

Headlines:

Antarctica – rescue mission;
DHS – cyber-security alert;
USN – three Rear Admirals censured;
House – bill introduced re transportation security card program;
Mediterranean – up to 300 dead in migration tragedy;
ReCAAP – Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference; and
Sinking of SS Marine Electric – 12 February 1983.

February 12, 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://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. Soon after a new safety device is invented, innovative mariners develop a work-around.

Antarctica – rescue mission



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2461026/) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2461026/>] and Maritime New Zealand issued a [media release](http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/news/media-releases-2014/20150212a.asp) [located at <http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/news/media-releases-2014/20150212a.asp>] stating that the USCG icebreaker Polar Star has been diverted from its support of the resupply of the McMurdo Station in Antarctica to rescue an Australian fishing vessel beset in the Antarctic ice. (2/12/15).

DHS – cyber-security alert



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS-CERT) issued an alert providing notice of a Microsoft Windows critical security update. This serious vulnerability impacts control system owners using a domain-configured system. If your

company or entity owns or operates such a system, prompt action should be taken to avoid the potential exploitation by third parties. **ICS-ALERT-15-041-01** [located at <https://ics-cert.us-cert.gov/alerts/ICS-ALERT-15-041-01>] (2/10/15).

USN – three Rear Admirals censured



The US Navy issued a **news release** [located at http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=85569] stating that Secretarial Letters of Censure have been issued to three Rear Admirals found to have inappropriately accepted gifts from Glenn Defense Marine Asia, a prohibited source and other improper conduct. All three officers have submitted requests to retire. (2/10/15).

House – bill introduced re transportation security card program



Representative Jackson Lee (D-TX) introduced the **Essential Transportation Worker Identification Credential Assessment Act** (H.R. 710) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prepare a comprehensive security assessment of the transportation security card program, and for other purposes. (2/4/15).

Mediterranean – up to 300 dead in migration tragedy



The United Nations issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=50054#.VNyYwebF98E>] stating that as many as 300 refugees and migrants have been confirmed missing following their attempt to cross the Mediterranean into Europe. It expressed concern about the lack of a strong search and rescue operation in those waters, noting that Europe's Triton operation is not focused on search and rescue and is not providing the necessary tools to cope with the scale of the crises. At least 218,000 people, including both migrants and refugees, crossed the Mediterranean in 2014 and this trend is expected to continue in 2015. (2/11/15).

ReCAAP – Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference



The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre issued a **notice** [located at <http://www.recaap.org/Portals/0/docs/Piracy%20and%20Sea%20Robbery%20Conference%202011/2015/Write-up%20on%20ReCAAP%20ISC%20PSR%202015.pdf>] announcing that the ReCAAP ISC Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2015 will be held in Singapore on 23 April. (2/11/15).

Sinking of SS Marine Electric – 12 February 1983



The SS Marine Electric sank during a storm in the North Atlantic on 12 February 1983. Of the 34 crew members on board, three survived, but only after enduring 90 minutes in extremely cold water. The ship had passed all required inspections and surveys, but the subsequent **USCG Marine Casualty Report** revealed the inspections and surveys to have been perfunctory. As a result, inspection standards were drastically improved. In addition, carriage of survival suits became mandatory for ships on winter routes and the Coast Guard rescue swimmer program was initiated. The circumstances are detailed in Robert Frump's book "Until the Sea Shall Free Them".

Join our mailing list



If you are not receiving our almost daily electronic newsletter and would like have it sent directly to your email inbox, please right-click the box below and provide your email address.

Join Our Mailing List!



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>

© Dennis L. Bryant – February 2015



Redistribution permitted with attribution