

# Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr.

U.S. Special Representative for the Arctic

October 2015

# President Obama Speaking at GLACIER



# President Obama in Alaska Visiting Seward, Kivalina, and Kotzebue



Official White House Photo by Pete Souza



Official White House Photo by Pete Souza

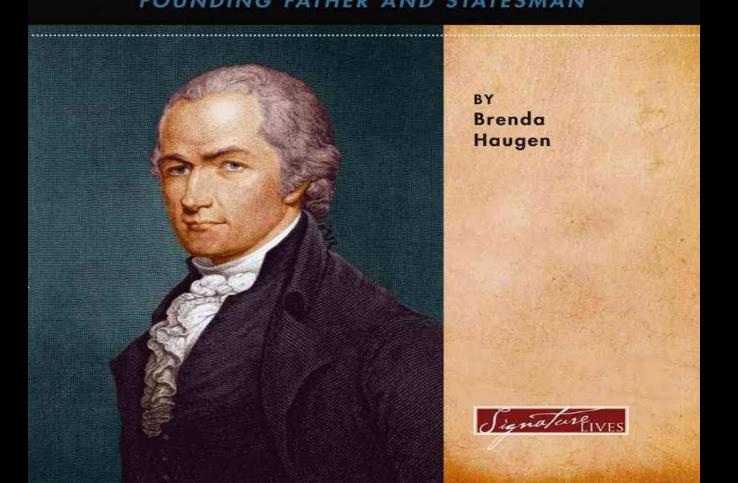


Official White House Photo by Chuck Kennedy



Official White House Photo by Pete Souza



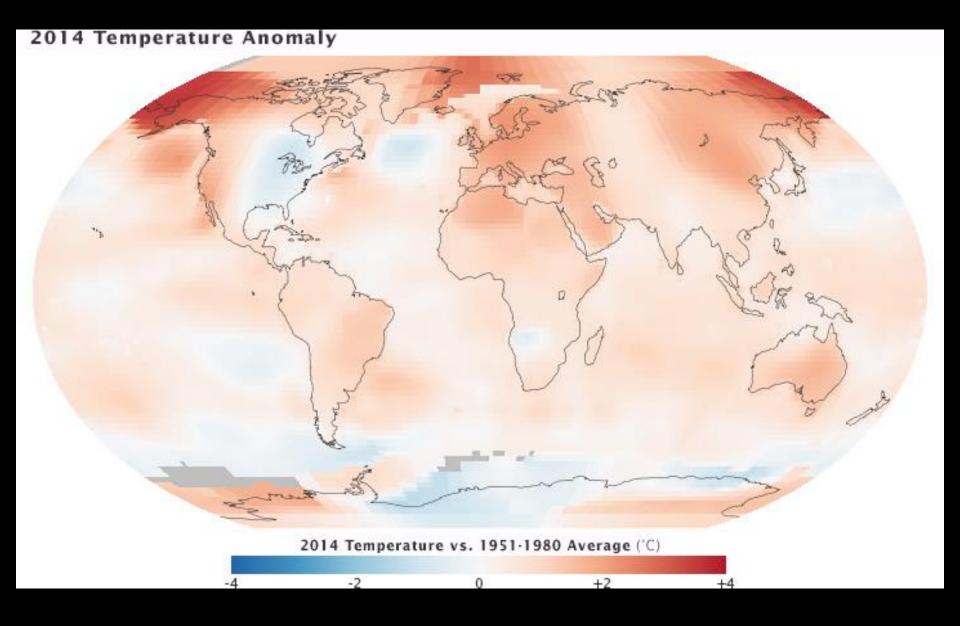


#### Arctic Boundary as defined by the Arctic Research and Policy Act (ARPA)

All United States and foreign territory north of the Arctic Circle and all United States territory north and west of the boundary formed by the Porcupine, Yukon, and Kuskokwim Rivers; all contiguous seas, including the Arctic Ocean and the Beaufort, Bering and Chukchi Seas; and the Aleutian chain.<sup>1</sup>



## Change in the Arctic: Rapid Warming



### U.S. National Interests in the Arctic

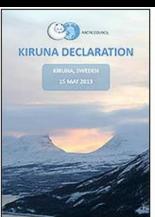
- National defense;
- Sovereign rights and responsibilities;
- Maritime safety;
- Energy and economic benefits;
- Environmental stewardship;
- Scientific research;
- Indigenous peoples and their rights & cultures;
- Preservation of the rights, freedoms, and uses of the sea as reflected in international law.

## President Obama's Visit to the American Arctic

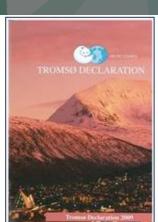
- Safety and security
  - New Icebreaker
- Enabling safe marine operations and transportation
  - Mapping and charting efforts in the Bering, Chukchi and Beaufort Seas
- Advancing Climate Resilience
  - Naming of Denali Commission to coordinate Federal, State, Tribal resources to assist communities to address impact of climate change
- Access to Clean Energy Solutions
  - New \$4 million initiative by remote Alaskan communities to adopt sustainable energy strategies, through a competitive effort
- Releasing new climate data and tools
  - NSF is making available in both hard-copy and explorable-digital formats the most comprehensive pan-Arctic map ever published by USG

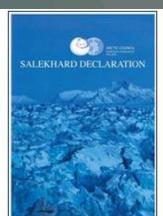
ration, th the other Arctic

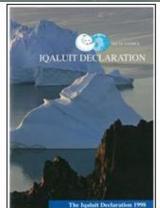
tic; military mandate. pment and environmental sues are specifically excluded

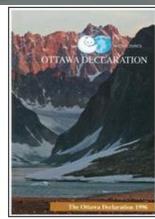












## Arctic Council Structure: U.S. Chairmanship



#### Working Groups (6)

**Arctic Contaminants Action Program** 

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme

Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna

Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment

Sustainable Development Working Group

Nongovernmental

Organizations (11)

Advisory Committee on Protection

of the Seas

Association of World Reindeer Herders

Circumpolar Conservation

International Arctic Science

International Arctic Social

Sciences Association

International Union for

Circumpolar Health

International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs

Northern Forum

University of the Arctic

World Wide Fund for

Nature- Global Arctic Programme

Union

Committee

Arctic Cultural Gateway

#### Task Forces (3)

**Arctic Marine Cooperation** 

Arctic Telecommunications Infrastructure

Scientific Cooperation

#### Observers (32) Countries (12)

China Italy Singapore France Japan South Korea Germany Netherlands Spain

ndia Poland United Kingdom

#### Arctic States (8)

Canada Norway Denmark Russia Finland Sweden Iceland USA

#### Permanent Participants (6)

Aleut International Association Arctic Athabaskan Council Gwich'in Council International Inuit Circumpolar Council Russian Arctic Indigenous Peoples of the North

Saami Council

#### Intergovernmental and Interparliamentary Organizations (9)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

International Union for the Conservation of Nature

Nordic Council of Ministers

Nordic Environment Finance Corporation

North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission

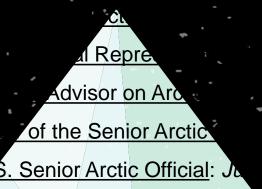
Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region

United Nations Development Program

United Nations Environment Program

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe





## **Overarching Goals**

- Continue strengthening the Arctic Council as an intergovernmental forum
- Introduce new long-term priorities into the Arctic Council
- Raise Arctic and climate change awareness domestically and across the world

## **Arctic Priorities**

- Balanced thematic pillars of the Arctic Council during the US Chairmanship 2015-17:
  - Arctic Ocean Safety, Security, and Stewardship
  - Improving Economic and Living Conditions
  - Addressing Impacts of Climate Change
- Arctic as a region of stability, peace and international cooperation
- Arctic climate change impacts locally and globally



# Ambitious and Balanced Agenda

# ARCTIC COMMUNITIES

- Renewable Energy
- Community Sanitation & Public Health
- Water ResourcesVulnerability Index
- Freshwater Security
- Telecommunications
   Infrastructure
- Suicide Prevention & Resilience

# ARCTIC OCEAN

- Search & Rescue
   Exercises
- Marine Environmental Protection
- Marine Protected AreasNetwork
- Arctic Ocean Cooperation
- Arctic Ocean Acidification

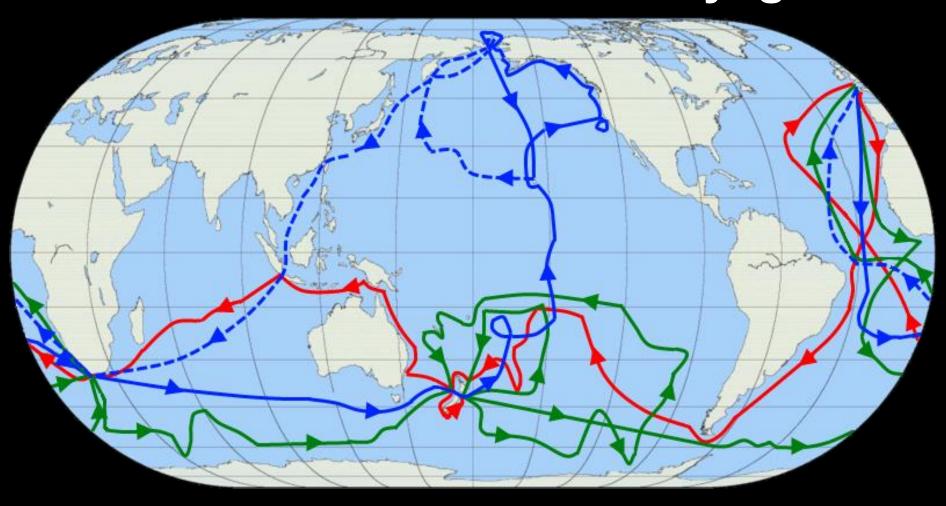


# ARCTIC CLIMATE

- Short-lived Climate
   Pollutants
- Arctic Climate Adaptation& Resilience
- Pan-Arctic Digital
   Elevation Map
- Early Warning IndicatorSystem



# Tracks of Cook's Three Voyages



Red = Endeavour (1768-1771)

Green = Resolution & Adventure (1772-1775)

Blue = Resolution & Discovery (1776-1780)

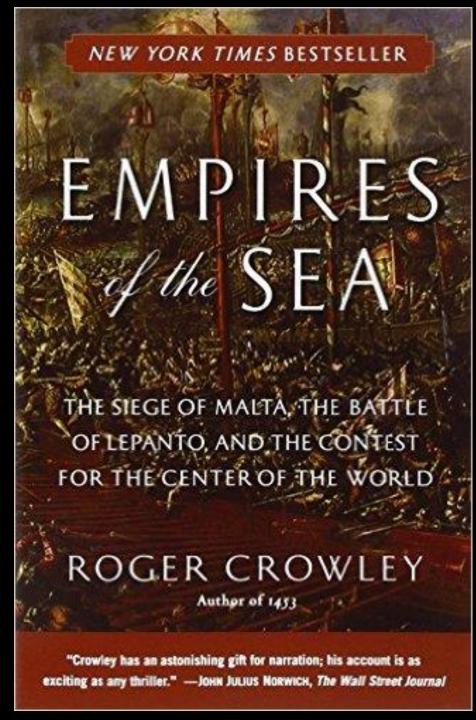
"[Crowley] writes with a racy briskness that lifts sea battles and sieges off the page." —THE NEW YORK TIMES

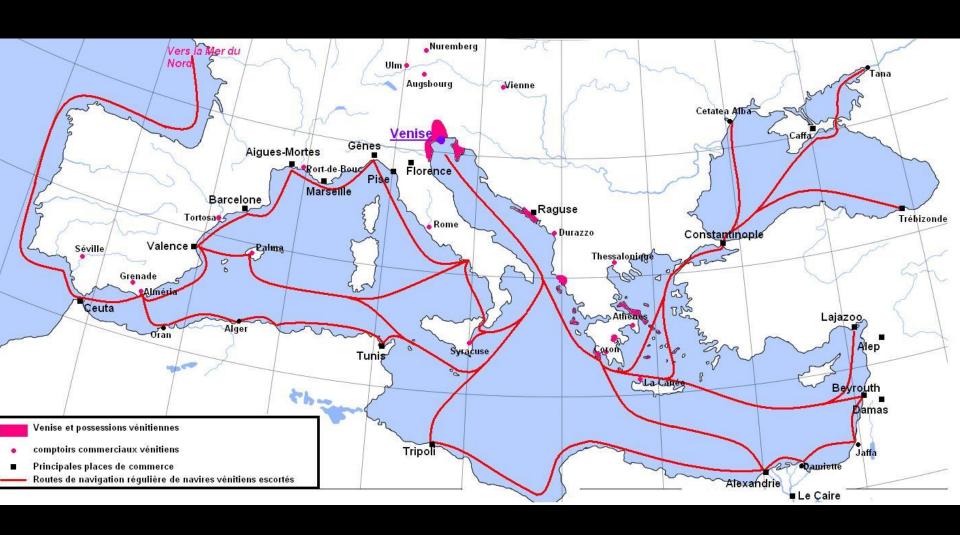
# CITY OF How Venice Ruled the Seas FORTUNE

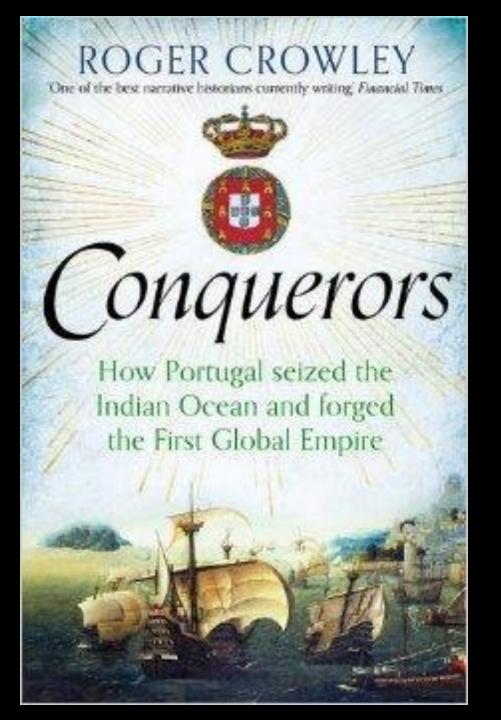


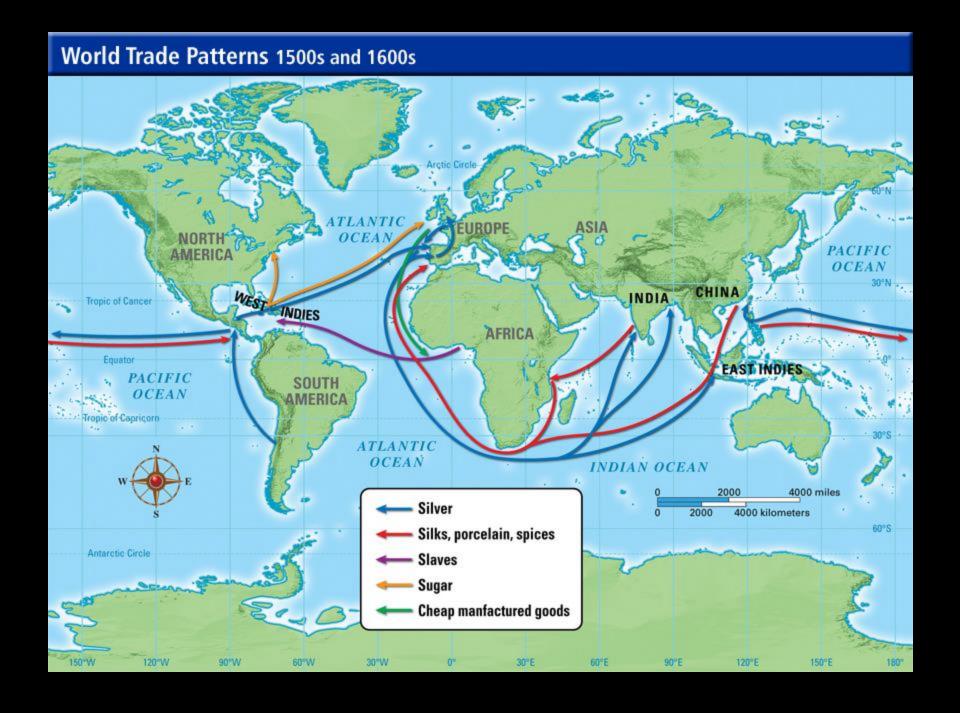
ROGER CROWLEY

NEW YORK TIMES bestselling author of EMPIRES OF THE SEA

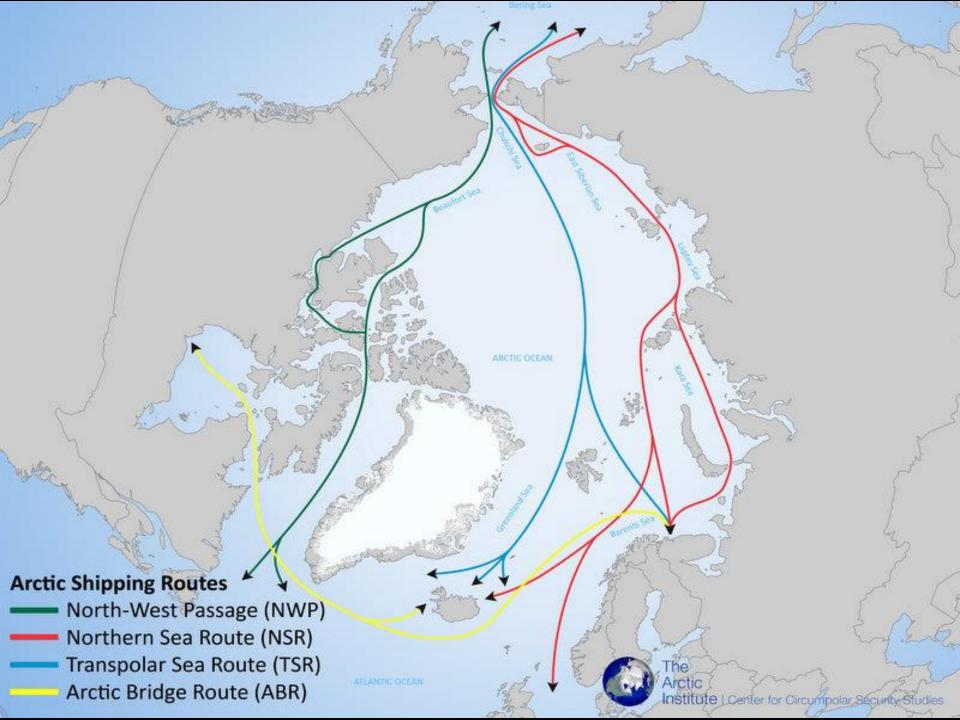












# Thank You







## U.S. Polar Icebreaker Capabilities

Source: July 28, 2015 Congressional Research Service Report

Table 1. U.S. Polar Icebreakers

	Polar Star	Polar Sea	Healy	Palmer
Operator	USCG	USCG	USCG	NSF
U.SGovernment owned?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Noa
Currently operational?	Yes (reactivated on December 14, 2012)	No	Yes	Yes
Entered service	1976	1978	2000	1992
Length (feet)	399	399	420	308
Displacement (tons)	13,200	13,200	16,000	6,500
Icebreaking capability at 3 knots (ice thickness in feet)	6 feet	6 feet	4.5 feet	3 feet
Ice ramming capability (ice thickness in feet)	21 feet	21 feet	8 feet	n/a
Operating temperature	-60° Fahrenheit	-60° Fahrenheit	-50° Fahrenheit	n/a
Crew (when operational)	155b	155b	85=	22
Additional scientific staff	32	32	35d	27-37

**Sources:** Prepared by CRS using data from U.S. Coast Guard, National Research Council, National Science Foundation, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Inspector General, and (for *Palmer*) additional online reference sources. n/a is not available.

- Owned by Edison Chouest Offshore (ECO) of Galliano, LA, and leased to NSF through Raytheon Polar Services Company (RPSC).
- b. Includes 24 officers, 20 chief petty officers, 102 enlisted, and 9 in the aviation detachment.
- c. Includes 19 officers, 12 chief petty officers, and 54 enlisted.
- In addition to 85 crew members 85 and 35 scientists, the ship can accommodate another 15 surge personnel and 2 visitors.

