

HISTORICAL



COAST GUARD

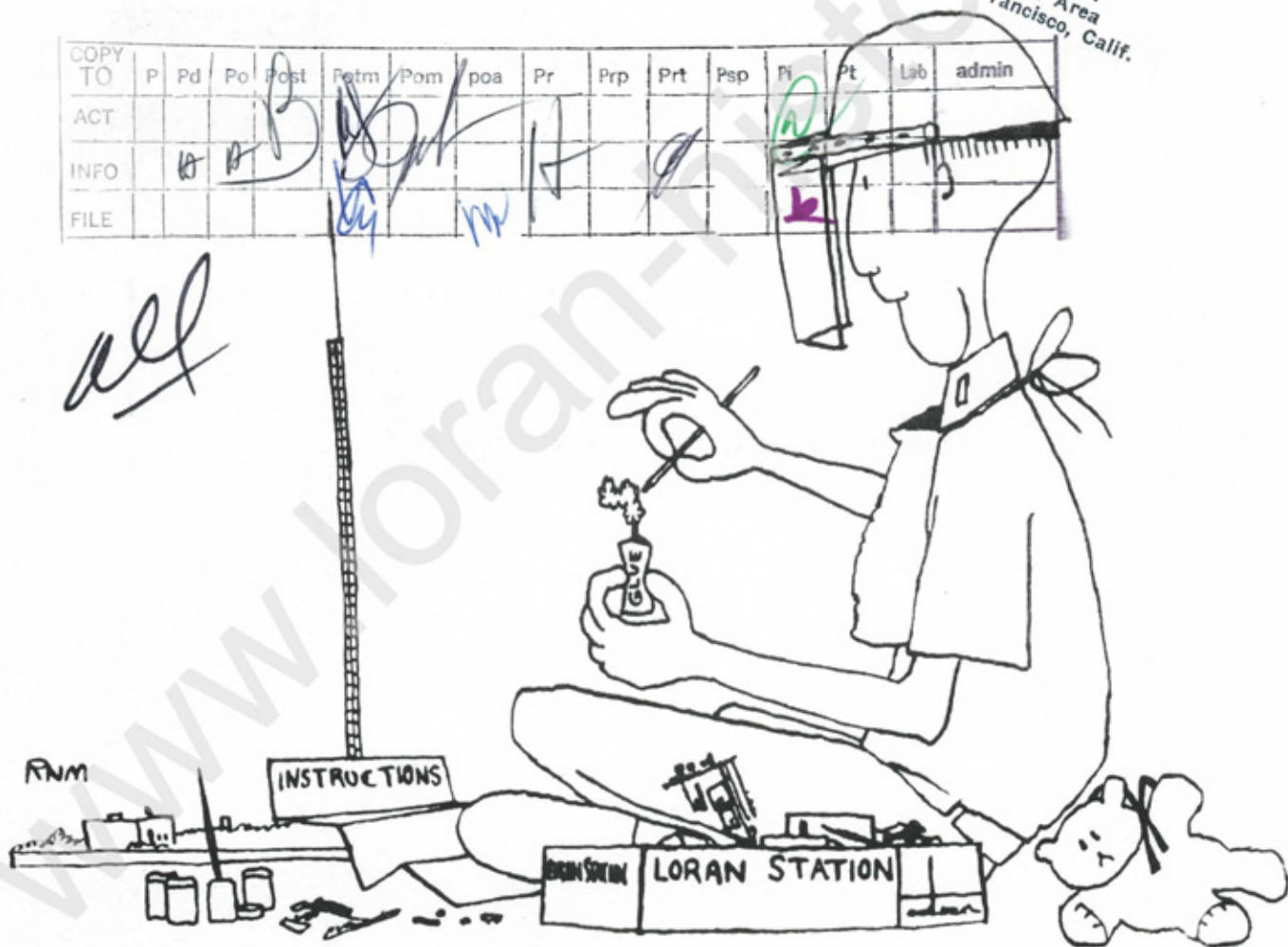
Commander
Pacific Area
Inspection Staff

Loran Station LAMPANG

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Commander
Pacific Area
San Francisco, Calif.

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General Information Book

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL INFORMATION

A. GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION: Lampang Loran Transmitting Station is located at 18°19' North latitude, 99°23' East longitude. The station is approximately 250 air miles NNW of Bangkok, Thailand, and 40 air miles SW of Chaing Mai, Thailand. It is 105 miles East from the Burma Border, 110 miles due West from the Laotian border, and 225 miles South of Communist China. The station is located near the center of what is roughly defined as Northwestern Thailand.

B. TOPOGRAPHY: Lampang is located in a semi-tropical plains region approximately 1000 feet above sea level. The area is surrounded by mountains which rise to a height of about 3000 feet. Most of the plains area is farm land with the principal crop being rice. The mountainous areas are primarily rain forests from which the hardwoods teak and dang, and other forest products are harvested.

C. WEATHER: June through October is the Monsoon season and rain can be expected four out of every seven days. It will rain only occasionally during the rest of the year. The average annual rainfall is approximately 50 inches. December, January, and February are considered the cool months with temperatures occasionally reaching the 90's during the day and falling to the low 50's during the night. The rest of the year average temperatures will range from 100 degrees in the daytime to the high 70's to low 80's at night.

D. LOCAL TOWNS:

1. Lampang (pronounced lŏm - pŏng): The city of Lampang is located approximately 12 miles southeast of the station. It is a city of about sixty thousand people in which can be found restaurants, one night club, hospitals, and a variety of stores. Many items for use at the station are purchased in Lampang, and if not available there the local merchants will order them from Bangkok with an expected delivery time of one week.

2. Hang Chat: The township of Hang Chat is located approximately 2 miles northwest of the station. Its population is approximately three thousand and used to have a reputation for being one of the thieves' dens of Thailand. Several persons from Hang Chat have been involved in thefts from the station. Relatively little commerce exists between station personnel and the merchants in Hang Chat.

3. Kokha Air Station: There is a small U. S. Air Force Station of approximately 250 personnel (military and civilian) located about

18 miles from the Loran Station. It provides the Coast Guard with mail, exchange, transportation, and medical support.

E. LOCAL POPULACE: The local people of the Lampang area are mainly Thai with many having ancestors from one or more of the following countries: Burma, Laos, or China. The vast majority have a fierce loyalty to their King and are proud of their country. They are anti-communist, but this does not necessarily mean they are anti-China. The Thai people are modest by nature and are not given to the public display of emotions. This does not mean that they are a stoic people, if anything the opposite would be closer to the truth. They have a rather low boiling point and once insulted or wronged (in their eyes) do not forget or forgive easily. Thais have a good sense of humor, however, and will often sit back and laugh at situations that would leave an occidental in a blind rage. Keeping your sense of humor will do much to make your tour an enjoyable one.

F. CUSTOMS: The Thai people do not expect you to know or follow all of their customs, but they do expect that you will respect them. Some of the more noticeable customs are:

1. Shoes are not worn inside Thai houses or in the Buddhist Temples (Wats). You may be told by your host that it is perfectly alright to leave your shoes on. Don't!!! Your thoughtfulness will be appreciated. A good idea is to wear a moccasin or slip-on type shoe so that they can be conveniently and inconspicuously removed.

2. The Thai people consider loud boisterous talk to be rude and impolite.

3. Thai people do not show affection in public. This applies to kissing, holding hands, and all other types of amorous conduct. There has been much criticism of American Servicemen for public displays of affection toward their Thai girlfriends.

4. Shaking of hands is not a Thai custom and will usually be encountered only among the more sophisticated people. The traditional form of greeting for the Thai is the 'wai', which represents respect, thanks, or apology. A person 'wais' by placing his hands together in a prayerful manner and lifting them to his face with the thumbs below the chin and the index fingers against the forehead. The head should be slightly bowed.

G. HEALTH: As an American you will be more susceptible to local disease causing germs than the Thais who have built up an immunity to these germs over the years. No one on the station has become very sick

from causes directly attributable to local public health standards, however, some precautions are in order. Do not drink water in homes that you are not sure of, i.e., village homes where water is drawn from shallow wells or a common village supply source. A good rule to remember is that when in doubt drink hot tea. Generally the vegetables grown in northern Thailand are chemically fertilized and are safe to eat, but raw vegetables should be dipped in a disinfectant solution and fruits peeled. Do not eat any form of raw seafood or any meat that is not cooked well done. Malaria is present in the Lampang area and anti-malaria pills must be taken weekly.

H. BANDITS (KAMOYS): One problem that has plagued all of Asia for centuries is banditry. This problem is no less in Thailand than in other parts of Asia. To date the local kamoys have attempted to stop station personnel several times when they were returning to the station at night in taxis or station vehicles. The kamoys have stolen approximately 31 miles of copper ground wire from the antenna field, however, theivry on the station has been mostly eliminated by the employment of a Thai guard force and other security measures. Although possession of firearms is illegal there are very few people in the area who do not own some kind of weapon. Hang Chat is the home of many gunsmiths who make crude pistols which range in size from 45 cal. to a type of single shot 12 gauge shot gun pistol similar to a real pistol.

I. WILD LIFE: Many types of snakes and insects can be seen around the station, unfortunately, most of the snakes and some of the insects are poisonous. The most common types of poisonous snakes found in Thailand are the Cobra, Banded Krait, Russel Viper, and the Bamboo Viper. The first three types have been found on the station in limited numbers. Scorpions and centipedes are also present.

J. DRIVING CONDITIONS: Driving conditions in the Lampang area are extremely hazardous. This stems from two things, first, you drive on the left hand side of the road and this makes your natural reactions just backwards. Second, local road conditions and the quality of drivers ranges from bad to terrible. If you can imagine everyone driving at flank speed using horns instead of brakes, and going both ways down narrow twisting one-way streets, then you have some idea of the driving conditions around the station.

CHAPTER II

OPERATIONS

A. AIDS TO NAVIGATION: The only aids to navigation mission of Lampang Loran Transmitting Station is its Loran-C. The station transmits a steady succession of multipulsed phase coded radio signals on Loran rate SH3-X and as such is a secondary station with its master located at Sattahip, Thailand. Together with the master station and secondary stations Yankee and Zulu, the station provides continuous, reliable and accurate navigation intelligence to all ships, aircraft, and other users in the Southeast Asia area. Loran transmissions are monitored by the System Area Monitor located at Udorn, Thailand.

B. COMMUNICATIONS: Lampang Loran Transmitting Station is part of the Southeast Asia Loran-C communications net. The net control officer is the Commanding Officer, Udorn Loran Monitor Station, and stations of the net are located at this station, Sattahip Loran Transmitting Station, Con Son Loran Transmitting Station, Tan My Loran Transmitting Station, Udorn Loran Monitor Station, and the Southeast Asia Section Office at Bangkok. All message traffic outside of the net must be addressed to COMSEASEC for action as they have the only means of transmitting these messages onward. A continuous communications watch is stood. The modes of communication available are:

1. Loran-C teletype.
2. Defense communications system teletype.
3. Radio teletype (single sideband).
4. Single sideband radio telephone.
5. Land-line telephone.

In addition to the Southeast Asia Loran-C communications net, the station runs a local net on VHF-FM equipment for communications with vehicles and the Thai Guard force.

C. VEHICLES: The station vehicle allowance is as follows:

1. One 3 ton 4x2 stake truck with hydraulic tail gate and winch, right hand drive.
2. Two 6 passenger 4x2 pickup truck, right hand drive.

3. One M-716 3/4 ton cargo truck, left hand drive.

Due to the conditions of the local roads vehicle maintenance is a constant problem and a very active safety program must be enforced to prevent accidents.

CHAPTER III

PERSONNEL

A. ALLOWANCE: The personnel allowance of Lampang Loran Transmitting Station is two officers and twenty-five enlisted men. Personnel are divided into three divisions, Operations, Engineering, and Supply. The following is a breakdown of the allowed ratings and the divisions to which they have been assigned:

Commanding Officer - LT

Electronics Material Officer - CW02 (ELC4)

OPERATIONS

ETC-1
ET1-1
ET2-3
ET3-3
SN/SA-4

ENGINEERING

MKC-1
EM1-1
DC1-1
MK2-1
MK3-2
FN-3

SUPPLY

HM1-1
SS1-1
SK2-1
SS3-1

The station also has an authorized civilian personnel allowance of the following indigenous personnel:

- 1 - Mess Cook
- 3 - Gardeners/Laborers
- 1 - Driver

In addition to the above personnel, the station crew generally employs five maids to do station personnel's laundry and barracks clean-up.

B. ADMINISTRATION OF PERSONNEL RECORDS: The Commanding Officer is the station personnel officer and as such handles the administration of all personnel records. The station maintains its own service records, but it is not, however, a personnel diary unit. Personnel diary entries for the unit are made by the Southeast Asia Section Office personnel. All necessary data for diary entries is sent to the Section by message. Administrative assistant to the Commanding Officer is a collateral duty of the station corpsman.

C. MEDICAL FACILITIES: Routine medical problems are handled by the station corpsman who has an adequate sickbay with all necessary equipment. Emergency medical treatment is available at Lampang Government Hospital. This hospital is also used by the station for diagnostic problems, but its facilities are not up to U. S. standards, and while

the doctors are competent they have not had the same quality training as U. S. doctors. The closest U. S. medical facility is located in Bangkok. Before commencing any treatment involving antibiotics or other major treatment Medico messages must be sent to the Section where they are routed to U. S. medical facilities. Recommended treatments in these areas made by local doctors must also be confirmed by Medico message. Kokha Air Station provides some medical assistance.

D. TRAINING AND EDUCATION: The station Electronics Material Officer is responsible for carrying out the station training program. A training board has been established which is responsible for carrying out a six month training program. The training program consists of both departmental and all hands training. The Commanding Officer is the station Education Officer and he handles all off-duty education programs. Only the normal correspondence courses are available for off-duty education because there are no off-base education facilities.

E. MORALE AND WELFARE:

1. Outdoor Recreation Facilities: The station has a combination tennis, volleyball, and badminton court, a basketball court, a baseball diamond, and a horseshoe pit for outdoor recreation. An outdoor swimming pool (25' x 50') is located on the station for use. The city of Lampang has a small 3-par golf course and other limited outdoor recreation facilities.

2. Indoor Recreation Facilities: The station has a pool table, ping pong table, hi-fi equipment, a darkroom, and a large supply of miscellaneous games for indoor recreation. In addition the station has a large library of paperback books. Five movies are received each week and one is shown each night at 1830. The city of Lampang has one night club and a coffee house/bar either of which may be utilized during liberty hours.

3. Mail: Mail is sent and received five times each week. Occasionally special logistics flights are sent to the station with supplies. The average time to receive air mail from the states is five days. Outgoing mail takes about five days to reach its destination after it leaves the station if it is sent air mail.

4. Exchange: Kokha Air Station has a small exchange. The next closest exchange is a small exchange in Chiang Mai about 55 road miles to the northwest. The closest large exchange is in Bangkok. The station does maintain, however, a small supply of necessities such

as soap, cigarettes, razor blade, stamps, etc. Additionally the station maintains a beer and soda mess for use during off duty hours.

F. THAI GUARDS: The station has Thai Security Guards assigned for station security. The guards are trained by the Thai Army and paid by the U. S. Government through the U. S. Military Assistance Command, Thailand (USMACTHAI). The guards are under the operational control of the station Commanding Officer, but under the administrative control of the Thai Army. They have their own barracks on the station and provide their own food. Thai Guard weapons are controlled by the station personnel, but are property of the Thai Government.

CHAPTER IV

ENGINEERING

A. GENERAL ENGINEERING:

1. Power Plant: The station power plant consists of four Caterpillar D379 diesel generator sets. The prime movers are V8 diesel engines rated at 550 HP each. Each generator is rated at 350 KW and all generators can be paralleled. The normal station load during peak hours is approximately 350 KW. This necessitates running two generators in parallel during the peak hours in order to reduce voltage fluctuations. The entire station load is held by one generator during off hours.
2. Electrical System: The station electrical system is 480 volts, 60 cycle, 3 phase, and 4 wire.
3. Damage Control: The station has no damage control organization as it is known on shipboard. The assigned Damage Controlman is a civil engineering representative, and with other engineering personnel performs most of the civil engineering tasks on the station. The damage control shop is well equipped with tools including a band saw, table saw, jointer, welder, portable generators, and many other small power tools.
4. Air Conditioning System: All station living spaces and electronic spaces are fully air conditioned. The presence of the large quantities of air conditioning equipment on the station make the presence of at least one person with Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (RAC) training an absolute necessity. Currently the MKC is required to have such training.
5. Fuel Oil System: The station fuel oil system consists of four (4) steel 45,000 gallon diesel oil storage tanks. The tanks are surrounded by a berm approximately five feet high in order to isolate them from the rest of the station in case of fire. Under normal conditions, with all fuel oil tanks topped off, the station carries enough fuel to last for approximately seven and a half months without refueling.
6. Refrigeration Systems: The station is equipped with two large externally powered walk-in refrigerators for commissary storage. One of these refrigerators is used as a freeze box and the other as a chill box. In addition the station is equipped with five other small refrigeration units.

7. Fresh Water System: The station is equipped with a very sophisticated potable water supply. The basic source is a 210 foot well of six inch diameter. Water is pumped from the well then Hypochlorinated (over chlorinated to such a state that it is undrinkable) and placed in one of two 25,000 gallon storage tanks. Upon demand the hypo-chlorinated is pumped from the storage tanks through a set of sand filters and a set of charcoal filters which remove the excess chlorine. The resulting product is supplied to the station from a small pressure tank. All well equipment, i.e., pumps, chlorinator, filters, etc., with the exception of the storage tanks, was provided as a completed system by Aquaneering Inc. of Cleveland, Ohio. The station well is rated at approximately 5.5 gallons per minute which is more than adequate for the normal usage of approximately 25,000 gallons per week.

8. Sewage System: The station sewage system consists of two septic tanks. Effluent is not disposed of in the normal manner of a leaching field, but rather uses an oxidation pond for disposal.

9. Buildings: The station consists of the following buildings:

a. Subsistence Building: Houses commissary spaces, galley, mess deck, recreation room, CPO quarters, and BOQ. Galley spaces are extremely modern and the general mess prepares meals that compare favorable with any small mess in the Coast Guard. The Commanding Officer's and Executive Officer's BOQ consists of a living room, kitchenette, head, and individual staterooms. The CPO quarters are similar to the BOQ except slightly smaller.

b. Bachelor Enlisted Quarters: The BEQ is immediately behind the subsistence building and is connected to it by a covered passageway. Enlisted men below E-7 are quartered here, two men to a room, with the exception of First Class Petty Officers who have individual rooms. The BEQ also contains the station sickbay.

c. Pump House: The station pump house contains all station water supply equipment.

d. Warehouse: A small warehouse has been constructed by station personnel to house items too large for GSK or Electronic storerooms.

e. Signal Power Building: The signal power building, as its name implies, contains all Loran equipment and power generating equipment. In addition it houses the Damage Control Shop, Maintenance Garage, Vehicle Garage, CO's Office, Executive Officer's Office, and the Electronic Storeroom.

f. Thai Guard Barracks: A small barracks near the station gate houses the Thai Security Guard personnel.

B. ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING: The following electronic equipment is present:

1. Loran Equipment:

a. AN/FPN-44 Transmitters

b. AN/FPN-46 Timers

2. Communications Equipment:

a. Defense Communications System (DCS) Teletype Farinon Pt-900 microwave.

b. SSB: Two crystal controlled transceivers, each used with a 1 KW linear amplifier.

c. Loran-C Teletype High Speed Comms or HSC: This chain uses the loran signal for teletype communications by the use of a synchronized receiver and phase modulator incorporated in the Timer Control Group (TCG).

d. TTY: The station has one each KSR-28, ASR-28, and ASR-28 with split keyboard and printer.

3. Antennas: The station has a 625 foot loran transmitting antenna, 44 foot fiberglass whip loran receiving antenna, two 35 foot aluminum whip antennas, a log periodic (3-30 MHZ) communication antenna, and a 4 foot parabolic microwave dish.

CHAPTER V

COMPTROLLER

A. COMMISSARY: The station Commanding Officer acts as Commissary Officer. Commissary supplies are received from the U. S. Army Commissary, 9th Logistical Command, located at Bangkok. The station submits its requisitions to COMSEASEC who processes them and arranges for transportation of the supplies to the station. Transportation is accomplished by logistics flight for frozen goods, and generally by truck for dry stores. The commissary at Bangkok is well stocked, the only items that are not available are fresh produce. Fresh produce is purchased by the station at the local market. Fresh (recombined) milk and dairy products which meet military specifications are purchased from commercial sources (Foremost Dairies) in Bangkok.

B. SUPPLY: The assigned storekeeper handles all station supply, both general supplies and electronic supplies. The station is designated a Class II Milstrip unit and as such can use milstrip priorities 2, 5, 12, and 18. Priority two requisitions take three to five days for delivery. Priority five requisitions take approximately two weeks for delivery, and priority twelve and eighteen requisitions take from two to six months.

C. PAY: The section Supply Clerk pays station personnel once each month usually during the last week of that month. Payment is in cash, U. S. dollars and/or Thai currency. Kokha Air Station can cash small personal checks.

D. FUEL AND LUBE OIL: All fuel, lube oil, and gasoline are received from local contractors. No delivery problems in these areas are normally encountered, however, it takes about two weeks between order and delivery for all POL products.

E. TRANSPORTATION: Transportation to Bangkok is performed by MAC or Commercial Air with the port of departure being San Francisco. Transportation to the station from Bangkok can be performed in one of two ways. First, there is a daily Thai Airways flight to Lampang on which personnel can be transported. Second, there are daily express trains to Lampang.

CHAPTER VI

ADMINISTRATION

- A. REPORTS AND LOGS: Each division on the station is required to insure that all required reports are submitted to the station Commanding Officer in time to be reviewed and submitted at the proper time. The normal reports required of small shore stations are required to be submitted by the station, for a detailed listing of these reports see The Directives and Publications Index, CG-236. The station maintains a current report check-off list to assist new personnel in the timely submission of reports. In addition the station maintains a Unit Log and a Machinery Log.
- B. OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: All correspondence pertaining to station operations must be routed through the Section Office. No correspondence should come into or go out of the station without Section knowledge.
- C. SAFETY: Station safety is a continuing responsibility of all station personnel. This is especially true in a forward area such as Lampang where help is a long way off and where unusual dangers are present. To insure safety on the station a local Safety Board has been established with the Electronics Material Officer as President and members from each division.
- D. FLAGS: Lampang Loran Transmitting Station is not officially a United States Base. All of the land on the station belongs to the Thai Government and the station is officially a Thai Military Base. As such, no flags, either U. S. or Thai are flown.

CHAPTER VII

HINTS FOR NEW CREW MEMBERS

A. MAILING ADDRESS: The official mailing address for the station is:

COMMANDING OFFICER
U. S. COAST GUARD LORAN STATION
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96245

B. STAMPS: Stamps are available on the station through the station beer and soda mess (Exchange), or at Kokha Air Station. Parcel post and other packages can be mailed through APO 96245 at Kokha Air Station.

C. CUSTOMS: All packages being mailed to the U. S. must have a customs sticker attached. Any jewelry sent must be insured. You are allowed to mail any gift to an address in the U. S. without paying any duty if the total value of the package is less than \$10 and no more than one package arrives at any one address on the same day.

D. CLOTHING:

1. Uniforms: Enlisted men below E-7 should have a complete sea-bag of military clothing, however, blues will be worn only if needed while in transit to or from Thailand. Officers and CPO's should also bring a complete uniform outfit but the same comment on blues applies to them as it does to those below E-7. One exception to a complete uniform outfit for officers is that dinner dress uniforms are definitely not required and most probably full dress white will not be worn so only one full dress white blouse need be carried. The uniform for all inspections for all hands is Tropical Dress White Long so adequate items for this uniform are an absolute necessity. The normal working uniforms are Tropical Khaki Long (Work) for Officers and CPO's, and dungarees for E-6 and below.

2. Civilian Clothing: A small civilian wardrobe is required for all personnel as liberty is granted only in civilian clothes. This wardrobe should consist of at least two or three pairs of slacks and some short sleeve sport shirts. Those people wanting to visit the better hotels and night clubs in Bangkok would be advised to bring a light summer suit, however, suits are not a necessity in Lampang. A light jacket is recommended for winter nights.

D. LAUNDRY FACILITIES: There are ample laundry facilities on board, and the station employs five maids who perform the washing. However

do not expect to see any of your clothes starched again until you return to the states. For this reason wash and wear clothes are recommended. Dry cleaning facilities are available at Lampang.

E. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Contrary to popular opinion your tour of Loran duty can be one of the most enjoyable of your Coast Guard career. Lampang Loran Transmitting Station is one of the newest, best equipped, and most enjoyable Loran Stations in the Coast Guard.

An excellent map of Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand showing the Lampang area can be purchased for \$1.00 plus 10¢ postage and handling from the National Geographic Society, Dept. 389, Washington, D.C. 20036.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION BILLS

DAILY ROUTINE BILL

<u>WORKDAY</u> <u>MON-FRI</u>	<u>HOLIDAY ROUTINE</u> <u>SAT-SUN-MON</u>	<u>EVOLUTION</u>
0615	0630	Call cooks & mess cooks
0700		Reveille
0715		Breakfast
	0730-1200	Brunch
0745	0745	Liberty of previous day expires
0755		Quarters
0800		Sick Call
	0800	Liberty granted
1000		Coffee break
	1000	Liberty vehicle de- parts for Lampang
1015		Secure from coffee break
1115		Secure from station work, dinner for watchstanders
1130		Dinner
1225		Test Emergency Alarms, Turn to station work
1230		Hold drills and instructions
	1300	Liberty vehicle de- parts for Lampang

WORKDAY
MON-FRI

HOLIDAY ROUTINE
SAT-SUN-HOL

EVOLUTIONS

1400

Coffee break

1415

Secure from coffee
break

1615

Secure from station
work

1630

1600

Supper

1730

1700

Liberty granted,
liberty vehicle de-
parts for Lampang

1830

1830

Movie

2300

2300

Lights out in berthing
area

