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General

Peru is located in Western South America, bordering the South Pacific Ocean, between Chile and Ecuador.

The climate varies from tropical in the E to dry desert in the W.

The terrain is coastal plain in the W, high and rugged Andes in the center, and consists of lowland jungle by the Amazon Basin in the E.

Buoyage System

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

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

Currency

The official unit of currency is the nuevo, consisting of 100 centimos.

Government

Peru is a republic with a constitution, which became effective in 1980. It consists of a Senate, Chamber of Deputies,

and an Executive of the President with a Council of Ministers appointed by him.

The President and Congress are elected at the same time every 5 years.

The capital is Lima.

Holidays

The following holidays are observed:

January 1, New Year's Day; Maundy Thursday; Good Friday; May 1, Labor Day; June 24, Agrarian Day; June 29, St. Peter and St. Paul; August 30, Santa Rosa of Lima; October 9, National Dignity Day; November 1, All Saint's Day; December 8, Immaculate Conception; and December 25, Christmas Day.

Industries

The main industries are based on mining of metals, petroleum, fishing, textiles, clothing, food processing, cement, auto assembly, steel, shipbuilding, and metal fabrication.

Languages

The official languages of Peru are Spanish and Quechua. An important Indian language is Aymara.

Search and Rescue

Ship Reporting System

The Peruvian Maritime Information System on Position and Safety is mandatory for all Peruvian vessels over 350 grt and all foreign vessels regardless of type and tonnage. See the Appendix for further information on this reporting system.

Time Zone

The Time Zone description is ROMEO (+5).

U.S. Embassy

The U.S. Embassy is situated at Avenida Encalada Guadra 17, Monterrico, Lima. The mailing address is P.O. Box 1995 Lima 1, American Embassy (Lima), APO AA 34031-5000.

Appendix

PERUVIAN MARITIME INFORMATION SYSTEM ON POSITION AND SAFETY

The Peruvian Maritime Information System on Position and Safety is mandatory for all Peruvian vessels over 350 grt and all foreign vessels regardless of type and tonnage. The limits of the reporting area are the N and S maritime borders of Peru and a line 200 miles off the coast of Peru. The system is operated by the Peruvian Director General of Harbor-masters and Coast Guards. Vessels not complying with the system can be subject to heavy fines.

Reports should be sent through the following coast radio stations, which handle messages free of charge:

1. Paita (OBY2).
2. Callao (OBC3).
3. Mollenda (OBF4).

Messages should be addressed to Director General di Capitancias y Guarda Costas, Telex 26071 DICAPI, "DICAPI CALLAO" ("COSTERA CALLAO" if sent through a foreign coast radio station), Telex 26069 (reserve Telex 20143). Reports can also be sent via satellite using the above telex numbers. If difficulty is experienced in contacting the coast radio stations or in obtaining the telex numbers, details should be noted in the ship's radio log, a copy of which should be supplied to the Port Captain on arrival.

Vessels should send reports, as follows:

1. An Entering Peruvian Waters (EPW) report upon entering the reporting area.
2. A DR to correct a report or sailing plan.
3. A PR at 0800 and 2000 local time.
4. An SP report should be prepared by masters prior to departure from a Peruvian port. The local agent will provide the form and present it to the Port Captain.

Table of Message Formats and Message Requirements

Designator	Information	EPW	DR	PR
A	Message type (EPW or DR).	X	X	X
B	Vessel name, flag, and call sign.	X	X	X
C	Date and time of report (6 digits).	X	X	X
D	Last port of call.	X		
E	Position (latitude in degrees and minutes S and longitude in degrees and minutes W).	X	X	X
F	True course in degrees (3 digits).	X	X	X
G	Speed in knots (to nearest knot—2 digits).	X	X	X
H	Destination.	X	X	X
I	ETA (6 digits as in C).	X	X	X
J	Anticipated route, with a maximum of six waypoints (positions reported as in E).	X	X	
K	Ship's local agent.	X	X	
X	Reason for deviation; changes in ETA or speed; date and time of deviation (6 digits as in C); position of deviation (reported as in E); course.		X	