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The *Journal* is published three times a year by the Institute and is edited by M. W. RICHEY. It contains original papers contributing to the science of navigation, including those presented at meetings of the Institute together with the ensuing discussion. In addition the *Journal* includes a record of current navigational work, reviews of important books, and other matters of concern to those interested in navigation. The views expressed in the *Journal* are not necessarily those of the Institute, or of any organization or department to which the authors may belong. Crown Copyright may be reserved.

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## COVENANTS

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## VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICES

The Fourth International Symposium on Vessel Traffic Services is being organized jointly by the DGON and the Hochschule Nautik to take place in Bremen from 28 to 30 April 1981, with the support of the Royal Institute of Navigation, the Nautical Institute, the French Institute of Navigation and other organizations.

The Symposium will endeavour to respond to the need for international co-operation in Vessel Traffic Services; for standardized reporting procedures and agreed casualty definitions; for investigations into the influence of human factors on marine accidents; for more effective ways of passing and displaying traffic information and for a legal framework for Vessel Traffic Services.

Further details and application for registration can be obtained from Secretariat SVTS, Hochschule für Nautik, Bremen, Weiderstrasse 73, 2800 Bremen I, Federal Republic of Germany.

## THE BEHAVIOUR OF DISABLED LARGE TANKERS

A two-day symposium (9, 10 June), sponsored jointly by the Royal Institution of Naval Architects, the Royal Institute of Navigation and the Nautical Institute. Papers will be discussed describing recent research carried out, largely under the auspices of the Oil Companies International Forum. This work had as its objectives to gain a deeper technical insight into disabled ship behaviour and to improve the means used to take a large ship in tow. The papers will present the results of theoretical, model and full-scale work.

Further details may be obtained from the Royal Institution of Naval Architects.

## TECHNICAL SESSION

The open meeting of the Technical Committee scheduled for 29 April has been brought forward to Wednesday 15 April, at the Royal Geographical Society.