

THE URUGUAYAN NAVY HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE

The regulations governing the organization of the Uruguayan Navy Hydrographic Office are reproduced below :

CHAPTER I

Functions of Hydrographic Office

Art. 1. — The Hydrographic Office is the Navy organization in charge of the technical supervision of the services having to do with ocean and river navigation under the authority of the Ministry of National Defence.

Art. 2. — It is under the direct authority of the General Inspectorate of the Navy.

Art. 3. — Its duties are as follows :

- (a) Surveys for navigational purposes of the national coasts and areas adjacent thereto, in the ocean, rios de la Plata and Uruguay, and adjacent streams and lagoons;
- (b) Publication of nautical charts, corresponding pilots and lists of lights;
- (c) Daily distribution of Notices to Mariners regarding changes to charts, lists of lights or pilots indicated in (a);
- (d) Monthly publication of Notices to Mariners;
- (e) Maintenance of a master chart file, file of pilots and lists of lights, both national and foreign, of the Atlantic coastline from Cape Frio to Cape Horn, including the Falkland or Malvine Islands; Rio de la Plata; Rio Uruguay, as far as Rio Cuareim, Rio Parana to Puerto de Rosario de Santa Fé and of inland waterways;
- (f) Publication of copies of foreign charts concerning national navigation;
- (g) Ensuring availability to national and foreign mariners of centralization offices for Notices to Mariners;
- (h) Exchange of its publications with foreign hydrographic or similar offices;
- (i) Periodical publication in Hydrographic Annals of its work and scientific questions relating to hydrography;
- (j) Determination of points at which navigational signals should be installed;
- (k) Supervision of navigational services of national naval vessels;
- (l) Astronomical service as related to hydrography and navigation;
- (m) Purchase, supply, repair, storing and checking of nautical instruments of national naval vessels.

CHAPTER II

Authority of Hydrographic Office

Art. 4. — The authority of the Hydrographic Office derives from its responsibilities, listed in Chapter I. In carrying out its duties, and within the limited scope of its activities, its decisions are considered to issue from the General Inspectorate of the Navy (I.G.N.) in the manner and in the cases provided by these regulations.

CHAPTER III

Organization

Art. 5. — The Hydrographic Office consists of a head office and three sections A, B, C; and of the survey ship or ships and smaller craft.

Art. 6. — The duties of Section A are :

- (a) Arranging for all matters connected with the purchase, maintenance, supply and repair of nautical instruments;
- (b) Management and administration of precision, optical, drafting and photography workshops;
- (c) Management and administration of library, which, in addition to specialized scientific books, must also contain a section consisting of catalogues of astronomical instruments, hydrography and navigation;
- (d) Supervision of subordinate navy personnel of Hydrographic Office;
- (e) Procurement of equipment for Hydrographic Office;
- (f) Supervision of general ship stores and instrument stores;
- (g) Maintenance of Hydrographic Office premises;
- (h) Supervision of rolling stock and other means of transportation;
- (i) General administration of Hydrographic Office;
- (j) Preparation of equipment intended for hydrographic missions;
- (k) Supplies to missions detached for hydrographic work;
- (l) Distribution of Hydrographic Office publications;
- (m) Supervision of centralization offices for Notices to Mariners;
- (n) Direct supervision of General Secretariat of Hydrographic Office.

Art. 7. — The duties of Section B are :

- (a) Supervision of general astronomical work connected with Hydrographic Office;
- (b) Determination of latitude, longitude, azimuth and magnetic declination at points which concern Hydrographic Office;
- (c) Computation and keeping of time for hydrographic and navigational purposes;
- (d) Study of magnetism;
- (e) Keeping files of observational and computation records connected with its duties;
- (f) Maintenance of special files concerning territorial waters;
- (g) Checking of nautical instruments in naval vessels and establishments;

- (h) Checking of chronometer records and monthly reports or graphs submitted by naval vessels and establishments (arts 545 and 547 of Ship Duty Regulations);
- (i) Maintenance of file regarding navigational data indicated in (h);
- (j) Selection of regulation models of ship's log, comparison of chronometers, compass records, navigational instructions and other regulation books and graphs for navigation.

Art. 8. — The duties of Section C are :

- (a) Supervision and control of hydrographic work carried out by survey vessels and missions;
- (b) Study of tidal and river conditions;
- (c) Study of ocean currents;
- (d) Supervision of charting activities;
- (e) Publication of pilots, lists of lights and Notices to Mariners;
- (f) Maintenance of publication stocks of Hydrographic Office;
- (g) Supervision of master chart and master pilot file;
- (h) Correction to date of master charts and master pilots in the file;
- (i) Delivery to Section A for distribution of Hydrographic Office publications corrected to date of delivery;
- (j) Maintenance of foreign chart and pilot stores for use of naval vessels and establishments, and their delivery corrected to date, to Section A upon request;
- (k) Keeping files of observational and computation records connected with its duties.

Art. 9. — The duties of survey vessels are :

- (a) Transportation of personnel and equipment for hydrographic work;
- (b) Service as temporary quarters and storage during surveying expeditions;
- (c) Carrying out of operations required for determining underwater relief, currents, and other observations needed for the production of nautical charts and pilots.

CHAPTER IV

Technical Equipment

Art. 10. — The following items are defined as technical equipment for hydrography : ships, small craft, aircraft for hydrographic surveying; and the scientific instruments required for carrying out the duties assigned to Sections B and C.

Art. 11. — The following items are defined as nautical instruments of naval vessels and establishments : compasses, deflectors, sextants, chronometers, logs, etc..

Art. 12. — Technical equipment for hydrography and nautical instruments of naval vessels and establishments are in the custody of the Hydrographic Office. For control purposes, the various units and establishments shall comply with the following regulations :

1. They shall report all changes to such equipment to the Hydro-

graphic Office, without prejudice to the provisions of art. 105 and similar provisions;

2. In the case of a transfer of duties involving such equipment, the assistance of an officer delegated by the head office will be requested, and he shall jointly sign the transfer document with the incoming and outgoing officials in charge. A copy of the document shall be transmitted directly to the Hydrographic Office. The various commands and head offices shall inform the Hydrographic Office, with sufficient advance notice, of the date and hour of such transfers.

Art. 13. — The Hydrographic Office allots the nautical instruments for each vessel or establishment, and supplies them « in trust ».

CHAPTER V

Personnel

Art. 14. — The Hydrographer has the responsibility, obligations, attributions, honours and prerogatives granted by Navy laws and regulations to heads of departments, insofar as they are compatible with the performance of his duties, in addition to those especially conferred by the law granting him the capacity of Inspector of Navigation and by the present regulations.

Art. 15. — In the absence of the Hydrographer, he is replaced by the highest-ranking section head, and by the senior officer in the case of equally ranking section heads.

Art. 16. — The section head is in charge of the technical supervision of his section, and is entirely responsible to the Hydrographer for the activities in his charge.

Art. 17. — Officers detached for duty at the Hydrographic Office are assigned to one of its sections by the Hydrographer.

Art. 18. — Personnel of the Hydrographic Office on surveying expeditions is entitled to compensation and special expenses allowed by the general budget of expenditures.

Provisional article. The *Hydrographic Office Regulations* effective since 11 March 1918 are hereby cancelled.

RECRUITING AND TRAINING OF PERSONNEL

The Uruguayan Navy has no hydrographic specialty for its officer corps. All officers are nevertheless able to carry out hydrographic work, since a one-year course on the subject is given at the Naval Academy.

Officers assigned to the Hydrographic Office receive additional instruction from the latter in field work, under the supervision of experienced officers.

Postgraduate courses for promotion to lieutenant include a review of the study and practice of hydrography.

Subordinate navy personnel specialties include those of hydrographic operator and draftsman. Personnel with the specialty of hydrographic

operator must give proof of adequacy in their specialty to rise in rank. Duties include those of assistant operator and hydrographic operator in the field.

Navy personnel assigned to survey vessels receive general and equipment maintenance instruction.

Draftsmen employed at the Hydrographic Office are given training and instruction in chart drawing.