

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Ingalls Shipbuilding Starts Construction on Sixth National Security Cutter for the U.S. Coast Guard

Ingalls Shipbuilding Oct 8, 2013

Ingalls Shipbuilding division has started fabrication on the U.S. Coast Guard's sixth National Security Cutter (NSC), *Munro* (WMSL 755). "Our shipbuilders have a great jump start on the construction of this ship as we have already cut and processed more than 400 tons of steel for NSC 6," said Jim French, Ingalls' NSC program manager. "We are seeing improved efficiencies across the board in National Security Cutter construction as this program matures and we leverage lessons learned from one ship to the next. The benefits of serial production demonstrated in this program are a win-win for our Coast Guard customer and the shipbuilder." Ingalls is currently building three NSCs and has delivered three that are serving as the flagships of the Coast Guard's cutter fleet.



CGC Hamilton WMSL-753 at Ingalls, Pascagoula MS

An electronics light-off milestone, where the ship's electrical system is powered up for the first time, was recently achieved on Ingalls' fourth NSC, *Hamilton* (WMSL 753), and the ship will be christened on Oct. 26. Ingalls' fifth NSC, *James* (WMSL 754), has over 70 percent of its units erected and will launch in the spring of 2014.

A long-lead material contract, which allows major equipment such as the main propulsion systems, generators and electrical switchboards to be ordered in advance, was awarded in June for a seventh NSC.

US Ship MV Seaman Guard Ohio Detained Off India Carrying Arms

Deccan Chronicle 10-12-13



MV Seaman Guard Ohio



If this is a clandestine arms smuggling deal, perhaps a less flashy paint scheme would be in order.

In a swift operation, the Indian Coast Guard on Friday night detained a Sierra Leone-flagged vessel with 25 armed guards on board, at Tuticorin. Though the vessel - *Seaman Guard Ohio* - belongs to AdvanFort, a US-based firm that provides maritime security, sources in defence agencies said the crew and guards could not explain why they had entered Indian waters. They had no documents authorising their possession of sophisticated arms and ammunition, which included semi-automatic weapons and self-loading rifles. According to Inspector-General and Commander Coast Guard (Region East) Satya Prakash Sharma, the operations centre here received information late on

Friday that a vessel with armed guards on board was seen near the Tuticorin coast. After putting the vessel under electronic surveillance, Indian Coast Guard Ship *ICGS Naiki Devi 74* intercepted and escorted it to the Tuticorin Port on Saturday. The guards/crew comprising British, Estonian, Ukrainian and Indian nationals were interrogated by a multi-agency joint investigation team at Tuticorin. The authorisation for possessing weapons on board was yet to be produced by them. Probe as to whether the vessel was involved in arms trafficking would be undertaken by the coastal police, he said. According to defence sources, the crew members claimed that they were involved in providing security to Gulf-bound merchant vessels, and that they were authorised to carry arms. The authorities were waiting for an official communication from the company's headquarters to vouch for their claim. When contacted by The Hindu, an official at AdvanFort's emergency centre in US said she would consult her headquarters and get back on the development. However, there was no official word from the company till late on Saturday. The official website of AdvanFort says it is a privately held company with headquarters in Washington, DC and offices around the world. The company provides comprehensive maritime security solutions for the commercial shipping industry. The security teams comprise former US, UK and NATO Special Forces operators who are expertly skilled and equipped to deter piracy measures and allow for safe passage in international waters, the website said.

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

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