

JAPANESE AND UK HO TOPS MEET

Rear Admiral Nigel Essenhigh, the Hydrographer of the Navy, visited the Hydrographic Department of Japan (JHD) from 20 to 24 May 1995.

During his stay in Japan Radm. Essenhigh attended the Fleet Review of Japan Maritime Safety Agency held in Tokyo Bay on 21 May. In the morning of next day he called on Mr. Masaru Shiozaki, the Chief Hydrographer, at JHD and observed the largest S/V "TAKUYO" of JHD.

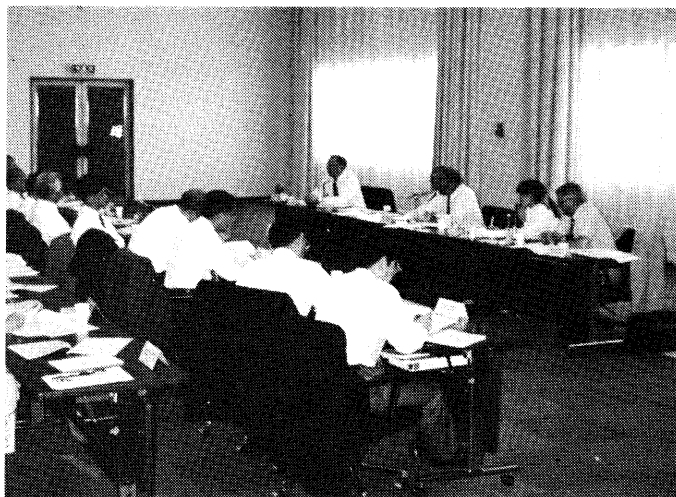
He also made a courtesy call on Mr. Yutaka Hatano, the Commandant of the Agency, at the Headquarters of the Maritime Safety Agency in the afternoon and attended welcome reception with his staff in the evening.

On the third day he attended the meeting with JHD staff in order to talk on the possibility to make a bilateral arrangement to encourage cooperation between both Hydrographic Departments on the exchange of products, data, materials and services including financial settlement of royalties.

At the meeting held at JHD 4 persons from the UK side, Radm. Essenhigh, Mr. Mark Hambrey, Head of Bilateral Arrangement, Mr. Brian Skittrall, Head of Nautical Charting Branch 6 (Far East/Pacific and Aaustralasia/Antarctica charting) of Hydrographic Office of the United Kingdom and Captain Neil Robertson, Defence and Naval Attache, British Embassy in Tokyo, and 11 members from the Japanese side, Mr. Shiozaki, Chief Hydrographer, Mr. Yukio Ishizaka, Deputy Director General, and some Directors, Heads and the others concerns attended.

In the meeting, the UK side explained that they felt necessity to have a bilateral arrangement with other HOs essentially involved in producing digital data, in accordance with the recently-revised A3.4 (non-digital reproduction) and A3.10 (digital reproduction) of the IHO Technical Resolutions. The contents of the proposed arrangement as well as Raster Charts service were introduced and explained.

From left Capt. Robertson, Radm. Essenhigh, Mr. Shiozaki



The meeting was held at JHD, 23 May 1995

From the Japanese side the following were stated;

- 1) according to WEND and EAHC resolutions, the coastal country has its own right to publish the own nautical charts both in non-digital and digital for the waters of its national jurisdiction,
- 2) in principle the large scale charts at scales larger than 1:500,000 should be issued by the coastal country concerned,
- 3) the small scale paper charts at the scale equal to and smaller than 1:500,000 may be recompiled and digitized freely by each HO as the common property of the world, and
- 4) Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs), which are used in ECDIS, are the unique formal electronic chart, while the Raster Charts on which UK side explained seem to be those as interim measures until official ENCs become available, and JHD already started to release Japanese official ENCs and will continuously release ENCs to cover all the areas in and around Japanese waters before long.

The both sides agreed to continue further negotiation and cooperative relation in this subject and the meeting closed in the evening after making compliments of both Hydrographers.