

I. THE SHORAN RADIOPOSITIONING SYSTEM (continued)

station. After passing through the mobile receiver, the pulse is routed to an indicating circuit where its time lag, or lapse, with respect to the original outgoing pulse is determined, and indicated in terms of distance rather than units of time.

Other pulses are transmitted to the second base station, using a different radio frequency to permit their discrimination from those intended for the first base station. These pulses are received and retransmitted by the second base station, and on their return to the mobile station are similarly sent through the indicating circuits for measurement of the time required for their round trip and the indication of corresponding distance. Thus the equipment provides continuous, essentially simultaneous, indications of the distances to both base stations.

The Shoran system operates in the VHF/UHF portion of the radio spectrum. Normally, three separate frequencies are used. Two of these are transmitted alternately by the mobile station to interrogate each base station in turn, as previously described. The third frequency is utilized by the base stations to retransmit the received pulses back to the mobile station. Both base stations transmit on the single frequency in order to utilize a single receiver at the mobile station.