

CHAPTER 4

NAUTICAL PUBLICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

400. Definitions

The navigator uses many information sources when planning and conducting a voyage. These sources include notices to mariners, sailing directions, light lists, tide tables, sight reduction tables, and almanacs. Historically, this information has been found in printed publications; increasingly, it is being integrated into computer-based electronic systems. The navigator must know what information he needs to navigate his ship safely and how to obtain it.

This chapter will refer only to printed publications. If the navigator has access to this data on an electronic database, only his method of access will differ. The publications discussed here form a basic navigation library; the navigator must also obtain all supplementary materials required to

navigate his ship safely.

401. Types And Sources Of Publications

While voyage planning and navigating, a mariner must refer to both texts and tables. Examples of text include sailing directions, coast pilots, and notices to mariners. Examples of tables include light lists and sight reduction tables.

Navigational publications are available from many sources. Military customers automatically receive or requisition most required publications. The civilian navigator obtains his publications from a publisher's agent. Larger agents representing many publishers can completely supply a ship's chart and publication library.

NAUTICAL TEXTS

402. Sailing Directions

Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center *Sailing Directions* consist of 37 **Enroutes** and 10 **Planning Guides**. Planning Guides describe general features of ocean basins; Enroutes describe features of coastlines, ports, and harbors.

Sailing Directions are updated when new data requires extensive revision of an existing text. These data are obtained from several sources, including pilots and foreign Sailing Directions.

One book comprises the Planning Guide and Enroute for Antarctica. This consolidation allows for a more effective presentation of material on this unique area.

The Planning Guides are relatively permanent; by contrast, Sailing Directions (Enroute) are frequently updated. Between updates, both are corrected by the *Notice to Mariners*.

403. Sailing Directions (Planning Guide)

Planning Guides assist the navigator in planning an extensive oceanic voyage. Each of the Guides covers an area determined by an arbitrary division of the world's seas into eight "ocean basins." This division is shown in Figure 403.

A Planning Guide's first chapter contains information about the countries adjacent to the applicable ocean basin. It also covers pratique, pilotage, signals, and shipping regulations. Search and Rescue topics include the location of all lifesaving stations.

The second chapter contains information on the physical environment of an ocean basin. It consists of Ocean Summaries and descriptions of local coastal phenomena. This gives the mariner meteorological and oceanographic information to be considered in planning a route.

The third chapter lists foreign firing danger areas not shown in other DMAHTC publications. A graphic key identifies Submarine Operating Areas. This chapter also identifies publications listing danger areas and gives pertinent navigation cautions.

The fourth chapter describes recommended steamship routes. To facilitate planning, the publication shows entire routes to foreign ports originating from all major U.S. ports. This chapter also includes all applicable Traffic Separation Schemes.

The fifth and final chapter describes available radi-onavigation systems and the area's system of lights, beacons, and buoys.

Appendices contain information on buoyage systems, route charts, and area meteorological conditions.

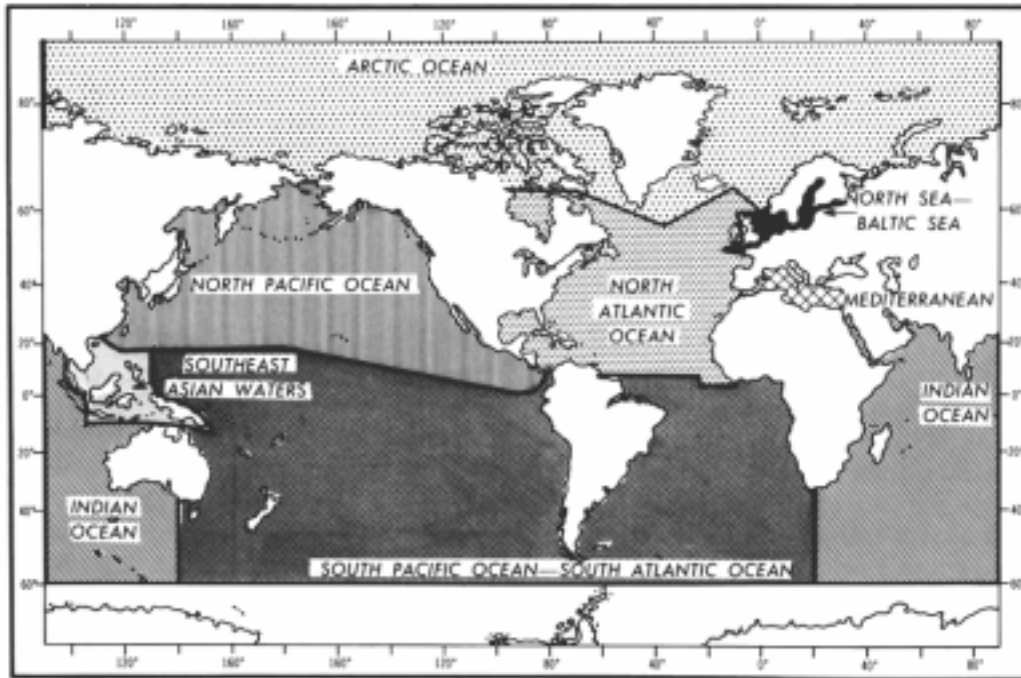


Figure 403. The 8 ocean basins as organized for Sailing Directions (Planning Guides).

404. Sailing Directions (Enroute)

Each volume of the *Sailing Directions* (Enroute) contains numbered sections along a coast or through a strait. Figure 404a illustrates this division. Each sector is discussed in turn. A preface with detailed information about authorities, references, and conventions used in each book precedes the sector discussions. Finally, each book provides conversions between feet, fathoms, and meters.

The Chart Information Graphic, the first item in each chapter, is a graphic key for charts pertaining to a sector. See Figure 404b. The graduation of the border scale of the chartlet enables navigators to identify the largest scale chart for a location and to find a feature listed in the Index-Gazetteer. These graphics are not maintained by *Notice to Mariners*; one should refer to the chart catalog for updated chart listings.

Other graphics may contain special information on local winds and weather, anchorages, significant coastal features, and navigation dangers.

A foreign terms glossary, an appendix of anchorages, and a comprehensive Index-Gazetteer follow the sector discussions. The Index-Gazetteer is an alphabetical listing of described and charted features. The Index lists each feature by geographic coordinates and sector number for use with the graphic key. Features mentioned in the text are listed by page number.

405. Coast Pilots

The National Ocean Service publishes nine *United States Coast Pilots* to supplement nautical charts of U.S. waters. Information comes from field inspections, survey vessels, and various harbor authorities. Maritime officials and pilotage associations provide additional information. *Coast Pilots* provide more detailed information than *Sailing Directions* because *Sailing Directions* are intended exclusively for the oceangoing mariner. The *Notice to Mariners* updates *Coast Pilots*.

Each volume contains comprehensive sections on local operational considerations and navigation regulations. Following chapters contain detailed discussions of coastal navigation. An appendix provides information on obtaining additional weather information, communications services, and other data. An index and additional tables complete the volume.

406. Other Nautical Texts

The government publishes several other nautical texts. The Defense Mapping Agency, for example, publishes the *Maneuvering Board Manual* (Pub. 217), *The Radar Navigation Manual* (Pub.1310) and the *American Practical Navigator* (Pub. 9).

The U.S. Coast Guard publishes navigation rules for international and inland waters. This publication, officially known as Commandant Instruction M16672.2b, contains

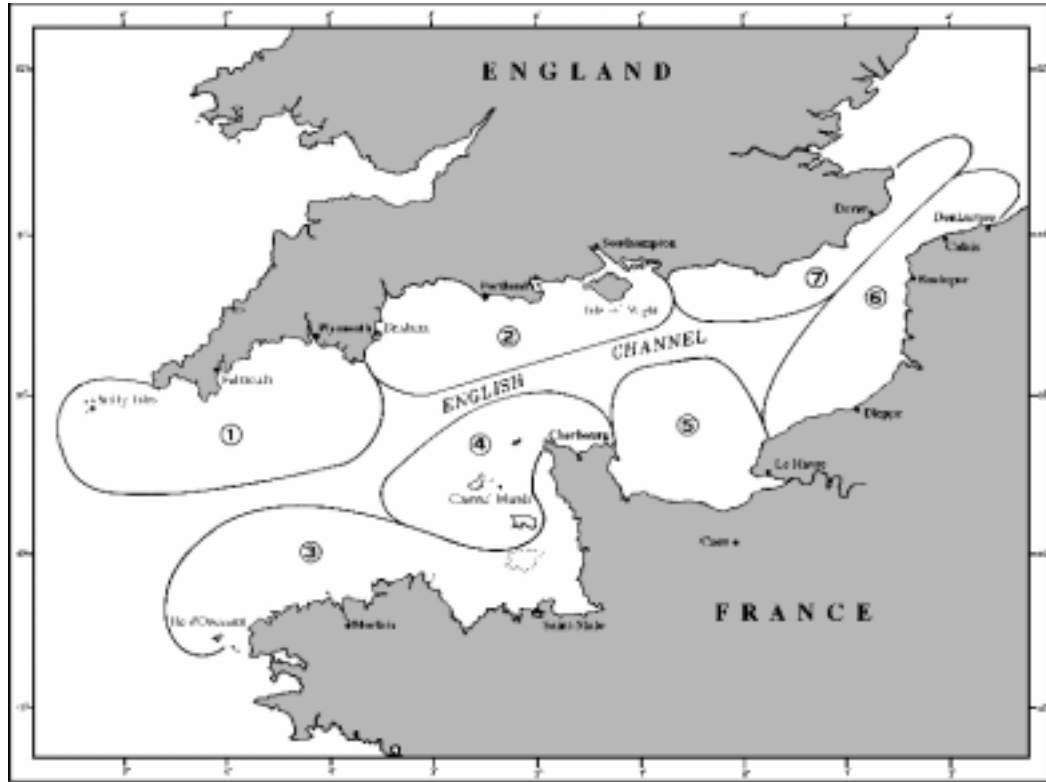
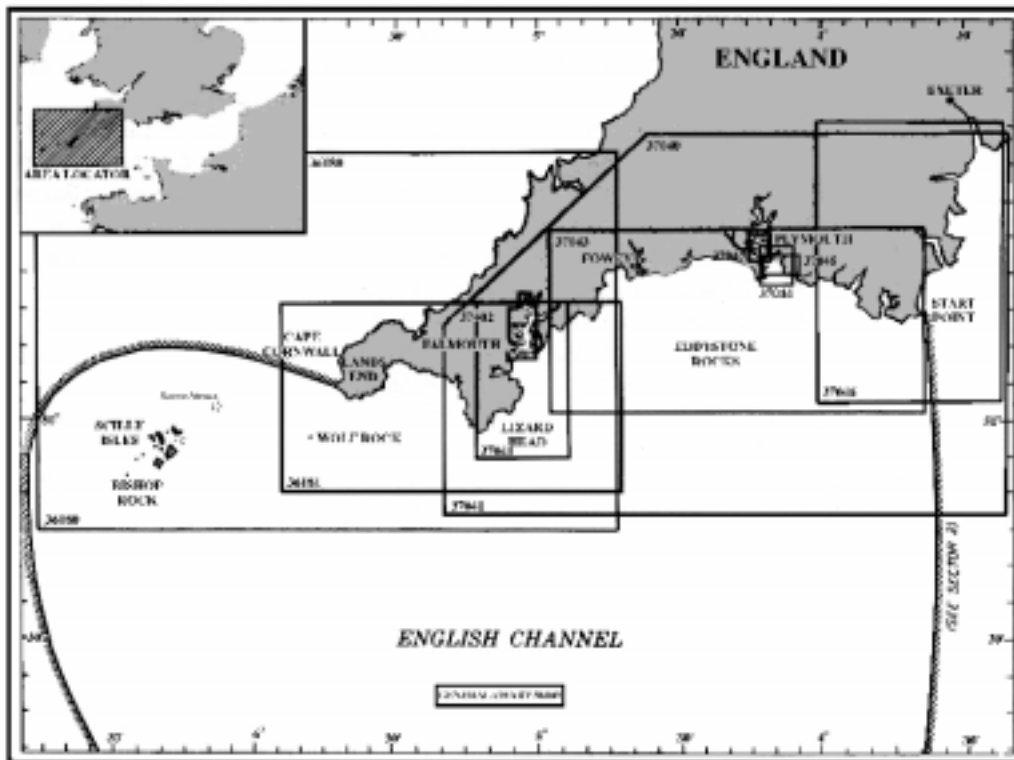


Figure 404a. Sector Limits graphic.



Additional chart coverage may be found in CATP2 Catalog of Nautical Charts.

Figure 404b. Chart Information graphic.

the Inland Navigation Rules enacted in December 1980 and effective on all inland waters of the United States including the Great Lakes, as well as the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea, enacted in 1972 (1972 COLREGS). Mariners should ensure that they have the updated issue. The Coast Guard also publishes comprehensive user's manuals for the Omega, Loran, and GPS navigation systems; *Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circulars*; and the *Chemical Data Guide for Bulk Shipment by Water*.

The Government Printing Office provides several publications on navigation, safety at sea, communications, weather, and related topics. Additionally, it publishes pro-

visions of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) relating to maritime matters. A number of private publishers also provide maritime publications.

The International Maritime Organization, International Hydrographic Organization, and other governing international organizations provide information on international navigation regulations. Chapter 1 gives these organizations' addresses. Regulations for various Vessel Traffic Services (VTS), canals, lock systems, and other regulated waterways are published by the authorities which operate them.

USING THE LIGHT LISTS

407. Light Lists

The United States publishes two different light lists. The U.S. Coast Guard publishes the *Light List* for lights in U.S. territorial waters; DMAHTC publishes the *List of Lights* for lights in foreign waters.

Light lists furnish complete information about navigation lights and other navigation aids. They supplement, but do not replace, charts and sailing directions. Consult the chart for the location and light characteristics of all navigation aids; consult the light lists to determine their detailed description.

The *Notice to Mariners* corrects both lists. Corrections which have accumulated since the print date are included in the *Notice to Mariners* as a *Summary of Corrections*. All of these summary corrections, and any corrections published subsequently, should be noted in the "Record of Corrections."

A navigator needs to know both the identity of a light and when he can expect to see it; he often plans the ship's track to pass within a light's range. If lights are not sighted when predicted, the vessel may be significantly off course and standing into danger.

A circle with a radius equal to the visible range of the light usually defines the area in which a light can be seen. On some bearings, however, obstructions may reduce the range. In this case, the obstructed arc might differ with height of eye and distance. Also, lights of different colors may be seen at different distances. Consider these facts both when identifying a light and predicting the range at which it can be seen.

Atmospheric conditions have a major effect on a light's range. Fog, haze, dust, smoke, or precipitation can obscure a light. Additionally, a light can be extinguished. Always report an extinguished light so maritime authorities can issue a warning.

On a dark, clear night, the visual range is limited by either: (1) luminous intensity, or (2) curvature of the earth. Regardless of the height of eye, one cannot see a weak light beyond a certain luminous range. Assuming light travels lin-

early, an observer located below the light's visible horizon cannot see it. The Distance to the Horizon table gives the distance to the horizon for various heights of eye. The light lists contain a condensed version of this table. Abnormal refraction patterns might change this range; therefore, one cannot exactly predict the range at which a light will be seen.

408. Determining Range And Bearing Of A Light At Initial Sighting

A light's **luminous range** is the maximum range at which an observer can see a light under existing visibility conditions. This luminous range ignores the elevation of the light, the observer's height of eye, the curvature of the earth, and interference from background lighting. It is determined from the known **nominal range** and the existing visibility conditions. The nominal range is the maximum distance at which a light can be seen in weather conditions where visibility is 10 nautical miles.

The U.S. Coast Guard Light List usually lists a light's nominal range. Use the Luminous Range Diagram shown in the Light List and Figure 408a to convert this nominal range to luminous range. Remember that the luminous ranges obtained are approximate because of atmospheric or background lighting conditions. Estimate the meteorological visibility by the Meteorological Optical Range Table, Figure 408b. Next, enter the Luminous Range Diagram with the nominal range on the horizontal nominal range scale. Follow a vertical line until it intersects the curve or reaches the region on the diagram representing the meteorological visibility. Finally, follow a horizontal line from this point or region until it intersects the vertical luminous range scale.

Example 1: *The nominal range of a light as extracted from the Light List is 15 nautical miles.*

Required: *The luminous range when the meteorological visibility is (1) 11 nautical miles and (2) 1 nautical mile.*

Solution: *To find the luminous range when the meteo-*

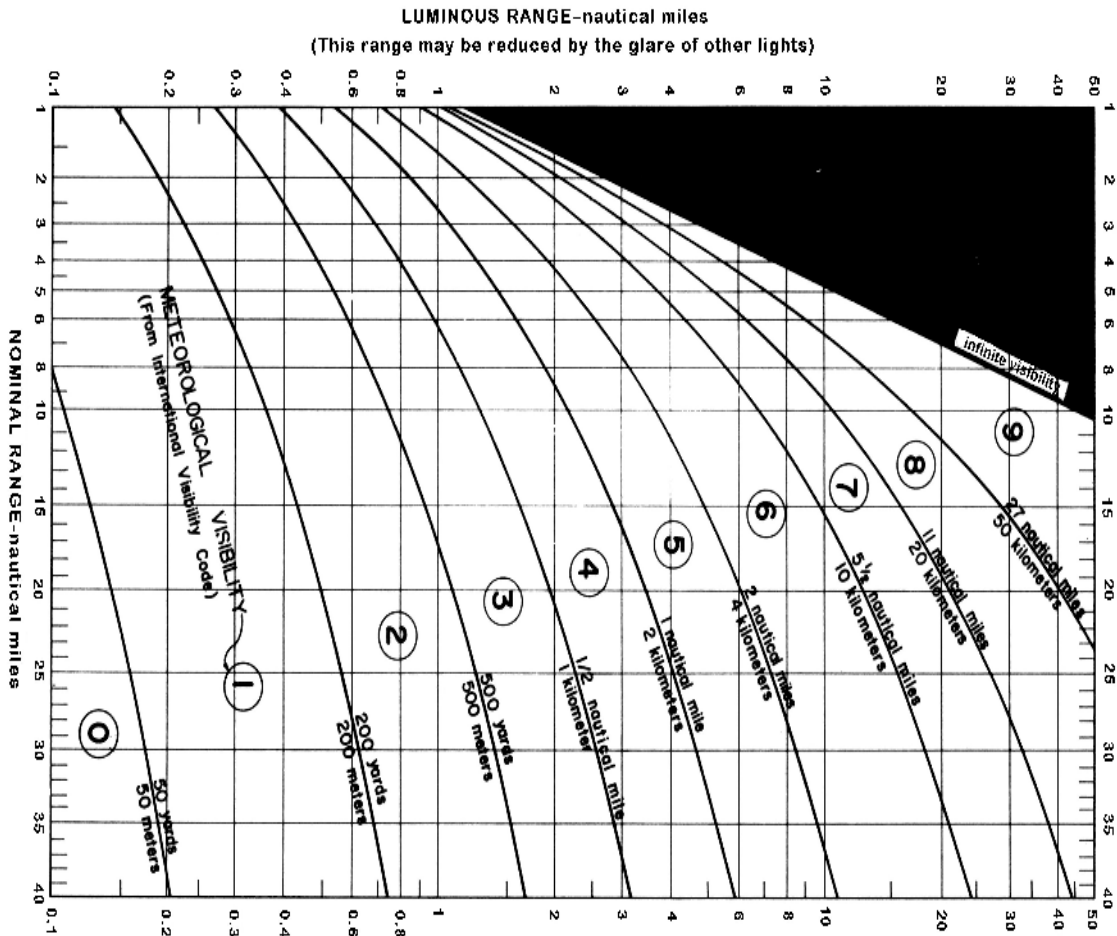


Figure 408a. Luminous Range Diagram.

rological visibility is 11 nautical miles, enter the Luminous Range Diagram with nominal range 15 nautical miles on the horizontal nominal range scale; follow a vertical line upward until it intersects the curve on the diagram representing a meteorological visibility of 11 nautical miles; from this point follow a horizontal line to the right until it intersects the vertical luminous range scale at 16 nautical miles. A similar procedure is followed to find the luminous range when the meteorological visibility is 1 nautical mile.

Answers: (1) 16 nautical miles; (2) 3 nautical miles.

A light's **geographic range** depends upon the height of both the light and the observer. Sum the observer's distance to the horizon based on his height of eye and the light's distance

to the horizon based on its height to calculate a light's geographic range. See Figure 408c. This illustration uses a light 150 feet above the water. Table 12, Distance of the Horizon, yields a value of 14.3 nautical miles for a height of 150 feet. Within this range, the light, if powerful enough and atmospheric conditions permit, is visible regardless of the height of eye of the observer. Beyond 14.3 nautical miles, the geographic range depends upon the observer's height of eye. Thus, by the Distance of the Horizon table mentioned above, an observer with height of eye of 5 feet can see the light on his horizon if he is 2.6 miles beyond the horizon of the light. The geographic range of the light is therefore 16.9 miles. For a height of 30 feet the distance is 14.3 + 6.4 = 20.7 miles. If the height of eye is 70 feet, the geographic range is 14.3 + 9.8 = 24.1 miles. A height of eye of 15 feet is often assumed when tabulating lights' geographic ranges.

Code No.	Weather	Yards
0	Dense fog	Less than 50
1	Thick fog50-200
2	Moderate fog200-500
3	Light fog500-1000
		Nautical Miles
4	Thin fog	1/2-1
5	Haze1-2
6	Light Haze	2-5 1/2
7	Clear	5 1/2-11
8	Very Clear	11.0-27.0.
9	Exceptionally Clear	Over 27.0

From the International Visibility Code.

Figure 408b. Meteorological Optical Range Table

To predict the bearing and range at which a vessel will initially sight a light first determine the light's geographic range. Compare the geographic range with the light's luminous range. The lesser of the two ranges is the range at which the light will first be sighted. Plot a visibility arc centered on the

light and with a radius equal to the lesser of the geographic or luminous ranges. Extend the vessel's track until it intersects the visibility arc. The bearing from the intersection point to the light is the light's predicted bearing at first sighting.

If the extended track crosses the visibility arc at a small angle, a small lateral track error may result in large bearing and time prediction errors. This is particularly apparent if the vessel is farther from the light than predicted; the vessel may pass the light without sighting it. However, not sighting a light when predicted does not always indicate the vessel is farther from the light than expected. It could also mean that atmospheric conditions are affecting visibility.

Example 2: *The nominal range of a navigational light 120 feet above the chart datum is 20 nautical miles. The meteorological visibility is 27 nautical miles.*

Required: *The distance at which an observer at a height of eye of 50 feet can expect to see the light.*

Solution: *The maximum range at which the light may be seen is the lesser of the luminous or geographic ranges. At 120 feet the distance to the horizon, by table or formula, is 12.8 miles. Add 8.3 miles, the distance to the horizon for a height of eye of 50 feet to determine the geographic range. The geographic range, 21.1 miles, is less than the luminous range, 40 miles.*

Answer: *21 nautical miles. Because of various uncertainties, the range is rounded off to the nearest whole mile.*

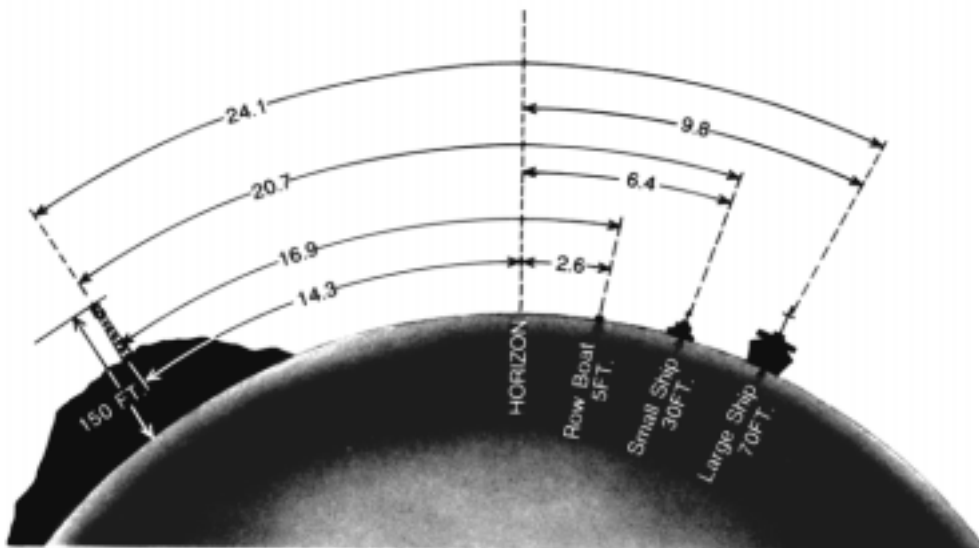


Figure 408c. Geographic Range of a light.

When first sighting a light, an observer can determine if it is on the horizon by immediately reducing his height of eye. If the light disappears and then reappears when the observer returns to his original height, the light is on the horizon. This process is called **bobbing a light**.

If a vessel has considerable vertical motion due to rough seas, a light sighted on the horizon may alternately appear and disappear. Wave tops may also obstruct the light periodically. This may cause the characteristic to appear different than expected. The light's true characteristics can be observed either by closing the range to the light or by the observer's increasing his height of eye.

If a light's range given in a foreign publication approximates the light's geographic range for a 15-foot observer's height of eye, assume that the printed range is the light's geographic range. Also assume that publication has listed the lesser of the geographic and nominal ranges. Therefore, if the light's listed range approximates the geographic range for an observer with a height of eye of 15 feet, then assume that the light's limiting range is the geographic range. Then, calculate the light's true geographic range using the actual observer's height of eye, not the assumed height of eye of 15 feet. This calculated true geographic range is the range at which the light will first be sighted.

Example 3: *The range of a light as printed on a foreign chart is 17 miles. The light is 120 feet above chart datum. The meteorological visibility is 10 nautical miles.*

Required: *The distance at which an observer at a height of eye of 50 feet can expect to see the light.*

Solution: *Calculate the geographic range of the light assuming a 15 foot observer's height of eye. At 120 feet the distance to the horizon is 12.8 miles. Add 4.5 miles (the distance to the horizon at a height of 15 feet) to 12.8 miles; this range is 17.3 miles. This approximates the range listed on the chart. Then assuming that the charted range is the geographic range for a 15-foot observer height of eye and that the nominal range is the greater than this charted range, the predicted range is found by calculating the true geographic range with a 50 foot height of eye for the observer.*

Answer: *The predicted range = 12.8 mi. + 8.3 mi. = 21.1 mi.. The distance in excess of the charted range depends on the luminous intensity of the*

light and the meteorological visibility.

409. USCG Light Lists

The U.S. Coast Guard *Light List* (7 volumes) gives information on lighted navigation aids, unlighted buoys, radiobeacons, radio direction finder calibration stations, day-beacons, racons, and Loran stations.

Each volume of the *Light List* contains aids to navigation in geographic order from north to south along the Atlantic coast, from east to west along the Gulf coast, and from south to north along the Pacific coast. It lists seacoast aids first, followed by entrance and harbor aids listed from seaward. Intracoastal Waterway aids are listed last in geographic order in the direction from New Jersey to Florida to the Texas/Mexico border.

The listings are preceded by a description of the aids to navigation system in the United States, luminous range diagram, geographic range tables, and other information.

410. DMAHTC List of Lights, Radio Aids, and Fog Signals

The Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center publishes the *List of Lights, Radio Aids, and Fog Signals* (usually referred to as the *List of Lights*, not to be confused with the Coast Guard's *Light List*). In addition to information on lighted aids to navigation and sound signals in foreign waters, the DMAHTC *List of Lights* provides information on storm signals, signal stations, racons, radiobeacons, and radio direction finder calibration stations located at or near lights. For more details on radio navigational aids, consult *Pub. 117, Radio Navigational Aids*.

The DMAHTC *List of Lights* does not include information on lighted buoys inside harbors. It does include certain aeronautical lights situated near the coast; however, these lights are not designed for marine navigation and are subject to unreported changes.

Foreign notices to mariners are the main correctional information source for the DMAHTC *Lists of Lights*; other sources, such as ship reports, are also used. Many aids to navigation in less developed countries may not be well maintained. They are subject to damage by storms and vandalism, and repairs may be delayed for long periods.

MISCELLANEOUS NAUTICAL PUBLICATIONS

411. DMAHTC Radio Navigational Aids (*Pub. 117*)

This publication is a selected list of worldwide radio stations which perform services to the mariner. Topics covered include radio direction finder and radar stations, radio time signals, radio navigation warnings, distress and safety

communications, medical advice via radio, long-range navigation aids, the AMVER system, and interim procedures for U.S. vessels in the event of an outbreak of hostilities. *Pub. 117* is corrected via the *Notice to Mariners* and is updated periodically with a new edition.

Though *Pub. 117* is essentially a list of radio stations

providing vital maritime communication and navigation services, it also contains information which explains the capabilities and limitations of the various systems.

412. *Chart No. 1*

Chart No. 1 is not actually a chart but a book containing a key to chart symbols. Most countries which produce charts also produce such a list. The U.S. *Chart No. 1* contains a listing of chart symbols in four categories:

- Chart symbols used by the National Ocean Service
- Chart symbols used by the Defense Mapping Agency
- Chart symbols recommended by the International Hydrographic Organization
- Chart symbols used on foreign charts reproduced by DMAHTC

Subjects covered include general features of charts, topography, hydrography, and aids to navigation. There is also a complete index of abbreviations and an explanation of the IALA buoyage system.

413. *DMAHTC World Port Index (Pub. 150)*

The *World Port Index* contains a tabular listing of thousands of ports throughout the world, describing their locations, characteristics, facilities, and services available. Information is arranged geographically; the index is arranged alphabetically.

Coded information is presented in columns and rows. This information supplements information in the *Sailing Directions*. The applicable volume of *Sailing Directions* and the number of the harbor chart are given in the *World Port Index*. The *Notice to Mariners* corrects this book.

414. *DMAHTC Distances Between Ports (Pub. 151)*

This publication lists the distances between major ports. Reciprocal distances between two ports may differ due to different routes chosen because of currents and climatic conditions. To reduce the number of listings needed, junction points along major routes are used to consolidate routes converging from different directions.

This book can be most effectively used for voyage planning in conjunction with the proper volume(s) of the *Sailing Directions (Planning Guide)*. It is corrected via the *Notice to Mariners*.

415. *DMAHTC International Code Of Signals (Pub. 102)*

This book lists the signals to be employed by vessels at sea to communicate a variety of information relating to safety, distress, medical, and operational information. This

publication became effective in 1969.

According to this code, each signal has a unique and complete meaning. The signals can be transmitted via Morse light and sound, flag, radio-telegraphy and -telephony, and semaphore. Since these methods of signaling are internationally recognized, differences in language between sender and receiver are immaterial; the message will be understood when decoded in the language of the receiver, regardless of the language of the sender. The *Notice to Mariners* corrects *Pub. 102*.

416. *Almanacs*

For celestial sight reduction, the navigator needs an **almanac** for ephemeris data. The *Nautical Almanac*, produced jointly by H.M. Nautical Almanac Office and the U.S. Naval Observatory, is the most common almanac used for celestial navigation. It also contains information on sunrise, sunset, moonrise, and moonset, as well as compact sight reduction tables. The *Nautical Almanac* is published annually.

The *Air Almanac* contains slightly less accurate ephemeris data for air navigation. It can be used for marine navigation if slightly reduced accuracy is acceptable.

Chapter 19 provides more detailed information on using the *Nautical Almanac*.

417. *Sight Reduction Tables*

Without a calculator or computer programmed for sight reduction, the navigator needs **sight reduction tables** to solve the celestial triangle. Two different sets of tables are commonly used at sea.

Sight Reduction Tables for Marine Navigation, Pub. 229, consists of six volumes of tables designed for use with the *Nautical Almanac* for solution of the celestial triangle by the **Marcq Saint Hilaire** or **intercept** method. The tabular data are the solutions of the navigational triangle of which two sides and the included angle are known and it is necessary to find the third side and adjacent angle.

Each volume of *Pub. 229* includes two 8 degree zones, comprising 15 degree bands from 0 to 90 degrees, with a 1° degree overlap between volumes. *Pub. 229* is a joint publication produced by the Defense Mapping Agency, the U.S. Naval Observatory, and the Royal Greenwich Observatory.

Sight Reduction Tables for Air Navigation, Pub. 249, is also a joint production of the three organizations above. It is issued in three volumes. Volume 1 contains the values of the altitude and true azimuth of seven selected stars chosen to provide, for any given position and time, the best observations. A new edition is issued every 5 years for the upcoming astronomical epoch. Volumes 2 (0° to 40°) and 3 (39° to 89°) provide for sights of the sun, moon, and planets.

418. Catalogs

A chart catalog is a valuable reference to the navigator for voyage planning, inventory control, and ordering. There are two major types of catalogs, one for the military and one for the civilian market.

The military navigator will see the DMA nautical chart catalog as part of a larger suite of catalogs including aeronautical (Part 1), hydrographic (Part 2), and topographic (Part 3) products. Each Part consists of one or more volumes. Unclassified DMA nautical charts are listed in Part 2, Volume 1. This is available only to U.S. military users, DoD contractors, and those who support them.

This catalog contains comprehensive ordering instructions and information about the products listed. Also listed are addresses of all Combat Support Center field offices, information on crisis support, and other special situations. The catalog is organized by geographic region corresponding to

the chart regions 1 through 9. A special section of miscellaneous charts and publications is included. This section also lists products produced by NOS, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office, and some foreign publications from the United Kingdom and Canada.

The civilian navigator should refer to catalogs produced by the National Ocean Service. For U.S. waters, NOS charts are listed in a series of single sheet "charts" showing a major region of the U.S. with individual chart graphics shown. These catalogs also list charts showing titles and scales. Finally, it lists sales agents from whom the products may be purchased.

DMA products for the civilian navigator are listed by NOS in a series of regionalized catalogs similar to Part 2 Volume 1. These catalogs are also available through authorized NOS chart agents.

MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION

419. Notice To Mariners

The *Notice to Mariners* is published weekly by the Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center (DMAHTC), prepared jointly with the National Ocean Service (NOS) and the U.S. Coast Guard. It advises mariners of important matters affecting navigational safety, including new hydrographic information, changes in channels and aids to navigation, and other important data. The information in the *Notice to Mariners* is formatted to simplify the correction of paper charts, sailing directions, light lists, and other publications produced by DMAHTC, NOS, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

It is the responsibility of users to decide which of their charts and publications require correction. Suitable records of *Notice to Mariners* should be maintained to facilitate the updating of charts and publications prior to use.

Information for the *Notice to Mariners* is contributed by: the Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center (Department of Defense) for waters outside the territorial limits of the United States; National Ocean Service (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce), which is charged with surveying and charting the coasts and harbors of the United States and its territories; the U.S. Coast Guard (Department of Transportation) which is responsible for the safety of life at sea and the establishment and operation of aids to navigation; and the Army Corps of Engineers (Department of Defense), which is charged with the improvement of rivers and harbors of the United States. In addition, important contributions are made by foreign hydrographic offices and cooperating observers of all nationalities.

Over 60 countries which produce nautical charts also produce a notice to mariners. About one third of these are

weekly, another third are bi-monthly or monthly, and the rest irregularly issued according to need. Much of the data in the U.S. *Notice to Mariners* is obtained from these foreign notices.

Correct U.S. charts with the U.S. *Notice to Mariners*. Similarly, correct foreign charts using the foreign notice because chart datums often vary according to region and geographic positions are not the same for different datums.

The *Notice* consists of a page of **Hydrograms** listing important items in the notice, a chart correction section organized by ascending chart number, a publications correction section, and a summary of broadcast navigation warnings and miscellaneous information.

Mariners are requested to cooperate in the correction of charts and publications by reporting all discrepancies between published information and conditions actually observed and by recommending appropriate improvements. A convenient reporting form is provided in the back of each *Notice to Mariners*.

Notice to Mariners No. 1 of each year contains important information on a variety of subjects which supplements information not usually found on charts and in navigational publications. This information is published as **Special Notice to Mariners Paragraphs**. Additional items considered of interest to the mariner are also included in this *Notice*.

420. Summary Of Corrections

A close companion to the *Notice to Mariners* is the *Summary of Corrections*. The *Summary* is published in five volumes. Each volume covers a major portion of the earth including several chart regions and many subregions. Volume 5 also includes special charts and publications corrected by the *Notice to Mariners*. Since the *Summaries*

contain cumulative corrections, any chart, regardless of its print date, can be corrected with the proper volume of the *Summary* and all subsequent *Notice to Mariners*.

421. The Navigation Information Network

Most of the weekly *Notice to Mariners* production is computerized. This system is known as the **Automated Notice to Mariners System (ANMS)**. Design work on this system began in 1975, and the first *Notice* produced with it was issued in 1980. This system's software allows remote query via modem. This remote access system is known as the **Navigation Information Network (NAVINFONET)**.

Data available through NAVINFONET includes chart corrections, DMA *List of Lights* corrections, Coast Guard *Light List* corrections, radio warnings, MARAD Advisories, DMA hydrographic product catalog corrections, drill rig locations, ship hostile action report (SHAR) files, and GPS navigation system status reports. Messages can also be left for DMAHTC staff regarding suggestions, changes, corrections or comments on any navigation products.

The system does not have the capability to send graphics files, which prevents the transfer of chartlets. However, navigators can access most other significant information contained in the *Notice to Mariners*. Information is updated daily or weekly according to the *Notice to Mariners* production schedule. The system supports most internationally recognized telephone protocols and can presently transfer data at a maximum rate of 9600 baud.

NAVINFONET is not a replacement for the weekly *Notice to Mariners*, and in certain respects the accuracy of information cannot be verified by DMA. Certain files, for example, are entered directly into the data base without editing by DMA staff. Also, drill rig locations are furnished by the companies which operate them. They are not required to provide these positions, and they cannot be verified. However, within these limitations, the system can provide information 2 to 3 weeks sooner than the printed *Notice to Mariners*, because the paper *Notice* must be compiled, edited, printed, and mailed after the digital version is completed.

NAVINFONET access is free, but the user must pay telephone charges. All users must register and receive a password by writing or calling DMAHTC, Attn.: MCC-NAVINFONET, Mail Stop D-44, 4600 Sangamore Rd., Bethesda, MD, 20816-5003; telephone (301) 227-3296.

The U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey operates a similar free computerized marine information bulletin board containing a list of wrecks and obstructions, a nautical chart

locator, a list of marine sediments samples, a datum conversion program for NAD 27 to NAD 83 datum conversions, and a list of aerial photographs available from NOAA. The modem phone number is (301) 713-4573, the voice line (301) 713-2653, and FAX (301) 713-4581. The address of the office is NOAA, NOS, C&GS, (N/CG211), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD, 20910

422. Local Notice To Mariners

The *Local Notice to Mariners* is issued by each U.S. Coast Guard District to disseminate important information affecting navigational safety within that District. This *Notice* reports changes and deficiencies in aids to navigation maintained by the Coast Guard. Other marine information such as new charts, channel depths, naval operations, and regattas is included. Since temporary information of short duration is not included in the weekly *Notice to Mariners*, the *Local Notice to Mariners* may be the only source of such information. Small craft using the Intracoastal Waterway and small harbors not normally used by oceangoing vessels need it to keep charts and publications up-to-date. Since correcting information for U.S. charts in the DMAHTC *Notice* is obtained from the Coast Guard *Local Notices*, it is normal to expect a lag of 1 or 2 weeks for the DMAHTC *Notice* to publish a correction from this source.

The *Local Notice to Mariners* may be obtained free of charge by contacting the appropriate Coast Guard District Commander. Vessels operating in ports and waterways in several districts must obtain the *Local Notice to Mariners* from each district. See Figure 422 for a complete list of U.S. Coast Guard Districts.

423. Electronic Notice To Mariners

Electronic chart development is proceeding rapidly. The correction of these charts will become a major issue. In the near future, the quality standards of digital charts will permit the replacement of traditional paper charts. Neither paper nor electronic charts should be used unless corrected through the latest *Notice to Mariners*. Chapter 14 discusses potential methods for correcting electronic charts.

Until the electronic chart is recognized as being the legal equivalent of the paper chart, however, it cannot replace the paper chart on the bridge. Presently, therefore, the mariner must continue to use traditional paper charts. Their use, in turn, necessitates the continued use of the *Notice to Mariners* correction system.



COMMANDER, FIRST COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 408 ATLANTIC AVENUE
 BOSTON, MA 02110-3350
 PHONE: DAY 617-223-8338, NIGHT 617-223-8558

COMMANDER, SECOND COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 1222 SPRUCE STREET
 ST. LOUIS, MO 63103-2832
 PHONE: DAY 314-539-3714, NIGHT 314-539-3709

COMMANDER, FIFTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 FEDERAL BUILDING
 431 CRAWFORD STREET
 PORTSMOUTH, VA 23704-5004
 PHONE: DAY 804-398-6486, NIGHT 804-398-6231

COMMANDER, SEVENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 BRICKELL PLAZA FEDERAL BUILDING
 909 SE 1ST AVENUE, RM: 406
 MIAMI, FL 33131-3050
 PHONE: DAY 305-536-5621, NIGHT 305-536-5611

COMMANDER GREATER ANTILLES SECTION
 U.S. COAST GUARD
 P.O. BOX S-2029
 SAN JUAN, PR 00903-2029
 PHONE: 809-729-6870

COMMANDER, EIGHTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 HALE BOGGS FEDERAL BUILDING
 501 MAGAZINE STREET
 NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130-3396
 PHONE: DAY 504-589-6234, NIGHT 504-589-6225

COMMANDER, NINTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 1240 EAST 9TH STREET
 CLEVELAND, OH 44199-2060
 PHONE: DAY 216-522-3991, NIGHT 216-522-3984

COMMANDER, ELEVENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 FEDERAL BUILDING
 501 W. OCEAN BLVD.
 LONG BEACH, CA 90822-5399
 PHONE: DAY 310-980-4300, NIGHT 310-980-4400

COMMANDER, THIRTEENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 FEDERAL BUILDING
 915 SECOND AVENUE
 SEATTLE, WA 98174-1067
 PHONE: DAY 206-220-7280, NIGHT 206-220-7004

COMMANDER, FOURTEENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 PRINCE KALANIANAOLE FEDERAL BLDG.
 9TH FLOOR, ROOM 9139
 300 ALA MOANA BLVD.
 HONOLULU, HI 96850-4982
 PHONE: DAY 808-541-2317, NIGHT 808-541-2500

COMMANDER, SEVENTEENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
 P.O. BOX 25517
 JUNEAU, AK 99802-5517
 PHONE: DAY 907-463-2245, NIGHT 907-463-2000

Figure 422. U.S. Coast Guard Districts.

