

## Headlines:

DOJ – two engineers convicted of pollution charges;  
USCG – bulkers detained for safety lapses;  
Alaska – transit plan for damaged tug;  
FMC – financial responsibility cap;  
ORAP – meeting on 7 March;  
House – bill introduced re ocean acidification;  
CBO – Navy shipbuilding plan;  
Singapore – LRIT conformance testing & certification;  
Singapore – water price revisions; and  
HMS Birkenhead – 26 February 1852.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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## **DOJ – two engineers convicted of pollution charges**



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a [news release](#) stating that a federal jury in Charleston convicted two engineers of the tanker Green Sky of falsifying documents to conceal illegal discharges of oily bilge waste and obstruction charges. The vessel's operator previously pleaded guilty to the charges. (2/23/17) [<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/two-vessel-engineers-convicted-environmental-and-obstruction-crimes-after-trial-vessel>].

## USCG – bulkers detained for safety lapses



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that two bulk carriers have been detained on the Columbia River after port state control inspectors discovered substandard safety conditions on board. (2/23/17) [<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1894ddc>].

## Alaska – transit plan for damaged tug



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that a transit plan has been approved for the tug Samson Mariner to proceed, with an escort, to Seattle for repairs. On 15 February, the tug grounded on Rosa Reef, spilling approximately 1,100 gallons of fuel. (2/23/17) [<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/18810d3>].

## FMC – financial responsibility cap



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a notice stating that the cap for financial responsibility for indemnification of passengers for nonperformance of transportation will remain at \$30 million for 2017 and 2018. [82 Fed. Reg. 11574](#) (2/24/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-02-24/pdf/2017-03650.pdf>].

## ORAP – meeting on 7 March



The Ocean Research Advisory Panel (ORAP), sponsored by the Department of the Navy, will meet on 7 March via teleconference. Topics on the agenda include ocean research and resource management. [82 Fed. Reg. 11563](#) (2/24/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-02-24/pdf/2017-03263.pdf>].

## House – bill introduced re ocean acidification



Representative Carbajal (D-CA) introduced the [Ocean Acidification Research Partnerships Act](#) (H.R. 845) to provide for ocean acidification collaborative research grant opportunities. (2/3/17)

[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr845ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr845ih.pdf>].

### CBO – Navy shipbuilding plan



The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) issued a **report** estimating that the cost of the Navy's 2017 shipbuilding plan—an average of about \$21 billion per year (in 2016 dollars) over 30 years—would be \$5 billion higher than the average funding that the Navy has received in recent decades. (2/22/17)

[<https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/115th-congress-2017-2018/reports/52324-shipbuildingreport.pdf>].

### Singapore – LRIT conformance testing & certification



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular providing guidance on Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) conformance testing and certification. **Shipping Circular 7-2017** (2/22/17)

[<http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notices/detail/ad48615e-5f73-4674-bf2b-3e277630f600>].

### Singapore – water price revisions



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a circular announcing water price revisions for shipping customers, effective 1 July. **Port Marine Circular 4-2017** (2/23/17)

[<http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/circulars-and-notices/detail/257918dc-e282-4df4-baad-277d84a1cddb>].

### HMS Birkenhead – 26 February 1852



On 26 February 1852, the troopship HMS BIRKENHEAD grounded at Danger Point, near Cape Town, South Africa. It was carrying about 400 British soldiers to fight in the Kaffir War in South Africa. Also on board were about 200 civilians, mostly women and children. There were not sufficient lifeboats for everyone. The senior British Army officer onboard ordered the troops to stand fast as the women and children boarded the lifeboats. None of the soldiers broke ranks. The BIRKENHEAD sank soon afterwards. Only 193 of the approximately 643 people originally on board survived. From this event, the maritime tradition

of “women and children first” is derived. Rudyard Kipling later wrote the poem “**Solder an’ Sailor too**”, dedicated to the Royal Regiment of Marines. The poem includes the lines:

To take your chance in the thick of a rush, with firing all about,  
Is nothing so bad when you’ve cover to ‘and, an’ leave an’ likin’ to shout;  
But to stand an’ be still to the Birken’ead drill is a damn tough bullet to chew,  
An’ they done it, the Jollies - ‘Er Majesty’s Jollies – soldier an’ sailor too!

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