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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

IN REPLY, PLEASE ADDRESS THE DIRECTOR, COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY, AND NOT THE SIGNER OF THIS LETTER, AND REFER TO

NO. 33-1mh

OAN DIVISION
CHIEF
ASST
PLAN
HYDRO
ELEC 1
ELEC 2
ELEC 3
A/N.M.
PUR
S.M.
CLERK
LABORER

October 31, 1961

*J/H*

To: Commandant  
U.S. Coast Guard  
Washington 25, D.C.

Subject: Loran "C" operations

Since spring of this year Coast and Geodetic vessels have been making use of North Pacific Loran "C" facilities. Loran "C" has made possible surveys in offshore areas where it has been impossible in the past to chart accurately.

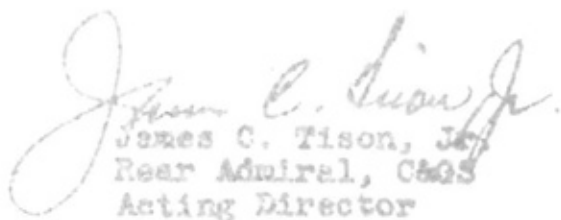
The difficulties encountered, for the most part, have been with the shipboard equipment. The Coast Guard field personnel have been very helpful in assisting the C&GS Ship PIONEER. Your headquarters' Electronic Engineer Staff have given valuable guidance in equipment procurement and in keeping us informed of Loran "C" chain programs.

The C&GS Ship PIONEER is currently using the Loran "C" network in the North Pacific area as the best means for obtaining the accurate position control, necessary for the ocean-wide survey progress. Her operations are limited to the areas of Loran "C" coverage. Extension of Loran "C" westward of Hawaii would make large portions of the Pacific available for detailed surveys where such control cannot be had by other means. The National Academy of Sciences, Committee on Oceanography is being coordinated through the Interagency Committee on Oceanography. Any extension of Loran "C" will be of interest to this group as well as this Bureau when planning oceanographic programs.

Besides the extension to the westward, our Agency has considerable interest in the area between Hawaii and the West Coast of the United States and extending as far south as Panama.

In February we plan to have three vessels equipped with Loran "C" operating the Pacific waters. Also a ship equipped with Loran "C" will operate in a wide area between the Virginia Capes and Puerto Rico.

The purpose of this letter is to express appreciation for the services rendered by the Coast Guard in assisting in our initial Loran "C" operations. It is also intended to show new areas of important interest to those in hydrographic and oceanographic surveys.

  
James C. Tison, Jr.  
Rear Admiral, C&GS  
Acting Director