

IHB File N° S1/0400

<p><b>CIRCULAR LETTER No. 48/2000</b> <b>27 October 2000</b></p>
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**POSSIBLE RESIGNATION OF AN IHB DIRECTOR**

Dear Sir,

Commodore John LEECH, IHB Director, has verbally advised us that he wishes to resign and return to Australia for domestic reasons at the end of January 2001.

We sincerely regret this decision, as we have enjoyed working with him and greatly value his contribution as a Director. It was our intention to advise Member States of this development as soon as we were formally advised. Although to date Commodore LEECH has not officially advised us of his intentions in writing, he has, in the meantime, addressed a personal letter to Hydrographers proposing two options: the first one being that he relocates to Australia and continues as IHB Director and the second one being that he resigns and undertakes some of his tasks as a consultant. Rear Admiral Neil GUY and myself do not support his first option to relocate to Australia as a Director, because no provision exists in the IHO Convention/Regulations for such a solution, such an option has never been put forward formally and is not in accordance with the structure of any intergovernmental organization. As regards his second option, we would be prepared to consider the possibility of him undertaking certain tasks on a consultancy basis.

Therefore, should Commodore LEECH officially resign and return to Australia, the Directing Committee will automatically inform the IHO Member States accordingly and will, at the same time, provide details as to how the workload has been redistributed between the two remaining Directors and amongst the professional staff members.

We will keep IHO Member States advised of the situation.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely

Rear Admiral Giuseppe Angrisano  
President