

## Headlines:

CBP – comment period extended;  
OFAC – enforcement action re Iranian sanctions;  
DOD – 2016 Arctic Strategy;  
NTSB – towboat capsizing;  
House – bill introduced re hiring freeze;  
Ireland – Helicopter SAR Hi-Line technique; and  
UK – complacency leads to collision.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

Bryant's Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 – Email: [dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) – Internet: <http://brymar-consulting.com>

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## **CBP – comment period extended**



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a **notice** stating that the period within which to submit comments on its proposed revocations and modifications of its policy under the Jones Act regarding transportation of certain equipment by vessels not eligible to engage in the coastwise trade has been extended to 18 April. The email address for submittal of comments has also been corrected. (2/3/17) [<https://www.cbp.gov/trade/extension-comment-period-jones-act-proposed-revocations-and-modifications>].

## **OFAC – enforcement action re Iranian sanctions**



The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued a **notice** stating that a Finding of Violation has been issued to the B Whale Corporation for a violation of the Iranian Transactions and Sanctions Regulations. The violation

occurred between 30 August and 2 September 2013 when its vessel conducted a ship-to-ship transfer with and received over 2 million barrels of condensate crude oil from a vessel of the National Iranian Tanker Company (NITC), (2/3/17) [[https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/Pages/20170203\\_33.aspx](https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/OFAC-Enforcement/Pages/20170203_33.aspx)].

### DOD – 2016 Arctic Strategy



The Department of Defense (DOD) **2016 Arctic Strategy** has been posted. The document acknowledges that DOD has limited surface capability in the Arctic and that the breaking up of sea ice threatens existing detection and warning infrastructure by increasing the rate of coastal erosion. (December 2016) [[http://www.sullivan.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2016\\_ArcticStrategy-Unclass.pdf](http://www.sullivan.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2016_ArcticStrategy-Unclass.pdf)]. *Curiously, the report makes no mention of the US Coast Guard and its icebreakers.*

### NTSB – towboat capsizing



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released the report of its investigation of the capsizing and sinking of the towing vessel Ricky J Leboeuf on 19 April 2016 in the in the San Jacinto River near Channelview, Texas. Four of the five crewmembers survived, but one deckhand died. The probable cause of the casualty was the ill-advised decision of the relief captain to perform a downstreaming maneuver in high water conditions without implementing the company's risk mitigation strategies. **Marine Accident Brief 17-04** (2/3/17) [<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1704.pdf>].

### House – bill introduced re hiring freeze



Representative Kilmer (D-WA) introduced a bill (**H.R. 742**) to prohibit any hiring freeze from affecting any Department of Defense position at, or in support of, a public shipyard. (1/30/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr742ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr742ih.pdf>].

## Ireland – helicopter SAR Hi-Line technique



The Irish Department of Transport, Tourism, and Sport issued a notice explaining the Helicopter Search and Rescue (SAR) Hi-Line technique for vessel crewmembers. [Marine Notice 03-2017](#) (2/2/17) [[http://www.dttas.ie/sites/default/files/MNO3of2017\\_HelicopterSAR\\_Hi-Line\\_technique.pdf](http://www.dttas.ie/sites/default/files/MNO3of2017_HelicopterSAR_Hi-Line_technique.pdf)].

## UK – complacency leads to collision



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a [news release](#) stating that the masters of two vessels that collided in the Humber have been fined £3,000 each. Both were found to have been complacent although they were navigating their vessels at speed in heavy fog without sounding signals or taking other appropriate actions. (2/3/17) [<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/catalogue-of-failures-led-to-collision-in-the-humber-in-may-2016>].

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## Dennis L. Bryant

Bryant's Maritime Consulting  
4845 SW 91<sup>st</sup> Way  
Gainesville, FL 32608-8135  
USA

1-352-692-5493  
dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com  
<http://brymar-consulting.com>

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