

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Deposit Balance \$ _____

US Coast Guard Wants Six Icebreakers

An independent study reveals the U S Coast Guard needs three heavy duty icebreakers and three medium duty icebreakers to fulfill their responsibilities in the Arctic and Antarctic regions in future years.



USCGC POLAR SEA

A study is underway to see if it is feasible to refurbish the currently decommissioned CGC POLAR SEA WAGB-11. If that is possible, it will give the icebreaker a ten year life extension. By next year the USCG will know if this is financially prudent. It will take some pressure off the USCG's responsibilities, but not the answer to getting where the USCG needs to be with icebreakers. One option would be a lease plan, which the USCG does not seem to favor. While the need has been established, how the USCG will get to that number or where the funding will come from is an open question.



USCGC POLAR STAR WAGB-10

Currently the Coast Guard has two operational icebreakers — heavy icebreaker USCGC Polar Star (WAGB-10) and medium icebreaker USCGC Healy (WAGB-20).



USCGC HEALY WAGB-20

Additionally the National Science Foundation (NSF) also leases a research icebreaker — R/V Nathaniel B. Palmer. She is an ice-capable research ship owned by Offshore Service Vessels LLC, operated by Edison Chouest Offshore.



R/V NATHANIEL B. PALMER

U S Navy owned fleet grows by four vessels



MV HOS Arrowhead

Hornbeck Offshore Services of Covington LA announced the sale of three OSV's (Offshore Service Vessels) to the U S Navy. The sale was reportedly to comply with Congress. The three vessels currently mentioned are the MV HOS Arrowhead, the MV HOS Eagleview and MV HOS Westwind. A forth vessel will be sold later in the year, the MV HOS Black Powder. Hornbeck states the vessels are used by the Navy to support the submarine fleet. The vessels had previously been leased to the Navy. No mention of any name changes, but apparently the vessels are operated by the MSC for the Navy. HOS Arrowhead operates out of Port Angeles, WA.



MV HOS Black Powder

Is Cuba Getting Ready for the Next "Bay of Pigs" Invasion?

Reports are circulating in the maritime press that Columbia detained a Chinese flagged vessel and arrested it's captain. Seems the vessel contained 100 tons of gun powder, 2.6 million detonators, 99 projectiles and around 3,000 canon shells destined for Cuba. Does this sound like the Cuba that our president wants to open an embassy in April and restore diplomatic ties with Cuba as soon as possible? All this while China has negotiated a plan to recapitalize Cuba's debt and assist in funding new port

facilities in Cuba.

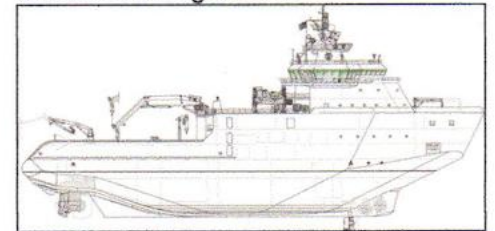


MV Da Dan Xia flagged in Hong Kong

On her last trip to the area the ship was found to have two Mig-21 jet fighters and other Soviet era weapons from Cuba buried under tons of sugar.

Two More New Medium Icebreakers – Not for the U. S. Coast Guard

Chuck Hill's blog 3-11-15



Drawing by North American Shipbuilding Edison-Chouest is building another icebreaker (Anchor Handling Tug Supply (AHTS) ship), with an option for a second. Each ship will have Four 5060 KW generators. If so these ships will each have more horsepower (20,240 KW/27,131 SHP) than the diesel electric engines of the Polar class, more than the Glacier (16,000 KW/21,000 SHP), and almost as much as the Healy (22,400 KW/30,027 SHP). They will be more than twice as powerful as the Wind class breakers (12,000 SHP), the National Science Foundation's leased MV Nathaniel B. Palmer (9,485 KW/12,720 HP), or USCGC Mackinaw (6,800 KW/9,119 SHP). They will also be more powerful than all but one of Canada's icebreakers.

Tall Ships coming to Philadelphia/Camden Waterfront



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Tallships Delaware River Sta.

June 25, 2015
Philadelphia PA 19106

More news to follow.

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

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