

Course Title: Strategic Sealift

Abstract:

Discussion on the utilization of civilian and government-owned cargo vessels for national emergencies and wartime employment. Topics will include the Voluntary Intermodal Sealift Agreement, the Ready Reserve Fleet (RRF), and mariner availability. Additionally, we'll discuss programs that support vessel and mariner availability such as Cargo Preference, the Maritime Security Program, RRF fleet support, and Maritime Education & Training.

Organization: Instructor's Organization

Website: Organization Website

William George McDonald

William McDonald is Director of Sealift Support for the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration (MARAD). A 14-year veteran of MARAD, he has more than 20 years of experience in maritime affairs, including sealift support for U.S. force deployment and sustainment, port and intermodal development, U.S. flag deep draft vessel operations, and coastal and inland waterways transportation.

In his present post, Mr. McDonald oversees the Voluntary Intermodal Sealift Agreement (VISA) and the Maritime Security Program (MSP) under which U.S. flag ocean carriers commit vessels and intermodal capacity to meet U.S. Department of Defense sealift requirements in times of war or other national emergency. Prior to being named Director of Sealift Support in November, 2015, he served as Deputy MARAD Gateway Director in New York. From June 2010 to July 2014, Mr. McDonald held the Maritime Administration's Emory S. Land Chair for Merchant Marine Affairs at the U.S. Naval War College, where he also served as full-time Professor of Joint Military Operations. He previously represented MARAD as Senior Maritime Advisor, U.S. Embassy, Iraq, from December, 2007 to March, 2009. In that post, he worked with the Government of Iraq, the U.S. Department of State, and Multi-National Force-Iraq (MNF-I) to restore and revitalize the Iraqi intermodal transportation and ensure the secure, efficient movement of U.S. cargoes via the Port of Umm Qasr, Iraq's principal seaport.

Anthony Fisher



Anthony Fisher, a member of the Senior Executive Service, became the Maritime Administration's Deputy Associate Administrator for Commercial Sealift in March of 2016.

In this capacity, Mr. Fisher provides leadership and oversight to the Office of Sealift Support, which includes the Maritime Security Program (MSP), the Voluntary Intermodal Sealift Agreements (VISA), the Vessel Transfer Program, and the Mariner Medals and Flag Programs; and to the Office of Cargo and Commercial Sealift, which administers Cargo Preference and oversees domestic shipping under the Jones Act.

Mr. Fisher comes to MARAD from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) where he developed transportation policy for the Agency's food assistance programs. He previously served as the Congressional Liaison for President Obama's Feed the Future initiative,

and as a member of the Energy and Economic Assistance Working Group (EEWG) responsible for negotiating the disablement of North Korea's nuclear facilities and material nonproliferation efforts under the "Six-Party" diplomatic process.

Session POC: Name, Organization, email, phone

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