[0012] In another embodiment of the invention, a data processing system is adapted for distributed muster for ocean-going vessels. The system includes a host computing system of one or more computers, each with memory and at least one processor. The host computing system is communicatively coupled over a computer communications network to a multiplicity of different mobile devices. The system further includes a data store coupled to the host computing system, the data store storing in a database, a set of records, each of the records associating a passenger on a specific ocean-going vessel both with a corresponding one of the mobile devices, and also a particular one of a multiplicity of muster locations on the specific ocean-going vessel.

[0013] Notably, the system also includes a distributed muster module. The module includes computer program instructions executing in the memory of the host computing system. In another aspect, a computer program product for distributed muster for ocean-going vessels is provided. The computer program product includes a non-transitory computer readable storage medium having computer program instructions embodied therewith. The computer program instructions in turn, are enabled during execution in the memory of the host computing system or are executable by a device to cause the device, to distribute to each of the different mobile devices, by way of the computer communications network, an identity of an assigned one of a multiplicity of muster locations and thereafter, to associate each of the different mobile devices both with a corresponding passenger amongst a set of passengers of the ocean-going vessels, and also with the assigned one of the muster locations, and to initiate a timer in the memory, the timer defining a period during which a muster drill must be completed by each passenger on the specific ocean-going vessel. The program instructions further are enabled to transmit a message to each of the mobile devices, that the muster drill has commenced in response to the timer. Then, during the period defined by the timer, as each one of the mobile devices is sensed within a geographically defined area of a correspondingly assigned different one of the muster locations, the program instructions record in the memory a completion of the muster drill by the corresponding passenger of the one of the mobile devices. Finally, subsequent to a lapsing of the timer indicating a completion of the muster drill, the program instructions display in a display of the computing system, a listing of any of the set of passengers not recorded in the memory as

having completed the muster drill. As well, targeted instructions may be transmitted to specific ones of the passengers after the completion of the muster drill.

[0014] Additional aspects of the invention will be set forth in part in the description which follows, and in part will be obvious from the description, or may be learned by practice of the invention. The aspects of the invention will be realized and attained by means of the elements and combinations