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31 October 1951
AI-2
Serial 13023

From: Commander, 14th Coast Guard District
To: Commandant (GPC)

Subj: Loran Transmitting Stations, French Frigate Shoals and Nihoa;
request for disposition instructions

- Refs: (a) 14thCGD Form 2609 dated 10-5-49, OCLTS Makahuena Point, District Project No. cov-179-50
 (b) 14thCGD Form 2609 dated 6-16-50, OCLTS Ilio Point, District Project No. cov-451-50
 (c) CGCMA/L 7-31-51, CGC/AI-2, serial 4772 with inclosures
 (d) CGCMA/L 10-16-51, JIS-2, serial 12049

1. References (a) and (b), approved by Headquarters, indicated that the loran stations at French Frigate Shoals and Nihoa were to be disestablished upon completion of the new Hawaiian loran stations at Makahuena Point and Ilio Point. At the recent District Commanders' Conference at Headquarters, Commander, 14th Coast Guard District was informally advised that the question of disestablishing subject loran stations was being reviewed in the light of changing conditions in the Pacific Ocean area. Reference (d) advised Headquarters that the "on air target date" for the new Hawaiian chain is 1 December 1951.
2. Reference (c) advanced the recommendations of this District with regards the entire matter of the Hawaiian Loran Chain, and requested instructions relative to the final disposition of the loran stations at French Frigate Shoals and Nihoa. These instructions have not been received to date.
3. As indicated in reference (c) the maintenance program at subject stations has been held to a minimum pending receipt of Headquarters decision. It is anticipated that if these stations at French Frigate Shoals and Nihoa are to be permanently retained in service in their present locations major rebuilding and re-equipping will be necessary, the cost of which will exceed one million dollars.
4. It is therefore most desirable for planning purposes that an early decision be reached in this matter and that this District be promptly advised.

L. W. PERKINS