

Palau International Ship Registry



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MARINE CIRCULAR 127.1

To: ALL SHIPOWNERS, MANAGERS, MASTERS, DEPUTY REGISTRARS AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

Subject: HYDROGRAPHIC INFORMATION: COOPERATION WITH HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this Marine Circular is to serve as a reminder to all mariners that most of the navigational information appearing on charts and in such publications as Light Lists, Sailing Directions and Coast Pilots is obtained through an exchange of information by the Hydrographic Offices of many maritime nations.
- 1.2 This Marine Circular is provided for the benefit of those Masters and Deck Watch Officers of ships at sea, who provide a vital portion of the required information.

2. Guidelines

- 2.1 The World's Hydrographic services have an urgent need for reports of changes in aids to navigation and other Hydrographic data in order to produce and maintain navigation chart and publications. On a worldwide basis, most Hydrographic Offices issue warnings of dangers to navigation by radio broadcast and publish notices to mariners to enable the mariner to correct and maintain his charts and publications.
- 2.2 The International Convention on Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (SOLAS 1974) requires the Master of every ship observing dangerous ice, derelicts, tropical storm or any other imminent danger to navigation, to report the danger. The Master must first warn ships in the vicinity and must then report the danger to the first coastal station to which communication can be made, with a request that it be transmitted to the appropriate authorities. Sample messages are contained in SOLAS 1974, Chapter V.
- 2.3 Masters and Deck Officers of Palau registered ships are encouraged to notify the nearest NAVAREA Coordinator for observations of changes in aids to navigation, such as lights, buoys, electronic aids, beacons and soundings found to be different from those charted, magnetic disturbances, ocean currents and changes in port facilities.



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- 2.4 Reports which constitute an immediate hazard to navigation should be sent to the nearest NAVAREA Coordinator via coast radio stations. In general, these items include major aids to navigation discrepancies, the discovery of mines, wrecks, underwater obstructions or shoals with depths less than 30 meters, floating dangers to shipping, failure of important aids to navigation such as major coastal lights, and any other situation deemed important for safety of life at sea.

3. Contact

- 3.1 Any inquiries concerning the subject for this Marine Circular should be directed to the Palau Ship Registry Administrator at technical@palaureg.com

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