

## CHAPTER 10

# Notice to Mariners

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## 10-1 GENERAL

## 10-1-1 Purpose—

A. "Notice to Mariners" is a form of public announcement of importance to the safety of marine navigation which concerns aids to navigation, channel conditions, menaces to navigation, marine danger areas, etc. Notices to Mariners are essential to the marine navigator for the purpose of keeping light lists, nautical charts, coast pilots and other nautical publications currently corrected.

B. Notices to Mariners are issued by the Coast Guard primarily for the purpose of disseminating information concerning the establishment, change and discontinuance of aids to navigation which have been authorized by the Commandant. They also include irregularities in operation of aids, reports of channel conditions, marine obstructions, menaces to navigation, marine danger areas, etc. (Title 14 USC 93 (f)).

## 10-1-5 Types of Notices—

A. Since the dissemination of information concerning aids to navigation is of vital importance to the safety of navigation, it is necessary that appropriate Notices to Mariners be issued promptly to cover the particular situation at hand. Depending

on the circumstances, information may be disseminated by one or all of the following types of notices: Broadcast Notice to Mariners, Local Notice to Mariners, and Weekly Notice to Mariners. Each District Commander is authorized to issue Broadcast and Local Notices to Mariners. District Commanders may also authorize units within the district to issue such notices upon approval in each case by the Commandant.

## 10-2 BROADCAST NOTICES

## 10-2-1 Dissemination—

A. *Broadcast Notices to Mariners* are Notices to Mariners which are issued by means of radiotelegraph and/or radiotelephone broadcasts.

B. *Coast Guard*.—The Coast Guard is responsible for broadcasting information concerning aids to navigation maintained by or under authority of the Commandant. Important hydrographic information, such as, marine obstructions or channel changes which constitute dangers to navigation on inside waters may also be broadcast by the Coast Guard if considered necessary for the safety of navigation. For the purpose of this paragraph, "inside waters" shall mean those waters where Inland, Great Lakes or Western Rivers Pilot Rules apply.

C. *U. S. Navy.*—The U. S. Navy Hydrographic Office and its branch offices are responsible for broadcasting marine information on the "high seas", which, in general, includes the reporting of derelicts, ice conditions, drifting buoys, floating mines, etc. Therefore, any reports on such matters coming to the attention of the Coast Guard shall be reported to the nearest local Branch Hydrographic Office for action with regard to appropriate announcement to the marine public.

D. *Optional.*—If no U. S. Navy Branch Hydrographic Office is located within a Coast Guard district, local hydrographic information may be broadcast as United States Coast Guard Notices to Mariners if considered necessary for the safety of marine navigation.

E. *Procedure.*—District Commanders, or district units specifically authorized by him to issue Notices to Mariners, will originate United States Coast Guard Notices to Mariners and release them through Navy or Coast Guard radio stations within the district which broadcast marine information. For list of stations see Radio Navigational Aids (HO-205), Radio Aids to Navigation, Great Lakes. Notice to Mariners information may also be furnished commercial broadcasting stations if the District Commander considers the additional dissemination necessary for the safety of navigation, and no charges are involved for the service other than for the transmission of messages to the broadcasting stations. The text of each message should commence with "United States Coast Guard Notice to Mariners" and such notices shall be issued in accordance with the Coast Guard Communications Manual.

F. *Special distribution.*—In addition to the procedure given in paragraph (E) above, the following shall be indicated as information addresses on messages prepared as United States Coast Guard Notices to Mariners:

(a) Units within the district for information or further dissemination as considered necessary by the District Commander.

(b) Other Coast Guard district offices if the District Commander considers the information of sufficient importance to warrant additional dissemination.

(c) Hydro, Washington, for the east coast districts, or Hydro, San Francisco and Hydro, Honolulu, for the west coast districts, including Alaska and the Pacific islands for messages (1) pertaining to changes in aids to navigation and reported obstructions, and (2) reporting deficiencies in seacoast aids to navigation.

(d) Commandant, Coast Guard, for messages (1) from the east and west coast districts pertaining to changes in aids to navigation and reported obstructions, and (2) reporting deficiencies in major seacoast aids, lake coast aids, lightships and Loran. For the purpose of this paragraph, major seacoast aids are those where the name is shown in boldface type in the Atlantic and Pacific light lists, and lake coast aids are those where the name is shown in boldface type in the Great Lakes light list.

G. *Type of information.*—Broadcasting of United States Coast Guard Notices to Mariners shall be confined to information concerning new establishments,

changes, discontinuances, or deficiencies in aids to navigation and menaces to navigation which it is urgent that shipping interests should receive without delay.

H. In case of doubt as to the advisability of broadcasting an item the doubt shall be resolved in favor of broadcasting. Every defect in an important aid should be broadcast, unless definite information is available that it will be corrected by the time the information would be of value to the mariner. For example, if a light is reported extinguished in the morning and definite information is available that it will be relighted by nightfall, there would obviously be no need to issue a broadcast notice.

I. *Verification of defect.*—Reported defects in important aids should be broadcast immediately without waiting for positive verification, unless the circumstances of the report received are such as to indicate the probable incorrectness thereof. The important point here is that a report of a defect in an aid shall be presumed to be correct, unless there is a good and sufficient reason for positive belief to the contrary, and the issuance of a Broadcast Notice to Mariners should not ordinarily be deferred pending verification of the report. The wording of the notice should make reference to the defect as "reported" unless the existence of the defect has been positively verified.

J. *When aids are restored.*—Broadcast Notice to Mariners, reporting the correction of a discrepancy previously reported in a broadcast notice, need be issued only when, in the opinion of the District Commander, the aid to navigation involved is of sufficient importance to the safety of the mariner to justify a message broadcast. In the case of relative unimportant aids it is considered necessary, however, to publish the type of corrective action taken in a Local Notice to Mariners, giving the date and reference to the original broadcast notice.

#### 10-2-5 Preparation—

A. In addition to the heading "USCG Notice to Mariners," each broadcast notice shall indicate the major body of water in which the aid is located. If the name of the aid is the same as the major body of water, it is not necessary to repeat it in the notice. Each notice issued may be numbered if desired; however, light list numbers or page references shall be included to positively identify the aids referred to in the event of a garbled broadcast and to assist in record keeping. The text of the notice should be brief and concise, and should only include information that is necessary for the safety of navigation.

B. *Sample broadcast notices concerning defects in important aids to navigation* are given below:

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS X SEVENTH DISTRICT NR 226-52 X MIAMI HARBOR X MIAMI MAIN CHANNEL LIGHTED BUOY TEN LL NR 3684 REPORTED OFF STATION

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS X SEVENTH DISTRICT NR 228-52 X MIAMI HARBOR X MIAMI MAIN CHANNEL LIGHTED BUOY TEN LL NR 3684 REPLACED ON STATION

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS NR 32 X BOSTON HARBOR X NORTH CHANNEL LIGHTED BELL BUOY TWO LL NR 641 REPORTED SHOWING IMPROPER CHARACTERISTIC

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS NR 36 X NARAGANSET BAY X FORT ADAMS LIGHT LL NR 926 REPORTED EXTINGUISHED

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS NR 41 X MASSACHUSETTS SEACOAST X HUMAROCK OUTER LIGHTED BELL BUOY ONE LL NR 321 REPORTED EXTINGUISHED

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS NR 43 X MASSACHUSETTS SEACOAST X HUMAROCK OUTER LIGHTED BELL BUOY ONE LL NR 321 RELIGHTED

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS NR 45 X BUZZARDS BAY X BUTLER FLATS RADIOBEACON LL NR 347 REPORTED INOPERATIVE

C. *Sample broadcast notices concerning menaces to navigation on inside waters:*

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS 5CD NR 333-52 X CHESAPEAKE BAY X BARGE REPORTED ADRIFT IN VICINITY THIMBLE SHOAL LIGHT

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS NR 3-583 X HUDSON RIVER X ICE REPORT X GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE TO ALBANY TWO INCH DRIFT AND SLUSH ICE EIGHTY PERCENT OPEN WATER NAVIGABLE

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS NR 48 X MAINE SEACOAST X BUOY SHOWING FLASHING RED LIGHT REPORTED ADRIFT FIVE MILES NORTHWEST OF MATINICUS ROCK LIGHT

D. *Sample broadcast notices concerning important changes in aids* are given below. The text of such notices should contain only information that is necessary to enable a navigator to clearly understand just what change is being made to avoid a casualty, since the details concerning the change will be included in the printed notice.

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS NR 3-264 X NEW JERSEY SEACOAST X ABSECON INLET WRECK LIGHTED BUOY WR LL NR 1465 PAINTED IN RED AND BLACK HORIZONTAL BANDS AND SHOWING AN INTERRUPTED QUICK FLASHING RED LIGHT ESTABLISHED IN 56 FEET OF WATER TEN POINT FIVE MILES 97½ DEGREES FROM ATLANTIC CITY LIGHT TO MARK WRECK OF SS ASTRO WITH MASTS SHOWING ABOVE WATER LOCATED 200 YARDS 300 DEGREES FROM BUOY

USCG NOTICE TO MARINERS NR 15 X CAPE COD BAY X LONG POINT LIGHT LL NR 305 CHANGED TO FIXED GREEN OF 600 CANDLEPOWER

E. *Definitions.*—The following terms shall be used in reporting defects in aids to navigation:

ADRIFT—Floating aid broken loose from moorings and drifting off station.

EXTINGUISHED—Lighted aid not burning.

IMPROPER CHARACTERISTIC—A light, fog signal or electronic aid not displaying or producing its proper characteristic as advertised in the current light list.

INOPERATIVE—Out of service due to adverse conditions, particularly applicable to fog signals and electronic aids.

MISSING—A floating aid not on regular location and whose whereabouts is unknown.

OFF STATION—A floating aid has been moved from its station by adverse conditions. A deficiency to be corrected.

OFF THE AIR—Loran rate not operating due to mechanical failure or other reasons.

RELIGHTED—A lighted aid, previously reported "Extinguished" has been relighted.

REPLACED—An aid previously reported "Off Station," "Adrift," and/or "Missing" has been replaced by the same aid or another aid of same type and characteristic.

## 10-3 LOCAL NOTICES

### 10-3-1 General—

A. *Coast Guard Local Notices to Mariners* are notices to mariners which are issued by each District Commander and other Coast Guard units which he may designate. They are published as required and are issued in the form of mimeograph or other duplicating process announcements.

B. *How often issued.*—It is not intended that any set rules be established as to the frequency of issuing local notices. In general, local notices to mariners should be issued when the importance of the information to be published is such that the withholding of it for one or more days may affect the safety of navigation. For example, if the only information available to be published was preliminary information concerning some changes that would be accomplished in two or more weeks, there would be no need for getting out a local notice that particular day. Such information could be held over to the next day or a day within the week when it would be necessary to publish information concerning items affecting the safety of navigation.

C. In order to establish uniformity in publishing information in Local Notices to Mariners, a general guide is given under section 10-3-5 below. It must be understood, however, that it is impossible to set up any hard and fast rules to follow in publishing such notices due to the complexity of the subject and the varying problems that arise. The main point to remember is to make the items clear and

## 10-3-5 Guide to Preparation—

A. Include the following in Local Notices to Mariners:

(1) *Every aid to navigation established* by or under authority of the Coast Guard, giving complete information concerning its position and characteristics required to correct light lists, nautical charts, and other nautical publications.

(2) *Every change* made in an aid to navigation that affects the information pertaining thereto shown in the light lists and other nautical publications, and/or on the nautical charts. Minor changes to candlepower or height of structures not affecting the safety of navigation need not be published in notices to mariners. Such changes are to be noted in the Standard Light List maintained by the district and included in the printer's copy when forwarded to the district each year for review.

(3) *Every discontinuance* of an aid to navigation.

(4) *Reports of channel conditions, obstructions, menaces to navigation, danger areas, etc.*, if requested to do so by the cognizant agency, providing there is no duplication of mailing lists and a credit line is indicated as to the source of information. (See par. 10-3-10 (O).)

(5) *Defects* in aids that will not be corrected by the time notification would normally be received by recipients of such notices. Notices shall also be issued when such defects are corrected. In cases of defects that cannot be corrected within one week, the district shall make a notation on the copy mailed to Headquarters as to the probable date such defects will be corrected in order that consideration may be given to including information concerning such defects in the Weekly Notice to Mariners.

(6) A list of seasonal aids that cannot be placed on station or lighted as shown in the current light list due to adverse weather or other conditions. In each case the notice should state the approximate date such aids will be changed.

(7) Other information pertaining to Coast Guard operations if considered necessary for the safety of navigation.

(8) A list of new editions of nautical charts affecting the area within the district limits. Information about new editions of charts published by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey for the coastal areas may be obtained from the Weekly Notice to Mariners, Part I, while similar information for the areas covered by maps or charts issued by the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, may be obtained from the local District Engineer.

E. Information may be printed on both sides of a page if desired by the district providing there is no justifiable objections made by the users. If printed on both sides, the reverse side shall be printed "head to foot."

F. All information is to be verified, checked and plotted by some one other than the one who prepared it before a local notice is issued.

G. All local notices are to be released under the name of the District Commander, except for those issued by Coast Guard units where the name of the Commanding Officer may be indicated.

H. It should not be taken for granted that the omission of a minor item from the Weekly Notice to Mariners gives sanction to the omission of such data in local notices.

I. The term "*without further notice*" should be avoided. A confirming notice should be issued when changes in aids to navigation, previously published as a preliminary notice, have been accomplished.

J. *Light list reference.*—Assign proposed light list numbers or page numbers to new aids and make reference to light list numbers or page numbers when aids are moved, changed, discontinued, or defects are reported in aids.

K. Give *chart references* for those aids to navigation actions which will be reflected by a chart correction. Chart references should be listed in the order of scale of the chart with largest scale first. No reference need be made to charts when publishing temporary defects in aids to navigation.

L. *Reference to previous notices.*—Make reference to last previous local notice in cases where a preliminary notice was issued or the information supplements or supersedes data previously published within the past six months. However, each item should be complete within itself so that a person will not have to refer back to previous notices in order to obtain complete information to correct charts, light lists, and other nautical publications.

M. *Wrecks.*—When buoys are established to mark wrecks or obstructions, or moved to better mark them, give distance and bearing of such obstruction from the buoy in addition to the position of the buoy from a charted fixed object. This information is in addition to that normally published regarding the color, number, characteristic, etc., of buoys. When discontinuing such buoys, state whether the wreck or obstruction has been removed. When publishing data concerning wrecks, give full information as to whether it is visible above high tide, depth over it (at low water) if submerged, position in which it lies, and length, if of sufficient importance to be important for the safety of navigation. When complete information is published concerning a wreck, the notice to mariners should avoid stating whether or not the wreck is considered to be a menace to navigation.

*Position reference.*—When an aid is established, give its position by a bearing and distance to the nearest fixed object that is readily identified on the largest scale chart. If no readily identified fixed object is available within the scale limit shown on the largest scale chart, give position by latitude and longitude to the nearest second. (Note: If the scale of the largest scale chart (including Plan) is 1:25,000 or larger, give position to the

The term "reported" shall be used when publishing the positions of private aids to navigation unless their positions have been verified and their accuracy ascertained by the Coast Guard.

CG 2535  
(Rev. 7-47)

**TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

# NOTICE TO MARINERS

ISSUED BY THE COMMANDER, \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ COAST GUARD DISTRICT

ADDRESS: Custom House, Boston 9, Mass., Day and Night Telephone: Capitol 7-3710

LONG ISLAND SOUND - MILTON POINT BUOY 40A, a red second-class nun equipped with a red reflector, has been established in 36 feet of water, 1,035 yards 125° from the dome at Milton Point.

Charts 222, 1213 - Light List page 717

LOUISIANA - CALCASIEU PASS LIGHTED BUOY 30, painted red and showing a quick-flashing red light, of 35 candlepower, 10 feet above water, has been established in 14 feet of water, 800 yards 179° from Calcasieu Pass Light 32, in place of Calcasieu Pass Buoy 30, which has been discontinued.

Charts 591, 1279, 1051 - Light List No. 4117.5 and page 848

TEXAS - Corpus Christi Bay - CORPUS CHRISTI CHANNEL BUOY 12, a red second-class spar, has been established in place of CORPUS CHRISTI CHANNEL DAYBEACON 12, which has been discontinued and the structure removed.

Charts 523, 1285, 1286 - Light List page 855

ALASKA - Chichagof Island - The following lights have been established in Lisianski Inlet:

(a) WHITE HEAD LIGHT, showing flashing white every 2.5 seconds, flash 0.5 second, of 30 candlepower, 55 feet above water on a small white house, 4,160 yards 146° from Lisianski Inlet Light. The Light is obscured from 312° to 146°.

(b) NOSE HEAD LIGHT, showing flashing white every 5 seconds, flash 1 second, of 30 candlepower, 50 feet above water, on a small white house, 3,400 yards 023° from Rock Point Light. The light is obscured from 136° to 320°.

Reference: LNM 26 (4-26-52)

Charts 8260, 8304, 8202 - Light List Nos. 2337.3, 2337.5

W. R. RICHARDS  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Commander, 1st Coast Guard District

Mariners are requested to report directly to the District Commander any defect in, or displacement of, an aid to navigation. Radio reports, for relay to the District Commander, should be prefixed COASTGUARD and transmitted direct to one of the Government shore radio stations listed under Communications in the Hydrographic Bulletin or under section 407, Radio Aids to Navigation (HO-2035). If the radio call sign of the nearest Government shore radio station is not known, radiotelegraph communication may be established by the use of the general call NCG on the frequency of 500 kc. Merchant ships may send messages relating to defects noted in aids to navigation through commercial facilities ONLY when they are unable to contact a Government shore radio station. Charges for these messages will be paid by the United States Coast Guard. Such cooperation will assist materially in the prompt correction of defects, and in the effective maintenance of aids to navigation.

PLEASE POST CONSPICUOUSLY

NOTICE No.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16 12204-4

DATE:

FIGURE 10-1.—Sample local notice to mariners.

Am. 1—March 1953

nearest tenth of a second.) If possible, avoid giving positions from daybeacons or minor lights that have been moved during the past year. *Do not give positions from floating aids.*

**O. Discontinuance or relocation of aids on marine sites.**—When advising of the discontinuance or relocation of an aid to navigation on a marine site, or regarding discontinuance, change in location, or replacement of a destroyed aid on a marine site, mention shall always be made as to the status of the old structure and foundation.

(1) Whenever the word "removed" is used in connection with the condition of a marine structure or foundation without any qualification as to the extent of removal, it shall mean that the structure together with its foundation has been entirely eliminated to the level of the natural bottom of the immediate area.

(2) Those structures or foundations which are not removed sufficiently to render them safe for navigation, particularly to small craft not always following the regular established routes, will be charted by appropriate obstruction symbols according to the information given in the Notice to Mariners. This does not eliminate the need for marking, if required.

(3) The United States Government may be liable for any claim to damage resulting from a vessel striking obstructions mentioned above. Therefore, every effort shall be made to insure that marine structures and foundations of discontinued aids no longer constitute a menace to navigation.

**P. Local notices** need not be issued in cases of casualty or damage by collision followed by prompt restoration and where publication would manifestly be of no value to mariners. However, appropriate report should be made of a marine accident involving an aid to navigation as required by form CG-910.

**Q. Characteristic.**—Whenever a change is made in the characteristic, but not in the color of a light, give complete data of the new characteristic; e. g., to be changed to flashing white every 4 seconds, flash 0.4 second.

**R. The source of the information** should be given in instances where the data originates in some other department or agency than the Coast Guard and pertains to matters other than aids to navigation or Coast Guard operations. The wording of data copied from other sources for publication may be changed, but great care must be taken to avoid change of meaning.

**S. Relief lightships.**—An item is to be included in the local notices when relief lightships are placed on station, including information as to any change in characteristics, and another local issued when the regular lightship is returned to station. The Weekly Notice to Mariners will, however, publish only those items where a change in published characteristics is involved.

**T. Station buoys.**—Information concerning the establishment, change in type or discontinuance of station buoys shall be published in the local notices.

However, only in the case of station buoys marking lightships need the relative position be stated.

**U. Changed channel conditions.**—When aids are moved due to changes in channel conditions, a statement to that effect is to be included in the local notices so that the charting agency may be apprised thereof in order that they may take steps to obtain the necessary information for changing the soundings shown on charts.

**V. Dredged channels.**—Whenever aids are established to mark a newly dredged channel or established and/or moved to mark new limits of dredged channels, the notice to mariners shall state whether the aids are located along the bottom edge of the channel or located off the bottom edge. In the latter case, the notice shall state the distance in feet and whether inside or outside the channel limits. This information will be included in the light list.

**W. Private aids.**—In the case of establishment of private aids, include name of party by whom maintained.

**X. Sketches.**—Include sketches with local notices when such sketches will assist mariners to more readily interpret the hydrographic data issued by the Coast Guard. Sketches should be included as follows:

(1) When movements of navigational aids are made to accommodate dredging operations and when a channel is obstructed for any other reason requiring a special marking for the safe guidance of vessel traffic.

(2) When a number of changes are made in any locality at the same time.

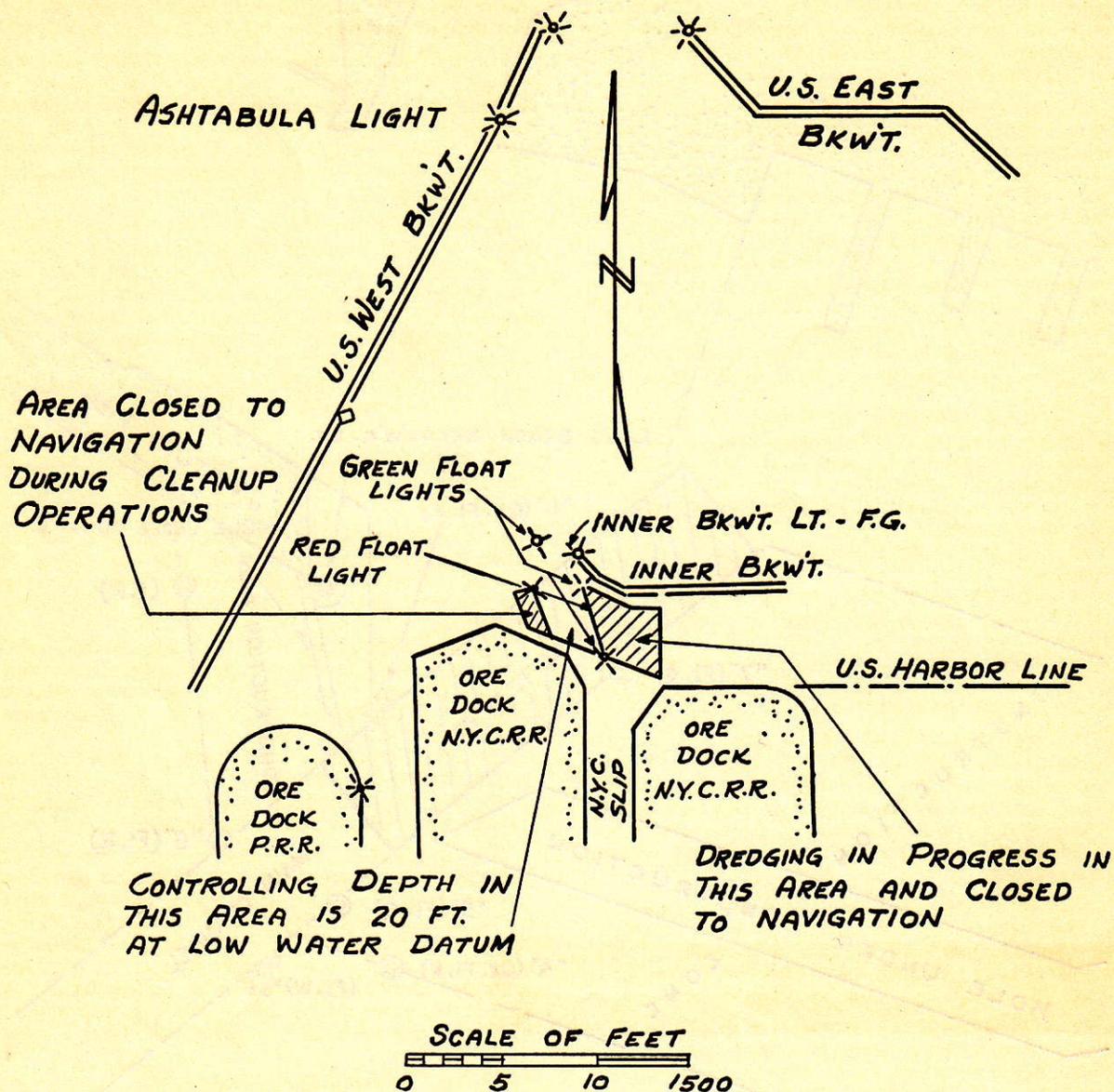
(3) When it is difficult to define the positions of aids by bearings and distances from a fixed object.

It is realized that in some districts the use of sketches as outlined above will be limited to a few notices each year. It is believed, however, that every district will have local notices in which sketches can be used to good advantage. Sketches can readily be made on typewriter stencils by tracing a section of chart with a stylus. Line indicators should be used freely for connecting the official names of aids with their charted positions.

### 10-3-10 Miscellaneous Notes—

**A. The following paragraphs** discuss various aspects of aids to navigation as they relate to the publication of notices to mariners.

**B. Aids along dredged channels.**—When buoys are relieved or serviced, their positions shall be checked to insure that they are located on their charted positions (see Chapter 27). Where buoys, daybeacons and lights mark dredged channels, the symbol shown on the chart is usually displaced so that no part of it extends into the channel shown by the dashed lines. Therefore, the "dot" of the symbol is not always the actual position of aids marking dredged channels. See paragraph 10-3-5 (V). Where actual conditions in a particular area differ from that shown on the chart, a section of chart, print or overlay should be prepared show-



## ASHTABULA HARBOR OHIO

BASED ON L.S. CHART 342

FIGURE 10-2.—Chart used in local notice to mariners to show certain small areas closed to navigation.

ing the actual conditions and forwarded to the charting agency through proper channels.

**C. Changeable inlets.**—The names, positions and depths of water of all uncharted buoys in changeable inlets shall be published in Local Notices to Mariners once each year, preferably at the beginning of the boating season. Thereafter, the positions of these buoys shall be adjusted as required to best mark the inlets and the new buoy positions published in Local Notices to Mariners.

**D. Names and numbers of aids.**—Numbers should be limited to two digits if feasible. The use of three digits introduces a possible difficulty in seeing all the numbers from a passing vessel, with an additional difficulty if the use of a letter becomes necessary.

(1) Minor lights so located that they serve as lateral channel aids should be numbered in the channel sequence. Other minor lights, daybeacons and buoys, at a distance off the channel and part

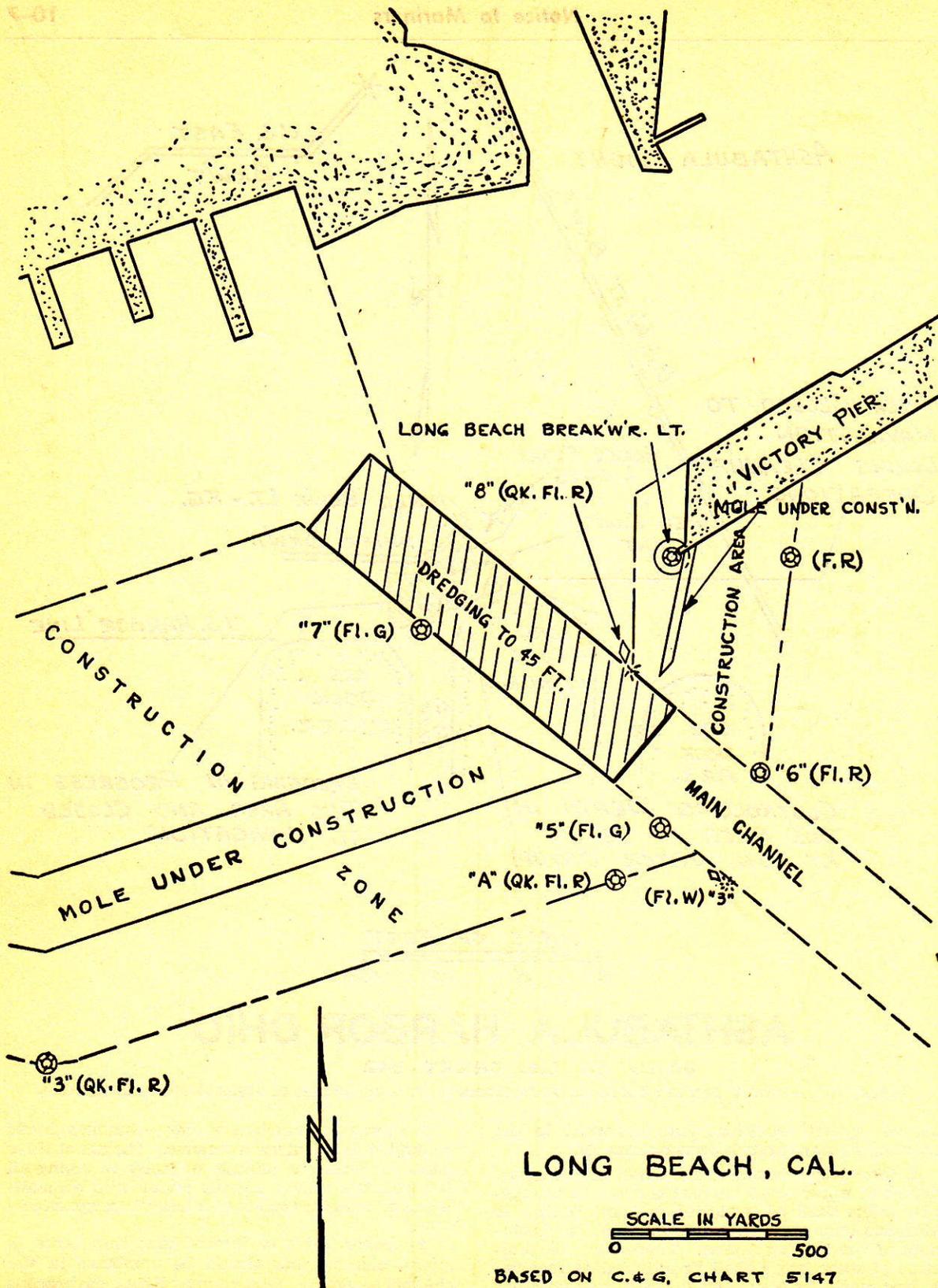


FIGURE 10-3.—Chart used in local notice to mariners to show a dredging area where mariners were warned to proceed with caution.

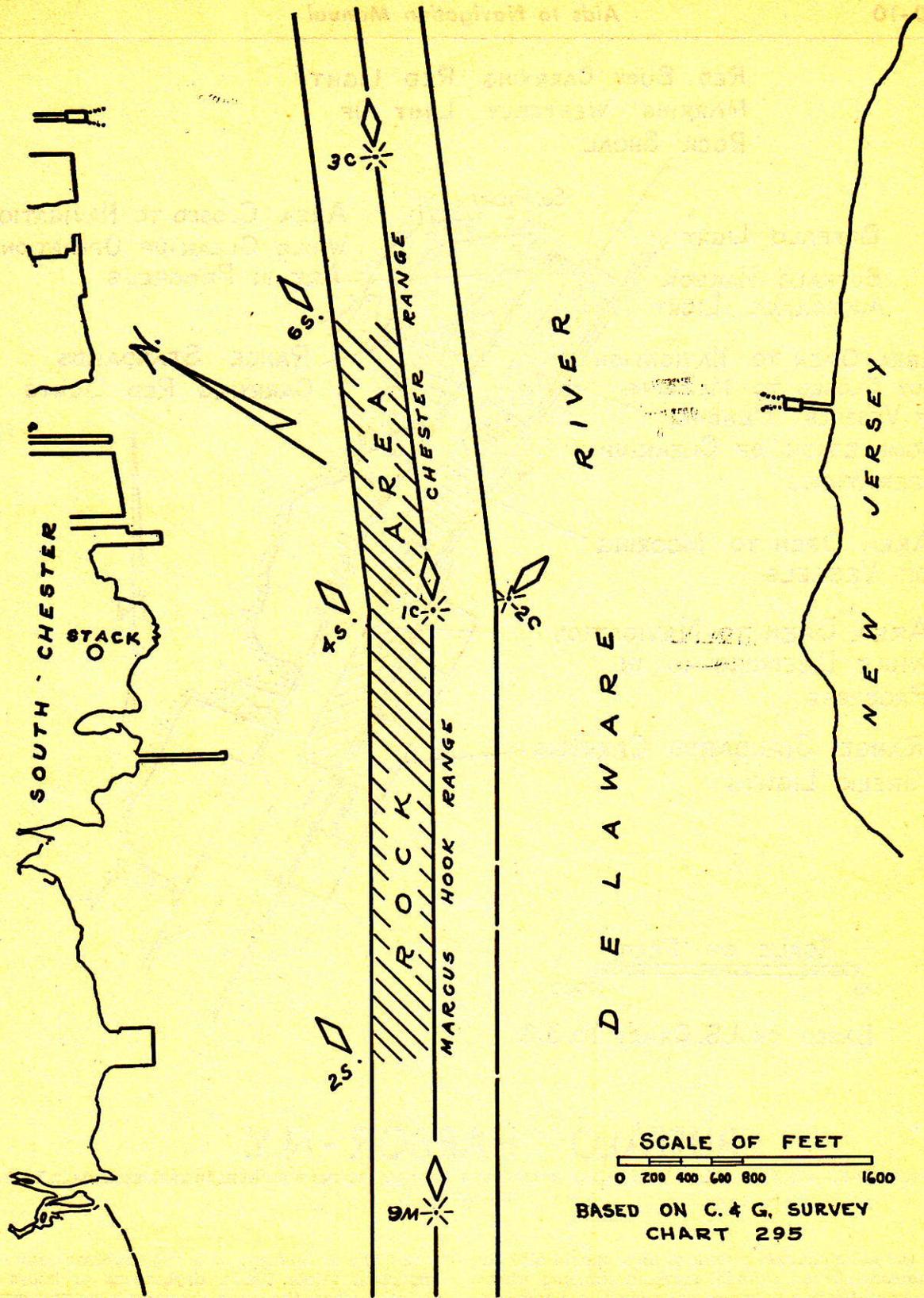
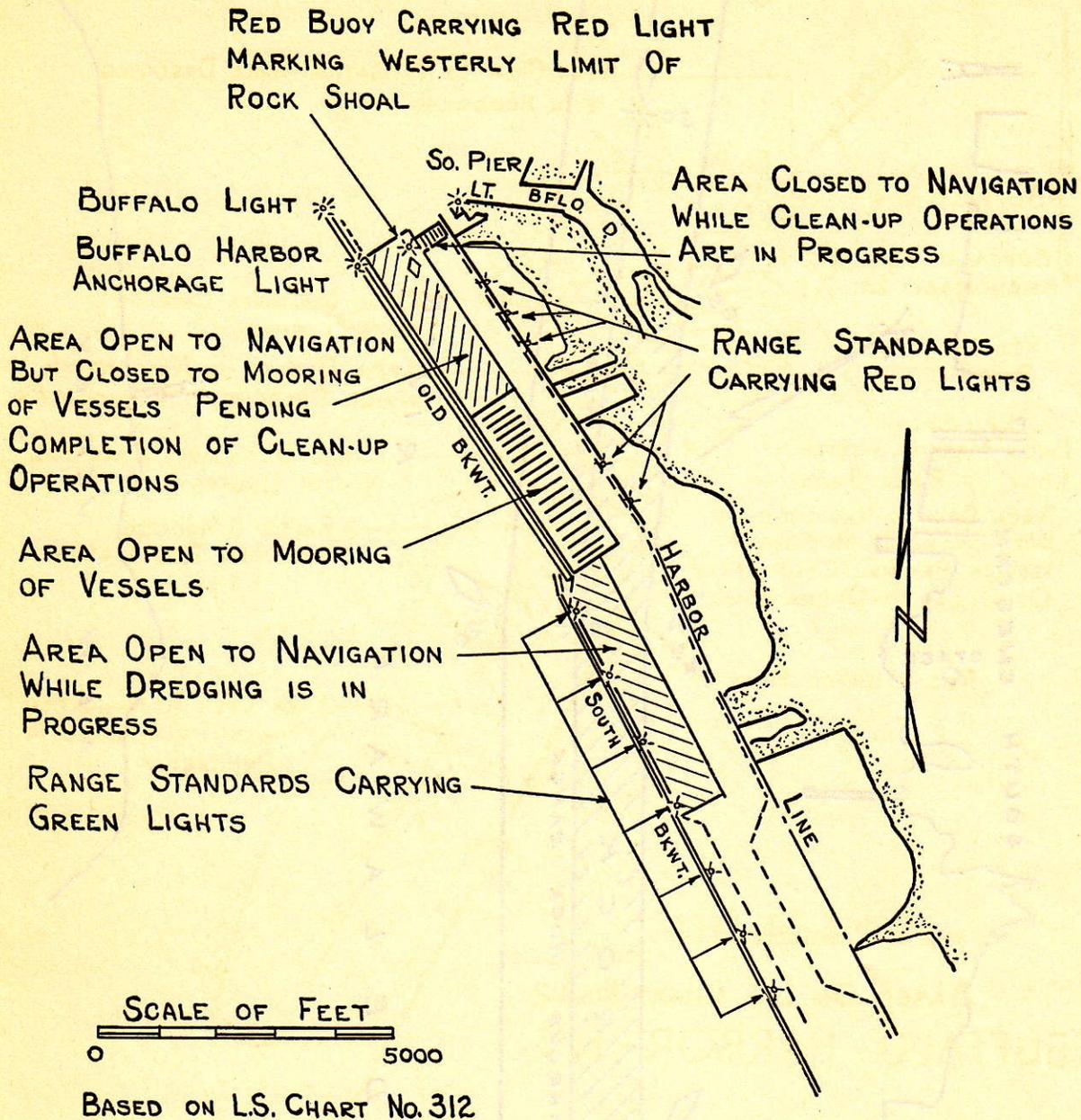


FIGURE 10-4.—Chart used in a local notice to mariners to show a rock area in the Delaware River.



## BUFFALO HARBOR - N.Y.

FIGURE 10-5.—Chart used in a local notice to mariners to show various conditions in various areas in Buffalo Harbor, N. Y.

of the same channel system of aids, should also be numbered in the channel marking sequence when for identification purposes assignment of a number is advantageous.

(2) The assignment of a geographical name to important minor lights, daybeacons or buoys is desirable where the landmark name is conspicuously shown on the chart.

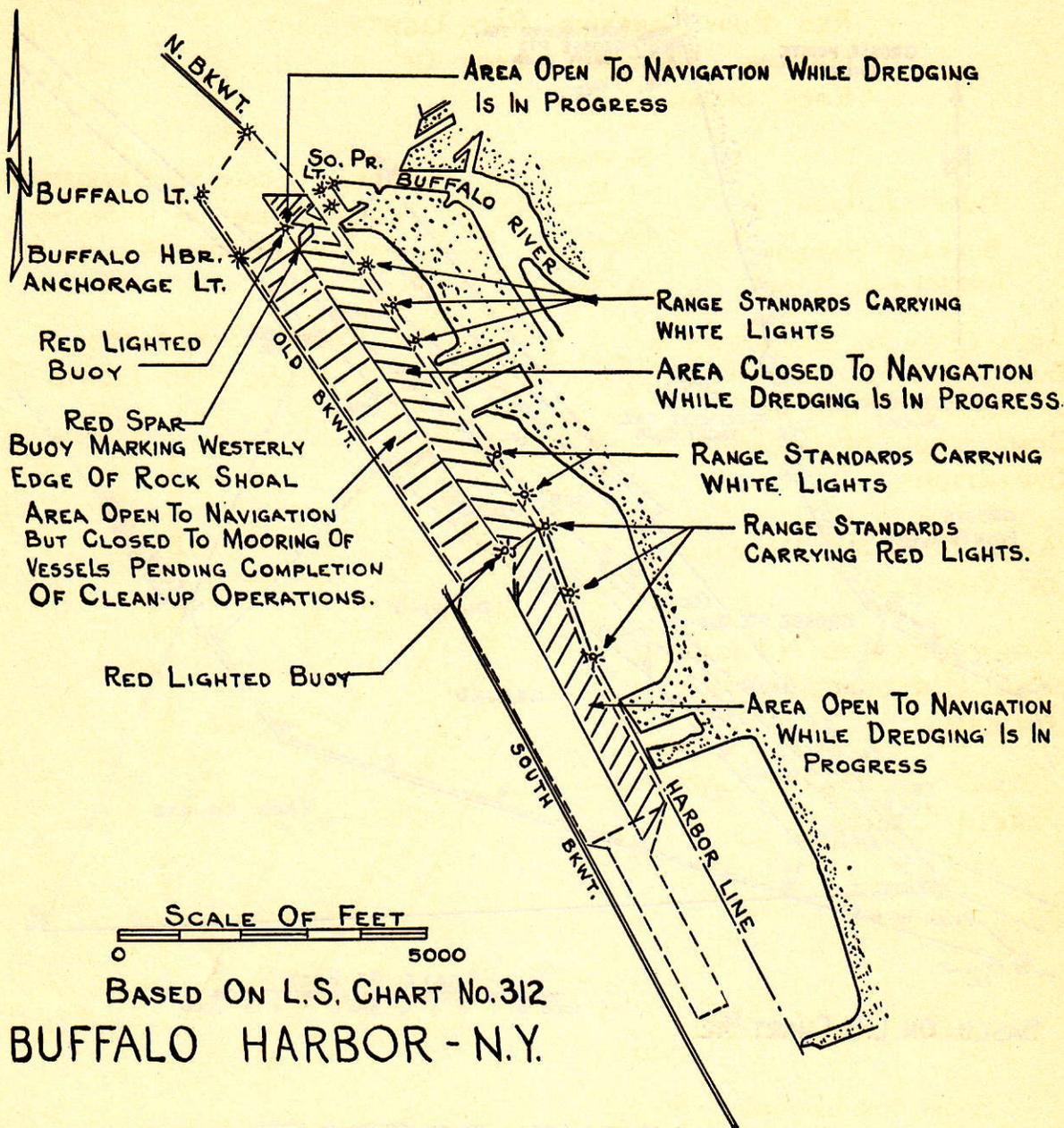
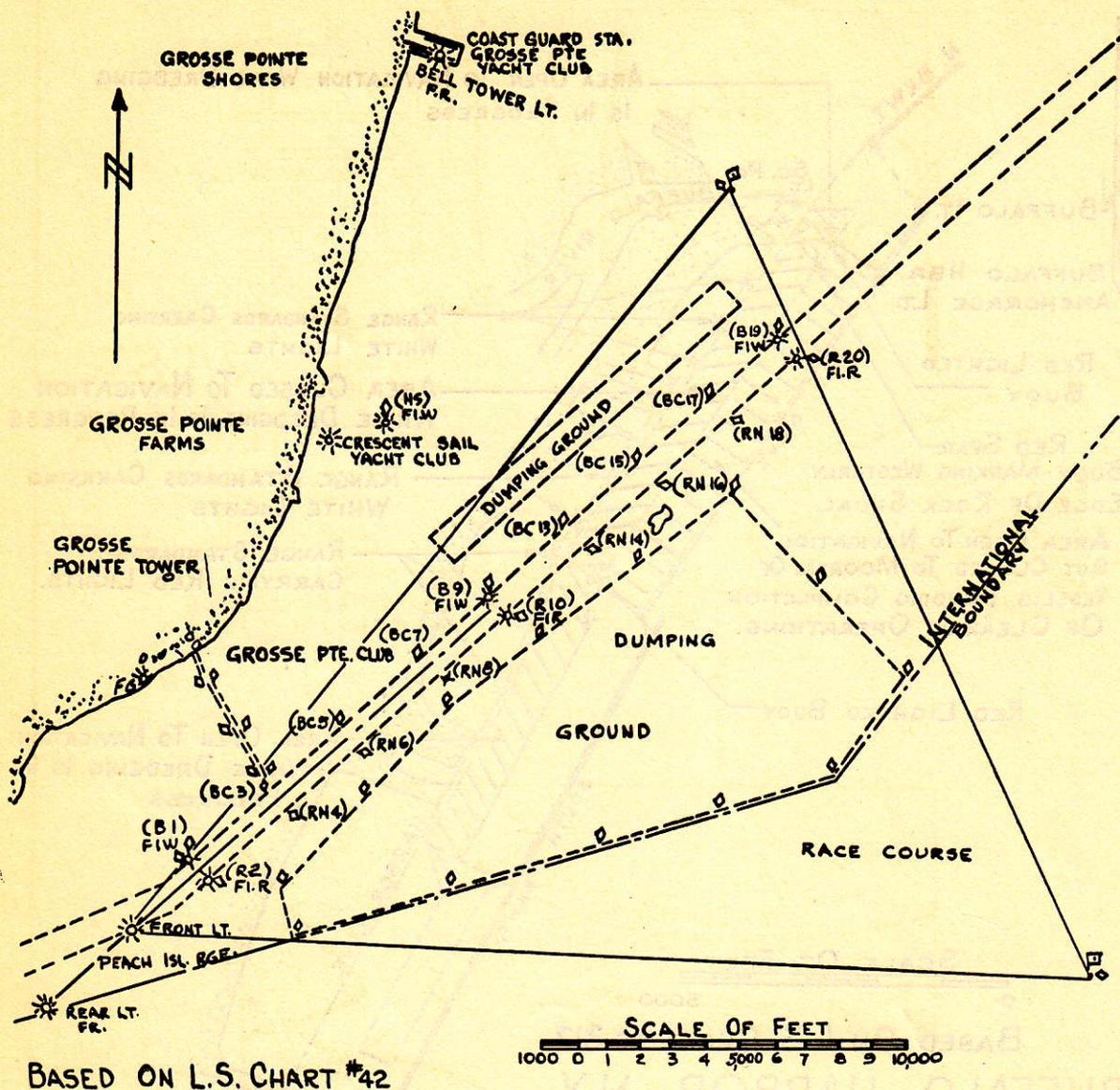


FIGURE 10-6.—Chart used in local notice to mariners issued subsequently to one shown in fig. 10-5 to show changed conditions in the same area.

*E. Classified information.*—In time of national emergency or war the matter of publication of information regarding aids so located, or of such character, that they might serve as a guide to the enemy should be discussed with the Commandant of the local Naval District and Headquarters advised of any information which it is recommended be withheld from unclassified Notices to Mariners. When, for military reasons, it is desired that information regarding Coast Guard aids to navigation

be withheld from regular dissemination, a definite statement to that effect by the Naval Command of the area concerned shall accompany such request to Headquarters. All classified items pertaining to Coast Guard aids to navigation shall be promulgated according to one of the following:

- (1) By dispatch notification directed to Commandant (OAN) and Hydrographer, United States Navy.
- (2) By classified Local Notice to Mariners only to a mailing list of addressees entitled to or affected by



## ABOVE DETROIT

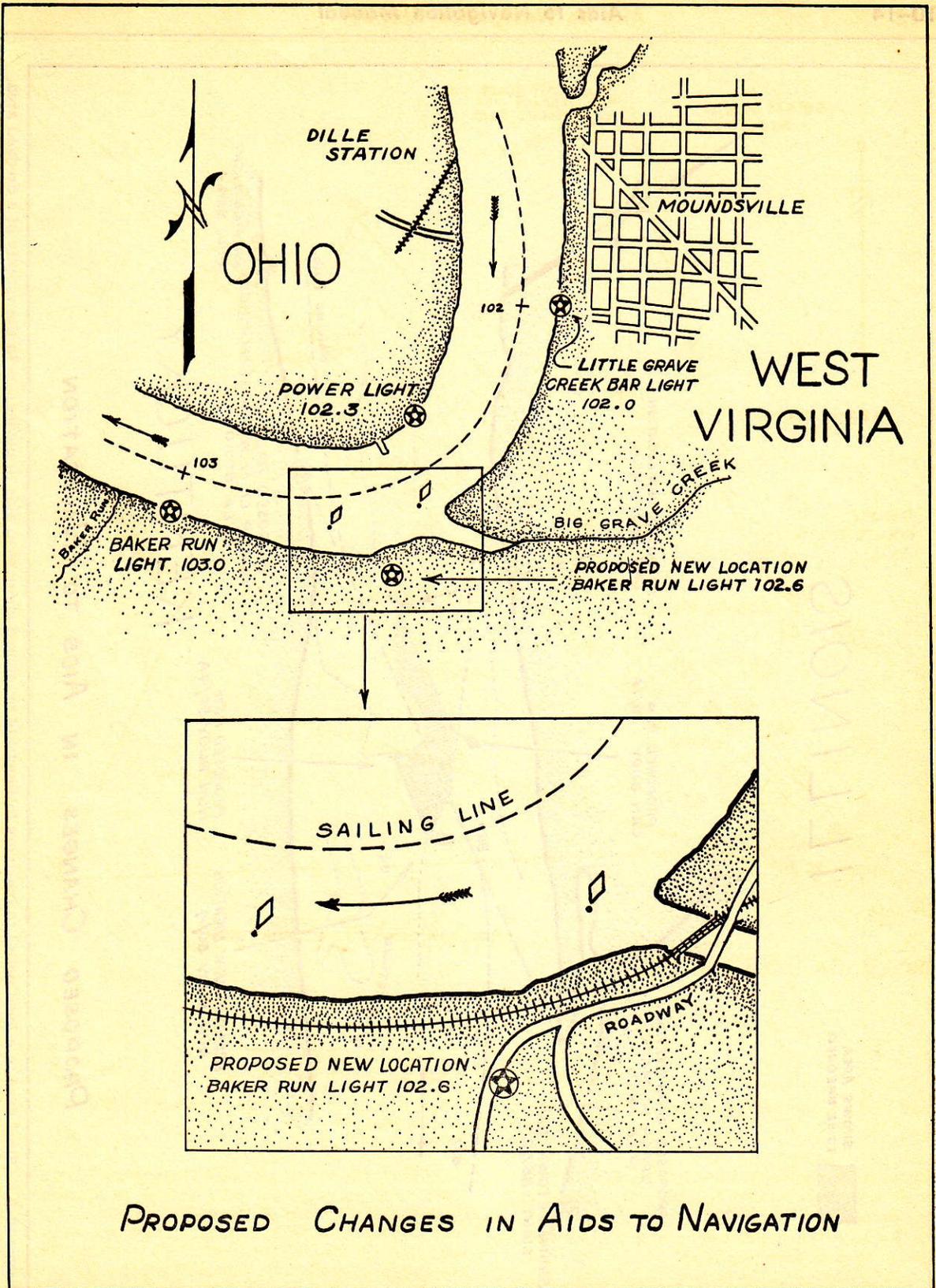
FIGURE 10-7.—Chart used in a local notice to mariners to show a sailboat race course temporarily marked by two unlighted stakes with flags.

the information as determined by the District Commander after consultation with the Naval Command of the area.

(3) By letter to the Hydrographer, United States Navy via Commandant (OAN).

F. *Furnishing Notices to Mariners to district vessels.*—It shall be the obligation of each District Com-

mander to insure that all Coast Guard vessels within his district are supplied with Notices to Mariners. Small boats that are on duty only within the district to which they are assigned should receive only the Local Notices to Mariners. Larger vessels that are assigned to offshore duty and which may enter two or more districts should receive the Weekly Notices to Mariners in addition to the local notices.



**PROPOSED CHANGES IN AIDS TO NAVIGATION**

FIGURE 10-8.—Chart used in a local notice to mariners to illustrate a proposed change in location of a lighted aid to navigation on a fixed structure.

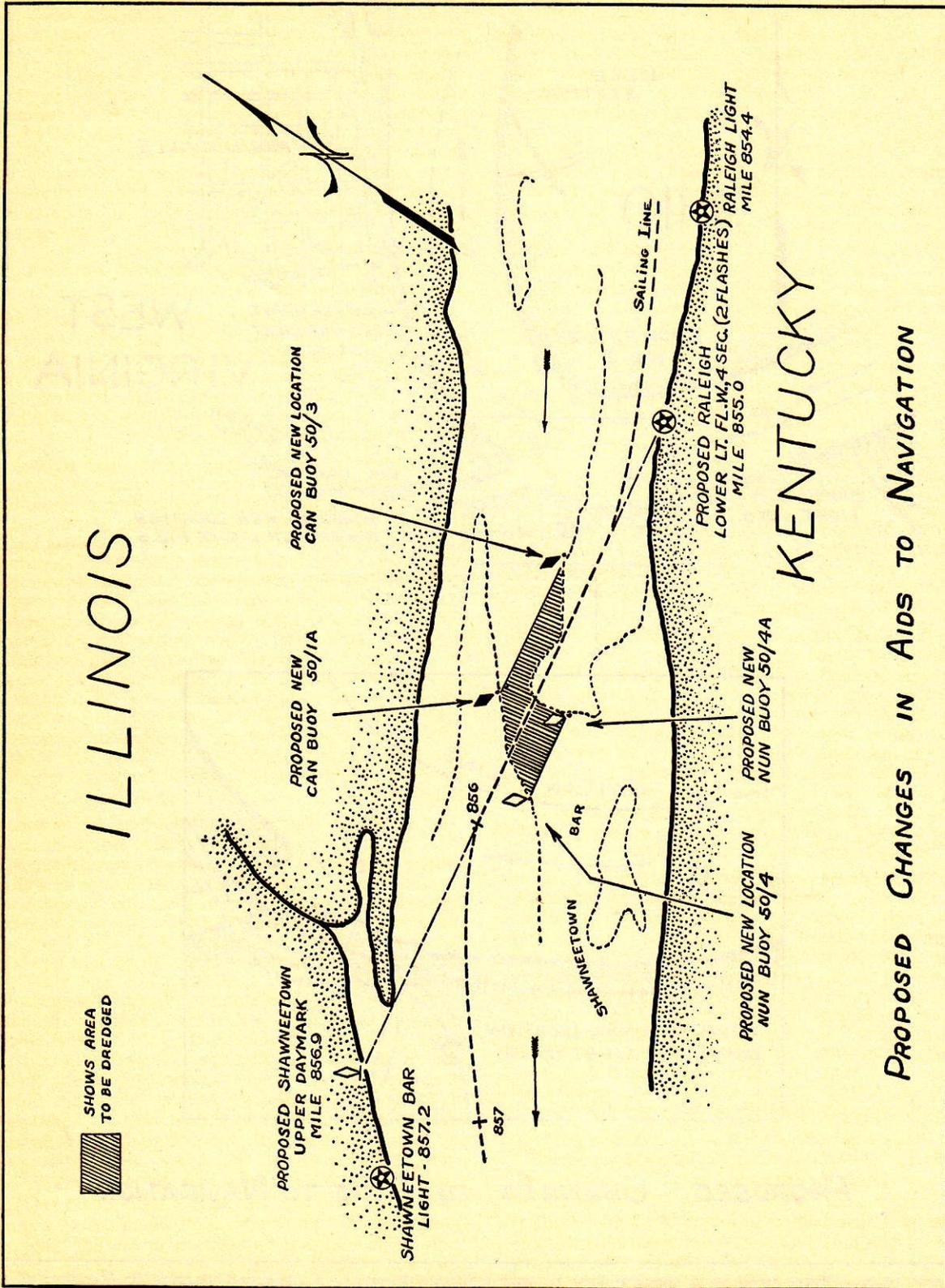


FIGURE 10-9.—Chart used in a local notice to mariners to illustrate proposed changes in aids to navigation in the vicinity of a dredged area.

**G. Mailing lists.**—Each district mailing list for local notices should include only addressees within the district or its immediate vicinity that best serve the interests of navigation; for instance, maritime organizations, the local Branch Hydrographic Offices, the Collectors of Customs, small boat operators, etc.

(1) *Revision.*—Mailing lists for Local Notices to Mariners shall be revised annually as required by law to insure that the addressees still need to have the publication sent to them. Coast Guard Form CG-2545 (Correction of Mailing List for Notice to Mariners) is to be requisitioned from the Supply Center, Jersey City, New Jersey, for this purpose. Replies to such solicitations must be carefully reviewed by responsible officers to make sure that no legitimate marine interests who should receive the notices are removed from the mailing list.

(2) *Number on mailing list.*—Not later than the 10th of January each year, Commandant (OAN) shall be advised as to the number of names on the mailing list for Local Notices to Mariners and the number of copies printed of the last local notice issued for the preceding year.

**H. Dissemination of information to pilots.**—Close liaison should be maintained with the pilot associations to insure that pilots are promptly and fully advised by telephone or dispatch of important changes and defects in aids to navigation in advance of the regular Broadcast or Local Notices to Mariners where necessary.

**I. Daymark colors.**—Except in the case of the Intracoastal Waterway, where the use of yellow has been adopted as a distinctive marking in combination with lateral colors, daymarks used throughout the Service shall be painted either white, black, or red, these colors being used either alone or in combination as desired to be most effective. In the case of the red color there is no objection to the use of international orange, Federal Color 1205. The Notice to Mariners will make reference, however, to the three colors only, red, white and black, in describing the daymarks.

**J. Trade names** of materials and/or equipment are not to be mentioned in Notices to Mariners, since such practice can easily be misconstrued as public endorsement of a particular product and subject the Coast Guard to adverse criticism. Inasmuch as the mariner is not concerned with trade names as applied to Coast Guard aids to navigation, Notices to Mariners must not mention names of manufacturers or copyrighted trade-marks and trade names. For example, the Notice to Mariners should state that "A red reflector was installed on Jones Point Buoy 2" and not "A red scotchlite reflector was installed on Jones Point Buoy 2."

**K. Preliminary Local Notice to Mariners** shall be issued to cover those items of importance which a mariner should be informed of well in advance to avoid confusion. Such notices should be issued sufficiently in advance to assure that all potential users of the aids receive the information in ample time prior to the action being taken. Preliminary Broadcast Notice to Mariners should be issued only

when it is impracticable to give sufficient advance notification of important changes in the local notices.

It is not practicable to state the amount of advance notice to be given in every case due to the problems of scheduling work, availability of tenders, weather conditions, etc. However, the following should be used as a general guide:

(a) Important changes in seacoast aids to navigation used in foreign trade—at least 3 months, unless an emergency exists; when practicable 6 months. Such changes should be repeated at monthly intervals until accomplished.

(b) For other important changes—at least 1 month, unless an emergency exists.

**L. Postponement Notice to Mariners** shall be issued in the event that aids to navigation cannot be established, changed or discontinued within a week of the time contemplated in a preliminary notice. Every effort must be made, however, to carry out changes as published in a preliminary notice if at all practicable.

**M. Reference to classified charts and publications.**—Unclassified Notices to Mariners shall not make reference to classified charts or publications. In cases where unclassified Notices to Mariners affect both unclassified and classified charts and publications, the Hydrographic Office, Navy Department, will publish appropriate classified Notices to Mariners referring to the classified chart or publication concerned upon receipt of the unclassified Notice to Mariners. When publishing classified local Notice to Mariners, reference shall be made only to those charts and publications of the same or lesser classification as the notice. Such notices shall be distributed only to those persons entitled to them under the particular classification assigned. The Hydrographer, United States Navy and Commandant (OAN) shall always be included in such distribution.

**N. Anchorage, restricted, prohibited, and danger zone areas.**—The authority for the establishment, change or discontinuance in anchorage areas, restricted areas, prohibited areas and danger zones is vested in the Department of the Army pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of the River and Harbor Act of August 8, 1917, chapter XIX of the act of July 9, 1918, and section 7 of the River and Harbor Act of March 4, 1915 (33 U. S. C. 1, 3, and 471).

(1) Notice of establishment, change, discontinuance, and regulations pertaining to areas mentioned above, in general, is published in the Federal Register by the Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, and when necessary is included in the Code of Federal Regulations. Notice regarding these areas is also included in Public Notices issued by the various District Engineer Offices, Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army (hereinafter referred to as District Engineer) in mimeograph or other office reproduction form. Thus Coast Guard Local Notices to Mariners should be used only where there is no material duplication in mailing lists of the local District Engineer and the District Commander.

(2) In order that a uniform procedure may be followed by Coast Guard districts with respect to publishing information in Notices to Mariners concerning the above mentioned areas not involving the establishment, change or discontinuance of aids to navigation, the following shall apply:

(a) Include only those items in Local Notices to Mariners as requested by the District Engineer, concluding each item by a credit line referring to the source of information. In this connection, Broadcast Notices to Mariners should be made only in urgent cases.

(b) All requests received from any source other than the District Engineer for publication of information concerning areas discussed here in Local Notices to Mariners, shall be referred to the District Engineer for clearance.

(c) In cases where the information covers one or more pages of copy, arrangements are to be made locally for the District Engineer to furnish sufficient copies of the Public Notice to the District Commander for use as a supplemental enclosure in the Local Notices to Mariners.

(3) Local Notices to Mariners shall be issued in all cases where aids to navigation are established, changed or discontinued in connection with the areas under discussion after the procedure outlined under item (b) is followed.

(4) When notice of establishment has once been published, Notice to Mariners pertaining to intermittent use of the areas may be promulgated in Notices to Mariners upon advice from the Government Agency concerned without reference to the District Engineer in each case so long as the use conforms with that approved by the District Engineer.

**O Channel reports.**—Channel depth data and marine information originated by the Corps of Engineers is furnished to the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey for inclusion in the Weekly Notice to Mariners. Dissemination of such information in a Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners would naturally follow publication by the Corps of Engineers and in general precede issuance in the Weekly Notice to Mariners. It also would duplicate or broaden the scope of dissemination by the extent that a Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners mailing list duplicates or exceeds the names on mailing lists for channel reports of the Corps of Engineers or for the Weekly Notice to Mariners.

(1) In view of this, it is not necessary that Coast Guard Local Notices to Mariners include Corps of Engineer Bulletins, Hydrographic Reports, Summaries of Channel Conditions and similar voluminous reports unless the local Corps of Engineer Office requests such dissemination or the District Commander considers such reports to be of Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners character warranting the duplication and additional coverage afforded by Coast Guard dissemination. In either case, it is not expected that any Coast Guard District should burden itself with reproduction tasks involved, and, therefore, advance arrangements should be made with the local Corps of Engineers Office so that they furnish sufficient copies of the finished product for

use as a supplemental enclosure in the Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners.

(2) The above shall not be construed as precluding the extraction of Corps of Engineers information where considered necessary, especially when such information relates to the operation of aids to navigation, such as, in the case of an obstruction or shoal requiring action with respect to its marking with an aid to navigation.

**P. Antenna of radiobeacons.**—Local Notice to Mariners shall include information as to the position of the antenna when radiobeacons are established or moved. The position should be shown as a distance and bearing from the light at the station, or the nearest prominent charted landmark when no light is maintained in connection with the radiobeacon.

**Q. Reference plane.**—Give depth of water in feet (whole number) for buoys and other aids located on marine structures converted to the plane of reference for soundings shown on the largest scale chart of the area. Give height of aids above water as follows:

(1) **Lights on fixed structures and daybeacons.**—above mean high water on the Atlantic Coast, mean higher high water on the Pacific Coast and standard low water on the Great Lakes. In rivers where the elevation of the water may vary considerably due to seasonal freshets, heights shall be given as follows:

(a) Marine sites—height above local datum for soundings shown on the largest scale chart of the area.

(b) Shore sites—height of lights above ground only.

**NOTE.**—For lights, the height will be to the focal plane of the light, and for daybeacons the height will be to the top of structure or daymark.

(2) Float lights, lighted buoys and lightships—focal plane of light above water.

**R. Aeronautical lights.**—Local Notice to Mariners shall be issued giving the position, characteristic, height above water, candlepower and name of maintainer of *aeronautical lights* established if they meet the following requirements:

(a) Situated within about 15 miles of the coast line and visible to the mariner at sea.

(b) Readily identified from seaward by their characteristic and useful to the mariner for navigation purposes.

(c) Operated continuously during the nighttime.

(1) Local Notice to Mariners shall also be issued when aeronautical lights shown in the light list or charted are changed or discontinued.

(2) In order to insure that information concerning aeronautical lights, useful to the mariner, is covered by notices to mariners, each district shall maintain close liaison with the local representatives of the Civil Aeronautic Administration and others operating aeronautical lights.

**S. Aeronautical radiobeacons** will be shown on charts and listed in Radio Navigational Aids, H. O. Pub. No. 205, if they are useful to the mariner and located in areas where marine radiobeacons are

insufficient for the needs of marine navigation, providing they are located within a distance from the coastline where no distortion of wave direction is apparent.

(1) Local Notice to Mariners shall be issued when information comes to the attention of the district that such radiobeacons have been established, giving their position, frequency, characteristic, time of operation, and name of maintainer. Likewise notices to mariners shall be issued when aeronautical radiobeacons shown on marine charts and listed in H. O. Pub. No. 205 are changed or discontinued.

**T. Lifeboat stations.**—In order that the charts may be kept current, any establishments, discontinuances or changes in the positions or numbering of lifeboat stations maintained and operated by the Coast Guard shall be covered by Local Notices to Mariners.

**U. Loran.**—Information concerning the establishment, change, or discontinuance in loran as well as any discrepancies in loran service shall be included in Local Notices to Mariners and Broadcast Notices to Mariners, similar to the manner in which other aids to navigation information is disseminated. However, since loran information is of more than local interest it also should be given dissemination by NOTAMS. (See par. V.)

**V. NOTAMS.**—A Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) is a report related to aircraft operation and air navigation containing information concerning the establishment, condition or change of: (a) aids to air navigation; (b) hazards to air navigation; (c) airports or landing areas; (d) services, procedures or regulatory requirements.

(1) Any agency of the Government or any other organization which operates a facility which affects air navigation or safety of aircraft in flight is responsible for *originating* NOTAMS concerning that facility or the operation thereof. The dissemination of NOTAMS to aircraft and aircraft operators in any area, in general, is the responsibility of the agency which controls air traffic in that area. Within the continental United States and in areas external to the United States where air traffic is controlled by a civil agency, the Civil Aeronautics Administration is the responsible agency. In those areas where air traffic control is exercised by the military the responsible agency for dissemination of NOTAMS is the Airways and Air Communications Service of the United States Air Force. It is the responsibility of the originator of a NOTAM to make it available to the nearest, or to a designated, office of the appropriate disseminating agency or agencies.

(2) The Coast Guard cannot accept the responsibility, nor is it in a position to do so, of transmitting NOTAM information to all who might be concerned, but it is practicable to arrange for the information to reach all who have taken the necessary measures to avail themselves of the information. District and Area commanders who originate NOTAM information should consult with the appropriate CAA, AACS or international NOTAM Office to insure that NOTAMS originated by the Coast Guard are disseminated by the Aeronautical Communication

Service to the responsible offices in the areas which will be affected by the change, establishment or condition of Coast Guard service. Phraseology used in the preparation of NOTAMS shall be in accordance with directives of the agencies responsible for disseminating such information.

**W. Additional dissemination of information.**—District Commanders may furnish information concerning deficiencies or changes in aids to navigation to newspapers, commercial radio broadcasting stations, etc., for additional dissemination of such information providing proper credit is given to the Coast Guard.

## 10-4 WEEKLY NOTICES

### 10-4-1 General—

**A. Weekly Notice to Mariners (Part I—Western Hemisphere Edition).**—This notice is prepared jointly by the Coast Guard and the Hydrographic Office, Navy Department, and published weekly by the Navy Hydrographic Office. It is intended to serve as a medium for the correction of nautical publications. Commandant (OAN) responsibility with respect to this notice is to insure that all information contained therein concerning aids to navigation maintained by or under authority of the Coast Guard and other Coast Guard operations is complete and accurately described.

### 10-4-5 Preparation—

**A. Source of information.**—Items for the Weekly Notice to Mariners are prepared from information contained in Local printed and Broadcast Notices to Mariners issued by the various Coast Guard districts, reports from other government agencies, ship reports, etc.

**B. Printing schedule.**—The copy for each Weekly Notice to Mariners is sent to the Government Printing Office for printing at noon on Wednesday of each week unless a holiday, in which case the copy is sent to the printer on Tuesday. The proof is generally read on the following Monday, and the Notice is mailed the latter part of the same week. The date appearing on the Notice is the approximate date of issue, which is generally 10 days after the copy is sent to the printer. Therefore, it is necessary that any information to be included in a Weekly Notice to Mariners without delay must be received in Washington, D. C., by not later than Wednesday noon of each week. At best, it takes at least 10 days from the time the information is received until it reaches the mariner, and it can take as long as 17 days if the information is received on a Wednesday afternoon. It is not intended to imply that changes in aids to navigation should be accomplished so that the information would be received by Wednesday noon, but rather to inform the districts of the printing problem involved so that planning of important changes in aids can be considered accordingly.

**C. Items not included.**—Deficiencies (except destroyed aids) or temporary changes in aids to navigation of less than 1 month are not generally included in the Weekly Notice to Mariners because of the relatively long time lapse between receipt of information in Washington, D. C., and the time it would be included in the Weekly Notice. Therefore, in cases where it may be necessary to make temporary changes to important aids, sufficient advance notice should be given in the local notices so that the information will appear in the Weekly Notice to Mariners in sufficient time to be of benefit to the mariner.

**D. When to notify Headquarters.**—If a deficiency in an aid cannot be restored within one week, notation shall be made on a copy of the Local Notice to Mariners forwarded to Headquarters in order that consideration may be given to including the information in the Weekly Notice to Mariners if of sufficient importance. The notation should include information as to the probable date the aid will be restored to normal operation. See paragraph 10-3-5 (A) (5).

**E. Destroyed aids.**—A list of destroyed aids to navigation maintained by or under authority of the Coast Guard is published in each Weekly Notice to Mariners. This list contains a composite summary of all aids reported destroyed in local notices and information as to temporary substitute aids, if any. It is intended to serve as a convenient reference to eliminate "hand corrections" to charts by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. In order to insure accuracy in this list, each district concerned shall make periodic checks and advise Commandant (OAN) of any discrepancies noted therein, giving supporting references to authority, such as local notices, etc. It shall be the constant endeavor of the districts to secure prompt restoration of aids to navigation which may be damaged or destroyed.

**F. Aids temporarily established, moved, changed, or discontinued.**—A list of aids to navigation maintained by or under authority of the Coast Guard temporarily established, moved, changed, or discontinued is published quarterly in the Weekly Notice to Mariners. In order to provide a check against Headquarters' records to insure accuracy in this list, all districts, except the second and ninth, shall submit a list of temporary changes in aids in effect as of the first of the following months of each year: January, April, July, and October. This list is to reach Commandant (OAN) by not later than the tenth of the month at the beginning of each quarter. The district list should contain the names of the aids concerned, condition (whether established, moved, changed, discontinued, etc.), and a Notice to Mariners reference. The complete list published in the weekly notice is intended to serve as a convenient reference for the mariner of those temporary changes in aids not ordinarily shown on nautical charts or included in the light lists. Temporary changes in aids shall be confined to aids established, exclusive of wreck marking, and aids discontinued, moved or changed where definite information is available that the action will be in

force for less than six months. Aids to navigation established to mark wrecks are charted, and, therefore, are not included in the temporary list. Each district concerned shall continue its efforts to keep the list of temporary changes in aids to navigation to a minimum.

**G. Preliminary items** of changes in aids to navigation published in local notices and affecting only local navigation will not generally be published in the Weekly Notices. Likewise, other preliminary items where less than ten days advance notice is given in the local notices will not generally be included in the Weekly Notices, since the changes will be accomplished before the information can be disseminated to the mariner. In this connection every effort shall be made to publish information concerning important changes in aids to navigation in local notices at least one month in advance.

#### 10-4-10 Distribution—

**A. Mailing lists.**—The mailing list for the Weekly Notice to Mariners (Part I, Western Hemisphere Edition), exclusive of persons also requiring Part II, Eastern Hemisphere Edition, and Coast Guard cutters and naval vessels, is maintained by Commandant (OAN).

**B. The Navy Hydrographic Office, Washington 25, D. C.,** maintains the mailing list for the Weekly Notice to Mariners (Part II, Eastern Hemisphere Edition) and the mailing list for Part I, Western Hemisphere Edition, of Coast Guard cutters, naval vessels and others also requiring Part II.

#### 10-4-15 Great Lakes Area—

**A. The Weekly Notice to Mariners on the Great Lakes** is prepared ~~jointly~~ by the Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District, ~~and the Navy Branch Hydrographic Office, Cleveland, Ohio,~~ in a manner similar to that on the coasts. The Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District, is, therefore, responsible to insure that information contained therein ~~with respect to aids to navigation maintained by or under authority of the Coast Guard~~ is complete and accurate.

**D. Lists of temporary and destroyed aids** shall be prepared by the Commander, Ninth Coast Guard District, and included in the Great Lakes Weekly Notice to Mariners, similar to the lists for the Coasts if sufficient aids are involved to justify such lists.

### 10-5 SECOND COAST GUARD DISTRICT NOTICES

#### 10-5-1 General—

**A. Purpose.**—Notices to Mariners are published in the Second Coast Guard District to announce establishments, discontinuances and changes in aids to navigation, special events such as regattas, opening and closing of navigation, location and marking

of wrecks, and any other marine data believed essential to the safety of river navigation.

B. *Publishing* is effected by the District Office and those cutters operating on the unstabilized portion of the Mississippi River, St. Louis, Mo., to Baton Rouge, La. The District Office publishes notices for all rivers, which include confirmations of previous radio broadcasts and current items. Such notices contain information useful for proper maintenance of the Light List and applicable charts, and are written in customary style.

C. *Mailing lists*.—The District Office mailing plates are segregated into logical groups, so mailing of notices can be made to Upper Mississippi, Lower Mississippi, Ohio, and other lists. Pilots are not

universally licensed for all rivers, but hold limited licenses for one or more rivers, and therefore desire only notices pertaining to those rivers for which they are licensed. For annual revision of mailing lists, see paragraph 10-3-10 (G) (1).

D. *Broadcast Notices*.—Notices are also broadcast using Radiomarine Station WGK, St. Louis. Emergency broadcasts are occasionally made over Coast Guard Station NML. Broadcasts are sent as routine to WGK for broadcast at 1200 Central Standard Time and otherwise sent as special to WGK for immediate and repeated broadcast. When desirable and essential, broadcast texts or the essentials thereof are published in the next routine printed Notice from the District Office.

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