

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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Investigation of: *

DUKW 34 AND M/V CARIBBEAN SEA

Docket No.: DCA-10-MM-025

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Interview of: ADRIENN KONYA

Conference Room
Sector Delaware Bay
United States Coast Guard
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Friday
July 9, 2010

The above-captioned matter convened, pursuant to notice,
at 11:51 a.m.

BEFORE: LIAM LARUE
Accident Investigator

APPEARANCES:

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MATT FINE, Lieutenant Commander
United States Coast Guard

JOHN LAWRENCE, Vice President
Health, Safety, Quality and Environment
K-Sea Transportation

GREG BLUMENTHAL, General Manager
Ride the Ducks Philadelphia

SHANE LAWS, Chief Warrant Officer
United States Coast Guard

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I N T E R V I E W

(11:51 a.m.)

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2
3 MR. LARUE: Okay. Good morning. It's 11:51 on Friday,
4 July 9th. This is Liam LaRue from NTSB. I'm here with the same
5 group. We won't go around the table again. We're just missing
6 Greg from the Ducks, but he'll be back in a minute.

INTERVIEW OF ADRIENN KONYA

7
8 (Whereupon, Ms. Konya answered assisted by an
9 interpreter.)

10 BY MR. LARUE:

11 Q. And we're going to talk to Adrienn Konya. Is that said
12 correctly?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Okay, great. And we'll just start with how old are you
15 again?

16 A. Sixteen.

17 Q. Sixteen. Okay, great.

18 Okay. And so, the same as the last interview, we'll
19 just go through, and if you could just tell us the story from --
20 you know, start with when you got on the boat and tell us what
21 happened as best as you can remember.

22 A. And then we were on the boat and the motor was smoking
23 and we stopped. And the man, the captain, was funny and kidding
24 all the time, so we just think it is a joke. And then he was
25 talking on radio, and I didn't understand what he said. Somebody

1 said to me that the barge coming, and I couldn't look back,
2 because I'm afraid that it's too close for us. And then the
3 captain said, "whoa, whoa, it's coming." And he was talking on
4 the radio, "stop the barge, stop the barge." And I looked back
5 and I saw the barge, which was so big, and I was screaming that
6 "Oh, my God." So, yeah, and then --

7 (Through interpreter) -- it pushed us.

8 (In English) Yeah. And I don't remember what happened
9 then. I was under the water. And --

10 INTERPRETER: Somebody grabbed her foot and pulled her
11 down. She doesn't know who. Then she came up from under the
12 water.

13 MS. KONYA: (In English) And they reach out for me, and
14 he said -- he gave me a life jacket. And he said that go, swim.
15 And I'm just swimming. Two men help me. And that's all I
16 remember.

17 BY MR. LARUE:

18 Q. Okay. Who helped you and gave you the life jacket? Did
19 you say it was a name?

20 A. David.

21 Q. David. Is he another member --

22 A. Yeah, my friend.

23 Q. Okay. So, he gave you a life jacket?

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. And did you swim to shore? How did you get onto land?

1 A. (Through interpreter) Swam out.

2 BY MR. LARUE:

3 Q. Okay. And then so you climbed out yourself?

4 INTERPRETER: They put something down in the water for
5 her to grab onto and pulled her out.

6 BY MR. LARUE:

7 Q. Okay. Did you hear any horn or anything on the boat?
8 Did the captain use a horn?

9 A. (In English) No.

10 Q. No horn? Okay. I just want to confirm again where you
11 were seated, where you were sitting.

12 A. Five.

13 Q. So, seat number 5? And you were sitting next to --

14 A. (indiscernible)

15 Q. All right, great. Did anyone say that you should grab a
16 life jacket --

17 A. No.

18 Q. -- before the boat hit?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Okay. Did the captain give you any instructions at all
21 as the barge was coming towards you? Did he tell anybody to do
22 anything?

23 A. No.

24 Q. He was just on the radio?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Okay. Before you left, did the captain talk about
2 safety and life jackets and things like that?

3 A. (No audible response.)

4 Q. Do you remember what he said?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Okay. Did you have any injuries?

7 A. Yes, my arm.

8 Q. And what happened?

9 A. (Through interpreter) It got scratched.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. (In English) And I don't know how.

12 Q. Did you go to a hospital?

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. Do you remember what hospital you went to?

15 INTERPRETER: Hahnemann?

16 MS. KONYA: Yes.

17 BY MR. LARUE:

18 Q. How long did you stay there?

19 A. Maybe four hours, (indiscernible) maybe.

20 Q. Okay. So did you go in an ambulance or --

21 A. (No audible response.)

22 Q. Yeah? Can you swim?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. Okay. Did you get a look at the tugboat that was
25 pushing the barge?

1 A. No.

2 Q. No, not at all? And then how long from the time you
3 were anchored -- did you see the captain put the anchor down in
4 the water?

5 A. Yes, I saw.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. Maybe 10, 10 minutes maybe.

8 Q. Okay. And then what was everybody doing while you were
9 sitting there?

10 A. We were joking and sitting.

11 Q. Just talking amongst yourselves?

12 A. How Titanic feeling.

13 Q. And there was another DUKW stopped by. Did you hear the
14 conversations between the two captains?

15 A. No. No.

16 Q. No? Okay. And then I just wanted to also confirm that
17 where you remember the two people that were missing where they
18 were sitting?

19 A. In 3.

20 Q. Okay, so they were definitely in seat number 3. Okay.
21 That's the basic questions that I had, and then I'll pass it off
22 to Greg here on my right.

23 BY MR. BLUMENTHAL:

24 Q. So, when the DUKW went in the water, about how much time
25 passed before you stopped?

1 A. Half hour maybe. I don't know. Maybe half hour.

2 Q. And when the smoke started, was there -- did you feel
3 more heat or just -- initially, you had described you felt heat
4 coming from in front of you?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. It felt hotter to you or the same?

7 A. Hotter.

8 Q. Okay. And what color was the smoke? Do you recall?

9 A. Gray or white.

10 Q. Okay. Have you -- do you have a -- did it smell like
11 anything that you could describe?

12 A. (Through interpreter) Just smoke.

13 MR. BLUMENTHAL: Okay.

14 MR. LARUE: Okay. We'll go now next to --

15 BY MR. LAWRENCE:

16 Q. John Lawrence. Just to clarify one thing you said, you
17 heard the captain say "stop the barge, stop the barge." Was it on
18 a radio or on a telephone?

19 A. On the radio.

20 Q. On the radio. (indiscernible) radio. Did you ever hear
21 any response or anything? Did he get any answer back on the radio
22 to him?

23 A. No. That was (indiscernible).

24 Q. Okay. That's all I have.

25 BY MR. LAWS:

1 Q. Shane Laws with the Coast Guard. You mentioned earlier
2 that you didn't hear a horn or a bell or sound from the DUKW boat.
3 Did you hear a horn or anything like that from the towboat or the
4 barge?

5 A. No.

6 Q. No. When the captain was using the radio, could you see
7 the radio?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Do you remember looking at the radio while he was doing
10 that?

11 A. Um-hum.

12 (Through interpreter) Came out of the boat. It was a
13 wired, like a microphone.

14 BY CWO LAWS:

15 Q. So, you could just see the microphone part?

16 A. (In English) Um-hum.

17 Q. You couldn't see the other part?

18 A. Um-hum.

19 Q. Okay. Thank you.

20 BY MR. LARUE:

21 Q. Back to Liam again. Just two more quick questions. Did
22 the crew make you move when the engine was smoking, or did you
23 just stay in your same seats the whole time?

24 A. We stayed.

25 Q. Okay. And then your friends that were in the seat in

1 front of you, was Dora on the outside or the inside?

2 A. Dora outside.

3 Q. Okay, great.

4 MR. LAWS: Shane Laws with the Coast Guard. Can I
5 clarify when you're saying outside or inside, aisle seat and
6 outboard seat?

7 MR. LARUE: Outboard/inboard, yeah.

8 BY MR. LAWS:

9 Q. I did have one little question. Did you try to get a
10 life jacket before you found yourself in the water?

11 A. No.

12 Q. You didn't try. Okay.

13 A. No.

14 MR. LARUE: All right. Anybody else?

15 BY MR. LARUE:

16 Q. All right. Do you have anything else you can think of
17 that we didn't ask you that might be useful?

18 A. Uh-uh.

19 Q. Okay. Well, thank you very much for talking to us. And
20 is it okay that we recorded this?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Okay, great. Thank you very much.

23 (Whereupon, at 12:03 p.m., the interview was concluded.)

24

25

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: DUKW 34 AND M/V CARIBBEAN SEA
 Interview of Adrienn Konya

DOCKET NUMBER: DCA-10-MM-025

PLACE: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

DATE: July 9, 2010

was held according to the record, and that this is the original,
complete, true and accurate transcript which has been compared to
the recording accomplished at the hearing.

Debbie Mizell
Transcriber