



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Huntington District

Notice to Navigation Interests

Date: 29 NOVEMBER 2004

Notice Number: 04-76

In Reply Refer to: CELRH-OR-TD 502 Eighth Street, Huntington, WV 25701-2070 Telephone: 304-399-5239

NOTIFICATION OF SINKING OR SUNKEN VESSELS

AND BARGE BREAKAWAYS

HUNTINGTON DISTRICT

OHIO RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

Timely notification of sinking or sunken vessels and breakaway barges is a matter of great concern because of the potential danger that could result from unreported cases.

Pursuant to Section 7 of the River and Harbor Act of August 8, 1917, regulations have been prescribed to govern the use, administration, and navigation of the Ohio River, the Mississippi River above Cairo, Illinois, and their tributaries. Excerpts from these regulations (33 CFR 207.300) are as follows:

“Any accident resulting in uncontrolled barges shall immediately be reported to the nearest lock. The report shall include information as to the number of loose barges, their cargo, and the time and location where they broke loose. The lockmaster or locks shall be kept informed of the progress being made in bringing the barges under control so that he can initiate whatever actions may be warranted.”

“Sunken or sinking barges shall be reported to the nearest lock both downstream and upstream of the location in order that other traffic passing those points may be advised of the hazards.”

“Any other activity on the waterways that could conceivably endanger navigation or a navigation structure shall be reported to the nearest lock.”

Reporting incidents such as these to other Federal Agencies other than the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers does not fulfill your reporting obligation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arlie D. Bishop".

ARLIE D. BISHOP
Chief, Technical Support Branch