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Hijacking of Achille Lauro – 7 October 1985.

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Bryant's Maritime News



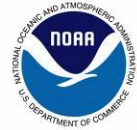
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NHC – Hurricane Matthew



The **latest forecast** from the National Hurricane Center (NHC) has Hurricane Matthew tracking up the US Atlantic coast as before. The hurricane moves out to sea off North Carolina on Monday and then continues to move in a large clockwise circle and possibly strikes Miami late next week as a tropical storm. Don't put away your heavy weather plan. (10/7/16)
[http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/refresh/graphics_at4+shtml/095334.shtml?5-daynl#contents].

USCG – RECs Miami & Charleston closed



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued a **bulletin** announcing the Regional Examination Centers (RECs) in Miami and Charleston are closed until Tuesday, 11 October. (10/5/16)
[https://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/rec_charleston_miami_temporary_closure_oct_2016.pdf].

EPA & DOD – discharge performance standards



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Defense (DOD) propose discharge performance standards for eleven discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel of the Armed Forces into the navigable waters of the United States. Comments on the proposal must be received by 6 December. **81 Fed. Reg. 69753** (10/7/16)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-10-07/pdf/2016-24079.pdf>].

EPA – Water Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act



The Environmental Protection agency (EPA) issued a notice stating that it will hold information sessions in Chicago (14 October); Orlando (20 October); New York (November 7); San Francisco (14 November); Los Angeles (15 November); and Dallas (18 November) to provide potential applicants with information about the programs for grants and loan guarantees for water infrastructure of national or regional significant under the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014. **81 Fed. Reg. 69813** (10/7/16)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-10-07/pdf/2016-24377.pdf>].

ANS Task Force – meeting on 9-10 November



The Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Task Force, sponsored by the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), will meet on 9-10 November in Falls Church, Virginia. Topics on the agenda include new species occurrences and an update on ballast water management. **81 Fed. Reg. 69843** (10/7/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-10-07/pdf/2016-24324.pdf>].

Columbia River – Longview terminal EIS



The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issued a notice stating that it has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) regarding the proposed Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview, LLC project on the Columbia River. Public hearings will be held in Longview (24 October) and Ridgefield (25 October). Written comments must be received by 29 November. **81 Fed. Reg. 69803** (10/7/16) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-10-07/pdf/2016-24312.pdf>].

NTSB – allision with railroad bridge



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued the report of its investigation of the allision of a barge under tow by the tug *Simone* with the Norfolk Southern Railroad Bridge #7 over the Elizabeth River in Chesapeake, Virginia on 26 April 2015. The allision caused \$1.8 million in damage to the bridge and stopped rail traffic for nearly 36 hours. Damage to the barge was negligible. No one was injured, and there was no pollution associated with the accident. The probable cause of the allision was the *Simone* captain's failure to plan for the bridge transit and effectively use the assist tug. **MAB 16/16** (10/6/16) [<http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1616.pdf>].

Court – forum selection and limitation period



In an unpublished decision, the US Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit affirmed the district court's dismissal of plaintiff passenger's claim against defendant cruise line based on the one-year limitation period in the passenger's cruise ticket. Plaintiff's attorney had been advised in writing that defendant intended to enforce the forum-selection clause. Nevertheless, plaintiff brought suit in the wrong forum and eventually brought suit in the correct forum but not

until after the limitation period had expired. *Chang v. Carnival Corporation*, No. 14-13228 (11th Cir., October 6, 2016) [<http://media.ca11.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/files/201413228.pdf>].

Hijacking of *Achille Lauro* – 7 October 1985



On 7 October 1985, four members of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) hijacked the Italian cruise ship *Achille Lauro* when it was in the Mediterranean Sea en route from Alexandria, Egypt to Port Said. After the Israeli Government refused their demand for release of 50 imprisoned Palestinians, they killed disabled American passenger Leon Klinghoffer and threw him and his wheelchair overboard. The terrorists surrendered to Egyptian officials and boarded a flight to Tunisia. The flight was intercepted by US Navy fighter aircraft and was forced to land in Italy. The four hijackers were arrested by the Italian Government but their alleged leader, Abu Abbas, was allowed to depart. He later died in Bagdad. This incident awakened governments around the world and the IMO to the security threats faced by passenger vessels.

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