

## Headlines:

Alaska – two adventurers rescued;  
USCG – enclosed space entry & rescue drills;  
USCG – environmental protection awards;  
NTSB – OSV allision with unmanned platform;  
FERC – Freeport LNG environmental review;  
Washington – vessel traffic risk assessments;  
Indian Ocean – large weapons seizure;  
Panama Canal – open forum; and  
UK – deployment to Aegean Sea.

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# 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. Gravity waves were found to be hiding behind the dark matter.*

## Alaska – two adventurers rescued



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that two adventurers were rescued from the Bering Sea near Little Diomedede Island. The two British citizens were attempting to ski/kayak from Cape Prince of Wales on the Alaska mainland to Little Diomedede Island about 23 miles offshore. The two were stranded when the ice became too thin to ski on, yet too thick to kayak through. The Coast Guard deployed a C-130 Hercules aircraft and two MH-60 Jayhawk helicopters from Kodiak with a total crew of 24 to effect the rescue. [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2794874/>] (3/4/16).

## USCG – enclosed space entry & rescue drills



The US Coast Guard issued a revised Marine Safety Information Bulletin reminding owners, operators, and masters of the SOLAS requirement that crew members with enclosed space entry or rescue responsibilities must participate in an enclosed space entry and rescue drill on board the ship at least once every two months. Each US-flag vessel to which SOLAS applies should conduct a risk assessment to determine the applicability of this requirement and document that assessment in the vessel's safety management system (SMS).

**Revised MSIB 05-16** [located at [http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/005\\_16\\_3-7-2016.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/005_16_3-7-2016.pdf)] (3/7/16).

## USCG – environmental protection awards



The US Coast Guard issued a **Notice** announcing the winners of the 2016 Biennial Rear Admiral William M. Benkert Award for Environmental Protection Excellence. (3/7/16).

## NTSB – OSV allision with unmanned platform



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) posted the report of its investigation of the allision of the offshore supply vessel Connor Bordelon with the unmanned platform South Timbalier 271A in the Gulf of Mexico on 23 January 2015. The allision caused the pipelines attached to the platform to rupture, releasing natural gas and oil, which ignited. The OSV was also holed below the waterline. The probable cause was determine to be the failure of the mate on watch to ensure that the bridge team maintained a proper lookout and his delay in changing from autopilot to manual steering, which precluded him from taking action to prevent the allision. **MAB 16-03** [located at <http://www.ntsb.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1603.pdf>] (2/12/16).

## FERC – Freeport LNG environmental review



The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a notice stating that Freeport LNG Development filed an application to increase its

authorization for liquefaction and export of natural gas. The notice provides the schedule for environmental review of application. **81 Fed. Reg. 12092** [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-08/pdf/2016-05098.pdf>] (3/8/16).

### Washington – vessel traffic risk assessments



The Washington Department of Ecology issued a **news release** stating that it has hired Det Norske Veritas (USA) to develop a vessel traffic evaluation and safety risk assessment for potential oil spills on the Columbia River. It has also hired George Washington University to update the 2010 Puget Sound vessel traffic risk assessment. [located at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2016/025.html>] (3/4/16).

### Indian Ocean – large weapons seizure



The Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) issued a **news release** stating that the Australian ship HMAS Darwin uncovered and seized a large weapons cache following the boarding of a fishing vessel in the Indian Ocean south of Oman. The weapons consisted of 1989 AK-47 assault rifles, 100 rocket-propelled grenade launchers, 49 PKM general purpose machine guns, 39 PKM spare barrels, and twenty 60mm mortar tubes. The vessel was en route Somalia and the seizure was in accordance with the UN arms embargo. [located at <https://combinedmaritimeforces.com/2016/03/06/hmas-darwin-seizes-large-weapons-cache/>] (3/6/16).

### Panama Canal – open forum



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued a **press release** stating that it hosted an open forum giving shipping line representatives and steamship agents the opportunity to discuss the Panama Canal's services once the expanded waterway begins operations. [located at <https://www.pancanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2016/03/03/pr575.html>] (3/3/16).

### UK – deployment to Aegean Sea



The Rt Hon David Cameron, UK Prime Minister, issued a **press release** stating that the UK will deploy the amphibious landing ship RFA Mounts Joy and three border force cutters to the Aegean Sea as part of NATO's support of the international response to the migrant crises in those waters. [located at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-uk-deployment-for-nato-mission-in-aegean-sea-to-tackle-migrant-crisis>] (3/7/16).

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