



AMEDNV 174/2002

The Aviation, Maritime and Energy Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honour to refer to the Embassy's letter of 01 July 2002 requesting permission to undertake a research cruise by the vessel R/V Melville.

The appropriate United Kingdom Authorities have been informed of the research cruise by the vessel R/V Melville from 14 December to 18 December 2002 and have given clearance for the cruise subject to the following conditions:

It is requested that the vessel should at all times comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972 (as amended) as set out in the Schedule to the Merchant Shipping (Distress Signals and Prevention of Collisions) Regulations 1989 (SI 1989 No 1798). In particular, the vessel should comply with the requirements of Rule 10 of the Collision Regulations when operating within the vicinity of traffic separation schemes approved by the IMO. In this connection, the Embassy's attention is drawn to the Admiralty Notice to Mariners No 17 of 99 and Merchant Shipping Notice M1448.

Attention is also drawn to: a) the safety zone established in accordance with international law and extending to 500 metres around all water off-shore installations (it is an offence to enter such safety zones without permission from the Minister of State for Energy (Part III of the Petroleum Act 1987) and b) oil and gas Development Areas which are marked on Admiralty Charts.

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