

Headlines:

USCG & RCN – 26.5 tons of cocaine seized;
FMC – “THE Alliance” to become effective on 19 December;
FMC - \$962,500 in penalty payments;
USN – autonomous swarmboats tested;
Ireland – 2014 amendments to MLC 2006;
Panama Canal – transit of 500th neopanamax vessel; and
Boston Tea Party – 16 December 1773.

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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. The biggest lie I tell myself is: “I don't need to write that down – I'll remember it.”

USCG & RCN – 26.5 tons of cocaine seized



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that 26.5 tons of cocaine seized in a joint operation in the Eastern Pacific by the US Coast Guard and the Royal Canadian Navy will be offloaded in Fort Lauderdale on 15 December. The drugs, valued at \$715 million wholesale, were seized during 27 separate suspected drug smuggling vessel interdictions and five bale recovery operations. (12/15/16) [<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2908542/>].

FMC – “THE Alliance” to become effective on 19 December



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a [news release](#) stating that it has concluded its review of the proposed “THE Alliance”

agreement, allowing it to become effective on 19 December. (12/14/16)
[<http://www.fmc.gov/NR16-27/>].

FMC – \$962,500 in penalty payments



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** stating that it has completed compromise agreements with one VOCC and nine OTIs recovering a total of \$962,500 in penalties. (12/15/16)
[<http://www.fmc.gov/NR16-28/>].

USN – autonomous swarmboats tested



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that autonomous unmanned swarmboats were demonstrated in the Lower Chesapeake Bay with results that show dramatic new possibilities for autonomy in future naval missions. (12/15/16)
[http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=98137].

Ireland – 2014 amendments to MLC 2006



The Irish Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport issued a notice reminding stakeholders that the 2014 amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) 2006 enter into force on 18 January 2017. MLC 2006 also addresses requirements relating to the Seafarer Employment Agreement. **Marine Notice 47-2016** (12/15/16)
[http://www.dttas.ie/sites/default/files/MN%2047of2016_MLC2014_Amendments_SEA.pdf].

Panama Canal – transit of 500th neopanamax vessel



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued a **press release** announcing transit of the 500th neopanamax vessel through the expanded locks, which opened less than six months ago. (12/15/16)
[<https://www.panacanal.com/eng/pr/press-releases/2016/12/14/pr614.html>].

Boston Tea Party – 16 December 1773



On this date in 1773 (243 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.

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