Headlines:
DOD – regional security in East Asia;
NTSB – report on Kulluk grounding;
DOJ – operator sentenced for discharge violations;
USCG – Waves on the Waterfront;
HHS – use of hair specimen for drug testing; and
Denmark – medicine chest A.

June 1, 2015

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. Those who don't study history may lose the opportunity to make original mistakes.

DOD – regional security in East Asia

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter delivered a speech [located at http://www.defense.gov/Speeches/Speech.aspx?SpeechID=1945] at the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore on regional security in East Asia and the Pacific. He reaffirmed the US commitment to the region and to the peaceful settlement of disputes, calling for an immediate and lasting halt to land reclamation and militarization of the South China Sea. He stated that the United States will continue to protect freedom of navigation and overflight. (5/30/15).

NTSB – report on Kulluk grounding

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) posted the report of its investigation of the grounding of the mobile offshore drilling unit (MODU) Kulluk on Sitkalidak Island, Alaska on 31 December 2012. The tug towing Kulluk from Dutch Harbor to Seattle experienced tow line failures and shutdowns of all four main propulsion engines during heavy weather. Assisting vessels were

unable to reestablish the tow long term. Kulluk incurred severe damage as a result of the grounding, but there was no environmental damage. The probable cause of the casualty was determined to be inadequate assessment by the MODU owner of the risks of the planned tow across the Gulf of Alaska during the winter. MAB-15/10 [located at http://www.ntsb.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1510.pdf] (5/29/15).

DOJ – operator sentenced for discharge violations

The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a news release [located at http://www.justice.gov/usao-ak/pr/shipping-company-sentenced-pay-800k-dumping-oil] stating that the operator of the vehicle carrier City of Tokyo pleaded guilty to violating the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) and the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (APPS) by intentionally discharging 4,500 gallons of oily bilge water into the ocean and failing to maintain an accurate oil record book (ORB). The company was sentenced to pay $800,000 and to serve three years' probation, during which time it will implement an environmental compliance plan. (5/26/15).

USCG – Waves on the Waterfront

The US Coast Guard posted the June 2015 edition of its Waves on the Waterfront newsletter [located at http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg544/Waves%20on%20the%20Waterfront/WavesOnTheWaterfront%20(June%202015).pdf]. This edition addresses, among other things, Sector Coordinating Councils and explosive handling procedures. (5/29/15).

HHS – use of hair specimen for drug testing

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) requests information regarding specific aspects of the regulatory policies and standards that may be applied to the Mandatory Guidelines for Federal Workplace Drug Testing Programs (hair specimen). Comments must be received by 29 June. 80 Fed. Reg. 30689 [located at http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-29/pdf/2015-12743.pdf] (5/29/15). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Robert Schoening of Workplace Substance Abuse Consulting*.

Denmark – medicine chest A

The Danish Maritime Authority (DMA) issued a news release [located at http://www.dma.dk/news/Sider/ChangeofmedicinechestA.aspx] stating that it is temporarily suspending the requirement for the eye ointment Addovir in ship's medicine chest A due to a worldwide shortage. (5/29/15).

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

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