

CONFIDENTIAL-SECURITY INFORMATION

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J/AN 40/13/2
(Agenda Item No. 96)

29 April 1953

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY

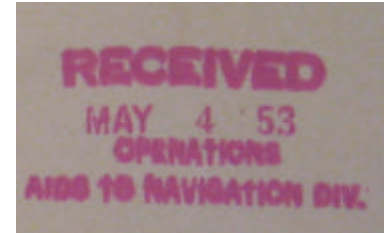
to the

JOINT AIDS TO NAVIGATION PANEL

on

AMENDMENT TO THE LORAN INSTALLATION PLAN

(This paper supersedes J/AN 40/13/1)



The enclosure, a revision of J/AN 40/13/1, is circulated to the members of the Joints Aids to Navigation Panel for telephonic concurrence and/or written comments.

FOR THE JOINT AIDS TO NAVIGATION PANEL:

D. C. TANSEL

Secretary, Joints Aids to
Navigation Panel

To Coordinators on 8 May 1953 (mis 59 mtg)
Approved as JCEC 26/28 on 13 July 1953 (mis 61st mtg)

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ENCLOSURE

REPORT BY THE JOINT COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS COMMITTEE

to the

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

on

AMENDMENT OF THE LORAN INSTALLATION PLAN
(J.C.S. 141/59)

THE PROBLEM

1. To amend the Loran Installation Plan (J.C.S. 141/59) to provide for immediate Loran coverage in the North Atlantic, North Sea, Norwegian Sea and Mediterranean areas upon the out break of war in Europe.

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

2. The Loran Installation Plan (141/59,) approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff on May 18, 1951, is divided into A priorities, which apply during peacetime (or in the event of a war not involving Europe) and into B priorities which will supersede the A priorities in the event of a European war. The European aspects of this plan have not been disclosed to nations outside the United States.

3. Under the provisions of the currently effective Loran Installation Plan (Revised) (J.C.S. 141/59,) general planning factors are established for comprehensive Loran coverage of the sea areas adjacent to Continental Europe. However, the Norwegian Sea was not included in this plan. This area is now considered to be one of tactical importance, and the Loran Installation Plan must provide for suitable coverage there.

4. By agreements reached between the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Treasury in mid-1951, the U.S. Coast Guard was designated as the implementing agency for the Loran Plan (Revised). At that time, the Secretary of the Treasury indicated that the U.S. Coast Guard would attempt to complete the peacetime installations

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(viz., the A priorities listed for Regions II and III) over a four-to five year period. Since, however, the Secretary of the Treasury had been advised by the Secretary of Defense that the coverage required under the B priorities (viz. Continental Europe or Region I) had no budgetary implications, the U.S. Coast Guard has not been in a position to stockpile or install Loran equipments to meet the material requirements of the Loran Plan for Continental European sea areas.

5. In the past, the Loran system was not accepted by the United Kingdom or Canada as a common tripartite long range aid to navigation. However, recent agreements between Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States have established Loran as the agreed-upon interim common system for this purpose. As a result of these agreements, influences are being exerted by the British to insure that positive action is undertaken to provide satisfactory coverage of the sea areas contiguous to Continental Europe, so that the system may be employed immediately upon an outbreak of a war in Europe.

6. From a U.S. military point of view, it is most desirable to revise the existing Loran Installation Plan now, particularly those portions of it which prevent site preparation and

stockpiling of necessary ground equipments for the Region I area, since it is considered necessary to utilize the system in that area immediately upon the outbreak of war in Europe.

7. Other influences from the NATO commander in the Atlantic (SACLANT) have recently been felt which indicate that action consistent with paragraph 6 above, is, in his opinion, mandatory.

8. Insofar as site acquisition to meet the current planning factors of the Loran Installation Plan is concerned, action has been underway during the past year to include the U.S. Coast Guard's statement of requirements in Europe in the current U.S. military

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negotiations for land in Europe under the "package" concept. However, in these negotiations the fact that Loran sites have been included has not been officially disclosed.

9. The overall NATO requirements for LORAN coverage are now available and can be integrated into a master LORAN plan.

CONCLUSIONS

10. The Loran Installation Plan (J.C.S. 141/59) should be amended to satisfy the U.S. military requirements for immediate LORAN coverage in the North Atlantic, North Sea, Norwegian Sea, and Mediterranean areas upon outbreak of war in Europe.

11. The LORAN Installation Plan (J.C.S. 141/59) should be further amended to satisfy the coordinated CAN-UK-US and NATO military requirements for immediate LORAN coverage in the North Atlantic, North Sea, Norwegian Sea, and Mediterranean areas upon outbreak of war in Europe.

RECOMMENDATIONS

12. It is recommended that:

a. The foregoing conclusions be approved.

b. The Joint Communications-Electronics Committee be authorized to:

(1) Act in behalf of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in obtaining the necessary concurrences of Canada and the United Kingdom to offer the LORAN system to the Standing Group, NATO, for adoption as a NATO standard system and to designate the U.S. Joint Communication-Electronics Committee as the coordinating agency for LORAN with the Standing Group, NATO.

(2) Upon receipt of these concurrences take the required implementing action.

(3) Conduct necessary negotiations to clear required LORAN frequencies for immediate use upon the outbreak of war in Europe.

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