

# Decatur Chapter #4 Newseyletter

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

**Polish Navy to receive *ORP Slazak* in 2019,  
18 years after keel-laying ceremony**



The Polish defense ministry announced on June 29 that it has awarded PGZ a contract to complete outfitting works and all trials on the offshore patrol vessel '*Ślązak*' and subsequently deliver it to the Polish Navy. According to the announcement, *Ślązak* is set to start trials in July 2018 while the delivery and acceptance is expected to take place by March 2019. By 2019, the former-corvette-turned-OPV will be delivered to the navy after missing several delivery deadlines. A keel-laying ceremony for the vessel, which was initially expected to be the first of several *Gawron*-class corvettes, took place in 2001. Though the vessel's hull was launched in 2009, the entire project was cancelled in 2012. The government subsequently made the decision to convert the corvette into an offshore patrol vessel. The converted vessel was to be delivered to the navy by November 2016. After that deadline was not met, Polish media reports indicated July 2018 as the new delivery date. According to the latest announcement, the *Slazak* should be joining the navy in March 2019.

## Philly Shipyard Christens DANIEL K INOUE

U.S. shipping Matson, Inc. (NYSE: MATX) and Philly Shipyard christened the largest containership ever built in the United States in a ceremony at the Philly Shipyard on Saturday. The new "Aloha Class" vessel is named '*Daniel K. Inouye*' in honor of Hawaii's late senior U.S. Senator, who was a longstanding supporter of the U.S. maritime industry and its important role in supporting Hawaii's economy. *Daniel K. Inouye* is the first of two new ships being

built for Honolulu-based Matson by Philly Shipyard at a total cost of approximately \$418 million for the pair.



It is the first of four new vessels that Matson will put into its Hawaii service during the next two years.

## HII gets additional \$27m for *USS Fitzgerald* repairs



Photo Credit USNI

The US Naval Sea Systems Command has awarded Huntington Ingalls Industries another contract modification worth \$27 million for work on the repairs of Arleigh Burke-class destroyer *USS Fitzgerald* (DDG 62). The destroyer was heavily damaged in a collision with Philippine-flagged merchant vessel ACX Crystal southwest of Yokosuka, Japan, on June 17, 2017. Seven sailors lost their lives and the ship was damaged on her starboard side above and below the waterline. After the collision, the destroyer was transported from its forward-deployed homeport in Yokosuka, Japan, to Huntington Ingalls Industries (HII) in Pascagoula, Mississippi for both repairs and upgrades. Initially, the total cost of returning the destroyer to operational status, including transport from Japan, was expected to reach close to \$370 million dollars. According to Pentagon's contract announcements, HII has been awarded over \$380 million worth of contracts so far.