained with two AM/URT-17 transmitters and two R-840/UPR receivers and CV-591/UMI SSB converters. General test equipment is maintained at the station with specialized test equipment held at the section office which is available as needed.

The station provides it's own electrical power. The power plant consists of two Caterpillar D-311 diesel engines which have a KW or KVA rated output of 25 KVA each. The engine/generators each have Swan Electric Switchboards which regulate the power that is supplied to the stations three electrical distribution boxes.

Diesel fuel is supplied quarterly by the local ESSO distributor and stored in the station's 5,400 gallon capacity tanks. Water is supplied locally with the station maintaining a 5,700 gallon emergency storage tank.



## Naples

### Chapter V - Comptroller

The Canadian Community Center operates a station grocery store and all US personnel and their dependents are privileged to utilize this store. Operated on a limited inventory, this store is a commissary similar to those operated by US Forces, but on a much smaller scale. The store inventory includes a limited supply of fresh milk, frozen meat and bread which is flown in from the U. S. Army Commissary at Camp Darby, Livorno, Italy. Due to the limited supply these items are not always available at which time the local economy is utilized.

Personnel pay records are maintained by the U. S. NAISUPPORT facilities in Naples and pay checks are mailed to this unit every two weeks.

Personnel are authorized to use civilian clothing to and from the station.

Transportation is primarily by private owned vehicle, however there is a local bus service which runs within one half of a mile from the station.

The station vehicle is used for a morning and evening liberty run to the Bandiera community where the majority of COMUSMACV personnel reside.

The station receives its daily ration supply direct from the 1st Air Detachment in Naples, who receive the necessary supplies from COMEDSEC.

The station is authorized a Class A Limited Imprest Fund to be utilized for buying needed supplies off the economy.

## Sardinia

### Chapter VI - Administration

The services of the mayor, city officials and police forces are always available to the Coast Guard. They have been quite helpful in the past on any important civil problems that have been encountered by the Coast Guard.

Liason is maintained with the Italian Navy, which is very prominent in Sardinia, and the Royal Canadian Air Force, which is attached to the NATO Air Base, Decimomannu, which is located just outside of the city of Cagliari.

Alitalia

Station VII - Loran Monitor Station, Sardinia

If you have been fortunate enough to have been assigned to the Loran Monitor Station, Sardinia, Italy, you will find that you have drawn one of the best assignments in the Coast Guard. There are, of course, some difficulties that will arise, but these are, basically the same as you would encounter in any change of duty assignment.

Though one can travel to the station and live in the area for his tour of duty without being able to speak any Italian, your stay will be much more pleasant and you will make a much better impression if you pick up an Italian Phrase Book and learn a few words of the language. If possible, ship household goods well in advance, allow one to two months enroute.

Apartment type housing is available in the local area. Numerous apartments are completely furnished. If you are married and have children it would be advisable to bring your own refrigerator and range as the ones furnished are normally too small for family use. The range should be gas type due to the high cost of Electricity. The Range should have burners adjusted for bottle gas.

If your household furnishings exceed six rooms you should write the Commanding Officer of the station for information concerning the availability of large unfurnished apartments prior to shipment of your household goods.

At present this unit has four seats in the RCAF elementary school (kindergarten to 8th grade) which is run by Canadian Department of Defense contract teachers. If your children are of high school age they can board at the American Department of Defense High school at Dreux, France.

Traveling to the Loran Monitor Station, Sardinia will be quite simple. After being processed through the CG Base St. George on Porter Island, New York, you will normally fly TWA from the John F. Kennedy Airport in New York to Rome, Italy. At Rome you will switch to an Alitalia flight to Naples for processing. After checking in with the Commander, Mediterranean Section, you will fly Alitalia to Cagliari, Sardinia, via Rome, where a fellow Coast Guardsman will be waiting for you with transportation.

