

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

OAN-3
3262.2

TO : Chief of Staff
VIA : Chief, Office of Engineering
FROM : Chief, Office of Operations

DATE: 28 JAN 1966

SUBJECT: Relocation of the Loran-C Monitor in Japan

1. The Loran-C monitor located on O'Shima Island has been unable to perform its mission satisfactorily virtually since its establishment. A great deal of engineering time and effort has been expended attempting to identify and resolve the conditions which prevented satisfactory operation. These efforts have been unsuccessful; the monitor is still unable to control its associated Loran pairs.
2. Commander, 14th Coast Guard District has sought, found and recommended a new monitor site at Fuchu AFB on Honshu. With the approval of the Commandant (OAN), a temporary monitor was established at Fuchu and a month long test conducted. The test indicates that a monitor at Fuchu will be able to satisfactorily control pairs SS3-X and SS3-Y and that the quality of this control will be much superior to that exercised by O'Shima.
3. An additional factor to be considered is that LORSTA O'Shima will cease Loran-A transmissions on 1 July 1966 at which time the Japanese Maritime Safety Agency will establish a new Loran-A station at Hachijo Jima. It would be desirable for the Coast Guard to concurrently disestablish the O'Shima monitor thereby eliminating another source of logistic and personnel problems from the list of isolated stations.
4. The present personnel allowance for LORSTA O'Shima includes 1-WO and 6-ENL for operation of the monitor. These personnel will be transferred to Fuchu. At Fuchu, the physical arrangement of the monitor installation and the location of the available sanitary facilities, as well as the importance of the mission, will require a two man watch. The presence of families in the area also requires a larger personnel allowance if a normal home life is to be had by crew members. Eleven enlisted men will be needed to allow for proper operation. No commissioned officer will be needed as the monitor will be under the direct command of the Section Commander.
5. It is recommended that the Loran-C monitor at O'Shima be discontinued immediately and relocated to Fuchu AFB. The advantages of this move are:



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Chief, Office of Operations Memo 3262.2 (OAN-3) of 28 JAN 1966

(1) Fuchu AFB is the site of the Office of Commander, Far East Section which has the necessary communications facilities (landline and telephone patch to Kamisaya CGRADSTA) for control.

(2) Control of the associated Loran pairs by monitor Fuchu is possible while it is not possible at the monitor O'Shima.

(3) The proposed monitor will be located at an Air Force base at which all facilities, housing (married and single), messing and recreational, are available.

(4) The monitor will be under the direct supervision of the Section Commander and be used to improve operation of the chain.

(5) The longer tour of duty for the monitor personnel will improve maintenance and chain operation.

The disadvantages of this move are few: (a) the Coast Guard will lose some of the investment in rehabilitating O'Shima and (b) more personnel will be needed. If you concur in the foregoing recommendation, it is requested that the accompanying letter to Commander, 14th Coast Guard District be signed.



W. W. CHILDRESS

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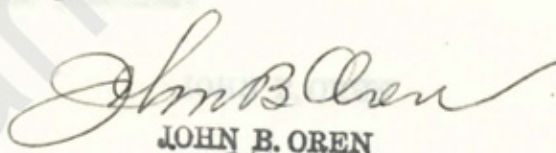
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FIRST ENDORSEMENT on OAN-3 memo 3262/2 of 28 Jan 1966 to CCS

From: Chief, Office of Engineering
To : Chief of Staff

Subj: Relocation of the Loran-C Monitor in Japan

1. The Office of Engineering concurs with the recommendations contained in the basic correspondence. The Oshima location has been electronically unsatisfactory for undetermined reasons since the monitor was first established.
2. Observations made at Tokyo International Airport during the calibration of the Northwest Pacific Loran-C system confirm that the vicinity of Fuchu provides simultaneous system data on the M-X and M-Y station pairs at least as stable as observations made anywhere in Japan by the calibration aircraft.
3. The proposed personnel allowance for Fuchu should also allow much of the routine graphical and statistical computations for the entire system to be shifted from COMFESEC engineering personnel to monitor personnel. This should provide additional time for a more thorough engineering analysis of the data than is now possible.


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