

**SECRET**

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
Washington

*DAN copy*  
**COPY**

December 30, 1957

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In view of the international situation created by the apparent Russian advances in the state of the missile art, the Department of Defense has taken several actions to accelerate the ballistic missile programs in order to provide an earlier operational capability than had previously been planned. As part of this acceleration, the Navy has been authorized to proceed at a faster pace in the development and deployment of the fleet ballistic missile weapon system. This requires assistance by the Department of State in establishing LORAN-C navigational stations in several foreign countries.

It has been planned to have an operational capability for the first three POLARIS submarines by June 1963. Acceleration of this program will permit the first operational capability to be reached in June 1961. As part of this program, LORAN-C stations will be required earlier than had been foreseen. LORAN-C networks will be used by special survey ships to locate themselves with a high degree of accuracy in order to chart certain designated areas on the ocean floor, which can be used by the operational submarines in positioning themselves to carry out their mission. LORAN-C installations will be required in the following areas: (a) Mediterranean (stations desired in Turkey, Libya, Italy and France or Spain) and (b) North Atlantic (stations desired in Iceland, Greenland, England and Spitsbergen or Bear Island). It is understood that the U. S. Coast Guard has informally discussed this matter with State Department representatives.

I am requesting the Coast Guard through the Secretary of Treasury to implement the master LORAN-C plan as soon as possible in order to complete by January 1959 the installation of the necessary facilities. This will require assistance by the Department of State in obtaining entry rights for these stations. It will be appreciated if the Coast Guard is given assistance in this matter.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority WWD 978245  
By CDg NARA. Date 7/3/11

**SECRET** 2/cs

SECRET

It is understood that detailed requirements of the master LORAN-C plan will be made available to the State Department by the Coast Guard as necessary.

Sincerely,

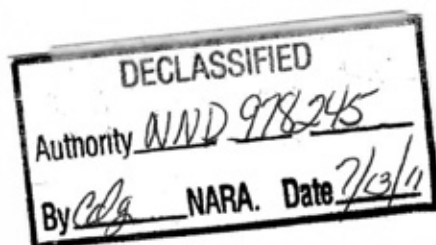
SIGNED  
DONALD A. QUARLES  
DEPUTY

1 Incl:  
Cy ltr to Sec/Treasury

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State

Copies furnished:  
Secretary of Treasury  
Deputy Sec/Def  
Secretary of Navy  
Dir. BuBud  
Comdt., Coast Guard  
Chm., Navy  
(IBA)

cc: OSW  
F  
ECV  
EEE  
CPA  
P  
E



SECRET