

Headlines:

BSEE – well site supervisor charged with making false statements;
New Orleans – new Industrial Canal lock;
House – bill introduced re World War II merchant mariners;
House – bill introduced re Columbia River salmon;
IMO – exhaust gas cleaning systems;
Australia – SAR capabilities in the Indian Ocean region;
India – implementation of MLC 2006;
UK – seafarer statistics; and
Establishment of US Coast Guard – 28 January 1915.

January 29, 2015



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://www.bryant-maritime.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. Soon after a new safety device is invented, innovative mariners develop a work-around.

BSEE – well site supervisor charged with making false statements



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a [press release](http://www.bsee.gov/BSEE-Newsroom/BSEE-News-Briefs/2015/Houston-Man-Charged-With-False-Statements-In-Relation-To-Blowout-Preventer-Testing-On-Oil-Platform-In-Gulf-Of-Mexico/) [located at <http://www.bsee.gov/BSEE-Newsroom/BSEE-News-Briefs/2015/Houston-Man-Charged-With-False-Statements-In-Relation-To-Blowout-Preventer-Testing-On-Oil-Platform-In-Gulf-Of-Mexico/>] stating that a well site supervisor for a platform in the Gulf of Mexico has been charged in a two-count Bill of Information with making false statements to BSEE inspectors in relation to the veracity of blowout preventer testing on an offshore oil and gas platform. (1/28/15).

New Orleans – new Industrial Canal lock



The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issued a notice stating that it intends to prepare a draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) integrated with a General Reevaluation Report for the Mississippi River, Baton Rouge to the Gulf of Mexico, Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet, Louisiana New Industrial Canal Lock and Connecting Channels Project, also referred to as the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (IHNC) Lock Replacement Project. A public scoping meeting will be held on 4 February in New Orleans. **80 Fed. Reg. 4911** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-01-29/pdf/2015-01674.pdf>] (1/29/15).

House – bill introduced re World War II merchant mariners



Representative Hahn (D-CA) introduced a bill (H.R. 563) to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish the Merchant Mariner Equity Compensation Fund to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Hahn issued a **press release** [located at <http://hahn.house.gov/press-release/congresswoman-hahn-and-congressman-duncan-introduce-bipartisan-legislation-repay>] explaining the measure. (1/27/15).

House – bill introduced re Columbia River salmon



Representative Herrera Beutler (R-WA) introduced a bill (H.R. 564) to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reduce predation on endangered Columbia River salmon and other nonlisted species, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Herrera Beutler issued a **press release** [located at <http://herrerabeutler.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=398503>] explaining the measure. (1/27/15).

IMO – exhaust gas cleaning systems



The Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.dma.dk/news/Sider/Approvalofexhaustgascleaningsystemsmadeasier.aspx>] stating that the IMO Subcommittee on Pollution Prevention and Response (PPR 2) agreed to amend the guidelines on approval of exhaust gas cleaning systems so as to make it easier to verify compliance with air emission

restrictions. The measure now goes to the Marine Environment Protection Committee for consideration. (1/27/15).

Australia – SAR capabilities in Indian Ocean region



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) issued a **media release** [located at http://www.amsa.gov.au/media/documents/MediaRelease_SCPP_IndianOcean_CommencementvFINAL.pdf] stating that the Government of Australia has commenced its Search and Rescue (SAR) Capability Partnership Program to strengthen SAR capabilities in the Indian Ocean region. The AMSA will work with counterpart agencies in Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and Mauritius to improve maritime and aviation distress response. (1/27/15).

India – implementation of MLC 2006



The Indian Directorate General of Shipping (DCS) issued a **notice** [located at http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201501281143102319292mlc_secondamendment_280115.pdf] announcing that India has adopted legislation implementing the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC). (1/28/15).

UK – seafarer statistics



The UK Department for Transport (DfT) issued its **report** [located at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/seafarer-statistics-2014>] on seafarer statistics for 2014. The total number of UK seafarers active at sea in 2014 was estimated at 22,910, a 1% increase over the previous year. (1/28/15).

Establishment of US Coast Guard – 28 January 1915



The United States Coast Guard was created by **Act of Congress** on 28 January 1915, when the Life-Saving Service was combined with the Revenue-Cutter Service. From the beginning, the Coast Guard constituted part of the military forces of the United States. It operated (at that time) under the Treasury Department in time of peace and as part of the Navy in time of war or when the President shall so direct. Semper Paratus!

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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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