

Headlines:

USN – ICEX 2016;
Senate – bill introduced re USN dry docks;
California – draft Sustainable Freight Action Plan;
Australia – fighting carp with herpes;
Gibraltar – Spanish behavior;
Hong Kong – VGM implementation on 1 July;
Panama Canal – third draft restriction postponed;
UK – drowning in passenger ship swimming pool; and
Forfeiture Act – 6 May 1796.

May 6, 2016



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. A website recently asked if I accept cookies; I replied chocolate chip.*

USN – ICEX 2016



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) scientists have concluded a month-long sea-ice research expedition as part of Ice Exercise (ICEX) 2016 in the Arctic Ocean. (5/5/16) [http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=94558].

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. (4/26/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-114s2853is/pdf/BILLS-114s2853is.pdf>].

California – draft Sustainable Freight Action Plan



The California Air Resources Board (ARB) issued a **news release** announcing that comments are sought on the draft California Sustainable Freight Action Plan. Comments should be submitted by 6 July. (5/3/16) [http://www.arb.ca.gov/newsrel/sfs_draft_action_plan_050316.pdf].

Australia – fighting carp with herpes



The Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) issued a **news release** stating that it is undertaking rigorous tests to determine the safety and suitability of the candidate agent Cyprinid herpesvirus 3 (CyHV-3) in managing European carp numbers in Australian waters. The European carp was first introduced to Australia more than 100 years ago and has since become invasive, crowding out native species. (3/1/16) [<http://www.csiro.au/en/Research/BF/Areas/Managing-the-impacts-of-invasive-species/Biological-control/Biocontrol-of-carp>]. *Note: The US Army Corps of Engineers should pay attention.*

Gibraltar – Spanish behavior



The Government of Gibraltar issued a **press release** stating that Spain fails to behave like a NATO ally. Among instances when Spain had interfered with naval vessels or military exercises in British waters, a 16 April incident was highlighted involving Spanish state vessels and the American nuclear submarine USS Florida. (5/3/16) [<https://www.gibraltar.gov.gi/new/sites/default/files/press/2016/Press%20Releases/210-2016.pdf>]. *Note: Unofficial reports indicate that the fast patrol boat HMS Sabre fired warning shots across the bow of a Guardia Civil vessel as it twice tried to cut across the path of USS Florida during an incursion into Gibraltar's waters.*

Hong Kong – VGM implementation on 1 July



The Hong Kong Marine Department issued a notice reminding stakeholders that the verified gross mass (VGM) requirement will be fully implemented in Hong Kong and on board Hong Kong registered vessels on 1 July 2016. The master of a ship shall not load a packed container on the ship if the

master or the terminal operator has not obtained the VGM of the packed container. **Shipping Information Note 23-2016** (4/14/16) [<http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/pdf/msin1623.pdf>].

Panama Canal – third draft restriction postponed



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory announcing that, due to recent rainfall, the effective date of the third draft restriction has been delayed until 25 May. As of the new date, the maximum authorized transit draft will be 11.59 meters (38.0 feet). **Advisory 23-2016** (5/4/16) [<https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2016/a-23-2016.pdf>].

UK – drowning in passenger ship swimming pool



The UK Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) issued the report of its investigation of the drowning of a male passenger on the cruise ship Pacific Dawn while on passage in the Coral Sea, South Pacific Ocean, on 9 November 2015. The passenger was noticed lying motionless at the bottom of the forward swimming pool. Despite then being retrieved swiftly from the water, attempts to resuscitate him were unsuccessful. The pool was only intermittently supervised. **Report 9-2016** (5/5/16) [https://assets.digital.cabinet-office.gov.uk/media/5729d121e5274a0367000013/MAIBInvReport_9_2016.pdf].

Forfeiture Act – 6 May 1796



Congress adopted the **Forfeiture Act**, 1 Stat. L. 461. Among other things, this law provided that one-half of all penalties, fines, and forfeitures incurred and paid under the impost (customs) laws of the United States and recovered in consequence of information given by any officer of a revenue cutter shall be paid to the officers of such cutter, to be divided among them in proportion to their pay. (5/6/1796). *Ah! Those were the days!*

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

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