

Headlines:

DHS – semi-annual regulatory agenda;
NIST – critical infrastructure cybersecurity;
Court – LHWCA credibility finding;
EC – European Border and Coast Guard proposed;
UK – eLoran trial to be discontinued;
UK – maritime business strategic partnership;
Boston Tea Party – 16 December 1773; and
Holiday season.

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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. Plan to be spontaneous.

DHS – semi-annual regulatory agenda



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) posted the semi-annual regulatory agenda for itself and constituent agencies. **80 Fed. Reg. 77971** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-12-15/pdf/2015-30621.pdf>] (12/15/15). *Note: The semi-annual regulatory agenda is aspirational in nature.*

NIST – critical infrastructure cybersecurity



The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) issued a notice stating that it seeks information on the “Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity”. Comments must be received by 9 February 2016. **80 Fed. Reg. 76934** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-12-11/pdf/2015-31217.pdf>] (12/11/15).

Court – LHWCA credibility finding



In a summary order, the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit denied a petition for review of the order of the Benefits Review Board affirming petitioner employer's liability under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act (LHWCA) for the employee's permanent partial disability. Petitioner contended that the administrative law judge had improperly disregarded evidence that the employee had a preexisting permanent partial disability that was not made materially and substantially greater through his employment. The court determined that it could not conclude that the judge's credibility finding was patently erroneous. **Cianbro Corp. v. DOWCP**, No. 15-451-ag (2nd Cir., December 15, 2015).

EC – European Border and Coast Guard proposed



The European Commission (EC) issued a **press release** [located at http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6327_en.htm] proposing to establish a European Border and Coast Guard to ensure a strong and shared management of the external borders. (12/15/15).

UK – eLoran trial to be discontinued



The UK Trinity House issued a **Notice to Mariners** [located at http://www.trinityhouse.co.uk/mariner_info/notice_to_mariners/c/01122015.html] stating that the enhanced Loran (eLoran) initial operational capability (IOC) prototype and trials service in the UK and Ireland will be discontinued effective 1100 UTC on 31 December 2015 due to the closure of the European Loran-C chain. (12/1/15). *Note: A great loss to a promising development – hopefully only temporary.*

UK – maritime business strategic partnership



The UK Department for Transport (DfT) posted the **Maritime Business Services Strategic Partnership Plan** [located at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/485312/maritime-business-services-strategic-partnership-plan.pdf]. The plan sets out the activities being undertaken by government and industry to make the UK the natural home for international maritime business, focusing on three overarching themes: (1) thriving economic and business environments; (2) proportionate regulation; and (3) growing maritime business and skills. (12/15/15).

Boston Tea Party – 16 December 1773



On this date in 1773 (242 years ago), John Hancock and friends from the local fantasy football club in Boston, calling themselves the Sons of Liberty, boarded several ships moored in the harbor and threw numerous chests of tea into the water. Their cry was: “No taxation without representation!” Some years later, they got representation – followed immediately by taxation and more taxation. It is unclear if they were charged with environmental offenses.

Holiday season



The holiday season has begun – a good time to give thanks for our blessings. For instance, I am blessed by well over four thousand subscribers, some of whom actually read my almost daily newsletter. For those subscribers who made financial contributions for continued operation of the service, I have extended your subscriptions for another year. For those who elected to not make financial contributions, I have extended your subscriptions for two years. I am also blessed by a large and growing family, with whom I expect to spend quality time this season. If my newsletter is published less frequently during this season, you long-suffering readers will be blessed and will know that I am too.

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

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