



COM/Circ.5
13 May 1963

I M C O

EMERGENCY POSITION-INDICATING RADIO BEACONS

1. Following Recommendation 48 of the 1960 Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, concerning emergency position-indicating radio beacons, the Organization had asked the International Telecommunication Union to study the standard of world-wide application to which the radio characteristics of that equipment should conform.
2. The International Radio Consultative Committee (CCIR) of ITU discussed this subject at its Xth Plenary Assembly (February 1963) and, taking into consideration the text of Recommendation 48 and the information available at that time through the International Civil Aviation Organization and IMCO, decided to address the following questions to both Organizations:
 - (a) Are the beacons intended for homing only or for both alerting and homing?
 - (b) What class of stations (e.g., aircraft, ship, coast or aeronautical) are expected to receive the transmissions from the beacons?
 - (c) Up to what distances must the beacon signals be receivable?
3. Member Governments are invited to submit their views on this subject and provide the answers to these three questions for the guidance of CCIR. In view of the fact that a decision

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by the Maritime Safety Committee will be required before the views of IMCO are given to ITU, Member Governments are requested to send their replies as early as possible, since the next meeting of the Maritime Safety Committee is scheduled for September 1963.

4. Reference is made to:

- (a) COM/Circ.3 of 4 March 1963. Paragraph 3(b) of this circular contains the decision taken by the Maritime Safety Committee in connexion with the frequency (2182 kc/s) recommended for these radio beacons. It should be noted that the decision of the Maritime Safety Committee had not reached CCIR at the time of the Xth Plenary Assembly.
- (b) COM/Circ.2 of 21 September 1962 - Attachment "B", Item 2.