



<b>General</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Buoyage System</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Currency</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Holidays</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Industries</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Languages</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>Mined Areas</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>Regulations</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>Time Zone</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>U.S. Embassy</b>	<b>128</b>

See Chart No. 1 for further IALA Buoyage System information.

## Currency

The official unit of currency is the United States dollar, consisting of 100 cents.

## Government

The Republic of the Marshall Islands, formerly a Trust Territory of the United States, has a constitutional government in free association with the United States. The Compact of Free Association entered into force October 21, 1986.

The capital is Dalap-Uliga-Darrit located on Majuro.

## Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

January 1, New Year's Day; February 20, President's Day; May 1, Proclamation of the Republic of the Marshall Islands; May 29, Memorial Day; July 4, Independence Day; July 12, Micronesia Day; September 4, Labor Day; second Monday in October, Columbus Day; October 24, United Nation's Day; November 11, Veterans' Day; fourth Thursday in November, Thanksgiving Day; and December 25, Christmas Day.

## Industries

The main industries are based on copra, fish, tourism; craft from shell, wood, and pearls; and offshore banking.

## Languages

The official language of the Marshall Islands is English, with two major Marshallese dialects from the Malayo-Polynesian family. Japanese is also spoken.

## General

The Marshall Islands, formerly part of the United States Trust Territory of the Pacific, consist of two parallel chains of coral atolls and reefs which lie in the North Pacific Ocean between 5°N and 15°N, and 162°E and 173°E.

The chains are about 130 miles apart running generally NW to SE for some 800 miles.

The E chain is named the Ratak (Sunrise) Chain and the W chain the Ralik (Sunset) Chain.

The Marshall Islands archipelago consist of 31 coral atolls, 5 single islands, and numerous reefs of low coral formations with a combined land area of only about 68 square miles.

There are no high islands in the entire group. Most island units (28) are atolls with large lagoons and a varying number of encircling islets. The chief island is Jaluit.

The climate is hot and humid with the wet season from May to November. Islands border the typhoon belt.

The terrain is composed of low coral limestone and sand islands.

## Buoyage System

The IALA Buoyage System (Region A) is in effect.

## Mined Areas

Within Mili Atoll, the following passages on the N side of the atoll have been swept magnetically:

1. Takowa Channel (6°14'N., 171°48'E.).
2. Reiher Pass (6°15'N., 171°54'E.).
3. Acharan Passage (6°14'N., 171°56'E.).
4. Bue Passage (6°13'N., 171°58'E.).
5. Ennanlik Pass (6°13'N., 172°00'E.).
6. Northeast Pass (6°11'N., 172°05'E.).

Swept channels 0.3 mile wide extend from the Takowa Channel and from Acharan Passage to the Mili Island Anchorage.

Proceeding into Wotje Atoll, swept channels have been established.

The channels are bounded by lines connecting the following points:

Meichen Channel:

- a. 9°22'52"N, 170°04'05"E.
- b. 9°23'02"N, 170°03'17"E.
- c. 9°24'52"N, 170°02'46"E.
- d. 9°25'28"N, 170°07'44"E.
- e. 9°23'20"N, 170°04'26"E.
- f. 9°23'45"N, 170°04'07"E.
- g. 9°24'42"N, 170°04'17"E.
- h. 9°25'00"N, 170°07'13"E.

Shishmarev Channel:

- i. 9°23'45"N, 170°06'12"E.
- j. 9°24'27"N, 170°06'35"E.
- k. 9°28'22"N, 170°10'40"E.
- l. 9°28'43"N, 170°13'35"E.

then along the 5m curve to:

- m. 9°26'30"N, 170°14'07"E.
- n. 9°26'29"N, 170°11'19"E.
- o. 9°27'42"N, 170°10'44"E.
- p. 9°23'55"N, 170°06'44"E.

Rurick Strait to Kaben Island and Goat Island:

- q. 9°27'52"N, 169°49'30"E.

then along the 5m curve to:

- r. 9°29'27"N, 169°48'52"E.
- s. 9°29'59"N, 169°50'12"E.
- t. 9°31'47"N, 169°50'31"E.

then along the 5m curve to:

- u. 9°31'28"N, 169°52'45"E.
- v. 9°28'32"N, 169°51'22"E.
- w. 9°27'21"N, 169°52'17"E.
- x. 9°26'10"N, 169°50'58"E.

then along the 5m curve to:

- y. 9°27'44"N, 169°49'48"E.

Within the above areas ships should veer anchor and submarines should not bottom due to the possible danger of detonating inactive mines.

## Regulations

### Special Provisions

Authorization is required for entry into islands in Kwajalein Atoll under military jurisdiction. Kwajalein Atoll is subject to local control by the Department of the Army.

Inquiries concerning entry into the islands under military control in the Kwajalein Atoll should be directed to: National Range Commander, U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense System Command, Attention: SSC-R, Post Office Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807.

### Missile Testing Area

Missile testing occurs in the waters within a circular area with a radius of 200 miles, centered at 8°43'00"N, 167°43'00"E. Intermittent hazardous missile operations will be conducted within the area on a permanent basis.

### Advisory Instructions

Kwajalein Test Site will coordinate safe passage for surface shipping through the area. All ships are advised to contact Kwajalein control before entering the area.

### Suspension of Restrictions

Restrictions imposed under the authority of Executive Order on entry into the Wake Island Naval Sea Area, except for entry of foreign flag ships and foreign nationals, have been suspended subject to reinstatement without notice at any time when the purposes of national defense should require it.

Suspension of restrictions on entry into a naval airspace reservation, naval defensive sea area, or naval administrative area, does not affect the authority of a commanding officer or other appropriate commander to control entry into or passage through any base, station, or the installation or area, including port or harbor facilities under Navy control.

Entry Authorization:

1. Chief of Naval Operations—Authorization for all persons, ships, or aircraft to enter all defensive areas.
2. Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet—Authorization for all persons, ships, or aircraft to enter defensive areas in the Pacific.

## Time Zone

The Time Zone description is MIKE (-12).

## U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy for the Marshall Islands is situated at Oceanside Mejen Weto, Long Island, Majuro.

The mailing address is P.O. Box 1379, Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands 96960-1379.