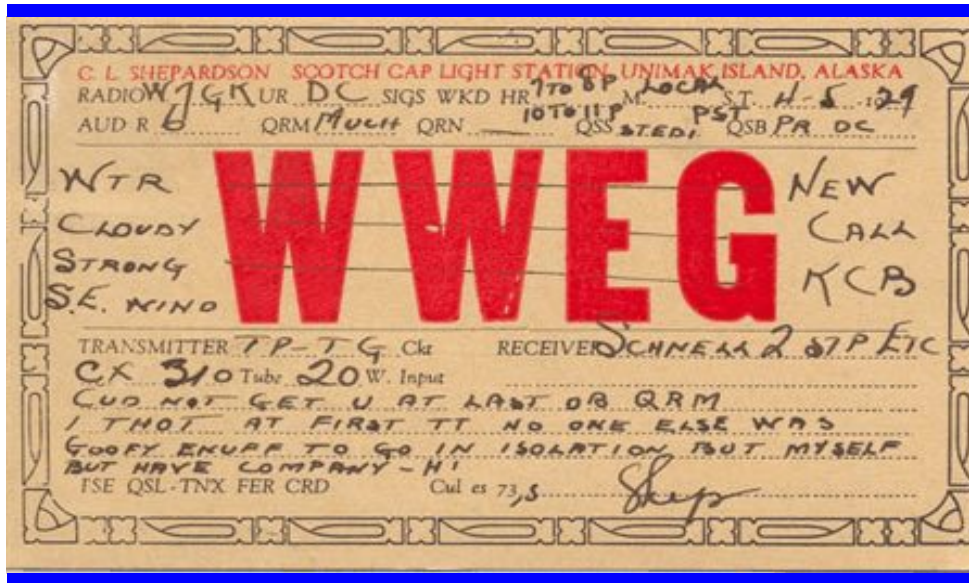


I was a former active Coast Guardsman and my first duty station was in Alaska. The year 1958, December, found myself in a place called Ketchikan, southeast portion of the territory. I was aware immediately of the disaster at Scotch Cap Light Station over a decade earlier.



A disaster of a magnitude difficult to express in human terms.

Five fellow Coast Guardsmen killed at Scotch Cap Light, April of 1946. Chief Boatswain's made Anthony Petit and his men were drowned by a Tsunami wave over 100 feet high.

It was estimated the wall of water 100 feet high slammed into this government light station on Unimak Island with a million ton mass of water.

Obviously there was ham radio activity (KCB) at the Cap many years earlier in 1929, as we have proof of that by this communications card with W7GK in the lower 48 as we expressed it. C.L. Shepardson (Shep) was the main operator, wattage of twenty watts input.

Unit in Charge, Anthony Petit was honored by the C.G. by naming a vessel in his honor. The crew was honored by a plaque at the original location at Scotch Cap Light.

Nothing remained but a cement base and partial removal of a hill behind the station by the Tsunami. The radio tower 105 feet above sea level was washed away. The site was automated in the 1970's -

I was reminded at the Coast Guard training station in Cape May N.J., that the Guard lost more men per capita than any other military service.

