

743 RD AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON
CAMPION AFS, ALASKA



ALASKAN AIR COMMAND

Dear Campion Newcomer:

1. It is a pleasure to welcome you to Campion Air Force Station, home of the 743d Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron and the Campion NORAD Control Center.

2. We at Campion are proud of our station and dedicated to our mission of air defense. Although your tour of duty length is 12 months and you are separated from your loved ones, I know that you will find opportunity here for professional development and a source of satisfaction in a well done job. I hope you will share our challenges and accomplishments. There will be many opportunities for you to fulfill your professional as well as personal goals.

3. This pamphlet will acquaint you with Campion and its facilities. During your tour, I hope you will take advantage of the activities available to you.

Commander

1. INTRODUCTION: A.

HISTORY:

The outbreak of hostilities in Korea prompted the immediate requirements for a forward fighter-interceptor field and an Aircraft Control and Warning Station, Construction on this station started on 25 June 1950 and the station became fully operational on 1 July 1952. This station is named for First Lieutenant Alan Campion, Radar Observer, who lost his life in an F-94 accident near the Campion station on 26 November 1950. The station has been called 142d ACW Squadron and Galena 2; however, to avoid confusion with Galena Air Base, a forward fighter base, the 11th Air Division proposed the name Campion Air Force Station; USAF provided the redesignation in April 1954.

B. SQUADRON INSIGNIA:

Depicted on the cover of this pamphlet is the Squadron insignia. The words NOLI ME TANG ERE mean do not touch me or do not tread on me.

C. BACKGROUND AND MISSION:

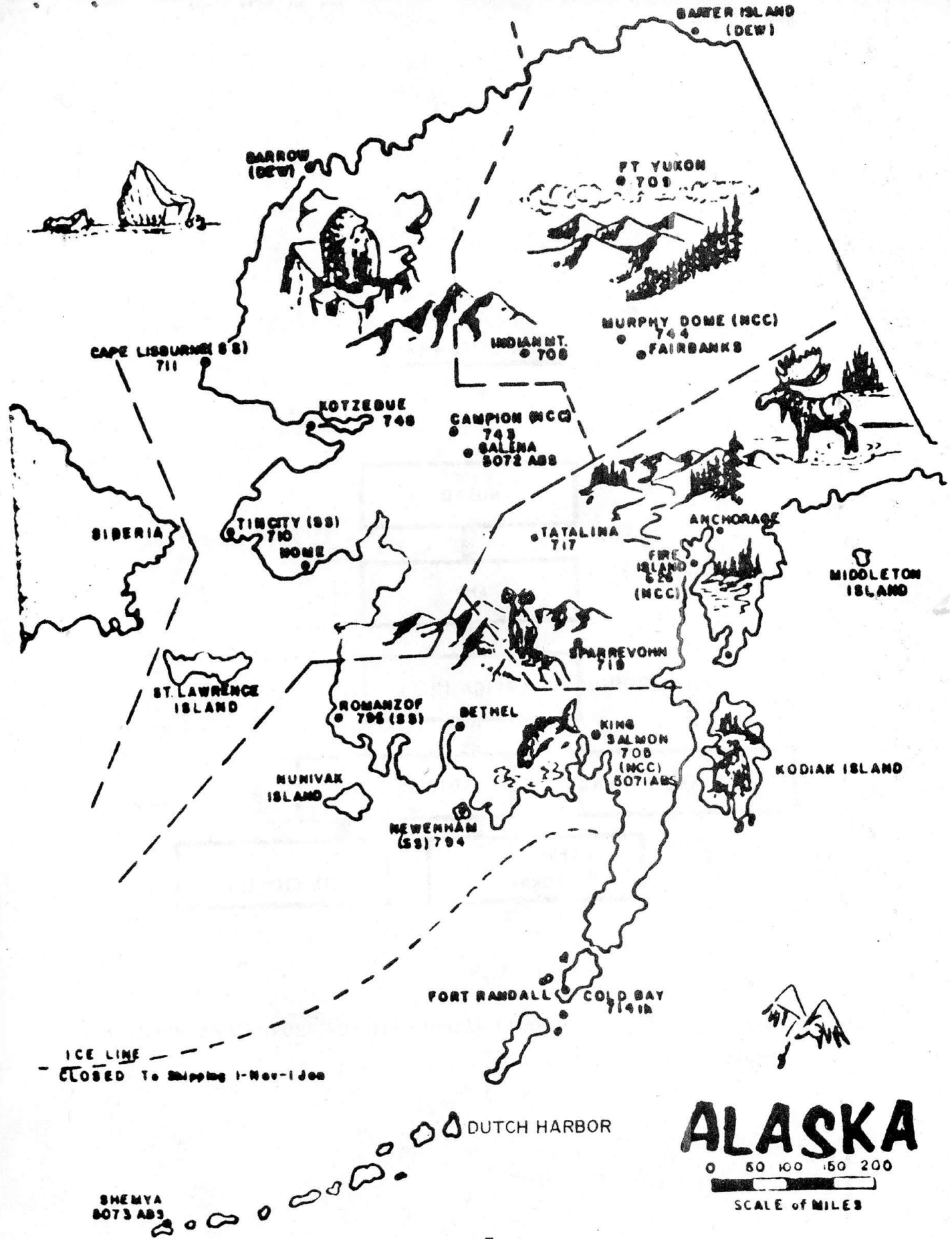
The 743d Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron is one of several similar squadrons within the Alaskan Air Command. These stations guard the Alaskan perimeter in support of the air defense of the North American continent. Campion performs the functions of a NORAD Control Center. There are four centers in the Alaskan NORAD Region.

The mission of the Campion NORAD Control Center is to maintain effective air surveillance, provide rapid identification of all air traffic and coordinate the employment of air defense weapons within its area of responsibility. (See map of Alaska). It exercises operational control over its subordinate Direction Center (Kotzebue), and Surveillance Stations (Cape Lisburne and Tin City) and coordinates with adjacent NCCs to insure continuity of action and effective weapons employment. The 743d ACW Squadron is responsible for custody maintenance of all station property and equipment, administration, logistical support, and training of all personnel, both military and civilian.

II. ENVIRONMENT: A.

LOCATION:

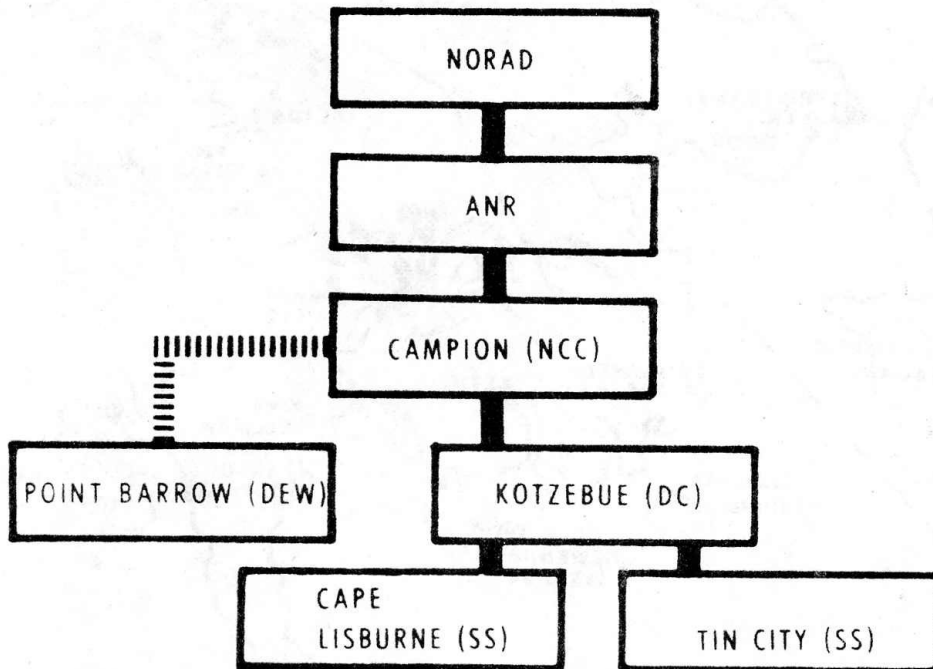
Campion Air Force Station is located 9 miles east of the village of Galena and Galena Air Base, We are situated on the North bank of the Yukon River. It is about 240 miles due west of Fairbanks, Alaska, and approximately 100 miles south of the Arctic Circle. The village of Galena is home for approximately 250 Alaskan Indians.



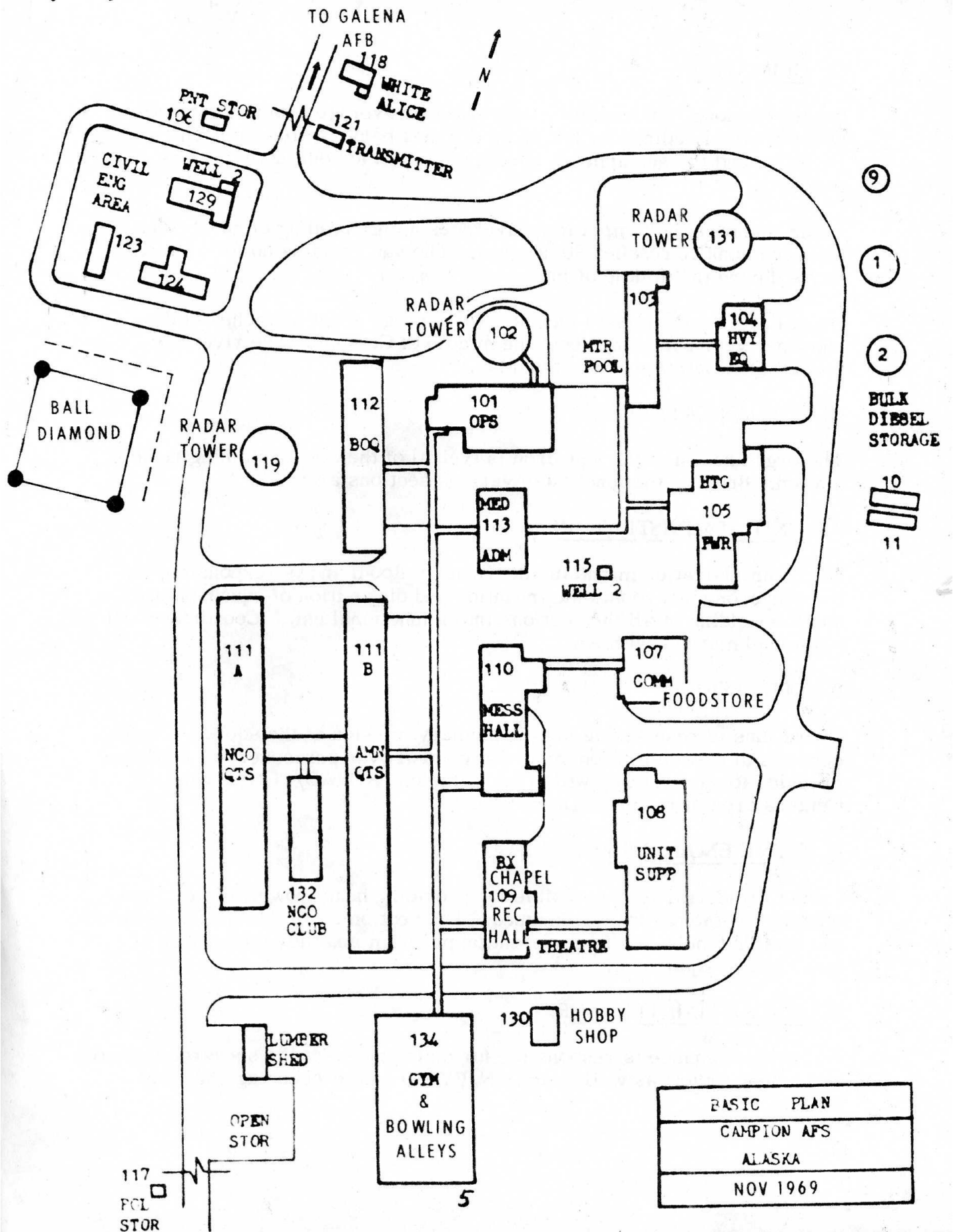
ICE LINE
 - CLOSED To Shipping 1-Nov-1 Dec

ALASKA
 0 50 100 150 200
 SCALE OF MILES

CHAIN OF COMMAND



■■■■■■■■ POINT BARROW OPERATIONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING SURVEILLANCE INFORMATION TO THE NCC.



B. CLIMATE:

During the long, dark winters temperatures average around 20 degrees below zero. Readings as low as 55 degrees below zero have been recorded and the sun appears over the horizon for only 2 or 3 hours each day.

In the summer the temperature averages a high reading of 68 degrees and occasionally reaches 90 degrees. The sun remains up for 21 to 22 hours during the middle of June.

Annual precipitation is 19 inches. We average about 55 inches of dry snow per year beginning about the middle of October. The river ice breaks up in late April or early May.

III. ORGANIZATION:

The organization of the squadron is typical of the self-sustaining remote station. Briefly, the function of various sections are:

A. UNIT ADMINISTRATION:

Unit Administration maintains the Orderly Room and is responsible for the squadron mail room, the initiation and disposition of squadron orders, and the welding of all the sections into a functional unit. Coordinates all personnel matters with AAC.

B. OPERATIONS:

Operations is responsible for the primary mission of the squadron, which consists of exercising command and control over personnel and facilities provided for air defense within the Campion, NORAD/CONAD Control Centers area of responsibility.

C. CIVIL ENGINEERING:

Civil Engineering is responsible for providing heat, power, water, and housing for the personnel assigned. The section is also responsible for the establishment of a fire prevention program and the maintenance of fire fighting equipment.

D. RADAR MAINTENANCE:

Radar Maintenance is responsible for maintenance of the squadron's search and height radars as well as the AN/FYQ-9 data processing and display system.

F. SUPPLY:

Supply is responsible for the maintenance of unit property records and the storage of equipment and supplies. The section provides overall support to the other sections in providing the equipment necessary to perform their duties. Annual resupply of subsistence items occurs during the summer months with delivery by power barge on the Yukon River. This resupply procedure is referred to as COOL BARGE.

F. FOOD SERVICE:

Food Service is responsible for the procurement, preparation, and serving of adequate and appetizing meals in the squadron dining hall.

G. TRANSPORTATION:

Transportation maintains and operates assigned motor vehicles.

H. DETACHMENT 1, 1930TH COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON:

Detachment 1. 1930th Communications Squadron operates and maintains the station message center, the AFRS rebroadcasting equipment, the AUTODIN terminal, and provides and maintains the tactical teletype equipment and ground/air radios.

L. DISPENSARY:

A medical corpsman is assigned and provides medical services within his capacity. He has available a 24 hour direct wire consultation service from Elmendorf AFB Hospital. Emergency air evacuation service is provided by helicopter, and an emergency air evacuation aircraft is on 24 hour standby. A dentist is scheduled to visit the station every 6 months to perform examination and minor dental work. You are urged to have all necessary dental work completed prior to departing your present duty-station.

IV. FACILITIES:

A. BUILDINGS:

See map of station. Nearly all buildings are interconnected by enclosed heated hallways. Only Operations is air-conditioned.

B. OFFICER QUARTERS:

Assigned officers have individual rooms in a separate BOQ/VOQ wing. One latrine with shower is available for each two rooms. As much as possible, shift-working officers are separated from day-working officers. A lounge is located in the middle and provides facilities for TV viewing, music listening, and reading. Certain civilians share the officer facilities. Kitchen and laundry facilities are provided. A washer and dryer in addition to irons are also available.

C. AIRMAN DORMITORIES:

Separate wings house airmen and NCOs. As much as possible, only two airmen are assigned to a room. Chief Master Sergeants, Senior Master Sergeants, and Master Sergeants are quartered in single rooms. If facilities permit, Technical Sergeants and Staff Sergeants may be assigned single rooms. Centralized latrines and showers are provided. Certain civilians are quartered in the NCO wing. Separate lounges are provided for airmen and NCOs.

D. RELIGIOUS SERVICES:

A small chapel is available on station. Each month a Catholic and a Protestant Chaplain visit the station for about a week. They conduct services and interviews. They are available for counseling. Your religious needs are not overlooked.

E. POSTAL SERVICES:

Each individual is assigned a combination lock mail box. Mail arrives within 2 to 5 days, "Air Mail", from the continental United States. The Unit Mail Clerk may purchase money orders and stamps for you from the Galena US Post Office. Mail arrives by aircraft 6 days a week. To insure proper addressing, the following format should be used:

GRADE, NAME, SERVICE NUMBER 743 ACW
SQUADRON, BOX _____
APO SEATTLE 98703

F. LAUNDRY AND TAILOR SHOP:

Dry cleaning facilities are not available at this station. Dry cleaning may be done at Elmendorf. The clothing must be mailed or hand carried by TDY personnel. Approximately 2 weeks delay is encountered. Several airmen operate a laundry service at nominal cost. Items of clothing are completed in 3 or 4 days. It is recommended that you bring wash and wear clothing. Washers and dryers are available for individual use without cost. Individuals must furnish their own detergent and bleach. A small tailor shop is operated by airmen to handle minor sewing and alterations.

G. BASE EXCHANGE:

A small but adequate base exchange is provided. Special orders may be submitted for items not normally available. Toilet articles and other sundry items are available. The BX is open 6 days a week at specified hours. The exchange offers clothing, cameras, radios, phonographs, tape recorders, typewriters, clocks, irons, magazines, cards, etc.

H. BARBER SHOP:

The barber shop is operated by squadron personnel. It is open nightly Monday through Saturday, and the charges are nominal.

I. EDUCATION:

Personnel have the opportunity to enroll in USAFI and ECI courses. College level courses are offered under the auspices of the University of Alaska. Qualified instructors from the squadron are selected to conduct the courses offered. Courses offered are dependent upon qualified personnel assigned.

J. DINING HALL:

Breakfast, dinner, and supper are served Monday through Friday, On Saturday and Sunday only two meals are served. The dining facility is not fancy, but the meals are nutritious. Fresh vegetables and fruits are airlifted to us.

V. RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

A, NCQ OPEN MESS:

An NCO Open Mess/Club is available on station. They operate the only package alcoholic beverage store on station. It provides excellent service for members and associate members. The NCO Open Mess also operates a snack bar. Sandwiches, pizzas, and soft drinks are sold.

B. RECREATION HALL:

The recreation hall provides ping-pong tables and pool tables for use of all personnel assigned.

C. GYMNASIUM AND BOWLING ALLEY:

The gymnasium is standard basketball length with markings for badminton and volleyball. It is an excellent place for physical activities. Sports activities may be planned such as the squadron basketball league. The bowling alley is equipped with semi-automatic pin setters. League activity flourishes especially during the long winter months.

D. HOBBY SHOP:

Lapidary and leather craft are available for personnel, ladies handbags, purses, and semi-precious stone jewelry may be made. We have an adequately equipped photo lab and darkroom for the shutterbug. Individuals may develop their own film and print their own pictures. Enlargers and other equipment are provided.

E. LIBRARY:

We have a well-stocked library, over 2,000 volumes, with wide selections of books and magazines. New books and magazines are received monthly, it is ideal for the bookworm.

F. THEATER, ALASKAN FORCES RADIO NETWORK AND TV:

Five movies are shown a week. The films are fairly recent and admission is only 25 cents. Alaskan Forces Radio Network provides news, music, and other programs on the radio. This is the only radio station which may be heard clearly at this station. TV is also provided by AFRN and is picked up by Campion through the Galena AF Station. The programs are usually "canned" and are about 6 months old. Most sports programs are fairly current, normally 2 weeks old. Only one channel is in existence.

G. HUNTING AND FISHING:

Breaking up of ice on the Yukon River signifies the start of the fishing season. The Northern Pike, Grayling, Chub Salmon, and Shee fish (large type of white fish) in the Yukon River sloughs and adjacent streams provide a challenge for the angler. Squadron owned boats are available for use. The hunting in this area is limited. Black bear and moose are seen in random sightings. Ducks, geese, and rabbits are fairly plentiful during the respective seasons. License information and requirements are available at this station.

H. MARS AND HAM STATION:

We have a MARS station and a HAM station (KLTFBC) with phone patch capability.

VI. OTHER INFORMATION:

A. UNIFORM:

You will be required to wear the Shade 1505 uniform or the Fatigue uniform for normal duties. Officers and airmen can anticipate periods of TDY at Elmendorf AFB, so should be prepared to use their blue uniform. Officers should have at least one civilian suit appropriate for evening wear.

B. EMERGENCY LEAVES:

Emergencies which require your presence at home are handled through the American Red Cross at Elmendorf AFB. If your family needs you during an emergency, have them contact the Red Cross in your home town. Decisions are made based upon the urgent need of your presence. We hope that it will not be necessary to use this means during your tour.

C. ARRIVAL IN ALASKA:

A representative from the personnel section will meet airmen upon their arrival in Alaska. Officers will be met by a representative of the respective career field of assignment at Headquarters AAC. Normally your processing through Elmendorf will require 7 days. A training and indoctrination program is established for newly arrived personnel. Arctic clothing will be issued during the processing.

D. ARRIVAL AT CAMPION:

A sponsor will be assigned you to help in processing into the station. Your incoming clearance will be initiated in the Orderly Room. We hope that this tour will be a productive one for you and the Air Force.

E. ORDINARY LEAVE: .

Ordinary leaves and passes are authorized Campion personnel. You may apply for ordinary leave after 60 days on station, or after becoming combat ready, whichever is later. Certain other limitations apply, but arrangements can usually be made to afford all personnel a leave at some time during their tour.