

Headlines:

Hawaii – disoriented Australian sailor rescued;
USCG – changes proposed for PREP Guidelines;
IMO – amendments to FAL Convention;
Canada – vessel fined for speeding;
India – cruise ship passengers with e-visas; and
First life-saving helicopter flight – 3 January 1944.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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Hawaii – disoriented Australian sailor rescued



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that an Australian mariner on his homemade sailing vessel has been rescued off Maui. The disoriented sailor had departed Panama approximately 104 days earlier enroute Australia. (1/2/18)

[<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/bulletins/1d03bba>].

USCG – changes proposed for PREP Guidelines



The US Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin reminding stakeholders that changes to the 2016 PREP Guidelines have been posted in the Federal Register. Comments must reach the Coast Guard by 22 January. [MSIB 01-18](#) (1/3/18)

[http://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/DCO%20Documents/5p/MSIB/2018/MSIB_001_18.pdf?ver=2018-01-02-135844-327].

IMO – amendments to FAL Convention



The IMO issued a **news release** stating that recent amendments to the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL Convention) entered into force on 1 January 2018. Among other things, the amendments strengthened seafarers' right to shore leave and included a new requirement for national governments to introduce electronic information exchanges to transmit information related to maritime transport. (1/1/18) [<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/01-FALConvention.aspx>].

Canada – vessel fined for speeding



Transport Canada issued a **news release** stating that it assessed yet another fine, this one for \$6,000, to a vessel for non-compliance with the mandatory slowdown in the Gulf of St. Lawrence due to the increased presence of whales. (12/29/17) [https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2017/12/transport_canadaissuesanotherfinefornon-respectofthespeedrestrico.html].

India – cruise ship passengers with e-visas



The Indian Ministry of Shipping issued a **notice** stating that the requirement for biometric enrollment of cruise ship passengers arriving in five major Indian ports has been waived for three years for those passengers arriving on e-visas. (1/2/18) [<http://shipping.nic.in/showfile.php?lid=2639>].

First life-saving helicopter flight – 3 January 1944



LCDR Frank A. Erickson, USCG piloted a **USCG Sikorsky HNS-1** in the first use of a helicopter in a life-saving role when, on 3 January 1944, he flew two cases of blood plasma, lashed to the helicopter's floats, from New York to Sandy Hook to save the lives of some of the badly-injured survivors of the explosion and sinking of the US Navy destroyer **USS Turner** (DD-648) off Ambrose Light. Having performed that heroic deed in violent winds and snow

that grounded all other aircraft Erickson became the first pilot in the world to fly a helicopter under such conditions.

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