

U.S. Department
of Transportation

**United States
Coast Guard**



Change of Command July 15, 1993

Coast Guard Loran C Station

— Attu Island —

The Ceremony

The Change of Command Ceremony is a time-honored tradition which formally restates to the crew of the command the continuity of command authority. It is a formal ritual conducted before the assembled company of the command. The Change of Command is nearly unique in the world today. It is the transfer of total responsibility from one individual to another.

The Program

Official Party Arrives*

National Anthem*

Invocation*

LT A.L. Andraeas, CHC, USNR

Personnel Inspection

Remarks

Rear Admiral Roger T. Rufe, Jr.
Commander
Seventeenth Coast Guard District
Juneau, Alaska

Remarks, Orders

CWO4 E.Eberwein

Orders, Remarks

CWO4 E. Baldwin

Benediction*

Official Party Departs

Reception

*Audience Standing

Chief Warrant Officer Elliott Baldwin

Chief Warrant Officer Elliott Baldwin enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1971. After attending Electronics Technician School and Telephone Technician School, Mr. Baldwin was assigned to various field units as a Telephone Technician before being commissioned as a Chief Warrant Officer in June 1984. Mr. Baldwin served as Staff Engineer for Support Center New York, New York; Senior Technical Officer at Loran Station St. Paul Island, Alaska; Loran Station Tok, Alaska; Loran Station Narrow Cape, Alaska; and Loran Station Malone, Florida.

Mr. Baldwin lives in Marianna, Florida with his wife, the former Amelia Rukovishnikoff of St. Paul Island, Alaska and two of thier three children, Erica and Robert. The third child, Spencer, resides in Staten Island, New York.

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Attu Island History

Loran-C Station Attu is part of the North Pacific Loran-C chain. Together, with the master station at St. Paul, it forms the M-X leg of the chain. Narrow Cape on Kodiak Island and Port Clarence are the other two secondary stations in "9990" chain.

The history of Loran operations on Attu goes back to 1943 when the first Loran-A station was built on Theodore Point. It's mission then was to provide electronic navigational support for the American air raids on Japanese soil and the Kurile Islands from the Aleutians.

Attu was the scene of one of America's bloodiest World War II battles. Today, only ruined buildings and fortifications remain as testament to the great battle. The Loran-A station was relocated to a permanent structure at Casco Cove in 1947.

In November 1960, the Coast Guard moved out of it's Casco Cove quarters and took up it's present position in the former Navy weather station on Mässcre Bay, as part of the DOOR II program. This also included the installation of Loran-C equipment and a 625 foot tower. In July 1979, Loran-A service was officially discontinued. In February 1991, equipment was installed for the dual-rating of Loran Station Attu with the former U.S.S.R. Attu's 1960 vintage transmitters were turned off April 19, 1993. Two newly built transmitters were turned on April 20, 1993 to continue transmitting Loran signals from this isolated location.

Located at the end of the chain of the Aleutian Islands, Attu has always had the rightful distinction of being one of the most isolated installations in the United States. Both distance, and inhospitable weather can combine to make life very difficult.

