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NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE  
COMITE MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

Standing Group

Groupe Permanent

REGRADED NATO UNCLASSIFIED

SGM-229-56

Per Authority IMSM-431-99

23 March 1956

By JACOLARE Date 30.11.98

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Member Nations (Less Iceland)  
Supreme Allied Commander Europe  
Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic  
Channel Committee  
European Naval Communications Agency  
European Military Communications Coordinating  
Committee  
European Radio Frequency Agency

SUBJECT: VHF Equipment in Merchant Ships

References: a. SGM-500-55  
b. NATO C-E Board 3rd Mtg Minutes

1. Replies to reference a have now been received from all Member Nations except Germany and Turkey (the Turkish reply is expected shortly). Although certain reservations have been expressed regarding the extent to which fitting of equipment in merchant ships is possible in peacetime, all Nations have agreed with the Standing Group conclusion that FM type emission should be employed in merchant ship VHF communications.

2. It has, therefore, been decided that the system of radio communication to be used between and with NATO merchant ships in war will be VHF - FM in the frequency band 156 to 174 Mcs. This implies the need for warships to fit a VHF-FM equipment for their merchant ship communications.

3. Certain Nations are known to be developing equipment to operate to this specification and it is, therefore, requested that the European Naval Communications Agency examine the problem further and make recommendations to the Standing Group, having regard to the production and availability of equipment, extent of present or

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planned fitting and financial implications which will vary between Nations.

FOR THE STANDING GROUP:



C. H. SAMPSON  
Commander, USN  
Deputy Secretary

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