

# Decatur Chapter #4 Newseyletter

Stephen Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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

## Russian DSRV returns to service



Russian Navy Deep Sea Rescue Submarine AS-34 is being returned to service after an overhaul. The AS-34 unsuccessfully attempted to rescue the crew of the ill fated *KURSK* after an accident put her on the ocean floor. On the first attempt the DSV hit one of the submarines stabilizers. On the second attempt, her batteries died. The third attempt was aborted due to heavy seas.

## Recent rescues by the USPS Cancellation Services in Kansas City MO

Two recent pictorial cancels went astray. Our requests for pictorials at Galveston TX for the Commissioning of the *USS Gabrielle Giffords LCS 10* went unanswered. When I contacted the people responsible for the pictorial cancels in Galveston and the USPS District people, several excuses were given, none of which addressed the reason they ignored the request.

A second request for a pictorial cancel for the fifth anniversary of the *USS MISSISSIPPI SSN 787* went astray in Pascagoula MS.

On both cancels a note went to the USPS in Kansas City as how to proceed to get them issued. In both instances Kansas City contacted the post offices and took over the projects. All covers at both offices were sent to Kansas City where the appropriate cancels were issued and placed on collectors covers.

## Russian Federation readies Intel ship for sea trials

The Russian Navy is about to accept the second in it's class intelligence ship *IVAN KHURS* to the fleet.



Launched in May of this year, the vessel is being inspected to have it's new crew move aboard. Sea trials will be running about one month late. The vessel was built by the Severnaya Verf Shipyard a major shipyard on Gutuevsky Island in Saint Petersburg. Named after Russian Vice-Admiral Ivan Khurs, the vessel is 95 meters long (312 feet) and displaces 4000 tons. It has a cruising range of 8000 nautical miles and is crewed by 131 sailors.

## Coverage of ships for Hurricanes HARVEY, IRMA and MARIA

U S Coast Guard assistance in the aftermath of Hurricane *IRMA*

### *USCGC ELM WLB 204*

Emergency Deployment



Cached by: Rick Hoffner, USCS # H-4456

I have attempted to cover every announced U S Navy and U S Coast Guard ship which was announced as taking part in the three serious hurricanes that just struck the U S. To date, no covers have returned from the ships or cutters. Two mailings were returned to sender by the USPS (*USNS William McLEAN TAKE 12*, and *T/S GENERAL RUDDER AGOR 2*). I'm not exactly convinced that they were undeliverable. What happened to the other twenty-eight covers, who knows. Hopefully some will be returned in the near future, since many of the assets that were committed to *HARVEY*, were diverted to *IRMA*, then to *MARIA* which devastated Puerto Rico and other Caribbean islands.