

Ironwood Assigned To Homer Area

U.S. Coast Guard Commandant W. J. Smith has advised Senator Gruening of the impending reassignment of the USCGC Ironwood from Honolulu, Hawaii, to Homer. The Ironwood has a complement of 6 officers and 47 enlisted men.

Senator Gruening was pleased to learn of the forthcoming assignment of the "Ironwood" in the Homer area. He said it should provide better patrolling of Alaska fishing waters against foreign encroachment "and also benefit the economy of the area."

The actual date of the reassignment has not been announced, but Admiral Smith said the change will probably be made in time to meet the opening of the 1969 shipping season.

The "Ironwood" is a 180-foot seagoing buoy tender. Admiral Smith said the vessel "will be utilized in the Cook Inlet Area to meet increased law enforcement and search and rescue requirements."