

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

CONFIDENTIAL

TO : Chief of Staff

CCS-1
DATE: 14 Oct 1963

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FROM : Ass't. to the Chief of Staff for Loran Affairs

SUBJECT: Short base line Loran C; development of for DOD
for tactical use

1. The several Services of DOD are investigating existing systems of navigation for potential application to tactical combat operational use, i.e., tanks, aircraft, infantry, etc. One such possible system is short base line Loran C which system (transmitter stations and receivers) could be made transportable. The Army, Navy, Air Force have a keen interest in the possibility due to its common applicability to all the Services and its adaptability to the existing Loran C system.
2. CDR LIPSEY has briefed the Assistant Secretaries of Air, Army and Navy (Deputies for Research and Development) on several occasions, and as a result an inquiry has been received from the Air Force as to whether or not the Coast Guard can provide for test and evaluation a low power transmitter station in the Georgia area which would link with Jupiter and Carolina Beach to provide coverage in the southern U.S., during exercises scheduled for the summer of 1964.
3. It is considered that this is an opportunity of greatest importance for the promotion of Loran C as the world wide universal system. For instance, if the system is adopted thousands of receivers would be involved in world wide application (the way Loran A came to the fore in WWII and Korea eras). This could also be the answer to the Coast Guard's problem with Decca. Short base line Loran C would provide precise coverage of about 400 miles from transmitters, and is less susceptible to jamming or other interference. It reportedly can do the job better than Decca. The disadvantage is that Decca has equipment on the inventory shelf, while the Coast Guard does not.
4. Inter-division conferences will be held to explore the feasibility of the Air Force request and to determine the problems associated therewith. It is planned that the Chief of Staff will be briefed subsequent thereto.

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Authority NWD 978245

By Amg NARA. Date 7/14

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