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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

Superintendent.

State: _____

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Top. Sheet No. *3416*

LOCALITY:

191

CHIEF OF PARTY:

11-4645

Palmy

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Coast and Geodetic Survey

O. H. Tittmann, Sup't.

Topographic Sheet No. 3416.

(Field Sheet No.)

Kuskokwim Bay, Carter Bay,

A L A S K A

Steamer EXPLORER

R. S. Patton, Assistant, Chief of Party,

July 1913.

Scale 1-40,000

Topography by A. Joachims, Ass't.

Topography Inked by A. Joachims, Ass't.

STATISTICS

Shore line, statute miles 42.0

Area Square, " " _____

3418

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PLANE TABLE SURVEY

Locality of
KUSKOKWIM BAY.

July 1913.

U. S. S. EXPLORER,

R. S. Patton, Comdg.

Instructions were given by the Chief of Party to run in the shore line starting at triangulation station "Promontory" and running just past Carter Bay, by plane table triangulation and traverse. A camp was put out at Carter Spit, and work was started from this point. A mile and one-half base was measured along the spit by a standardized wire measure, and plane table signals built up around the bay, preparatory to doing the triangulation. The signals were observed on, and served as control of the shore line of Carter Bay. The shore line from Carter Bay to "Promontory" was run in by traverse. Five days were spent in doing the work, during which time the weather was very hazy, shutting out all the mountain peaks.

The nature of the topography is quite regular. Low flat tundra extends from two to five miles back from the shore line. Some of this flat country is covered by the higher high water, and is checked in places by small sloughs. Fresh water lakes are numerous.

The shore line beginning at "Promontory" has a broad sand and gravel beach, and up from high water mark a corroded bluff rises about fifty feet high. This bluff extends along the shore line for about a mile and one-half, when it drops down to low marshy land, just above high water mark, which continues down to

triangulation station "Head" where the same sort of bluff rises up about 30 feet. high. Here the bluff only extends for about three hundred yards when it drops down to low land, which continues till past Carter Bay and the limits of this sheet.

Carter Sand Spit and Bay is the most prominent feature of the survey. The Spit is about four and one-half miles long and ranging from 50 to 300 meters in width. Its most narrow place being about three and one-half miles from the point of the spit.

The Bay is very shoal at its head. Large mud flats make off from a low marshy shore line. Near the entrance of the Bay on the spit side the current runs about three knots at half tide and the water is about five fathoms deep.

Indian Creek opens out into Carter Bay on the east side. It is very shoal at its mouth, spreading out over mud flats so that at low tide small boats cannot enter, though at high water small boats can get up this creek for fresh water.

Three Indian houses stand near the mouth of this creek.

The survey extended about three miles north of Carter Bay to a low flat point. No prominent feature marks this part of the survey as the shore line is very straight with a broad sandy beach. During the time of the work, the weather was very hazy, shutting out the mountain peaks which were all at least three miles or more distant from the beach, so that just the shore line was run in.

Very respectfully,


Ass't. C. & G. Survey.