DATE: 12 OCT 1983

memorandum

REPLY TO ATTN OF: BMCS T.M. CRAMER

SUBJECT: Lights, Block Island, Visitation of:

TO: Chief, Aids to Navigation Branch

1. Thursday 25 August 1983, myself and LTJG MACK (ecv) arrived at Block Island to visit, inspect and conduct training at the lights and lighthouses on Block Island. Below is a critique on each Light/Lighthouse visited:

(a) Block Island North Light - We met with two representatives of the Block Island North Light Commission at the light. A lot of work has been accomplished so far, including; repairing the dwelling roof and cornices, sandblasting and painting the cast iron portion of the tower, installing lexan storm panes and securing entranceways. The Commission will send this office a proposal letter for relighting.

Present Block Island North Light modular tower is in poor condition, the sand has shifted exposing the west footings, the fence is unsupported on the west side, the ground in and around the tower is sloped approximatly 30 degrees making recharges a difficult task.

My recommendations is to work with the commission to relight the Lighthouse which will ease the servicing of the light, place it in a more secure environment and give a better signal to the mariner as the optic will have an increased height of eye.

(b) Great Salt Pond Light 4 - The optic and dayboards were in good condition. The tank house was terrible, we could not even open the door because of rust. (ecv) has proposed to replace it with an AGA tower.

(c) Great Salt Pond Light 10 - The optic, dayboards and modular tower were in excellant condition.

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(d) Block Island Breakwater Light 1A - The optic was in good condition. The dayboards need replacing. The tank house is in terrible condition. The power supply equiptment is in deplorible condition. The lock was missing from the door.

(ecv) is recommending replacement with an AGA tower and a new state of the art power supply. I mailed the station a new lock for the door.

(e) Block Island Outer Basin Light 6 - Lens cover was missing a gasket. The dayboards and the modular tower were in excellent condition.

(f) Block Island South East Light - We met with Pete Kaselis (dpl) to visit Block Island South East Light. The optic was in outstanding condition. The tower was in good condition with the

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exception of some corrosion in various locations on the cast iron sections of the lantern house.

I gave the OinC and the Station keeper instructions on focusing the optic, publications required for lighthouses, care of classical lenses, timing the light, and posting warning signs for lamp change outs.

Industrial Woods Hole personnel were installing the new radiobecon while we were on board.

The material condition of the light station has vastly improved since my last inspection.

2. After leaving Block Island we made an unscheduled visit to Point Judith Light to observe the sandblast test. Sandblasting does not appear to be suitable for this type of structure (sand stone block) chemical water blasting would probably remove the paint and damage the surface less than sandblasting.

We found a fungus growth on the walls of the main deck and entranceway, ecv will issue a work order to install an AC powered vent in the main door or lower window.

The vent ball has rusted through and collapsed. It was then sealed up which has caused a condensation problem. I will call Ken Black as I believe he has a vent ball we could use at Point Judith. (ecv) is investigating having new vent balls cast locally.

The OinC was not on board but I called him 13 Sept and explained our visit, findings and recomendations. BMCS STAPLES said he has submitted a SSMR for sandblasting, painting and repair or replacement of the vent ball.

3. Photographs are attached with comments.

TM Cramer

BMCS T. M. CRAMER