

Headlines:

SHC – meeting on 20 January;
DOJ – price fixing guilty plea;
BIS – export of oil from US;
Court – Neutrality Act; and
India – training institute inspection guidelines.

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Bryant's Maritime News

Bryant's Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91st Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 – Email: dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com – Internet: <http://brymar-consulting.com>

Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://brymar-consulting.com) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) directly. Much of the highlighted text in this newsletter constitutes links to Internet sites providing more detailed information. Links on this page may be in PDF format, requiring use of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Comments on these postings are encouraged and may be made by email to the editor or by going to the blog page on the website and clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily newsletter is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. Better to light one candle than curse your flashlight.

SHC – meeting on 20 January



The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC), sponsored by the Department of State (DOS), will meet on 20 January in Washington, DC to prepare for the upcoming session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Human Element, Training, and Watchkeeping. Topics on the agenda include: tug-barge operations; Polar Code; and the E-navigation strategy implementation plan. [79 Fed. Reg. 78935](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-31/pdf/2014-30711.pdf) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-31/pdf/2014-30711.pdf>] (12/31/14).

DOJ – price fixing guilty plea

The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a [news release](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/third-company-agrees-plead-guilty-price-fixing-ocean-shipping-services-cars-and-trucks) [located at <http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/third-company-agrees-plead-guilty-price-fixing-ocean-shipping-services-cars-and-trucks>] stating that Nippon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha (NYK) has agreed to plead guilty and to pay a \$59.4 million criminal fine for its involvement in a conspiracy to fix prices, allocate customers, and rig bids of international ocean shipping services for roll-on/roll-off cargo to and from the

United States and elsewhere. NYK is the third company to agree to plead guilty in this investigation. (12/29/14).

BIS – export of oil from US



The Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) issued a set of six **frequently asked questions** (FAQs) [located at <http://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/policy-guidance/faqs>] providing guidance on federal policy relating to the export from the United States of crude oil and petroleum products. (12/30/14).

Court – Neutrality Act



The US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled that a private individual lacks standing to pursue a claim under the Neutrality Act. Plaintiff asserted that he had informed the federal government of vessels that had been funded, furnished, and fitted by anti-Israel organizations in the United States, together with violent and militant anti-Israel organizations from other countries, in violation of the Act. The vessels were to be employed to commit hostilities against Israel. Plaintiff claimed that he had the right, as an informer, to condemn the vessels for forfeiture and to share in the bounty. The Neutrality Act includes a provision allowing half the bounty to be provided for the use of the informer. The district court held that there is no private right of action under the Neutrality Act. On appeal, the court held that a private party lacks standing to pursue the government's interests in neutrality in foreign affairs. **Bauer v. Mavi Marmara**, No. 13-7081 (DC Cir., December 19, 2014) [located at [http://www.cadc.uscourts.gov/internet/opinions.nsf/E3AF1833D3CD749085257DB30054B6BF/\\$file/13-7081-1528227.pdf](http://www.cadc.uscourts.gov/internet/opinions.nsf/E3AF1833D3CD749085257DB30054B6BF/$file/13-7081-1528227.pdf)]. *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Keith Heard of **Burke & Parsons**.*

India – training institute inspection guidelines



The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) posted its **Guidelines** for Comprehensive Inspection Programme for Maritime Training Institutes Approved for Competency Courses [located at http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201412301257319258329dgsorder23_2014_trg.pdf]. (12/23/14). *Note: For some reason, the first two pages of this 43-page document are blank.*

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

Dennis L. Bryant

Bryant's Maritime Consulting
4845 SW 91st Way
Gainesville, FL 32608-8135
USA

1-352-692-5493
dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com
<http://brymar-consulting.com>

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