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Red Sea – possible mines near al Mocha harbor;
Sugarloaf Key – temporary safety zone;
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USCG – Gas Gauge Newsletter;
USCG – the art of icebreaking;
USN – USS Enterprise (CVN 65) decommissioned;
Panama Canal – maneuvering fuel; and
UK – cracking down on laser attacks.

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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. Always be kinder than you feel.*

Red Sea – possible mines near al Mocha harbor



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued an alert stating that there is reason to believe that mines have been laid in Yemeni territorial waters in the Red Sea close to the mouth of al Mocha harbor. Mariners should exercise caution when transiting in this area. **Alert 2017-002A** (2/4/17)
[<https://www.marad.dot.gov/msci/alert/2017/22863/>].

Sugarloaf Key – temporary safety zone



The US Coast Guard promulgated a rule establishing, until 1 July, a temporary safety zone in waters of the Florida Keys near Sugarloaf Key due to recently discovered ordnance in the vicinity of American Shoal Light. **82 Fed.**

Reg. 9503 (2/7/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-02-07/pdf/2017-02454.pdf>].

MERPAC – meeting on 22-23 March



The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will meet in 22-23 March in Washington, DC. Topics on the agenda include: implementation of STCW revisions; fatigue mitigation and management; and firefighting training requirements for towing vessel officers. 82 Fed. Reg. 9575 (2/7/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-02-07/pdf/2017-02449.pdf>].

USCG – Gas Gauge Newsletter



The USCG Liquefied Gas Carrier National Center of Expertise (LGC NCOE) issued the Winter 2016/17 edition of its Gas Gauge Newsletter. Among other things, this edition discusses examining air locks and the USCG liquefied gas regulations, policy, and recommendations. (2/6/17) [<https://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/lgcncoe/docs/newsletter4.pdf>].

USCG – the art of icebreaking



The US Coast Guard issued a bulletin explaining techniques utilized to efficiently break ice, particularly in the Antarctic. (2/6/17) [<http://coastguard.dodlive.mil/2017/02/below-zero-the-art-of-icebreaking/>].

USN – USS Enterprise (CVN 65) decommissioned



The US Navy issued a news release stating that the nuclear aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65) has been decommissioned after almost 55 years of active service. (2/3/17) [http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=98707].

Panama Canal – maneuvering fuel



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory clarifying the requirement for use of maneuvering fuel by vessels maneuvering in Canal waters. Advisory 04-2017 (2/1/17) [<https://www.pan canal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2017/a-04-2017.pdf>].

UK – cracking down on laser attacks



The UK Department of Transport (DfT) issued a **news release** stating that legislation has been enacted cracking down on laser attacks against transport vehicles. Previously, prosecutors had to prove that the laser user endangered the transport vehicle. Now, prosecutors need only prove the offense of shining the laser at the transport vehicle. (2/6/17)

[<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-powers-to-crack-down-on-laser-attacks>]. *Note: While marine vessels are not mentioned in the news release, experience has shown that they are equally susceptible to such attacks.*

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