

Headlines:

White House – strengthening cybersecurity;
DOI – Atlantic Ocean G&G activities;
New York – site characterization surveys;
HSRP – webinar meeting on 9 June;
House – bill introduced re USCG commemorative coin;
Australia – ship breakaway during high winds; and
Commandeering of CSS Planter – 13 May 1862.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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

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

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White House – strengthening cybersecurity



President Trump issued an **Executive Order** on strengthening the cybersecurity of federal networks and critical infrastructure. Each agency head must prepare a risk management report and action plan for that agency. Agency heads will also support cybersecurity efforts of critical infrastructure entities. (5/11/17) [<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/05/11/presidential-executive-order-strengthening-cybersecurity-federal>].

DOI – Atlantic Ocean G&G activities



The Department of the Interior (DOI) issued a **press release** stating that it will move forward to review applications seeking permits to conduct

geological and geophysical (G&G) activities in the Atlantic Ocean. (5/11/17)
[<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-department-advances-america-first-offshore-energy-strategy>].

New York – site characterization surveys



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a notice stating that it received an application for an incidental harassment authorization to take marine mammals by harassment incidental to site characterization surveys off the coast of New York. Comments on the proposal must be received by 12 June. **82 Fed. Reg. 22250** (5/12/17)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-05-12/pdf/2017-09706.pdf>].

HSRP – webinar meeting on 9 June



The Hydrographic Services Review Panel (HSRP), sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will meet via webinar on 9 June. Topics on the agenda include draft documents relevant to NOAA's navigational services. **82 Fed. Reg. 22099** (5/12/17)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-05-12/pdf/2017-09642.pdf>].

House – bill introduced re USCG commemorative coin



Representative Courtney (D-CT) introduced the **United States Coast Guard Commemorative Coin Act of 2017** (H.R. 2317) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the United States Coast Guard. Representative Courtney issued a **press release** explaining the measure. (5/3/17)
[<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr2317ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr2317ih.pdf>].

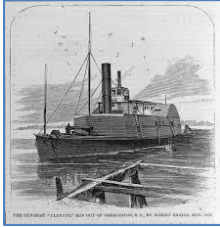
Australia – ship breakaway during high winds



The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) issued the report of its investigation of the 13 January 2016 breakaway of the ro-ro passenger ship Spirit of Tasmania II, which was loading cargo, vehicles, and passengers in Melbourne when strong unexpectedly strong wind gusts blew the ship off the wharf. All but two of the mooring lines on the bow parted. The stern swung around until the ship was 90 degrees to the wharf and in danger of going

aground. Ship's propulsion and thrusters were used to maintain position until tugs arrived to assist. The ship suffered minor damage, while the shore infrastructure suffered extensive damage. **MO-2016-001** (5/11/17) [http://www.atsb.gov.au/media/5772782/mo-2016-001_final.pdf].

Commandeering of CSS Planter – 13 May 1862



Robert Smalls (1839-1915), an enslaved African-American, served as a wheelman-pilot on steamboats in the Charleston area when the Civil War broke out in 1861. Later that year he was assigned to steer CSS Planter, a lightly-armed Confederate military transport. The vessel was used to deliver troops, supplies, and dispatches along the southeast coast of the Confederacy. The vessel's shallow draft allowed it to avoid the Union blockade about seven miles offshore. Smalls, though, had planned an escape and awaited his opportunity. On 12 May 1862, the three white officers went ashore for the night, which was the usual practice. Smalls assembled the black crew members and got Planter underway. They stopped at a nearby pier and took onboard their family members who had hidden there. They then sailed out of the harbor unchallenged. Smalls had donned the master's long coat and straw hat and strode the deck as the master generally did. He also knew the signals to display at various checkpoints. Planter sailed out to the Union blockade, flying a white sheet as a sign of surrender. The Union Navy vessels took possession of Planter. Smalls was assimilated into the Union Navy, where his practical experience and intimate knowledge of the local Confederate defenses proved invaluable. He was also awarded prize money for delivery of Planter. Smalls later became a Congressional Representative and a distinguished citizen of Beaufort, South Carolina.

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Dennis L. Bryant

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

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

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