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Form 504 Ed. June, 1923	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY R. S. Patton, Director	
State: LOUISIANA	
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT	
Topographic <del>Hydrographic</del>	Sheet No. B 4773
LOCALITY	
Lake Charles Deep Water Channel	
Moss Lake to Prien Lake.	
1933	
CHIEF OF PARTY	
J. C. Rose.	

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY SHEET  
(FIELD) NO. B

Instructions. The survey was made in accordance with instructions from the Director dated March 22, 1933.

Limits. The limits of the sheet extend from Lat.  $30^{\circ} 13\frac{1}{2}'$  to  $30^{\circ} 08'$  and from Long.  $93^{\circ} 21'$  to  $93^{\circ} 14'$ . The area surveyed is that part of the Calcasieu River which lies between Contraband Bayou and Bayou Guy.

Control. The control consisted of three triangulation stations of third order and two of first order accuracy. The third order stations are Rig, Rose, and Guy, 1932 and the first order stations are the two water tanks in the port area; the latter are very close together.

The control was supplemented, before any shore line was delineated, by graphic triangulation. The flagpole at Prien Lake Country Club (O Flag), the red water tank at Lockport (O Red) and signals Cut, Bluff, Shell, Lock, Din, and Vincent were located by plane table cuts. The topographic survey was then made and the other signals located in the course of the survey.

The following signals were marked by bronze hydrographic tablets set in concrete monuments: Cut, Bluff, Shutts, Vincent, and Henning. O "One" is U. S. E. bench mark no. 1 and is the only U. S. E. station that was recovered.

Description. Contraband Bayou is a tributary of Calcasieu River and flows into the latter about half a mile south of the port area. It has no navigational importance. It is lined with tall cypress trees on both banks for most of its length.

The north bank of the river, between O Con and O Rox is what is locally called high marsh. The land is always marshy and covered by water and has tall cane grass about nine feet high. This grass grows along the river bank along a well defined outline.

The south bank of the river between O Tra and the peninsula east of O B. M. 1 is also marsh but is lined with cypress trees.

Coon Island is marsh with tall cane grass. Along the east shore of the island around to a point opposite O Red, there is a fringe of tall cypress trees. The west side of the island between the point opposite O Red and southward to a point about 200 meters north of the southern extremity does not have cypress trees but only the cane grass. Along the south shore of Coon Island are thick willows.

Along the east bank of the river, from the mouth of Bayou Verdine southward, the shore line consists of cane grass but at the small point at the northern end of the narrow place there is a small group of tall cypress trees.

In the vicinity of O Red, the land is dry and about 15 feet high. Here stands the community of Lockport. Once a saw mill operated there but it has been abandoned for about seven years. The buildings shown on the topographic sheet near O Red are in a ruinous state.

O Red is a red water tank, about 50 feet high, which is visible for a considerable distance but it is not recommended that it be shown on a chart (Red Water Tank)

as a landmark because it is not being maintained and will probably not stand for a long time.

East and north of Coon Island, the river is cluttered up with piling. These piles were driven to form log pens for the saw mill. Many of the piles are decayed and broken at the water line and launches must use caution.

"Coal" is an abandoned coal chute. From "Coal" southward to a point about opposite the river from "Rix" the shore is lined with cypress trees. Between "Red" and "Rix", there is an old dock of the Magnolia Petroleum Co. which is no longer in use. The topographer was told by the chief engineer of the company that the dock would soon be removed. From the point about opposite "Rix" southward, the shore is tall marsh grass. Along the north shore of the bight, at the north east-end of the canal, there are some willows.

The small island on which B. M. 1 is situated, has a bluff clay bank, about nine feet high, on its north end, facing the ship channel. It tapers off southward to a low, broken, narrow, marshy strip with cypress trees.

Tall cypress trees line the shore of the peninsula east of B. M. 1 and both sides of Indian Bay.

"Lop" is a lone cypress tree standing in a small and narrow marsh-grass island.

From "Gar" to a point about midway between Lock Bayou and Lock Point, the shore is lined with cypress trees. East of Lock Point, as indicated by hachures, is a bluff clay bank with a maximum elevation of 14 feet. The western extremity of Lock Point is low and marshy, with small cypress trees. North of Lock Point is an area in the water which is dotted with old piling and stumps.

From Lock Point southward to "Flag", the shore line is mostly a clay bank. Many summer cottages stand here, overlooking Prien Lake. Nearly all of them have small boat landings or boat houses.

The west shore of Prien Lake is low and marshy and fringed with scrubby cypress trees, as is also the north bank of the Calcasieu River between "Bul" and "Fon".

The south bank of the river is dry and bluff (about 15 feet high) between Prien Lake and a point across the river from "Fon", except at "Tru", where there is a small cypress swamp.

The land on both sides of Rose Bluff Cut Off is low and marshy, except where dredged material has been dumped to form a levee or spoil bank. The spoil bank is covered with brush and small willows.

Bayou D'Inde passes through the Lake Charles Oil Field. It has no navigational importance and is only used by occasional oil barges. Its water is coated with oil and its banks are marshy. The many red circles in the vicinity of "A Rig" are oil derricks that were located by plane table cuts. The oil field has a system of small canals which were dredged for fire protection. It also has a system of wooden causeways leading to the various oil wells.

The west bank of the river south of the S.W. end of the Cut -Off, or channel, has a bluff clay bank, from 14 to 20 feet high and covered with pine trees, known as Rose Bluff. Three oil docks are located here. Until recently a small dock stood about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N. E. of the northernmost

*Rose Bluff*

large dock(Union Sulphur Co.). It has since been removed.

Just south of the southernmost dock at Rose Bluff is a small bayou or stream, known as Indian Marais. For about one mile downstream from this little bayou, there is tall marsh grass on both sides of the river. *Indian Marais*

From  $\odot$  Henning to  $\odot$  Vincent, the west river bank is mostly dry and about ten feet high. Several small farms are in this vicinity. Downstream from  $\odot$  Vincent, there is high marsh on both sides of the river and cypress trees on the south bank.

There is dry land at  $\Delta$  Guy, on which the Shell Petroleum Corporation built a tank farm in the summer of 1933. The canal leading into the river opposite  $\Delta$  Guy was dredged for the purpose of constructing the power transmission line to the tank farm. The line crosses the river by cable.

Tree Line. Where the tree line was not too distant from the plane-table set-ups, it was located by rod readings. Where it was distant, it was sketched in between cuts to tangents. The topographer later obtained access to some airplane photographs, which were on a scale of approximately 1-12000 and, by means of a pantograph, transferred the tree line to the sheet. The transferred lines fitted well with the cuts and the estimated distances.

Landmarks. There are no landmarks that are visible for great distances, on account of the trees that line the meandering banks. The landmarks on the attached sheet, however, are the most prominent objects along the waterway.

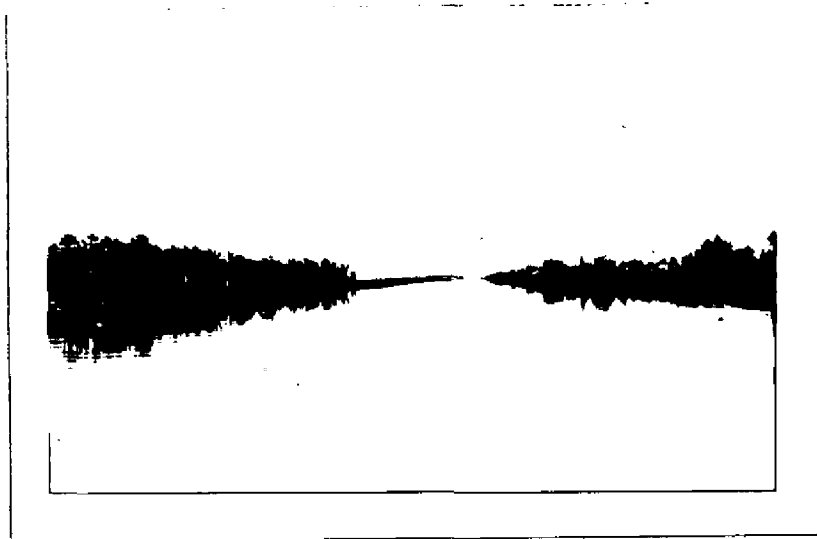
Traverses. Control points were sufficient in number so that no long traverses were necessary. No fixes could be obtained along Contraband Bayou or along Bayou Guy, however, and there is no check on the accuracy of these two bayous.

Names. All names on the sheet are well established locally. They appear on various maps of Calcasieu Parish.

*J. C. Bose*  
J. C. Bose,  
Topographer,  
Chief of Party.

The bridge across Bayou D'Inde, in the oil field, is a wooden lift bridge, resting on barges or pontoons. The opening is 26 feet.

*applied to drawing of Chart No. 592  
Jan. 9/35 R.*



*View from S.W. end of Rose Bluff Cut-Off, ---  
looking N.E.*



*Looking in a north-westerly Direction from a  
point in Calcasieu River east of Magnolia  
Petroleum Co. Dock.*

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

REG. NO 4773

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

The Topographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field No. B

REGISTER NO. **4773**

State LOUISIANA

General locality Lake Charles Deep Water Channel *Swamp*

Locality Moss Lake to Prien Lake

Scale 1 : 20 000 Date of survey April - May, 1933

~~Vessel~~ Party No. 6, Project HT - 138

Chief of party J. C. Bose

Surveyed by J. C. Bose

Inked by J. C. Bose; marsh symbol by J. E. Chachere

Heights in feet above ..... to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval ..... feet

Instructions dated March 22, 1933

Remarks: Some revision done in October near station GUY on  
account of new construction.

## REVIEW OF TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY No. 4773

Title (Par. 56) *Lake Charles Deep Water Channel, Moss Lake to Brien Lake, Louisiana*

Chief of Party *J. C. Boze* Surveyed by *J. C. Boze* Inked by *J. C. Boze*  
*J. E. Chachere*

Ship *Shore party* Instructions dated *March 22, 1933* Surveyed in *April-May 1933*

1. The survey and preparation for it conform to the requirements of the Topographic Manual. (Par. 7, 8, 9, 13, 16.) ✓
2. The character and scope of the survey satisfy the instructions. ✓
3. The control and closures of traverses were adequate. (Par. 12, 29.) ✓
4. The amount of vertical control that the Manual specifies for -contours-formlines- was accomplished. (Par. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23.)  
*None*
5. The delineation of -contours-formlines- is satisfactory. (Par. 49, 50.) *None shown*
6. There is sufficient control on maps from other sources that were transmitted by the field party to enable their application to the charts. (Par. 28.) *None submitted. B.P. 27067 shows part of the area covered by this sheet and also T 4774 with which it was founded.*
7. High water line on marshy and mangrove coast is clear and adequate for chart compilation. (Par. 16a, 43, 44.) ✓
8. The representation of low water lines, reefs, coral reefs and rocks, and legends pertaining to them is satisfactory. (Par. 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41.) ✓
9. Rocks and other important details shown on previous surveys and on the chart were verified. (Par. 25, 26, 27.) ✓
10. The span, draw and clearance of bridges are shown. (Par. 16c.) ✓
11. ~~Locations and elevations of summits are given. (Par. 19, 51.)~~
12. ~~The tree line was shown on mountains. (Par. 16g.)~~

NOTE: Strike out paragraphs, words or phrases not applicable and modify those requiring it. Paragraph numbers refer to those in the Topographic Manual. Use reverse side for extending remarks.

13. The descriptive report covers all details listed in the Manual, in ✓  
so far as they apply to this survey. (Par. 64, 65, 66, 67.)
14. The descriptive report also contains additional information required  
in aero-topography relative to type of photographs, method of compi-  
lation and type of ground control.
15. The descriptions of recoverable stations and references to shore line  
were accomplished on Form 524, (Par. 29, 30, 57, 67 except scaling  
of IMs and DPs, 68.) *and checked in accordance with Circ. 30, Dec. 11, 1933.  
Marked stations only are listed on the cards.*
16. A list of landmarks for charts was furnished on Form 567 and plotting  
checked. (Par. 16d, e, 60.) ✓ *filed as letter 766/1933.*
17. The magnetic meridian was shown and declination was checked. ✓ (Par.  
17, 52.)
18. The geographic datum of the sheet is *North American 1927* and the  
reference station is correctly noted. ✓ (Par. 34.) *seconds in meters only.*
19. Junctions with contemporary surveys are adequate. ✓
20. Geographic names are shown on the sheet and are covered by the Des- ✓  
criptive report. (Par. 64, 66k.)
21. The quality of the drafting is good. ✓ (Par. 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38,  
39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50.)
22. No additional surveying is recommended. ✓
23. The Chief of Party inspected and approved the sheet and the descriptive  
report, ~~after review by~~
24. Remarks:

Reviewed in office by *R.J. Christman, March 16, 1934.*

Examined and approved:

*L.O. Polbit*  
Chief, Section of Field Records

*H. Borden*  
Chief, Section of Field Work

*W. P. Papenhare*  
Chief, Division of Charts

*G. H. Hude*  
Chief, Division of Hyd. and Top.