

## Headlines:

Mississippi River – deepening to 50 feet;  
Persian Gulf – naval activity;  
DOS – meeting on 14 September re IMO III 5;  
Alaska – stern of WWII destroyer located;  
House – bill introduced re port security grants; and  
Panama Canal – hot work requirements.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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## Mississippi River – deepening to 50 feet



The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Director of Civil Works signed a **memorandum** to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) requesting concurrence with the finding that the recommended deepening of the Mississippi River Ship Channel (MRSC) to 50 feet is economically justified and environmentally sustainable. The memorandum also requests approval of budgeting for the project. (8/3/18) [[http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/USACE\\_memo\\_180803.pdf](http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/USACE_memo_180803.pdf)]. *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Sean Duffy of the [Big River Coalition](#).*

## Persian Gulf – naval activity



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued an advisory recommending heightened awareness of naval activity involving a number of

nations in waters of the Persian Gulf, the Strait of Hormuz, and the Gulf of Oman. **Advisory 2018-012** (8/15/18) [<https://www.marad.dot.gov/environment-and-safety/office-of-security/msci/advisory/>].

### DOS – meeting on 14 September re IMO III 5



The Department of State (DOS) issued a notice stating that an open meeting will be held on 14 September in Washington, DC to prepare for the upcoming session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments (III 5). Topics on the agenda include reports of allegedly inadequate port reception facilities; marine safety investigation reports; and harmonization of port state control (PCS) activities and procedures. **83 Fed. Reg. 40821** (8/17/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-08-16/pdf/2018-17701.pdf>].

### Alaska – stern of WWII destroyer located



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued a **news release** stating that the stern of the US Navy destroyer USS Abner Read has been located in waters off the Aleutian island of Kiska. The ship was heavily damaged when it struck a Japanese mine on 18 August 1943, taking the lives of 71 sailors. The remainder of the ship remained afloat and was towed to a shipyard for repair. (8/15/18) [<http://www.noaa.gov/media-release/stern-of-world-war-ii-us-destroyer-discovered-off-remote-alaskan-island-by-noaa>].

### House – bill introduced re port security grants



Representative Meng (D-NY) introduced the **Port Security Grant Program Reauthorization Act** (H.R. 6609) to amend title 46, United States Code, to reauthorize the port security grant program, and for other purposes. (7/26/18) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr6609ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr6609ih.pdf>].

### Panama Canal – hot work requirements



The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) issued an advisory announcing revisions to its requirements for allowing hot work to be performed on board vessels while in waters under its jurisdiction. **Advisory 28-2018** (8/14/18) [<https://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2018/a-28-2018.pdf>].

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