

# "Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Deposit Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Russia 'seizes' Greenpeace ship after Arctic rig protest

BBC News Europe 20 September 2013

Greenpeace says 30 activists, including six Britons, are being held at gunpoint by Russian security officers who stormed the group's ship in the Arctic. One of the activists told the BBC that about 15 men in balaclavas seized the Arctic Sunrise ship in the Barents Sea. This comes a day after four Greenpeace members tried to board a Russian oil platform to prevent it from drilling. The group says this threatens a unique and fragile environment - a claim denied by Moscow. Speaking to the BBC on Thursday, one activist on the ship said Greenpeace members were being held in the galley of the Arctic Sunrise, while the captain was being detained on the bridge. The activist said he believed the armed men were members of Russia's internal security service, the FSB.



Russian Coast Guard ship fired shots across a Greenpeace ship

Greenpeace also said its vessel was boarded in international waters and called on Russian President Vladimir Putin to release the crew immediately. The ship is now expected to be taken to the Russian port of Murmansk. The Russian foreign ministry earlier accused the group of "aggressive and provocative" behaviour. It said the actions of the activists who had tried to board Gazprom's Prirazlomnaya drilling rig on Wednesday "threatened people's lives and could lead to environmental catastrophe in the Arctic with unpredictable consequences". Moscow also said that its coastguard vessel had to fire warning shots across the Dutch-flagged *Arctic Sunrise*.



Dutch flagged Arctic Sunrise

The Dutch ambassador to Moscow was summoned to the foreign ministry over Greenpeace's action. A foreign ministry spokesman in The Hague later told Dutch media the issue had "our full attention" and that contacts with the Russian authorities would be pursued over what had happened. The Gazprom project is Russia's first effort to extract oil from the Barents Sea. Prirazlomnaya is scheduled to begin production by the end of the year.

## Successful Missile Defense Test Against Multiple Targets



The Missile Defense Agency (MDA), Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS) Operational Test Agency, Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense, and U.S. Pacific Command, in conjunction with U.S. Army soldiers from the Alpha Battery, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, U.S. Navy sailors aboard the guided missile destroyer *USS Decatur (DDG-73)*, and U.S. Air Force airmen from the 613th Air and Operations Center successfully conducted a complex missile defense flight test, resulting in the intercept of two medium-range ballistic missile targets. The flight test was planned more than a year ago, and is not in any way connected to events in the Middle East. The test was conducted in the

vicinity of the U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Reagan Test Site and surrounding areas in the western Pacific.



The test stressed the ability of the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) and Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) weapon systems to function in a layered defense architecture and defeat a raid of two nearly simultaneously launched ballistic missile targets.

Ed. Note: Chapter covers are in progress for this event.



USS GERALD R. FORD  
CVN-78

Christening Sta.  
Newport News, VA 23607  
Nov 11 2013

The proposed Christening pictorial cancel for USS Gerald R. Ford CVN-78 to be issued at Newport News VA post office.



USS CONNECTICUT SSN-22  
15th Anniversary Sta.

Dec 11 2013  
Groton CT 06340



Christening  
Sta.

Bath  
ME 04530



Oct 25  
2013

Additional pictorials planned are shown above.

Check out the naval items on eBay. Proceeds go to Decatur Chapter. Seller: CGCOVERGUY

Information published here is not guaranteed.

Visit the Universal Ship Cancellation Society web site at: [www.uscs.org/](http://www.uscs.org/)