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By CDG NARA. Date 7/13/11

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Op-723C/mc
Ser 00340P72
29 JULY 1960

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MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, STRIKE WARFARE DIVISION

Subj: Review of LORAN Navigation System Requirements (U)

Ref : (a) Op-34 memo ser 457-60 of 24 Jun 1960

1. Reference (a) requested addresses to review and comment on possible requirements for further expansion of LORAN during the next ten years to support naval operations.
2. As to future requirements for additional LORAN-C stations for FBM survey purposes, it cannot now be stated with certainty what requirements, if any, there will be, nor when they will develop. Before they can be established positively, there must be additional assurance of the fulfillment of the following plans and evaluation of other factors as indicated below:
 - a. The date by which the 37th SSB(N), the first to be deployed to the Pacific, will be RFS. Under current Navy planning, the earliest possible RFS date for SSB(N) #37 will be March of 1966.
 - b. The date by which the 2300 nautical mile POLARIS A-3 missile will be operational. Current Navy planning calls for April of 1965.
 - c. When the A-3 missile becomes operational, large additional sea areas, not now covered by a precision all weather navigational aid, will become available for the conduct of SSB(N) patrols.
 - d. LORAN-C XMTRS are large (625' towers) vulnerable installations, for the most part, operated by nationals of the host country and therefore not subject to U. S. control.
 - e. TRANSIT possesses the potential, not yet proven, of displacing LORAN-C in its essential role of supporting the FBM survey program. TRANSIT appears to be relatively invulnerable to conventional countermeasures. TRANSIT's development is not complete and its funding future is uncertain.
 - f. OMEGA does not possess the potential for use in support of the FBM survey program.
3. In spite of the unknowns outlined above, it should be borne in mind that there may be a future need for additional LORAN-C stations for FBM survey.

Copy to:
Op-99B5, Op-94, Op-31
Op-60, Op-74
Special Projects
Coast Guard

J. A. JAAP
Director of Development Programs

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