

## Headlines:

Arthur Kill – RNA;  
CBP – NCAP eBond test;  
OFAC – blocked vessels;  
USCG – AMSPs updated;  
USCG – surge in Cuban migrants;  
FMCS – ILWU-PMA labor negotiations;  
NTSB – towing vessel allision with bridge;  
India – financial support for cadets; and  
Panama Canal – new toll structure proposed.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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*Note: This newsletter is one section of the **Bryant's Maritime Consulting** website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining **Dennis Bryant** 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. Soon after a new safety device is invented, innovative mariners develop a work-around.*

## **Arthur Kill – RNA**



The US Coast Guard promulgated a rule establishing a temporary regulated navigation area on waters of the Arthur Kill in New York and New Jersey, effective through 31 October 2018, to maintain safety during bridge replacement operations on the Goethals Bridge and during drilling, blasting, and dredging operations in support of channel deepening operations. **80 Fed. Reg. 829** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-07/pdf/2014-29856.pdf>] (1/7/15).

## **CBP – NCAP eBond test**



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice announcing modifications and clarifications to the voluntary National Customs

Automation Program (NCAP) eBond test, providing for the transmission in the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) of electronic bond contracts (eBonds) between principals and sureties, with CBP as third-party beneficiary. **80 Fed. Reg. 899** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-07/pdf/2015-00029.pdf>] (1/7/15).

### OFAC – blocked vessels



The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued a notice publishing the names of various persons whose property and interests in property have been blocked by US economic sanctions. It also published the names and related information regarding 30 vessels designated as blocked property. **80 Fed. Reg. 921** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-07/pdf/2015-00028.pdf>] (1/7/15).

### USCG – AMSPs updated



The US Coast Guard issued a **notice** [located at <http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2015/01/06/162015-area-maritime-security-plan-5-year-cycle-review/>] stating that all 43 Area Maritime Security Plans (AMSPs) have been updated. The plans are based on a detailed risk-based security assessment of each Captain of the Port (COTP) Zone, involving local stakeholders. Among other things, the plans address the emerging cybersecurity threat. (1/6/15).

### USCG – surge in Cuban migrants



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2442054/>] stating that 121 Cuban migrants were interdicted in seven separate incidents during the past week and repatriated to Cuba. All seven interdictions involved unseaworthy, homemade vessels that posed significant risk to the individuals. Patrols in the Florida Straits have been increased due to a surge in illegal migration attempts. (1/5/15).

### FMCS – ILWU-PMA labor negotiations



The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) issued a **statement** [located at <http://www.fmcs.gov/internet/itemDetail.asp?categoryID=39&itemID=24857>] on the West Coast Ports ILWU-PMA Labor Negotiations stating that collective bargaining between the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the

Pacific Maritime Association representatives will continue as soon as possible under the auspices of the FMCS. (1/5/15).

### NTSB – towing vessel allision with bridge



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) posted the report of its investigation into the allision of the towing vessel Bayou Lady with the Bayou Blue Bridge in Houma on 7 December 2013. The vessel was pushing a flotilla of six empty hopper barges when the forward portside barge struck the southern fixed section of the bridge. There were no injuries and no pollution. Damage to the bridge was estimated at \$715,000. Damage to the vessel and barges was minimal. The probable cause of the casualty was the decision of the master to transit the bridge opening in windy conditions and the reported temporary loss of steering control after the rudder was fouled by submerged debris. **MAB 14-23** [located at <http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1423.pdf> ] (1/6/15).

### India – financial support for cadets



The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) issued a **notice** [located at <http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201501060625173671821Page001.pdf> ] stating that it seeks information regarding Indian Merchant Navy cadets/trainees because it is exploring the possibility of providing financial support for completion of mandatory on-board training. (1/6/15).

### Panama Canal – new toll structure proposed



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2015/01/05/pr539.html> ] announcing a proposed new toll structure. A public hearing will take place on 27 February. Written comments must be received by 9 February. (1/5/15).

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