



IHB File No. S1/0402

CIRCULAR LETTER 48/2012
9 May 2012

Rear Admiral G.S. (Steve) RITCHIE, CB, DSC

Dear Hydrographer,

1 It is with great sadness that the Directing Committee has to announce the death of Rear Admiral Steve RITCHIE, CB, DSC who passed away at his home in Scotland on 8 May 2012. He was 97 years old.

2 Admiral Ritchie was educated at the Royal Naval College in Dartmouth (UK) and then embarked upon a distinguished career in hydrographic surveying. He was Hydrographer of the Navy in the UK from 1966 to 1971 and was elected President of the Directing Committee of the I.H. Bureau in 1972, a post he held for 10 years before returning to live in Scotland in the family home in Collieston.

3 Apart from an illustrious career in Hydrography, Admiral Ritchie was a renowned writer and, as well as publishing books, he regularly wrote in international publications and journals. Well known to everyone, he was often referred to as a "living legend" and will be well remembered for his passion for playing "boules" a pastime he adopted whilst living in Monaco for 10 years. A more detailed obituary retracing his long career will be published at a later date in the International Hydrographic Review.

4 A funeral service will be held in Scotland on Wednesday 16 May 2012. The Directing Committee and Staff of the I.H. Bureau offer their most sincere condolences to his family.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President