

Headlines:

USCG – MERPAC members sought;
OFAC – vessels unblocked under Cuban sanctions;
NOAA – preservation of sunken USCG lightship; and
Canada – Marine Navigation in the Canadian Arctic.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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USCG – MERPAC members sought



The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that it seeks applications from individuals interested in serving on the Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC). Applications should be received by 8 December. [79 Fed. Reg. 60860](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-10-08/pdf/2014-24013.pdf) [found at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-10-08/pdf/2014-24013.pdf>] (10/8/14).

OFAC – vessels unblocked under Cuban sanctions



The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued a notice stating that two vessels have been removed from the Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) List and unblocked pursuant to the Cuban Assets Control Regulations, effective 30 September. [79 Fed. Reg. 60892](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-10-08/pdf/2014-24055.pdf) [found at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-10-08/pdf/2014-24055.pdf>] (10/8/14).

NOAA – preservation of sunken USCG lightship



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a **news release** [found at <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/press/2014/pr100714.html>] stating that, with assistance from the US Coast Guard, it will manage the historic shipwreck Diamond Shoals Lightship No. 71, the only American lightship to be sunk by enemy action during World War I. For 21 years after its launching in 1897, it served as a floating lighthouse, sound signal station, and navigation beacon. On 6 August 1918, it was attacked by a German submarine while on station off Cape Hatteras. The lightship had reported by radio the presence of a submarine that had torpedoed the unarmed American steamer Merak. The submarine intercepted the warning and, after giving the crew of 12 an opportunity to abandon ship into lifeboats, sank the lightship by surface gunfire. (10/7/14).

Canada – Marine Navigation in the Canadian Arctic



The Office of the Auditor General of Canada posted a report entitled **Marine Navigation in the Canadian Arctic** [found at http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/docs/parl_cesd_201410_03_e.pdf]. While acknowledging the challenges posed by changing conditions in Canadian Arctic waters, the report states that the Canadian Government must do more to ensure marine safety in Canadian Arctic waters as ice coverage decreases and maritime traffic increases. Surveys must be improved, aids to navigation must be expanded, and ice-breaking services must be enhanced. (10/7/14).

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If you have questions regarding the above items, please contact the editor:

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