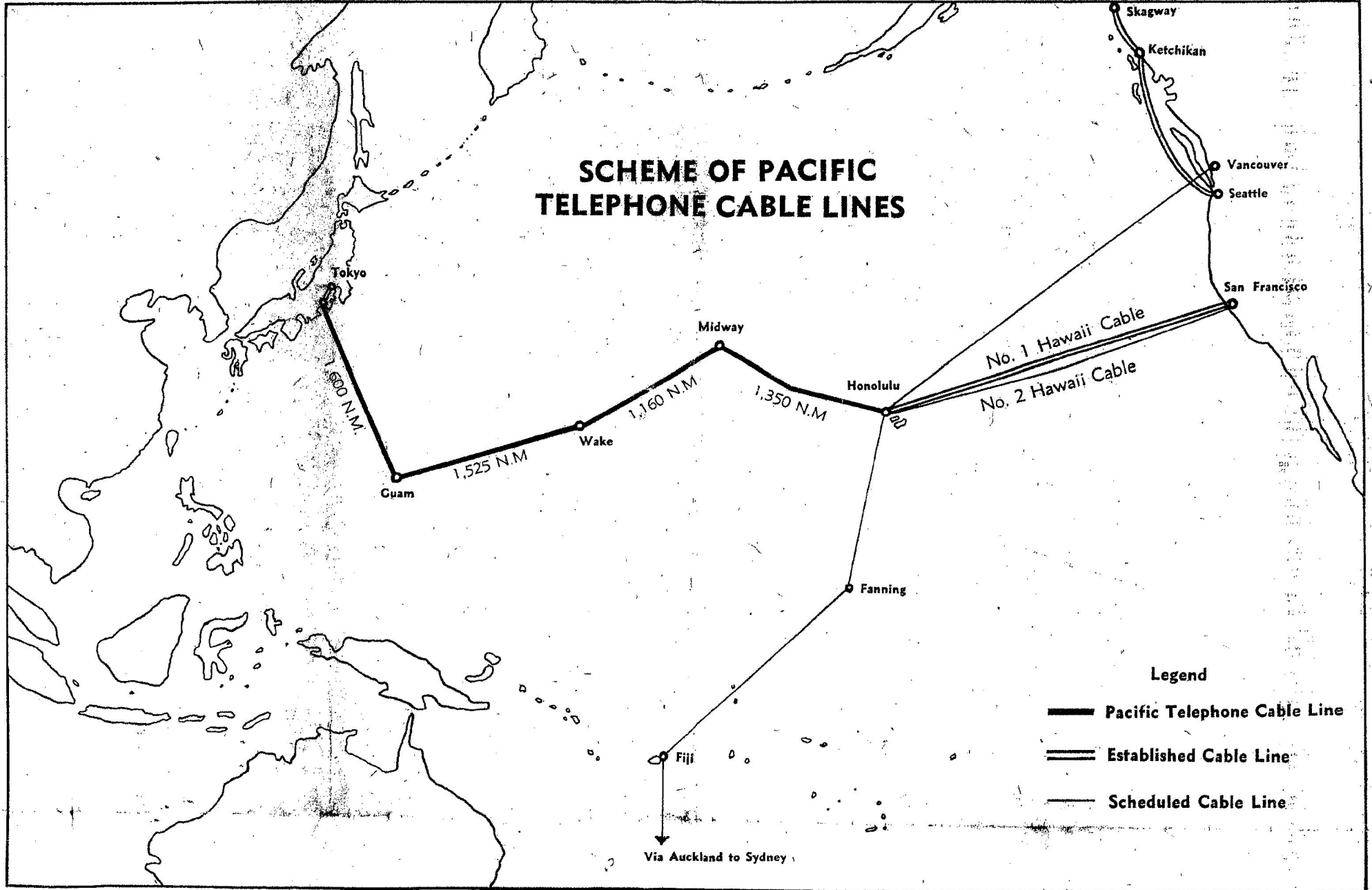


Agreement Signed for Laying Japan-U.S. Cable



Submarine Telephone Cable Will Be World's Longest

An agreement was signed in New York yesterday (Japan Time) for laying a trans-Pacific submarine cable which will become the world's longest, extending over a distance of 10,496 kilometers.

The ¥29,700 million project will be undertaken jointly by the Kokusai Den Shin Denwa Co., Ltd. (KDD), the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. and the Hawaii Telephone Co.

The agreement has already been signed by KDD in Tokyo and HTC in Honolulu.

The latest unshielded coaxial cables will be used for the revolutionary project, scheduled for completion July 1, 1964.

A large portion of cable materials will be supplied by a specially established Japanese company, financed jointly by the Furukawa Electric Co., Sumitomo Electric Industries Co. and Fujikura Cable Works.

Orders for 3,000 kilometers of cables have already been received by this new company the Ocean Cable Co., Ltd., which will manufacture them by technical cooperation offered by the Western Electric Co. of the U.S.

Completion of the giant project will not only open semi-automatic telephone service between Japan and the U.S. but also is expected to heighten Japan's international position.

Moreover, the high-grade

cable supplied by Japan is hoped to win worldwide recognition, of Japanese cable manufacturing technique and consequently help stimulate exports of the Japanese products.

The telephone cable linking Japan with the U.S. will be laid via Guam, Wake and Midway as far as Hawaii where it will be joined to the existing line extending to the U.S. mainland.

The landing point in Japan will be the coast of Sagami Bay and that in Hawaii has been tentatively located at Makaha on Oahu Island. Submarine cables for contacts between coastal areas will be laid from Makaha to Hanauma, also on the Oahu Island.

The new cable route will join up with the planned British Commonwealth Pacific cable (linking Vancouver, Hawaii, the Fiji Islands, Oakland and Sydney) in Hawaii in 1964 and a planned cable route between Japan and Southeast Asia in Japan.

The single line cable, with a diameter of 32 millimeters, will contain an electronic relay at intervals of some 37 kilometers. The relay will be able to handle 125 telephone circuits of three-kilocycle width.

Construction will be started early in 1964 and is scheduled to be completed by July 1 the

same year.

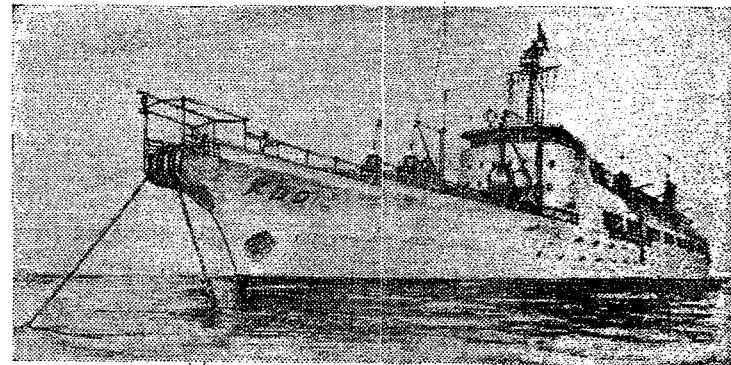
Of the total construction cost, ¥11,100 million, or slightly more than 37 per cent, will be borne by the KDD. An additional ¥2,000 million will be required for the construction of a cable-laying ship of some 4,500 tons and other vessels, bringing KDD's total share to around ¥13,100 million.

Part of this amount will be covered by KDD's own funds but ¥10,000 million will be procured from outside — probably ¥9,000 million (\$25 million) from the U.S.

Of the 128 circuits, 50 will be allotted jointly to KDD, AT & T and HTC for telephone and telegram use, part of the remainder to KDD as circuits running from Japan via the United States to distant places, and all the rest to AT & T and HTC as circuits linking U.S. territories (for instance, between Hawaii and Guam) and connecting the United States with distant places via Japan.

Most of KDD's new domestic facilities required for the new telephone service will be purchased domestically. A tender will be held shortly for the construction of the cable-laying ship.

AT&T is scheduled to build a 12,000-ton large cable-laying ship specially designed for laying of new-type cables. It will



Artist's conception of the cable-laying ship to be ordered by the Kokusai Den Shin Denwa Co. for the trans-Pacific project.

use this ship mainly for its construction work on the new project.

Oceanographic surveys for selecting the cable routes have already been finished.

The agreement signed yesterday will provide for the share of construction cost, share in ownership, allocation of circuits, and share of responsibility for maintenance.

The agreement, which also defines the rights and duties of the contracting parties during construction and use of the cable, is based on the spirit of equality and mutual benefit.

Patterned after the agreement on the existing trans-Atlantic cable owned by the U.S., Britain and Canada, it requires each party to bear the cost and responsibility in an amount commensurate to the number of circuits to be used.

With the increase of demand for international communications, improved media are be-

coming more and more necessary every day, particularly in view of the limitations of conventional wireless communications. The ambitious project is designed to meet this worldwide trend for direct telephone communications.

The new telephone service will not only facilitate communication between the two countries concerned, but will constitute a link in the global transoceanic telephone trunk line and mark another step toward the materialization of a world automatic exchange network.

Following this project, KDD plans to lay another cable line to connect Japan with the Southeast Asian countries of Taiwan, the Philippines, Thailand, Hongkong and Indonesia. This proposed project will further spur demand for cable because it is expected to consume the same amount as in the present project.

The Ocean Cable Co. will play an important role in these projects. Although there were rumors that the company will incur heavy debts and will be compelled to disband after the first project, prospects are bright in view of the various communications projects planned in this country. A specialized manufacturer has a definite advantage in this age of mushrooming general makers, and the company is sure to export more equipment for terminal stations and relay equipment as well as cables.

The trans-Pacific cable will lay the foundations for a big leap formed by the Japanese communications industry as well as consolidate the Japanese-U.S. communications network.

Trans-Pacific Submarine Cable — The Trunk Line Of

