

Headlines:

NTSB – another mission required to recover El Faro VDR;
UN & USCG – the ultimate sacrifice;
USCG & USMS – fugitives rescued and arrested;
Senate – bill introduced re USN dry docks;
UNSC – piracy in Gulf of Guinea;
EU – new integrated policy for the Arctic;
India – vessel lay-up procedures; and
Red Sea – islands to be transferred.

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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. Be the person that your dog thinks you are.

NTSB – another mission required to recover El Faro VDR



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a **press release** stating that another mission will be needed in order to recover the voyage data recorder (VDR) of the El Faro. The VDR was located recently in 15,000 feet of water. Unfortunately, recovery of the VDR cannot be accomplished with the equipment currently available on the research vessel Atlantis. Extracting the VDR, which is attached to the four-ton mast, will require specialized deep-water salvage recovery equipment. (4/27/16) [<http://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/PR20160427.aspx>].

USN & USCG – the ultimate sacrifice



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that a memorial service was held at Naval Support Facility Bahrain to honor the three sailors killed on 24 April 2004. On that date, the patrol coastal ship USS Firebolt (PC 10) was conducting maritime security operations in the Northern Arabian Gulf. A rigid hull inflatable boat with a crew of seven was dispatched to clear multiple fishing vessels operating in a restricted area around an Iraqi oil terminal. As the RHIB approached one of the dhows, it abruptly closed on the RHIB and exploded in an apparent suicide bombing. The explosion injured four of the RHIB crew and claimed the lives of the other three: DC3 Nathan B. Bruckenthal, USCG; SM2 Christopher E. Watts, USN; and BM1 Michael J. Pernaselli. (4/27/16) [http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=94436].

USCG & USMS – fugitives rescued and arrested



The US Marshals Service (USMS) issued a **news release** stating that three individuals were rescued by the cruise ship Disney Fantasy when they were found clinging to an overturned boat in waters between Cuba and the Bahamas. The individuals were turned over to the US Coast Guard at sea, which conducted a fingerprint analysis. The individuals were identified as federal fugitives from New Orleans and were transferred to the US Marshals Service. (4/22/16) [<http://www.usmarshals.gov/news/chron/2016/042216b.htm>].

Senate – bill introduced re USN dry docks



Senator Shaheen (D-NH) introduced a bill (S. 2853) to provide for the repair, recapitalization, and certification of dry docks at Naval shipyards. Official text of the measure is not yet available. (4/26/16).

UNSC – piracy in Gulf of Guinea



The United Nations Security Council issued a **news release** calling on countries on the Gulf of Guinea and their international partners to implement effective measures to suppress piracy and other unlawful actions against ships. (4/25/16) [<http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sc12336.doc.htm>].

EU – new integrated policy for the Arctic



The European Commission issued a **press release** stating that a new integrated EU policy for the Arctic has been adopted. Its 39 actions will focus on climate change, environmental protection, sustainable development, and international cooperation. (4/27/16) [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-1539_en.htm].

India – vessel lay-up procedures



The Indian Directorate General of Shipping posted a **draft notice** regarding procedures and requirements for the laying up of Indian flag vessels. (4/27/16) [http://dgshipping.gov.in/WriteReadData/News/201604271256204671366Draft_nsnotice_of2016666.pdf]. *Note: Curiously, the draft notice contains no provision regarding the welfare of the crew remaining on the vessel during lay-up.*

Red Sea – islands to be transferred



As part of the proposed project to construct a bridge connecting the southern tip of Egypt's Sinai Peninsula with Saudi Arabia, plans call for transfer of the islands of **Tiran** and Sanafir between the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba near Sharm El-Sheikh from Egypt to Saudi Arabia. (4/25/16) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiran_Island].

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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>

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