



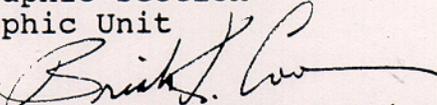
**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Rockville, Maryland 20852

ORIGINAL

July 19, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dennis Hill
Pacific Hydrographic Section
Chief, Hydrographic Unit

FROM: Briah K. Connor 
Tidal Datums Quality Assurance Section,
Chief, Hydrographic and Marine Boundary Unit

SUBJECT: Approved Water levels and datums for Hydrography
Project S-N933-DA-1991 Lake Washington, Washington

Lake Washington is not Tidal. The chart datum for Lake Washington is "Washington Lake Low Water Datum (WLLWD)", which is 20 feet above "Hiram M. Chittenden Locks Datum (HCLD)". Neither WLLWD or HCLD are tidal datums, both are fixed datums. This is based on documentation from the U.S. Army COE and verified by telephone on 7/17/91 with Lawrence Signani and Larry Markle of the Seattle COE Office. They also verified that the water level gauge and staff at the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, which were used for water level control of February 1991 survey, are relative to HCLD. Therefore, to refer the hydrographic soundings from the February 1991 survey in Lake Washington to chart datum, subtract 20 feet from the water level observations at the Chittenden Locks gauge. These corrections are to be applied to the hydrographic soundings. It is recommended that vertical datum information on NOAA Nautical Chart #18447, LAKE WASHINGTON SHIP CANAL AND LAKE WASHINGTON be corrected as indicated:

"SOUNDINGS IN FEET"

Below the Locks: at Mean Lower Low Water

**above the locks: at WASHINGTON LAKE LOW WATER DATUM which
is 20 FEET above HIRAM M. CHITTENDEN LOCKS DATUM**

"HEIGHTS"

**Vertical clearances above the locks are referenced to
MEAN LAKE LEVEL which is 21 FEET above
HIRAM M. CHITTENDEN LOCKS DATUM**

**Vertical clearances for the bridge and cable at the
Burlington Northern R.R. Bridge (47°40', 122°24') are
referenced to LAKE WASHINGTON ORDINARY HIGH WATER
which is 21.85 FEET above HIRAM M. CHITTENDEN LOCKS DATUM**

