

FOREWORD

In 1956 the International Hydrographic Bureau issued Special Publication 39 : *Radio Aids to Maritime Navigation and Hydrography*, containing descriptions of radio positioning systems used in surface navigation and hydrography, and information as to their application. Owing to rapid technical developments in this field, the Bureau decided, with the States Members' consent, to bring it up to date by a continuous process, as follows :

(1) A new volume bound in loose-leaf form, to be known as *Supplementary Papers to SP 39*, will be compiled. Its contents will be restricted to basic information on the operation of new or modified equipment. The order of publication will depend on the varying rate of development of each instrument and on the degree of application. In theory, each chapter, or in certain instances each section of the current volume, will be replaced by a new separate pamphlet, which upon issuance shall replace the corresponding material appearing in the 1956 edition.

When all sections subject to change of the current volume have thus been revised, to which may be added other sections on new instruments, the sections covering theoretical or practical material which do not require revision will be printed, also in loose-leaf form. The complete series of new pamphlets will then be substituted for the entire contents of the current volume, which will thereupon become obsolete.

(2) Reports supplied by hydrographic offices or other organizations on instrumental operation will be published as *Supplements to the International Hydrographic Review*.

These supplements will first complete and later supersede the portions of SP 39 now containing such reports, and will have the following advantages :

- (a) Distribution of operational reports shortly after their receipt at the Bureau;
- (b) Publication of a greater number of reports;
- (c) Use of the series of Review supplements as addenda to the basic volume;
- (d) A more compact, convenient basic volume.

A bibliography listing reports which do not appear in the supplements but which can be found in other periodicals or textbooks will complete each supplement.

*
**

The present volume inaugurates the series of *Supplements to the International Hydrographic Review*. It contains a series of articles and

reports in reference to chapter V : Radio Systems in Geodetic Surveying, and chapter III : Radio Systems used in Hydrographic Surveying, of SP 39, as well as a bibliography of reports that have previously appeared in the International Hydrographic Review and in other publications received by the Bureau from 1955 to date. The Directing Committee trusts that this initial supplement may meet with the approval of readers of the International Hydrographic Review and of all persons taking a special interest in radio positioning systems.