



## **SHOA CELEBRATES WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY**

Chile, through the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Navy (SHOA), is directly linked to the development of the most diverse areas' activities such as maritime trade, aquaculture, biomedicine, shipbuilding, cables and pipelines, defence and security, extraction of energy from oceans, sciences, underwater robotics, port operations, tourism, meteorology, floating platforms, amongst others.

This relationship, that began to take shape in 1834, some 182 years ago, onboard the Brigantine "Aquiles", in the creek and outlet of Rio Bueno, in the Province of Valdivia, where the first hydrographic survey conducted by the Chilean Navy, was carried out under the command of Commander Don Roberto SIMPSON.

Forty years later, by presidential decree, dated May 1<sup>st</sup>, the Hydrographic Office of the National Navy was created. Its purpose was to manage the publication of the national nautical charts and their distribution between the Naval ships and the maritime offices who needed them. Its first Director was the Commander Don Francisco VIDAL GORMAZ who, with the help of a single scribe, began the complex task of achieving what was entrusted to him.

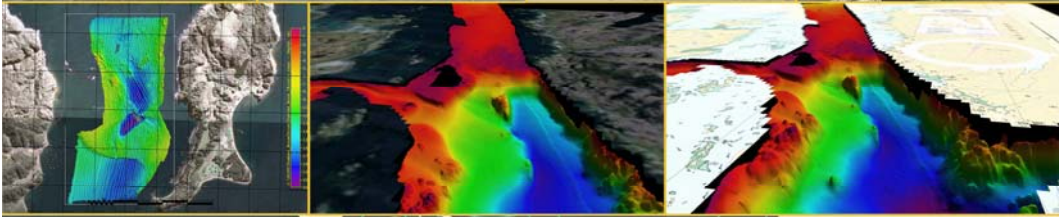
The name of the Office, throughout the years, has changed as well as its location, adding different roles and responsibilities, but its essence remains intact, as well as its mission statement: "to provide the technical elements, information and assistance aimed at having a safe navigation in fluvial and lake waterways, inland waters, the territorial sea and in the high seas adjacent to the Chilean coast." As well as "it is the state official, technical and permanent service, in all that relates to hydrography; maritime, fluvial and lake hydrographic surveying; nautical charting, development and publication of nautical charts of national waters, oceanography, planning and coordination of all national oceanographic activities related to physical and chemical research, tides, currents and tidal waves, nautical geography, navigation, astronomy, official time signal and aerophotogrammetry applied to nautical charts."

On this day the world recognizes the value of the work and the contribution made by SHOA to the country, as the input made day-to-day by each of its members and the sacrifice of those who have preceded us, allows SHOA to keep up with the most important hydrographic offices worldwide.



“La Hidrografía: la clave para mares y vías navegables bien administrados”

21 de Junio, Día Mundial de la Hidrografía 1921-2016



SERVICIO HIDROGRÁFICO Y OCEANOGRÁFICO DE LA ARMADA DE CHILE  
Errázuriz 254 - Playa Ancha - Casilla 324 - C.P.:236-0167 / Fono: 56-32-2266542 - Valparaíso - Chile.  
E-mail: shoa@shoa.cl / www.shoa.mil.cl





