

Headlines:

Block Island – buoy shot and sunk;
Atlantic – medical response concluded;
EPA – listening session on reducing regulatory burden;
House – bill introduced re drilling offshore Russia;
UK – reporting requirements; and
SS Sultana – explosion & fire 27 April 1865.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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Block Island – buoy shot and sunk



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that Clay Head buoy number 7 off Block Island was discovered to be sunk. Upon retrieval by the USCG buoy tender *Ida Lewis*, the buoy was found to have 20 bullet holes and had to be taken out of service for repairs. It is a federal crime to damage or destroy an aid to navigation. Such irresponsible action also presents a hazard to vessels relaying upon it. (4/26/17)

[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/196bafd>].

Atlantic – medical response concluded



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that the medical response to the explosion and fire on the bulk carrier *Tamar* has concluded. The two surviving crew members, along with three New York Air National Guard pararescuers were transferred by a Portuguese Coast Guard helicopter to

Terceira, Azores. The two crew members are to be flown to Lisbon for further medical treatment. (4/26/17)
[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/196b421>].

EPA – listening session on reducing regulatory burden



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a **notice** stating, in part, that the Office of Water (OW) will conduct a public listening session by telephone and web conference on 2 May to obtain feedback on reducing the regulatory burden of regulations for which it is responsible. (4/26/17)
[<https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/office-water-feedback-reducing-regulatory-burden>].

House – bill introduced re drilling offshore Russia



Representative Walters (R-CA) introduced a bill (H.R. 2145) to prohibit licenses or other authorization for United States persons to engage in activities relating to deepwater, Arctic offshore, or shale projects that have the potential to produce oil in the Russian Federation, or in maritime area claimed by the Russian Federation, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (4/25/17).

UK – reporting requirements



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a notice describing the information ships and port authorities need to provide to the Consolidated European Reporting System (CERS) to comply with the Merchant Shipping (Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Reporting Requirements) Regulations 2004 (as amended). **MSN 1831 (M+F)** (4/26/17)
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/440593/1831.pdf].

SS Sultana explosion and fire – 27 April 1865



152 years ago, the United States experienced its most significant marine casualty in terms of lives lost. On that day the steamship **Sultana** exploded and caught fire. An estimated 1,800 of the approximately 2,400 passengers and crew died after one of the ship's boilers exploded. The ship had just left Vicksburg en route St. Louis. It was carrying numerous Union Army

veterans home, many recently released from Confederate prisons. As a result of this tragedy, inspection standards for steamships were strengthened.

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