

Department of the Navy SUSSES
DON/AA DRMD +
Date: 19 Oct 2017 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: X Deny in Full:
Declassify in Part:
Reason: FOIA CR 3: 120003121
MDR 2017 -M- 15406

PAGE DETERMINED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5
Date: OCT 19 2017

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A
APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE DISTRIBUTION UNLIMITED

KK

Doc 60

2017-ARG-0406

DRAFT

DON FOIA Ex3:
10 USC §130b

G-OSR-4, 426-1932
18 June 1980

USCGHQ

SUBJECT

Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System (AMVER)

HIGHLIGHTS

The AMVER system maintains a dead reckoning plot for all participating merchant vessels, world wide. When a recognized rescue center of any nation learns of an emergency at sea, it is encouraged to obtain a computer predicated listing of ships in the vicinity of the emergency to see which, if any, might be well suited to provide help. The U. S. Coast Guard provides this service free of charge.

DISCUSSION

Other nations contribute to the success of AMVER in two ways; namely, by encouraging their merchant vessels to volunteer to participate in the system, and by providing coast radio stations to accept AMVER messages from ships free of charge for relay to the AMVER Center. The merchant vessels of all the coastal nations at this conference are represented on the AMVER plot. Over 40% of their combined merchant fleet are AMVER participants. Four of the nations, Argentina, Canada, Chile, and Ecuador, provide the services of coast radio stations to handle AMVER message traffic. The AMVER plot is still relatively light in South American waters, both in the Atlantic and the Pacific. This is attributable partially to lighter traffic and partially to the scarcity of participating coast radio stations in that region.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that appreciation be expressed for the relatively high percentage of South American merchant vessels participating in AMVER, and to the four nations providing AMVER communications services. Other coastal nations should be encouraged to provide communications services also. Radio stations in Brazil would be particularly valuable to the system. Such participation would have a beneficial effect on increasing the AMVER plot, and thus would increase safety at sea in southern hemispheric waters.

PAGE DETERMINED TO BE UNCLASSIFIED
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5
Date: OCT 19 2017

DRAFT