

PRESTON SIMPSON-Crew 296, Safety No. 348?, First steward crew.

Was down by the garbage room area offloading garbage room area. As they finished loading the 1<sup>st</sup> garbage container, it was moving away from the ship, they heard an explosion. This was the midship, B deck, starboard side, an explosion happened.

He felt the heat the next thing he knew he was in the water. Then dived up and swam to something connected to the dock and held on to it, he cried for help, and a shore side policeman helped him. He would estimated that he was not in the water long. The police officer came to him immediately.

Two police officers came over, they put a ladder in the water, they held the ladder while he climbed up. Then they took him over to the side where other guys were.

Then the firefighters check him. He had first-degree burns on the back of his neck and arms. They took them out on the pier to the ambulance. There were about 10 or 12 of them.

Everyone that went out was taken into an ambulance. He was the last to be put onto an ambulance. He did not wait long. He was taken to Mt. Sinai.

At the hospital he went into a room and he was checked, got a blood test, EKG, and a chest X-ray. He was in the hospital about two hours and he was released. They told him that if feels bad to contact them. So far you feel OK. He has resumed his duties fully.

When he was in the water he was submerged down and came up, he came up and looked around.

The treatment was good on shore and in the hospital.

Employed by NCL for almost 24 years, on many vessels, has been on the Norway many times, back and forth. He returned to Norway most recently on April 13, 2003.