mark and occulting white light, instead of the lights prescribed in § 118.65.

(c) The District Commander may require or authorize the marking of the centerline of the navigation channel drawspan of floating drawbridges with a special mark, diamond in shape, yellow in color, and with a high intensity retroreflective material border. The District Commander may require or authorize the mark to exhibit a flashing yellow light Morse Code ''B'' characteristic. The mark may not be visible when the drawspan is in the open position.

[CGD 84–022, 51 FR 16313, May 2, 1986]

§ 118.120 Radar reflectors and racons.

The District Commander may require or authorize the installation of radar reflectors and racons on bridge structures, stakes, or buoys. Radar reflectors are used to mark the location of the edge of the navigation channel or bridge channel piers. Racons are used to mark the centerline of the channel. The District Commander may authorize the use of Automatic Identification System Aids to Navigation in lieu of or in addition to a racon.

[CGD 84–022, 51 FR 16313, May 2, 1986, as amended by USCG–2005–21869, 80 FR 5330, Jan. 30, 2015]

§ 118.130 Fog signals.

On waterways where visibility is frequently reduced due to fog or other causes, the District Commander may require or authorize the installation of one or more fog signals to warn the navigator of the presence of the bridge. The fog signals must conform to the installation, range, and sound frequencies provisions in Subpart 67.10 of Part 67 of this chapter. If more than one fog signal is installed on a bridge or in the vicinity, their characteristics must be different to distinguish each signal. The fog signals must be directional to the fullest extent possible to minimize adverse impact on local residents.

[CGD 84–022, 51 FR 16313, May 2, 1986]

§ 118.140 Painting bridge piers.

The District Commander may require painting the sides of bridge channel piers below the superstructure facing traffic white or yellow when they are significantly darkened by weathering or other causes so as to be poorly visible against a dark background.

[CGD 84–022, 51 FR 16314, May 2, 1986]

§ 118.150 Traveller platforms.

The District Commander may require under deck traveller platforms which may significantly reduce the vertical clearance when operated over navigation channels at night to be lighted with quick flashing red lights on each of the four lower corners.

[CGD 84–022, 51 FR 16314, May 2, 1986]

§ 118.160 Vertical clearance gauges.

(a) When necessary for reasons of safety of navigation, the District Commander may require or authorize the installation of clearance gauges. Except as specified in § 117.47(b) of this chapter for certain drawbridges, clearance gauges must meet the requirements of this section.

(b) Clearance gauges must indicate the vertical distance between ''low steel'' of the bridge channel span (in the closed to navigation position for drawbridges) and the level of the water, measured to the bottom of the foot marks, read from top to bottom. Each gauge must be installed on the end of the right channel pier or pier protection structure facing approaching vessels and extend to a reasonable height above high water so as to be meaningful to the viewer. Other or additional locations may be prescribed by the District Commander if particular conditions or circumstances warrant.

(c) *Construction.* Each gauge must be permanently fixed to the bridge pier or pier protection structure and made of a durable material of sufficient strength to provide resistance to weather, tide, and current. Gauges may be painted directly on the bridge channel pier or pier protection structure if the surface is suitable and has sufficient width to accommodate the foot marks (graduations) and numerals.

(d) *Numerals.* (1) Each gauge must be marked by black numerals and foot marks on a white background. Paint, if used, must be of good exterior quality, resistant to excessive chalking or

bleeding. Manufactured numerals and background material may be used.

(2) The size, type, and spacing of numerals must conform to the Standard Alphabets for Highway Signs and the following table. The nominal day visibility distance is the distance at which the clearance information needs to be ascertained by approaching vessel operators. The District Commander determines this distance for each bridge.

Nominal day visibility distance (feet)	Height of numeral (inches)	Type of numeral	Vertical spacing of numerals (feet)
Less than 500	12	Series C	2
500 to 750	18	Series C	2
750 to 1,000	24	Series D	5
1,000 to 2,000	30	Series E	5
More than 2,000	36	Series E	10

(3) The length of the foot marks must be no less than the width of a single numeral used (except numerals 1 and 4), be the same thickness as the width of stroke of the numeral, and extend to the nearest margin of the white background. Foot marks must be spaced every foot for nominal day visibility of less than 500 feet, every two feet for a nominal day visibility of more than 500 feet but less than 1,000 feet, and every five feet for nominal day visibility of more than 1,000 feet.

(4) Intermediate foot marks may be used when more precise determination of actual clearance is necessary. Such intermediate foot marks must have a width of stroke one-half the width of the stroke required for the numeral and shall be three-quarters as long as the primary foot marks.

(5) The horizontal distance between the numeral and nearest edge of the white background shall be no less than one-half the width of a single numeral (excepting numerals 1 and 4).

(6) The minimum width of the white background shall be no less than three times the width of a single numeral (excepting numerals 1 and 4) plus the widths of each additional numeral (when multiple numerals are used plus numeral spacing).

(e) *Maintenance.* The owner or operator of the bridge shall maintain each gauge in good repair and legible condition. The bridge owner or operator is responsible for the accuracy of the gauge and shall remeasure the vertical distance of the numerals and foot marks below ''low steel'' of the bridge whenever the gauge is repainted or the structure is repaired.

[CGD 84–022, 51 FR 16314, May 2, 1986, as amended by USCG–2012–0306, 77 FR 37315, June 21, 2012]