

### **33. A Little Lecture (2:06)**

A little story about when I was on LORAN station - I may have told you this before - but I had a cook that came there and he thought if he acted up that I would get him transferred off after I tried to get him to straighten out.

I had this little table in my office that had a chair on each side of the table. In the middle of the table were the Coast Guard regulations. The only time I ever went to those chairs and table was when I was trying to talk to somebody in a disciplinary way.

I brought this cook in and I put him on one side and I got on the other side and I told him. I said, "Now, you think that you're going to be so bad here that I'm going to want to get rid of you and I'm going to send you off of here and they'll send you back and you'll get assigned somewhere else." I said, "No no no no no - if you don't do what you're supposed to do here and you disobey me and so forth I'm going to see that you go to Portsmouth - the naval prison - for 10 years and then you're going to get out of the Coast Guard."

He bought some of that because he straightened out and became an excellent cook. In fact he got so he used to make me special bacon powder biscuits so I'd have bacon powder biscuits to eat at my rounds at 10 or 11:00 at night. And so he became very very good. He was an excellent cook anyway but he became a good Coast Guard cook. I think he was a second class cook.

But he didn't have to go to Portsmouth either and that was just because we had a little lecture. He knew I really meant it. I was only a JG or Ensign - I don't know which I was when I talked to him. It was my one year on LORAN station at Kwajalein. It was an example of where here's a guy that actually listened to my words because he had to deal with me every day. They said, "Well, he could've poisoned you and killed you." That may have been true but then he would have gone to poison. That's right.

#### **Related Primary Leadership Principles**

Accountability

Authority of Position

Discipline

Expectations

Field Presence

Information

Responsibility