

*Coast Radio Stations* provide a safety watch and communications service for ships at sea and provide, as well, regularly broadcast weather reports, storm warnings and notices of dangers to navigation. The stations carry out communications by radiotelegraph and/or radiotelephone, and many of them provide connections to land telephone lines so that ships may communicate directly with any telephone subscriber. At Halifax (CFH) and Vancouver (CKN), shortwave facilities are furnished for world-wide communications. These stations participate in the Commonwealth long-range ship communication scheme. The coast stations on Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait, in addition to the regular services, provide commercial communications for posts of the Hudson's Bay Company and various prospecting and development organizations, make weather observations, handle administrative traffic and assist aircraft with information, landing conditions and direction finding bearings.

*Coast radio direction finding stations*, operated on the Atlantic Coast and on Hudson Bay and Strait, enable ships to obtain a line of bearing from the station. No charge is made for this service. A chain of automatic radiobeacon stations is also maintained to provide a navigational aid to mariners by transmitting signals on which bearings may be taken by ships. These stations are arranged, where possible, in groups of three, transmitting on a common frequency but in proper time sequence so as to avoid interfering with one another. A navigator may thus obtain three bearings within three consecutive minutes and fix his location. For distance finding in foggy weather, a number of radiobeacons are synchronized with fog alarms at the same point. Ships may also request the transmission of signals from the coast stations for direction finding purposes.

*Loran* is a long-range radio aid to marine and air navigation which provides accurate fixes at distances up to 600 miles by day and 1,500 miles by night. Two Loran stations operate in Nova Scotia, three in Newfoundland and one on the West Coast. These stations, in conjunction with Loran stations of the United States Coast Guard, give service to ships and aircraft plying the North Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

It has become general practice to equip merchant ships with *radar*, a valuable aid to marine navigation, and many important buoys are fitted with radar reflectors to increase their radar visibility. Two shore-based radar installations are in operation—one at Camperdown near the mouth of Halifax Harbour and the other on the Lion's Gate Bridge across the entrance to Vancouver Harbour.

Lighthouses, particularly at locations where they would otherwise be completely cut off from summoning help in case of illness, are provided with low-powered transceivers for use in emergencies. Lighthouse radiophone stations are organized into groups working into a control station. Ships at sea may obtain medical advice from any coast station. The messages are delivered to the port medical officer of the Department of National Health and Welfare and replies are transmitted to the ship free of charge. Radio and radar equipment used aboard vessels of the federal marine, pilotage and canal services, on vessels operated by the Department of Fisheries, the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys and the Department of National Revenue and on Canadian National Railway ferries is maintained by the Telecommunications Branch of the Department of Transport.

*Radio Aids to Aeronautical Navigation.*—Radio aids to air navigation are provided from coast to coast and from the Canada-United States border to the Arctic along and off the airways, and are used by many Canadian and foreign air carriers flying over Canadian territory. Trained engineers and technicians are assigned to six regional offices located at Vancouver, B.C., Edmonton, Alta., Winnipeg, Man., Toronto, Ont., Montreal, Que., and Moncton, N.B., to carry out the construction and efficient operation of facilities.

The principal radio aid to air navigation provided by the Department of Transport is the low-frequency *radio range station*, located approximately every hundred miles along airways. It provides specific track guidance to pilots by means of audible signals and the signals may also be used for the purpose of obtaining direction finding bearings. In addition, radiotelephone communications are provided between ground and aircraft, by which means pilots may obtain weather data, air traffic control instructions and other information concerning the safety of flights.