PUB. 147

SAILING DIRECTIONS (ENROUTE)

★

CARIBBEAN SEA VOLUME 1

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In the interval between Editions, information that may amend material in this book is published in the weekly Notice to Mariners. The Notice to Mariners number and year can also be marked on the applicable page of the Sailing Directions.

Between Editions, the Record of Corrections Published in Weekly Notice to Mariners, located below, affords an alternative system for recording applicable Notice to Mariners numbers. The Summary of Corrections, Volume 5, contains a cumulative list of corrections for Sailing Directions from the date of publication. Reference to the Summary of Corrections should be made as required.

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Record of Corrections
Published in Weekly Notice to Mariners

Notice to Mariners

Year 20

1.....	14.....	27.....	40.....
2.....	15.....	28.....	41.....
3.....	16.....	29.....	42.....
4.....	17.....	30.....	43.....
5.....	18.....	31.....	44.....
6.....	19.....	32.....	45.....
7.....	20.....	33.....	46.....
8.....	21.....	34.....	47.....
9.....	22.....	35.....	48.....
10.....	23.....	36.....	49.....
11.....	24.....	37.....	50.....
12.....	25.....	38.....	51.....
13.....	26.....	39.....	52.....

Year 20

1.....	14.....	27.....	40.....
2.....	15.....	28.....	41.....
3.....	16.....	29.....	42.....
4.....	17.....	30.....	43.....
5.....	18.....	31.....	44.....
6.....	19.....	32.....	45.....
7.....	20.....	33.....	46.....
8.....	21.....	34.....	47.....
9.....	22.....	35.....	48.....
10.....	23.....	36.....	49.....
11.....	24.....	37.....	50.....
12.....	25.....	38.....	51.....
13.....	26.....	39.....	52.....

Year 20

1.....	14.....	27.....	40.....
2.....	15.....	28.....	41.....
3.....	16.....	29.....	42.....
4.....	17.....	30.....	43.....
5.....	18.....	31.....	44.....
6.....	19.....	32.....	45.....
7.....	20.....	33.....	46.....
8.....	21.....	34.....	47.....
9.....	22.....	35.....	48.....
10.....	23.....	36.....	49.....
11.....	24.....	37.....	50.....
12.....	25.....	38.....	51.....
13.....	26.....	39.....	52.....

Year 20

1.....	14.....	27.....	40.....
2.....	15.....	28.....	41.....
3.....	16.....	29.....	42.....
4.....	17.....	30.....	43.....
5.....	18.....	31.....	44.....
6.....	19.....	32.....	45.....
7.....	20.....	33.....	46.....
8.....	21.....	34.....	47.....
9.....	22.....	35.....	48.....
10.....	23.....	36.....	49.....
11.....	24.....	37.....	50.....
12.....	25.....	38.....	51.....
13.....	26.....	39.....	52.....

Notice to Mariners

Table of Contents

Pub.147, Sailing Directions (Enroute) Caribbean Sea Volume 1, Seventh Edition, 2001, is issued for use in conjunction with Pub. 140, Sailing Directions (Planning Guide) North Atlantic Ocean, Baltic Sea, North Sea, and the Mediterranean Sea. Companion volumes are Pubs. 141, 142, 143, 145, 146, and 148.

This publication has been corrected to 7 July 2001, including Notice to Mariners No. 27 of 2001.

Explanatory Remarks

Sailing Directions are published by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA), under the authority of Department of Defense Directive 5105.40, dated 12 December 1988, and pursuant to the authority contained in U. S. Code Title 10, Sections 2791 and 2792 and Title 44, Section 1336. Sailing Directions, covering the harbors, coasts, and waters of the world, provide information that cannot be shown graphically on nautical charts and is not readily available elsewhere. New Editions of Sailing Directions are corrected through the date of the publications shown in the preface. In the period between Editions, important information, which may amend material in the publication, is published in the weekly Notice to Mariners.

Sailing Directions (Enroute) include detailed coastal and port approach information which supplements the latest revised print of the largest scale chart for sale by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency. This publication is divided into geographic areas called "Sectors." Sector limits are shown on a chartlet following the Table of Contents. The standard format of the Sector is described below.

Chart Information.—A graphic key to the largest scale charts is included for each Sector. The key has a border scale graduated to help identify by approximate coordinates, the best scale chart for a place. Refer also to the Index—Gazetteer at the back of the book.

Coastal Winds, Currents, and Ice.—Special graphics that depicted coastal winds, weather, tides, currents and ice for the Sectors have been removed. General weather information can now be found within the text.

Dangers.—As a rule outer dangers are fully described, but inner dangers which are well-charted are, for the most part, omitted. Numerous offshore dangers, grouped together, are mentioned only in general terms. Dangers adjacent to a coastal passage or fairway are described.

Coastal Features.—It is assumed that the majority of ships have radar. Available coastal descriptions and views, useful for radar and visual piloting are included in geographic sequence in each Sector.

Ports.—Directions for entering ports are depicted where appropriate by means of chartlets, sketches, and photos, which facilitate positive identification of landmarks and navigational aids. These chartlets and sketches are not always to scale, however, and should be used only as a general informational guide in conjunction with the best scale chart. Specific port facilities are omitted from the standard format. They are tabulated in Pub. 150, World Port Index.

Index—Gazetteer.—Navigational features and place-names are listed alphabetically in the back of the book. The approximate position, along with the Sector and paragraph numbers (e.g. **1.1**), facilitate location in the text. Refer to the Chart Information graphic for the Sector, where the largest scale chart showing the feature is depicted.

Geographic Names are generally those used by the nation having sovereignty. Names in parentheses following another name are alternate names that may appear on some charts. In general, alternate names are quoted only in the principal description of the place. Diacritical marks, such as accents, cedillas, and circumflexes, which are related to specific letters in certain foreign languages, are not used in the interest of typographical simplicity.

Geographic names or their spellings do not necessarily reflect recognition of the political status of an area by the United States Government.

Soundings are referred to the datum of the charts and are expressed in meters.

Heights are referred to the plane of reference used for that purpose on the charts and are expressed in meters.

Bearings are true, and are expressed in degrees from 000˚ (north) to 360˚, measured clockwise. General bearings are expressed by initial letters of points of the compass (e.g. N, NNE, NE, etc.). Adjective and adverb endings have been discarded. Wherever precise bearings are intended degrees are used.

Courses are true, and are expressed in the same manner as bearings. The directives "steer" and "make good" a course mean, without exception, to proceed from a point of origin along a track having the identical meridianal angle as the designated course. Vessels following the directives must allow for every influence tending to cause deviation from such track, and navigate so that the designated course is continuously being made good.

Distances are expressed in nautical miles of 1 minute of latitude. Distances of less than 1 mile are expressed in meters, or tenths of miles.

Wind Directions are the true directions from which winds blow.

Current Directions are the true directions toward which currents set.

Light and Fog Signals are not described, and light sectors are not usually defined. The Light Lists should be consulted for complete information.

Radio Navigational Aids are not described in detail. Publication No. 117 Radio Navigational Aids should be consulted.

Special Warnings.—A Special Warning may be in force for the geographic area covered by this publication. Special Warnings are printed in the weekly Notice to Mariners upon promulgation and are reprinted annually in Notice to Mariners No. 1. A listing of Special Warnings currently in force is printed in each weekly Notice to Mariners, Section III, Broadcast Warnings, along with the notice number of promulgation. In force Special Warnings are also available on the Maritime Safety Information Center Home Page (http://164.214.12.145/index) under the heading “Broadcast Warning Messages.”

Corrective Information.—It is requested that the MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION CENTER, ST D 44, NATIONAL IMAGERY AND MAPPING AGENCY, 4600

SANGAMORE ROAD, BETHESDA MD 20816-5003, or any of its branch offices be advised of any inaccuracy found in this publication or of additional navigational information considered appropriate for insertion. The Sailing Directions Information and Suggestion Sheet on page IX may be used for this purpose.

Imagery and Copyright.—Most of the photographs in this publication are copyright protected by their rightful owner and may not be reproduced without their permission. The photographs used in this publication are for illustrative purposes only and are not to be used or relied upon for navigational purposes.

Reference List

The principal sources examined in the preparation of this publication were:

British Hydrographic Department Sailing Directions.

Various port handbooks.

Reports from United States naval and merchant vessels and various shipping companies.

Other U.S. Government publications, reports, and documents.

Charts, light lists, tide and current tables, and other documents in possession of the Agency.

Table of Contents