

Murkowski: Coast Guard base to remain in Juneau

U.S. Sen. Frank Murkowski said recently that Adm. Paul Yost, commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, has assured him that there are no plans to move the 17th District Headquarters out of Juneau.

"Adm. Yost did acknowledge that there is a report underway concerning the Coast Guard's logistic support requirements," Murkowski said. "However, Adm. Yost assured me that he does not anticipate any change in the Coast Guard's mission in Alaska."

Murkowski talked with Yost in Washington, D.C., by telephone recently from Fairbanks.

Murkowski told the commandant that he is opposed to proposals which would relocate Coast Guard support facilities from Juneau to a site on the U.S. West Coast.

"I appreciate the need to carefully evaluate alternatives to enhance the ef-

fectiveness of Coast Guard operations in this time of budgetary restraint," Murkowski said. "However, I strongly feel that relocating support functions out of the Seventeenth District is not an effective proposal for achieving this goal."

A Coast Guard Task Force is currently preparing a report on proposals for realignment and consolidation of Coast Guard support functions throughout the United States.

"While this preliminary report is not scheduled for completion before the end of 1986, I am deeply concerned about, and strongly opposed to, any proposals which could result in the relocation of valuable support facilities from Alaska," Murkowski said. "That's why I was glad to hear from the commandant of the Coast Guard himself that no major relocation is currently being considered."