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MEMORANDUM TO:

THE WAR COMMITTEE OF THE CABINET.

Under the authority granted by Order-in-Council P.C. 6246 dated 20th July, 1942, two Canadian Long Range Navigation Stations have been constructed at Baccare Point and Deming Island, Nova Scotia, which comprise a critical link in the Northwest Atlantic Loran system and are of the utmost importance to ships and aircraft of the United Nations, both now and in the postwar period.

The cost of the equipment for these stations and the buildings to house the equipment were provided by the Government of the United States of America. The land, accommodation for personnel, power and telephone facilities and other similar services have been provided by the Royal Canadian Navy.

It was the intention that the stations be manned and operated initially by United States technicians but that eventually their manning and operation would be the responsibility of the Royal Canadian Navy. Accordingly, the United States Navy Department turned over the equipment and equipment buildings to the Royal Canadian Navy on a no-charge basis in December, 1943, on the understanding that Canada would assume complete responsibility for the Canadian Stations. The question of the status of these stations, insofar as the transfer of equipment by the United States Naval authorities to the Royal Canadian Navy is concerned, has been the matter of correspondence with the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, and that Department has advised that Vice-Admiral A. W. Johnson, Senior United States Naval Member, Canada-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence, considers that there is sufficient evidence of authority for the material in question to be turned over to the Royal Canadian Navy without charge. (Copies of the correspondence with External Affairs are attached).

The original equipment designed by the United States National Defense Research Committee in 1942 and which is still used in these stations, is now obsolete and inefficient in operation and the equipment buildings, which are Quonset huts, are unsuitable for housing new equipment which it is proposed to acquire. This new equipment is required to bring the Canadian Stations to a level of maximum efficiency and to conform with the agreed station standard for Loran networks and has been recommended following R.C.N. - U.S.N. Loran Standardization Conferences.

The total estimated cost of this proposed modernization programme is \$236,000.00 made up as follows:

| | Construction of Equipment Buildings | Purchase of Equipment | Total |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Loran Station, Deming, N.S. | \$20,000.00 | \$ 98,000.00 | \$118,000.00 |
| Loran Station, Baccare, N.S. | 20,000.00 | 98,000.00 | 118,000.00 |
| | <u>\$40,000.00</u> | <u>\$196,000.00</u> | <u>\$236,000.00</u> |

The Chief of the Naval Staff has recommended that the obligation of the Royal Canadian Navy to operate these stations be recognized and that authority be granted to proceed with the above described modernization programme.

MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
FOR NAVAL SERVICES.

Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet War Committee,
Volume XVI, July - December 1944, (R.G. 2, 7c, Volume 16)

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