



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MILITARY SEA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, PACIFIC AREA
NAVAL SUPPLY CENTER
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94625

ADDRESS REPLY TO COMMANDER
MILITARY SEA TRANSPORTATION
SERVICE, PACIFIC AREA
TO THE SIGNER OF THIS LETTER
REFER TO **4744**

25 SEP 1966

From: Commander, Military Sea Transportation Service, Pacific
To: Commander, Military Sea Transportation Service

Subj: Improvement of navigational radar facilities in USNS POPE
(T-AP 110), USNS WEIGEL (T-AP 119), USNS GORDON (T-AP 117),
USNS WALKER (T-AP 125) and USNS GAFFEY (T-AP 121)

Ref: (a) COMSTS ltr ser 1382MAR5 of 12 Dec 1966
(b) COMSTS ltr ser 1157MAR1 of 26 Sep 1966

1. Reference (a) disallowed a Transalt request for auxiliary radars in USNS POPE, USNS WEIGEL and USNS WALKER due to the restrictions in transport ship operations outlined in reference (b).

2. It is appreciated that the expenditure of \$20,000 per ship for the improvement of navigational radar facilities appears to be inadvisable due to the uncertain future operations of the transports, however, it is considered cheap insurance where the safe and prompt delivery of troops is concerned. Since almost all MSTs ships except certain transports are equipped with two radars, and since total reliability cannot be placed in one, it seems necessary that ships hauling personnel be adequately equipped. Should the ships be inactivated, the funds would not be totally lost since the units could be utilized in the balance of the fleet.

3. Reconsideration of this recommendation is requested. If any of the ships concerned are inactivated, the radars would be released for further use. The following is the proposed unit for each ship:

USNS POPE	RCA CCM N2C-30
USNS WEIGEL	RCA CCM N1C-75
USNS WALKER	RCA CCM N1C-75

4. In addition to the above, it is requested that an RCA CCM N2C-30 radar be installed in USNS GAFFEY if and when this ship is returned to active service in lieu of the AN/SPS-35 unit now on board. The estimated cost is \$18,000.

5. USNS GORDON is equipped with a Raytheon 1482 main radar and an auxiliary AN/SPS-35 radar, both in reasonably good condition. The auxiliary radar antenna is presently mounted in a poor location, being shielded by

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ships structures. This results in blind wedges in several relative
directions. This antenna should be relocated to the main radar mast
just below the main radar. The estimated cost for this alteration is
\$10,000. It could be accomplished in five days.

Copy to:
USNS POPE
USNS WEIGEL
USNS GORDON
USNS WILDER
USNS GUFFEY

R. KEFAUVER

RECEIVED

OCT 20 1967

USNS POPE T-AP110