

Chapter Newseyletter

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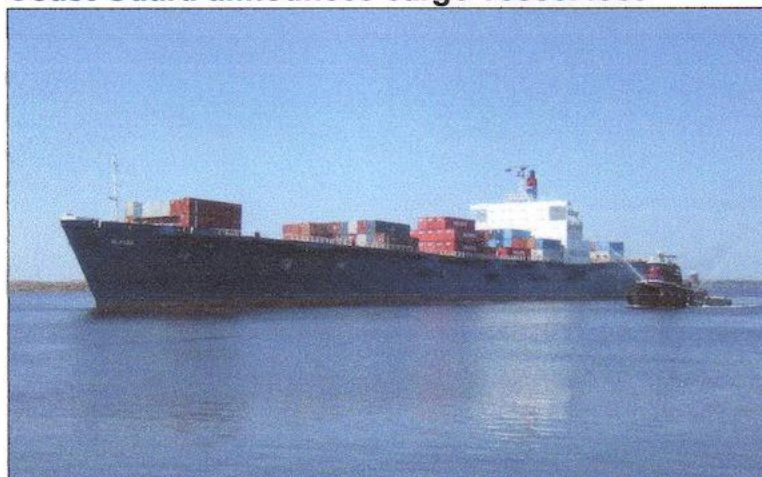
Builders sea trials delayed for *USS GERALD R. FORD CVN-78*



The future USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN-78) supercarrier during launch at Newport News Shipbuilding in November 2013.

The sea trial schedule for the aircraft carrier *USS Gerald R. Ford* has been delayed six to eight weeks after shipboard tests fell behind schedule, the U.S. Navy said on Tuesday. The aircraft carrier, being built by Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc, is scheduled to be delivered to the Navy on March 31, 2016. "The exact impact on ship delivery will be determined based on the results of sea trials," the Navy said in a statement. It said the work on the carrier, which is being built at a shipyard in Newport News, Virginia, was 93 percent complete.

Coast Guard announces cargo vessel lost



After an extensive search covering 70,000 square miles of ocean, and finding a debris field covering 250 miles, the Coast Guard announced that the cargo vessel *EL FARO* was lost when she traveled toward Hurricane Joaquin leaving Jacksonville FL for San Juan on September 29. So far one body, a life preserver and a heavily damaged life boat have been found. The cutters *RESOLUTE*, *CHARLES SEXTON*

and *NORTHLAND* were involved in the search as well as several HC-130's a MH-60 helo, a Navy P8 aircraft and U S Air Force Hurricane Hunters. Many questions remain unanswered, mainly asking why the vessel left during the hurricane.

SS United States fate may be scrappers



In Philadelphia, Photo credit SS United States Conservancy

Drivers along Philadelphia's waterfront and I-95 have been treated to an unsightly view of one of this country's greatest ocean liners. In and out of bankruptcy and seized once by the U S Marshals office, the *SS United States* Conservancy (current owners) is about to lose the ship as it can only pay the \$60,000 monthly fee another month. She has been stripped of asbestos, including much of her valuable interior that used to be aboard. One of her luxurious bars is in a restaurant on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.



Photo in her early days, photo credit SS United States Conservancy

The latest plan was to move *SS UNITED STATES* to Brooklyn, but finances have not been worked out. The Conservancy was quoted as saying "The Conservancy has never been closer to saving the *SS United States*, nor so close to losing her".

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

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Visit the Universal Ship Cancellation Society web site at: www.uscs.org/