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SUBJECT

Latin American Involvement in LORAN-C

HIGHLIGHTS

The Coast Guard continues to monitor Loran-C radio navigation systems activity in several Latin American governments, and provides information when requested.

DISCUSSION

Since 1976, when the Coast Guard briefed them on Loran-C, the government of Venezuela has taken tentative action favoring the system for implementation in this country. The Coast Guard maintains liaison with the Agency for International Development concerning Loran-C for Venezuela.

In September 1978 the Government of Brazil was briefed on Loran-C. There has been no response to date.

Government of Mexico interest in Loran-C has increased based on informal information from commercial entities and from the Department of State. The Coast Guard has indicated that they could review proposals concerning Loran-C in Mexico for the Department of State.

The Government of Panama has informally indicated interest in establishing and operating a Loran-C station on their soil to improve navigation through the Canal. However, they will take no action on any new station unless requested by the U.S.

A cost benefit analysis is being conducted to determine the feasibility of installation of Loran-C in the Caribbean.

RECOMMENDATION

Provided for information.

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