

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

Copy for:
Commandant, U.S.
Coast Guard

SM-855-55
1 November 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE STANDING GROUP¹
NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE

Subject: Interim Loran Plan, North Atlantic and Mediterranean

1. Reference is made to SGM 261/55, dated 2 May 1955, subject as above, establishing a NATO plan for Loran installations in which the United States has considerable interest.

2. It is requested that an annual summary on the progress of this plan be forwarded to the Joint Chiefs of Staff each November, commencing 1955. It is further requested that the report include such subjects as funding, siting, frequency allocations, and construction started or completed.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

SIGNED
RICHARD H. PHILLIPS
Captain, USN
Secretary

¹ Transcribed from original documents located at NARA Washington, DC

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: Revision of the Loran Installation Plan

1. Forwarded herein, in Appendixes "A" and "B" is the recently approved "Revision Loran Installation Plan."

2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff consider that present difficulties in the funding for the Loran expansion program interfere with its immediate implementation and should not be allowed to continue. The plan is predicated on prompt budget action, and it is suggested that the negotiations with the Secretary of Treasury and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget be pressed to an early completion in order that the plan, which is important to the security of the United States, can be completed by Fiscal Year 1960.

3. It is recommended that the attached plan, together with the following information, be forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury:

a. The U.S. Coast Guard is the responsible agency to implement the U.S. portion of this plan. The Treasury Department should take action to procure funds and provide for installation, operation, and maintenance of these stations in accordance with the provisions of 14 USC 81 in order that a completion date of Fiscal Year 1960 will be met.

b. In addition to the implementation, it is requested that the Treasury Department, through the Coast Guard, initiate an annual review of this plan by the Joint Chiefs of Staff in order that it is kept current.

c. It should be noted that present difficulties in funding for Loran expansion are interfering with a program which is important to the security of the United States. A letter from the Secretary of Defense to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated 14 April 1955, outlined the Department of Defense position in regard to this situation. The plan is predicated on prompt budget action and it is suggested that, should there be further difficulties in funding for this program, a conference be arranged with representatives of the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of the Bureau of Budget, to determine a mutually satisfactory course of action.

d. Attention is invited to the fact that budgeting for Loran stations located in European area is under the cognizance of NATO in its responsibility for the infrastructure program. NATO has approved a Loran Installation Plan, which is being financed through the Infrastructure Program, to provide coverage for the Eastern North Atlantic, Denmark Strait, the Norwegian Sea and the Greenland Sea. It is possible that the NATO implementation of Loran will lag so as to jeopardize

United States Loran requirements being the same as NATO. In this event, the United States must be prepared to exert pressure, through its representatives in NATO, to expedite completion of the NATO stations.

4. It is further recommended that the Director of the Bureau of the Budget be advised that the Joint Chiefs of Staff have approved a revised Loran Installation Plan and that this plan reflects current requirements and recognizes the Coast Guard, under 14 USC 81, as the implementing agency to establish, operate, and maintain the stations. Early implementation is based on prompt budgetary action. A letter from the Secretary of Defense to Director of the Bureau of Budget, dated 14 April 195, requested assistance in solving the problems of funding for this program which is very important to the security of the United States. It is recommended that the assistance of the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, in promptly implementing this program, be again solicited.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

SIGNED
RICHARD H. PHILLIPS
Captain, USN
Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL

APPENDIX "A"

LORAN INSTALLATION PLAN

1 November 1955

| | <u>Priority</u> | <u>Area</u> |
|--|-----------------|-------------|
| West Indies | 1 | D |
| Panama East | 2 | E |
| Denmark Strait* | 3 | H |
| Greenland Sea** | 4 | I |
| Mediterranean Sea*** | 5 | L |
| North Sea** | 6 | J |
| SW Approaches to United Kingdom** | 7 | K |
| Azores** | 8 | P |
| West Approaches to Mediterranean Sea** | 9 | M |
| Midway | 10 | C |
| Panama West | 11 | F |
| Lower California/Mexico | 12 | G |
| Carolines | 13 | B |
| Japan, N.E. | 14 | A |
| Arabian Sea | 15 | N |
| South Atlantic | 16 | O |

Chart is missing identifying the geographical areas.