Renegotiation of the U.S./Argentina Omega Station Operation Bilateral Agreement

HIGHLIGHTS

Government of Argentina has requested that the Omega station operating agreement be negotiated to include U.S. payment of operation and maintenance costs.

DISCUSSION

The bilateral agreement between the U.S. and Argentina for the operation of the Omega transmitting station at Golfo Nuevo, Argentina expires in December 1980. The Government of Argentina (GOA) wishes to negotiate a new Omega agreement in which the U.S. will assume all associated operational and maintenance costs with the GOA funding for personnel expenses. Operational and maintenance costs for station operations last year amounted to approximately $500,000. It is anticipated that bilateral negotiations between the two countries will commence in late August. The U.S. objective will be twofold: a) keep the U.S. contribution to a minimum, and b) U.S. support will be only temporary until GOA is in a position to resume complete financial responsibility.

RECOMMENDATION

Provided for information.