



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1997 NAVIGATION SEASON WRAPS UP ON THE ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY

(OTTAWA, December 29, 1997) -- The St. Lawrence Seaway officially closed on December 26, 1997, with the passage of the downbound ocean-going vessel, *Narragansett*, a Fednav charter, through the St. Lambert Lock near Montreal, Quebec at 18:37 hours. The vessel was carrying Canadian grain from Thunder Bay, Ontario to Belgium. The Seaway inaugurated its navigation season on April 2 and remained open for 269 days.

«It's been another successful season following the stable trend of recent years,» says Michel Fournier, Acting President of The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority. «We have maintained the healthy pattern established since 1994 and are looking forward to continuing this positive trend.» Estimated combined cargo passing through the Welland Canal and the Montreal/Lake Ontario sections of the system was approximately 47,600,000 metric tonnes, 2,300,000 tonnes less than in 1996.

This year's best performing commodity was Canadian grain (reaching 9,163,000 tonnes), up by 38% over 1996. Iron ore, coal and other bulk cargo have maintained the levels of the last three years. General cargo including slabs and other steel products was down by 14% mostly due to the decrease in demand for imported steel slabs. U.S. grain movements declined by an estimated 24% due to depleted stocks at the beginning of the navigation season.

Estimated cargo traffic was 39,980,000 tonnes on the Welland Canal and 36,330,000 tonnes on the Montreal/Lake Ontario section of the system.

The number of vessels that passed through the system's locks in 1997 was 4,042 compared to 3,953 in 1996. Vessels transiting the system were, on average, carrying less cargo.

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Information: Sylvie Moncion
(613) 598-4626



U.S. Department
of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 13, 1998

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

SEAWAY'S 40TH NAVIGATION SEASON TO START MARCH 26

The U.S. Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation and the Seaway Authority of Canada today announced that the St. Lawrence Seaway's 1998 navigation season will open March 26.

Seaway Corporation Acting Administrator David G. Sanders noted: "There has been a strong demand by the shipping industry to open the Seaway as early as possible this year, and March 26 is our earliest opening in three years. We look forward to another strong ship traffic performance in this, our 40th Seaway navigation season."

Last year, the Seaway was opened April 2 and closed Dec. 26.

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 13, 1998

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

FOUR GREAT LAKES SEAWAY PORTS EARN
ANNUAL SEAWAY PORT PACESETTER AWARDS

Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Acting
Administrator David G. Sanders today announced that four Great
Lakes Seaway ports have earned the Corporation's sixth annual
U.S. Seaway Port Pacesetter Award.

The four port organizations to receive this year's award
are: the Detroit/Wayne County (Mich.) Port Authority; the Erie-
Western Pennsylvania Port Authority; the Brown County (Wis.) Port
of Green Bay; and the Port of Oswego (N.Y.) Authority.

The award is presented to the U.S. Great Lakes Seaway ports
that registered increases in overseas cargo tonnage via the
Seaway during the 1997 navigation season versus 1996.

Sanders pointed out that the executives at the winning
ports had done an exceptional job in generating new international
business for the Midwest region of North America.

He said: "The Seaway recorded its fourth consecutive strong
cargo performance in 1997, and much of the credit for this must
go to the very successful marketing efforts of our port officials
In addition, our Seaway System's cost competitiveness, efficiency
and excellent safety record contributed to our port achievements
last year."

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 8, 1998

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0091

EARLY 1998 SEAWAY TRAFFIC
SURGES AHEAD OF 1997 TOTALS

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation today reported that ocean vessel traffic through the Seaway's Montreal to Lake Ontario section through April 30 -- the first five weeks of the Seaway's 1998 shipping season -- surged 43 percent, to 109 ocean ships, versus April 30, 1997.

Seaway Corporation Acting Administrator David G. Sanders explained: "So far this season, we are off to one of our best starts in recent years. This demonstrates that the Great Lakes Seaway System remains one of the most cost competitive transportation routes in North America, and that our international marketing efforts have been very effective."

He added: "Nearly all of our statistical categories are registering gains over last year. But the cargo class that has given us the biggest boost is iron and steel, which is up 62 percent. This is due mainly to U.S. demand for specialty steel from the East European countries.

Other cargo classes posting notable gains as of April 30 were: U.S. grain (+82%); chemicals (+32%); petroleum products (+26%); steel slabs (+18%); and iron ore (+2%).

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U.S. Department
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180 Andrews Street
P.O. Box 520
Massena, N.Y. 13662-0520
315-764-3200



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, May 20, 1998

Contact: Rhonda Worden
Tel: (315) 764-3208

**SUMMER HOURS SET FOR VISITORS' CENTER
AT THE U.S. EISENHOWER LOCK; OPENING CEREMONY
SCHEDULED FOR THIS SATURDAY**

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation today announced that the Dwight D. Eisenhower Visitors' Center, located at the U.S. Eisenhower Lock in Massena, N.Y., will open for the summer season beginning Saturday, and remain open through October.

There will be a grand opening on Saturday May 23rd at 11:00 A.M. The ceremony is open to the public and there will be free balloons for children and refreshments will be provided.

The Visitors' Center will be open daily from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M., offering tourists the opportunity to view ships from more than 50 nations transit the Eisenhower Lock.

The Saint Lawrence Aquarium and Ecological Center, Inc., a local non-profit organization, will once again be operating the gift shop and concession stand at the Visitors' Center. The gift shop will feature North Country-created fine crafts and products.

Visitors will be able to purchase a variety of food items from the concession stand such as french fries, hot dogs, hamburgers, sandwiches, and many other items from the grill, as well as ice cream and a variety of pastries. The gift shop and concession will be open daily from 9 A.M. to 7 P.M., beginning Saturday.

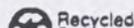
The Visitors' Center features an observation deck, information booth, and the Eisenhower Exhibit that contains photographs and displays depicting the late president's role in creating the St. Lawrence Seaway. The Center is accessible to the disabled.

To get to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Visitors' Center, take Route 37 east to Route 131. Proceed on Route 131 to the Tunnel Road and turn right just before the tunnel entrance. Look for the Visitors' Center sign. For up-to-date information on estimated vessel transit times, call (315) 769-2422.

Operations FAX
315-764-3250

Administration Building FAX
315-764-3235

Maintenance FAX
315-764-3258



TOTAL P.02



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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May , 1998

Contact: David Sanders
202-366-0091
or
Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

SEAWAY TRADE MISSION HEADED FOR CYPRUS AND GREECE

Beginning May 25, the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation will lead a delegation of U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes executives on a Seaway trade mission to Cyprus and Greece.

The delegation is scheduled to visit Limassol, Cyprus, May 25 to 28, and Athens, Greece, May 29 to June 5. Both are return visits for the Seaway Trade Mission Program that began in 1985. The previous visit to Cyprus occurred in 1995, and Athens was visited in 1996. The delegation is comprised of a broad cross-section of top U.S. and Canadian business executives concerned with maritime commerce throughout the Great Lakes Seaway System.

Seaway Corporation Acting Administrator David G. Sanders, who will serve as mission leader, explained: "This is a vitally important trip because our two stops are key centers for world shipbuilding and ship operations."

He added: "Our message will consist of an update on Seaway trade advantages, and detailing new navigation/customer services we have introduced. In particular, we intend to stress the need for more Seaway-size ship newbuildings and refittings."

In Cyprus, the mission delegation will host a luncheon program at a special meeting of the Cyprus Shipping Council; and in Greece, the Seaway Corporation and a number of delegates are jointly sponsoring and staffing an exhibit booth at the biennial Posidonia International Maritime Exposition.

The latest binational Seaway overseas trade mission represents the 19th that the Seaway Corporation has sponsored or co-sponsored over the past 13 years for the purpose of boosting trade through the Great Lakes Seaway System.

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 1, 1998

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0091

**Statement by David G. Sanders,
Acting Administrator, Saint
Lawrence Seaway Development
Corporation, Regarding the
Schroeder Case Verdict in Favor
Of the Seaway Corporation**

In response to today's verdict, Seaway Corporation Acting Administrator David G. Sanders said: "Today's unanimous decision is a vindication for our corporation, our employees and the equal employment opportunity protection laws."

He continued: "Ms. Schroeder's allegations were fairly reviewed by a jury of her peers and found to have no basis."

"Further," Sanders said, "the verdict demonstrates that the Seaway Corporation stands up for itself, it stands up for the protection of equal employment opportunity laws, it stands up for a safe and productive work environment, and it stands up for wrongfully-accused employees as the U.S. Attorney proved today. The unsubstantiated allegations against Mr. Buffham obviously carried no weight with the jury and carries no weight with the Seaway Corporation."

"The Seaway Corporation strongly supports federal laws designed to protect an employee's right to equal treatment in the workplace. The Corporation does not, nor will it, tolerate discrimination or harassment of any kind."

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 16, 1998

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

SEAWAY CORPORATION VESSEL INSPECTION SERVICES
EARN HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL QUALITY RECOGNITION

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) today was awarded ISO 9002 certification for its high quality vessel inspection services program on the St. Lawrence Seaway.

The international certification is only conferred on firms that meet the highest quality management standards established by the Geneva-based International Organization for Standardization. The London-based Lloyds Register of Quality Assurance was the independent accrediting agency that performed the actual evaluations of the SLSDC program.

SLSDC Acting Administrator David G. Sanders noted: "This international honor exemplifies our commitment to providing our customers with the highest quality services. The multiple Seaway user benefits that have resulted from these inspections include: a substantial reduction of vessel delays due to duplicative inspections; improved ship safety; and enhanced environmental protection."

Joint U.S. foreign vessel inspections on the Seaway were begun in 1993 when SLSDC and the U.S. Coast Guard teamed up to conduct examinations in compliance with new U.S. environmental laws, and Port State Control regulations. (At that time, the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority of Canada (SLSA) conducted inspections only for compliance with Seaway regulations). Then, in 1997, SLSA joined forces with the SLSDC-U.S. Coast Guard team and the inspections, now all conducted in Montreal, were extended to include 100 percent of ocean vessels making their first inbound transit of the Seaway. In 1997, 252 ocean ships were inspected under the revised program.

The inspections include safety checks on vessel construction and equipment, ballast water, radio telecommunications, and documentation, as well as Port State Control inspections. In particular, the Seaway program supports the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and the Non-Indigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990.

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 17, 1998

Contacts: David Sanders
(202-366-0091)
or
Dennis Deuschl
(202-366-0110)

MID-SEASON SEAWAY TRAFFIC CONTINUES TO CLIMB

As navigation on the St. Lawrence Seaway nears the mid-season point, the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation today reported that traffic on the waterway's Montreal to Lake Ontario section through July 31 continued to exceed last year's pace, with total tonnage reaching 15.4 million metric tons (+3%), and ocean vessel transits totaling 580 (+31%).

Seaway Corporation Acting Administrator David G. Sanders observed: "We are delighted to see the momentum of growing Seaway traffic continue to build after getting off to one of the strongest starts ever in March. The gains we are experiencing reflect the healthy U.S. economy and the strong consumer demand for manufactured goods. Most key cargo classes are posting increases, led by a 46 percent increase in manufactured iron and steel shipments that totaled 2.5 million metric tons.

Sanders also noted that the Seaway's success this year is due in part to the weakened Canadian dollar, which has offset the potential anti-competitive impacts of the 2 percent Seaway toll increase that Canada unilaterally imposed on shipping on June 1.

Other Seaway major cargo classes showing significant gains as of July 31 included: U.S. grain, 1.3 million metric tons (+32%); iron ore, 5 million metric tons (+7%); stone, 235 thousand metric tons (+40%); cement, 189 thousand metric tons (491%); and petroleum products, 768 thousand metric tons (+63%).

The Seaway's 1998 navigation season opened March 26.

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U.S. Department
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160 Andrews Street
P.O. Box 520
Massena, N.Y. 13662-0520
315-764-3200



**Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation**

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, September 9, 1998

Contact: Rhonda Worden
Tel: (315) 764-3208

**SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
TO HOST ANNUAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE EXERCISE**

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation will host its annual emergency response exercise in Massena, N.Y. this Saturday.

The exercise will involve several federal, state and local agencies that have been designated in the Seaway Corporation's Emergency Response Plan to assist in any emergency situation along the St. Lawrence River.

The scenario for the exercise involves a tank vessel carrying hazardous chemicals touching bottom and suffering fractures to the hull. As a result of the incident several crew members are injured and require medical assistance.

Seaway Corporation Acting Administrator David G. Sanders remarked that these exercises and the Seaway's Emergency Response Plan are critical to the protection of the St. Lawrence River.

"The effectiveness of these drills and the Corporation's Emergency Response Plan have been proven by the quick and efficient response of agencies during real incidents. We are constantly improving our emergency preparedness measures through these exercises to ensure the safety of communities and residents living along the St. Lawrence River," said Sanders.

Participating federal agencies are: Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation; U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Army 10th Mountain Division; U.S. Border Patrol; and U.S. Customs and Immigration.

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315-764-3250

Administration Building FAX
315-764-3235

Maintenance FAX
315-764-3258



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New York State offices participating are: Department of Environmental Conservation; State Police; Department of Health; and the New York Power Authority.

Participating local agencies are: Massena Fire Department; Massena Rescue Squad; St. Lawrence County Emergency Management; Massena Memorial Hospital; Save the River; OP-TECH; St. Regis Mohawk Tribe; and Akwesasne Joint Emergency Measures Planning.



U.S. Department
of Transportation

180 Andrews Street
P.O. Box 520
Massena, N.Y. 13682-0520
315-764-3200



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday September 21, 1998

Contact: Rhonda Worden
(315) 764-3208

**SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO
INVESTIGATE REPORT OF NAVIGATIONAL AID BATTERIES IN ST.
LAWRENCE RIVER**

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation has received a report that navigational aid batteries were spotted underwater at Light 85 near Waddington, N.Y. Acting Administrator David G. Sanders has ordered Erman J. Cocci, Associate Administrator, to conduct a thorough investigation into this matter to determine if any additional navigational aid batteries are located in the St. Lawrence River.

"The Corporation is committed to ensuring the environmental safety of the St. Lawrence River and intends to fully investigate this report. Upon the conclusion of our investigation the Corporation is committed to taking appropriate action," stated Mr. Sanders.

The Seaway Corporation's lighted navigational aids operate under solar power now, however, prior to the late 1980's chemical batteries were used to power the fixed lights.

"This is a not a new problem, nor is it a problem that's specific to the St. Lawrence River, it is a national problem and we will be coordinating our efforts with the United States Coast Guard," added Mr. Sanders.

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Operations FAX
315-764-3250

Administration Building FAX
315-764-3235

Maintenance FAX
315-764-3258

TOTAL P. 02



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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 21, 1998

Contacts: David Sanders
(212-366-0091)
or
Dennis Deuschl
(202-366-0110)

ACCELERATED TRAFFIC PACE CONTINUES ON SEAWAY

Traffic through the St. Lawrence Seaway during the first two-thirds of the 1998 shipping season continued significantly ahead of last year as the water route appears headed toward one of its best performances during the past decade, reports the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

Traffic through the Seaway's Montreal to Lake Ontario section as of September 30, 1998, showed total tonnage reaching 24 million metric tons (up 3%, vs. the same date in 1997) and ocean vessel transits totaling 942 (+33%).

Seaway Corporation Acting Administrator David G. Sanders noted: "At this point in time, and with some of our traditionally busiest months ahead, we are well positioned to register one of our best shipping seasons since 1988. The gains we are experiencing reflect the healthy U.S. economy and the continued strong demand for manufactured goods, plus the cost-competitive appeal of our Great Lakes Seaway System."

A dominant Seaway traffic movement during 1998 has been the surge in iron and steel imports to 4 million metric tons (up 67%), and backhauls of U.S. grain exports of 2.5 million metric tons (up 33%).

Other Seaway major cargo classes showing large gains as of Sept. 30 included: iron ore, 7.5 million metric tons (+ 5%); stone, 327 thousand metric tons (+ 46%); cement, 356 thousand metric tons (+ 309%), and chemicals, 384 thousand metric tons (+ 27%).

The Seaway's 1998 navigation season opened March 26, and the announced "clearance date" by which all ships must be prepared to exit the Montreal to Lake Ontario section is midnight, December 20. However, Seaway officials note that the clearance date is flexible and has often been extended in the past if Seaway weather forecasts remained favorable in late December.

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



**Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 5, 1998

Contact: Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110
or
Rhonda Worden
315-764-3208

SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION TO PRESENT AWARDS
TO SEVEN SEAWAY CORPORATION EMPLOYEES

Two individual employees of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) -- Carol A. Fenton, of Massena, N.Y., and Mary E. Hollomon, of Landover, Md., plus an SLSDC employee team of six members assigned to the corporation's Massena offices, will all be presented awards for outstanding performance by Secretary of Transportation Rodney E. Slater at special ceremonies Nov. 10 in Washington, D.C.

Carol Fenton, Director of Lock Operations, will receive the Secretary's Silver Medal for Meritorious Achievement. She is being recognized for developing the SLSDC's new Enhanced Seaway Inspection program which entails joint agency safety inspections of all ocean vessels sailing the Seaway for the first time. She also is being recognized for her leadership in helping SLSDC's vessel inspection services earn ISO 9002 certification for meeting the highest international quality management standards.

A 20-year veteran with SLSDC, she joined the corporation as a clerk-typist, and advanced through the ranks to her present position in 1997. She and her husband, Raymond, have three children.

Mary Hollomon, Administrative Staff Assistant to SLSDC's senior executives in Washington, D.C., will be presented the Secretary's Award for Excellence. She is being recognized for her sustained superior performance in all aspects of her job. In particular, her supervisor praised her exceptional contributions to the efficient functioning of the D.C. office. She also was commended for her work on the Secretary's Garrett

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A. Morgan educational initiative. Ms. Hollomon has served with SLSDC for five years. She and her husband, Clinton H., have four grown daughters.

The six SLSDC employees earning the Secretary's Team Award are: Carol Fenton; Marine Specialists Leo Murphy and Terrance Jordan; Marine Transportation Supervisors Ernest Parker and Roland Maynard; and Marine Transportation Specialist Greg MacKinnon. They will all share the award with 16 members of the U.S. Coast Guard for the exceptional joint SLSDC-U.S. Coast Guard vessel inspection services now being performed on the Seaway in Montreal, Canada.

The award is presented for outstanding intermodal cooperative efforts. The joint services are credited with reducing Seaway vessel incidents and delays due to mechanical problems and with enhancing customer service.

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400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Room 5424
(202) 366-0091



Saint Lawrence
Seaway Development
Corporation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 29, 1998

Contact: David Sanders
202-366-00911
or
Dennis Deuschl
202-366-0110

SEAWAY TRAFFIC FOR 1998 SHIPPING SEASON
POSTS SEVERAL RECORDS & MANY GAINS

The St. Lawrence Seaway concluded one of its busiest shipping seasons in the past decade on Dec. 27, 1998, when the season's final commercial vessel (CANADIAN CHALLENGER) exited the waterway.

According to preliminary estimates released today by the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC), traffic through the Seaway's Montreal to Lake Ontario section produced several records for the past 10 to 14 years: the highest total annual metric tonnage (38.8 million) since 1988; the highest level of U.S. grain exports (6.1 million) since 1984; and the highest number of ocean vessel transits (1,476) since 1984.

Other annual highlights included: an all-time record total of iron and steel (7.2 million metric tons, up 67% over 1997); U.S. international trade of 8.3 million metric tons (up 7% over 1997); and the second longest navigation season in Seaway history (277 days).

SLSDC Acting Administrator David G. Sanders noted: "The record-breaking iron and steel tonnage transiting the Seaway this year was largely responsible for the impressive jump in U.S. grain exports (which served as a key backhaul cargo for inbound iron and steel), and in ocean ship traffic gains. For the first time in history, laden ocean ships transits (1,215) exceeded laden lake freighters, and I believe this is the beginning a significant new trend in Seaway shipping."

The Seaway's 1998 shipping season began March 26. Next year the Seaway will mark the 40th anniversary of its official opening for deep-draft navigation.

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