

Headlines:

DOS – GLACIER conference;
Hood Canal – safety zone enforcement;
NAVSAC – meeting on 9-10 September;
MERPAC – meeting on 16-17 September;
NMSAC – meeting on 29-30 September;
NOAA – Ocean & Great Lakes economy;
CRS – freedom of navigation;
ITLOS – The Enrica Lexie Incident;
IMO – MEPC 68; and
UK – competency certificate verification.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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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. The proposal is all very well in practice, but it'll never work in theory.

DOS – GLACIER conference



The Department of State (DOS) issued a [notice](#) [located at <http://www.state.gov/e/oes/glacier/index.htm>] stating that the Global Leadership in the Arctic: Cooperation, Innovation, Engagement & Resilience (GLACIER) Conference will be held in Anchorage on 31 August. The conference will bring together Arctic stakeholders to discuss the impacts of climate change and other Arctic issues. (8/24/15). *Note: President Barack Obama is scheduled to speak at the conference during his visit to various locations throughout Alaska.*

Hood Canal – safety zone enforcement



The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that the Coast Guard Exercise Area safety zone on the Hood Canal will be enforced from 23 September through 24 September during maritime training exercises. **80 Fed. Reg. 51470** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-25/pdf/2015-21012.pdf>] (8/25/15).

NAVSAC – meeting on 9-10 September



The Navigation Safety Advisory Committee (NAVSAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will be on 9-10 September in Arlington, Virginia. Topics on the agenda include: electronic chart systems on non-SOLAS commercial vessels; the Atlantic Coast Port Access Route Study; the Future of Navigation initiative; and vessel traffic services. **80 Fed. Reg. 51577** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-25/pdf/2015-21013.pdf>] (8/25/15).

MERPAC – meeting on 16-17 September



The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet on 16-17 September in Martinsburg, West Virginia. Topics on the agenda include: utilizing military education, training, and assessment for merchant mariner certifications; communications with the National Maritime Center (NMC); training guidelines for mariners on vessels subject to the Gas Fuel Code; and competency requirements for vessel personnel in polar regions. **80 Fed. Reg. 51576** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-25/pdf/2015-20973.pdf>] (8/25/15).

NMSAC – meeting on 29-30 September



The National Maritime Security Advisory Committee (NMSAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet on 29-30 September in Washington, DC. Topics on the agenda include: cyber security; TWIC Next Generation Specifications; USCG industry training revisions; and harmonization of rules with Canada and the Beyond the Border Initiative. **80 Fed. Reg. 51575** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-08-25/pdf/2015-20953.pdf>] (8/25/15).

NOAA – Ocean & Great Lakes economy



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2015/20150824-noaa-2012-us-ocean-great-lakes-economy-grew-faster-than-gdp.html>] stating that, between 2011 and 2012, the US Ocean and Great Lakes economy grew from \$321 billion to \$343 billion, outpacing the overall GDP. The **NOAA study** [located at <http://www.coast.noaa.gov/data/docs/digitalcoast/econ-report.pdf>] looked at coastal marine construction, living resources, offshore mineral extraction, ship and boat building, tourism and recreation, and marine transportation. (8/24/15).

CRS – freedom of navigation



The Congressional Research Service (CRS) posted a Legal Sidebar entitled “**Freedom of Navigation and Territorial Seas**” [located at <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/navig.pdf>]. The short article highlights law of the sea issues raised by the 24 April 2015 temporary detention by the Iranian Navy of the Marshall Islands-flagged Maersk Tigris while transiting the Strait of Hormuz. (5/18/15).

ITLOS – The Enrica Lexie Incident



The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) issued an Order in the dispute between Italy and India regarding India’s prosecution of two Italian Marines accused of killing two Indian fishermen in the Indian Ocean after mistaking them for pirates. The incident occurred on the Italian ship Enrica Lexie in waters outside the Indian territorial sea. Italy’s request that the ITLOS order India to allow the Marines to travel to and remain in Italy during the duration of the Arbitration Tribunal meeting in The Hague was rejected. Instead, the ITLOS directed that both Italy and India suspend all court proceedings and refrain from initiating new ones that might aggravate the dispute submitted to the arbitral tribunal or that might jeopardize or prejudice the carrying out of any decision which the arbitral tribunal might render. **The “Enrica Lexie” Incident (Italy v India)**, No. 24 (ITLOS, 24 August 2015) [located at https://www.itlos.org/fileadmin/itlos/documents/cases/case_no.24_prov_meas/C24_Order_24.08.2015_orig_Eng.pdf].

IMO – MEPC 68



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular regarding resolutions adopted by the recent session of the IMO Maritime Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 68). **Shipping Circular 21-2015** [located at http://www.mpa.gov.sg/sites/circulars_and_notices/pdfs/shipping_circulars/sc_no_21_of_2015.pdf] (8/24/15). *Note – This document is 224 pages in length.*

UK – competency certificate verification



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) established a **website** [located at <https://mcanet.mcga.gov.uk/public/coc-2007-2/index.asp>] where national administrations and shipping companies can verify the validity and authenticity of a UK Certificate of Competency (CoC) or Certificate of Equivalent Competency CEC) for a UK merchant mariner. (8/24/15).

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

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