

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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Investigation of: *

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SINKING OF THE FISHING VESSEL *

JEANETTE OFF THE COAST OF PAGO PAGO * Accident No.: DCA19FM010

DECEMBER 5, 2018 *

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Interview of: BRUNO MARTINS

Deck Boss

Friday,
December 7, 2018

APPEARANCES:

LT [REDACTED], Supervisor, Marine Safety Detachment
American Samoa United States Coast Guard

FRANK THOMSEN, Assistant Supervisor, Marine Safety
Detachment
American Samoa United States Coast Guard

DAVID FLAHERTY, Marine Accident Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board

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I N T E R V I E W

(10:48 a.m.)

1
2
3 LT [REDACTED]: Okay, so being recorded. Now I just, I just
4 want to -- I'll just go ahead and say this is an interview to
5 discuss the chain of events that led to the fire on the fishing
6 vessel *Jeannette*. We're interviewing Bruno Martins, who -- the
7 position is deck boss.

8 MR. MARTINS: Deck boss.

9 LT [REDACTED]: Okay. Here is myself, Lieutenant [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED]. We have Frank Thomsen. We have Roy -- sorry, Roy.
11 Roy Hall, Jr. as a party in interest. We have Ward Grassel, who
12 is also a party in interest. We have on the phone David Flaherty,
13 which -- who is with the NTSB, the National Transportation Safety
14 Board.

15 MR. FLAHERTY: Hello, everyone.

16 LT [REDACTED]: And the time is 10:48 a.m., December 7, 2018.

INTERVIEW OF BRUNO MARTINS

17
18 BY LT [REDACTED]:

19 Q. And so with all that said, Bruno, could you please just kind
20 of go over everything that happened from -- you know, going back
21 to the very beginning when you first -- what you were doing
22 before, and just kind of go through everything from beginning to
23 end. Take your time. And then at the end, we'll ask you some --
24 just some clarifying questions and that'll be it.

25 A. Okay.

1 Q. And speak up so that we can -- everyone can hear, if you
2 don't mind.

3 A. Okay. The day in the morning, I be working cables. Cables
4 port side. We change the whole cable, and shackles and chains to
5 the port side. And those guys be welding (indiscernible), and I
6 go watching the guys, what he do, because I'm the one I got to pay
7 attention. Okay. And we have a guy in the bow to do some paint
8 jobs, and I have to go there, check, and tell the guy to painting,
9 to do all the paint.

10 When it happens, the fire, I'm in the bow. I am in the bow.
11 And one guy come, Vincent come and ask for help. "Bruno, help,
12 come help, is a fire, is a fire in a storeroom by the chief's
13 room." And I go running, and I try to tell the other kid to get a
14 fire hose ready to bring inside. And I go look inside. Have two
15 hallways from the bow side. I look to the right and to the left.
16 I see all the smoke come from the starboard side hallway. And I
17 can't, I can't go all the way through because big smoke coming.
18 And I running the stern. Because the wind come from the stern, I
19 go, may be easy to grab the hose and to kill the fire.

20 And we go. We go all way by the (indiscernible) room. And
21 when he see the fire come by the chief's room and the storeroom,
22 we start throw water, throw water. And we bring more waters, the
23 water hose from down there. We keep throwing, keep throw water,
24 but the fire is going more towards the bow side to the other
25 rooms, jumping rooms, and go keep -- go all the way to the bow.

1 And we go up, we go on the top deck. We try to rip the
2 charter's room with the hammer. And we try to put water because
3 we see a lot of smoke come from all these rooms, (indiscernible)
4 room. We keep put water all over the rooms. And we try to go,
5 try to go inside -- run inside the pilothouse to put more water,
6 but we cannot. We cannot put -- we try, but we cannot, and we
7 start keep put water inside the spare boats (ph.) rooms, down
8 there, and the twine room, the galleys room and the hallways. But
9 we called our 911 to come help too. We call -- it takes a little
10 bit of time to be there, but we cannot kill the fire that time.

11 And we work hard over there, try to kill the fire, try to ask
12 for water pumps, take water from the wet deck. The waters go
13 inside the engines. That's what we do over there. We cannot do
14 better than we do. And so -- and the guy, he tell us to go out of
15 the boat. We move out of the boat.

16 MR. FLAHERTY: Hi, this is David Flaherty with the NTSB.
17 Could you go over the part -- when did you actually start seeing
18 either the smoke or the fire?

19 MR. MARTINS: I am in the bow. I am in the bow.

20 LT [REDACTED]: You were on the bow?

21 MR. MARTINS: Yeah, I'm in the bow with the other kid when
22 this guy, Vincent, is the guy, the first guy, him and the cook and
23 another guy, the first guys see the fire. And the guys shooting
24 the fire extinguisher. He kills the fire. And this guy -- well,
25 when this guy be there killing, one guy come look for me to --

1 they all ready to go help and get, grab all the fire hose to put
2 water on the fire.

3 LT [REDACTED]: Who were you with? You were -- it was you and
4 a kid?

5 MR. MARTINS: And Claudio.

6 LT [REDACTED]: Claudio?

7 MR. MARTINS: Silva. Claudio Silva.

8 LT [REDACTED]: Oh, right, right. Yeah. Claudio --

9 MR. MARTINS: Da Silva.

10 MR. HALL: Claudio was the one that was painting up forward?

11 MR. MARTINS: Yeah. The bow.

12 LT [REDACTED]: Da Silva. And he was painting?

13 MR. MARTINS: Yeah, the guy was painting. And I --

14 LT [REDACTED]: And what were you doing?

15 MR. MARTINS: Actually I'm painting too. I paint.

16 LT [REDACTED]: Okay.

17 MR. HALL: And who came to get you and tell you about the
18 fire?

19 MR. MARTINS: Vincent. Vincent.

20 MR. HALL: Had you seen smoke at that point or --

21 MR. MARTINS: The time the guy come and he open the bow door.
22 And the guy, he wants to breathe. He wants to breathe, because a
23 lot of smoke already inside.

24 MR. HALL: That was the first you saw smoke after he told
25 you, and then when they went to open the door, the smoke came out?

1 MR. MARTINS: No. When the guy already open the door, I say,
2 what happened, what happened? And the guy said, is smoke down
3 there by the chief's room and the storeroom. I go looking. I
4 say, let's go, let's go. I go outside, get the box -- what is the
5 -- water extensions to connect and bring the waters inside the
6 hallway. But the smoke -- the problem is the wind come from the
7 stern. It bring all the big balls of smoke. I can't -- try to go
8 all the way, but the fire -- I have to go on the top, running to
9 the deck areas, grab the waters. We have a box with the fire
10 extinguisher. You open up, you connect and we bring the hose and
11 start to throw water in the two hallways by the chief's room, by
12 the charcoal. This side the cook's room, because already all the
13 fire's over there.

14 LT [REDACTED]: All right. Do you have any more questions
15 with that one, David?

16 MR. FLAHERTY: Yeah, let me just back it up a little bit.
17 Earlier in the day, how did -- when did you -- could you go back
18 to when you got up in the morning? And were you assigning work to
19 people? Like, could you go through the events that happened prior
20 to the fire? I just want to kind of get a background of what was
21 happening on board the boat, what you were responsible for.

22 MR. MARTINS: What I'm -- we doing the first in the morning?

23 LT [REDACTED]: Yeah.

24 MR. MARTINS: Always we start 7:30. We have a coffee at 7.
25 7:30, we start to do a little bit of job. And I be working change

1 cable, the port line cable, we change is, like, 49 fathoms of
2 cable. We have to go down below, pull the cable, measure up, pass
3 around the blocks and bring back to make a splice. This take
4 time. It not take half an hour. It takes time, over 2 hours to
5 do all this job. And for I check shackles --

6 MR. FLAHERTY: Yeah, just a quick -- were you responsible for
7 assigning work to people on board the boat, or at some of the
8 people on board the boat?

9 MR. MARTINS: No. I know -- everything is to the manager.
10 Manager is the one assigns. He tell what you have to do.

11 LT [REDACTED]: What's the name?

12 MR. MARTINS: Itchy.

13 MR. HALL: Julio Cileu, the manager.

14 MR. MARTINS: Manager. Manager. Itchy.

15 LT [REDACTED]: Itchy.

16 MR. FLAHERTY: Okay. It was Itchy that was the person
17 assigning.

18 MR. MARTINS: On his boats.

19 BY LT [REDACTED]:

20 Q. All right, so your job -- because I guess, on your position
21 here, it says deck boss.

22 A. Deck. All they, all they do the job. I have on my list from
23 the deck -- deck have the booms. Have big booms, small tower,
24 small boom, port small boom. And I have all my dates. I put them
25 new cables, and the day I not see the cables looking good, to

1 change because it kind of takes longer because it can broke and
2 come down.

3 Q. So does anybody work for you?

4 A. I have my guys, the top guys.

5 Q. Who are your guys?

6 A. My guys is Willy --

7 Q. Give me the names. Yeah.

8 A. Willy, the winch man. Willy.

9 Q. Willy. Hold on a second. Don't go too fast. Let me write
10 down -- let me find these names and write them down. Willy --

11 A. Willy, the winch man. Willy.

12 Q. Do you have another name for Willy?

13 A. This guy, I think. No. Willy.

14 Q. Here. Show me -- oh.

15 A. Wilson. Wilson.

16 Q. Wilson?

17 A. Wilson.

18 Q. Okay, so Wilson Remedios (ph.) works for you.

19 A. Yeah, Wilson.

20 Q. Just give me a second. Let me write this down. Wilson
21 Remedios. Who else?

22 A. And Larry. Larry.

23 Q. Okay, right here. Right? Larry.

24 A. Larry.

25 Q. (Indiscernible).

1 A. And Claudio. Claudio.

2 Q. And --

3 A. Claudio.

4 Q. Oh, right here. Claudio da Silva. Yeah.

5 A. Da Silva.

6 Q. Claudio da Silva works for you.

7 A. And sometimes Vincent, because the guy working the workboat,
8 he building an engine inside the workboat.

9 Q. You said Vincent --

10 A. Vincent.

11 Q. -- Masacodi (ph.) sometimes works for you?

12 A. Yeah. Yeah. When I need to -- when there's a big job, I
13 need more guys to help.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's the one with the speedboat
15 driver?

16 MR. MARTINS: He has a workboat, speedboat driver.

17 LT [REDACTED]: All right. What about Tinifu Vailaina?

18 MR. MARTINS: Who?

19 LT [REDACTED]: Tinifu -- can you help me out, Frank?

20 MR. THOMSEN: Tinifu. The Samoan guy.

21 MR. MARTINS: The Samoan guy, he be watching those guys down
22 there.

23 LT [REDACTED]: Does he --

24 MR. MARTINS: Watching guys.

25 LT [REDACTED]: Who does he work for?

1 MR. MARTINS: He works in the deck, but I put a guy watch the
2 guys, the work those guys are doing down there.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He was one of the fire watch?

4 MR. MARTINS: Yeah. One of those guys. They watching those
5 guys, what are those guys doing down there. Sometimes I don't
6 know what is the chief gave to the assistant a job, but sometimes
7 I not be there, see what kind of jobs the guy gave. Because
8 that's chief department, chief job.

9 BY LT [REDACTED]:

10 Q. So does Tinifu work for you or no?

11 A. Yeah, he's working the deck. Is a deck --

12 Q. So does he -- does Tinifu work for you?

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. He does.

15 A. Is my part of the group on the deck. But at the time, the
16 time this guy is down there watching those guys what we do. The
17 kind of welding the guys doing down there.

18 Q. So were you in charge of him when he was watching?

19 A. Yeah, I'm putting the guy, make watch. Watch for anything.
20 Watch those guys. To come up, checking whatever these guys doing,
21 the job.

22 Q. Does Tinifu always work for you or just --

23 A. No, he's working for me, but the days, the days those guys be
24 working that place, I put this guy with the welding guy, watching
25 him.

1 BY MR. THOMSEN:

2 Q. What specifically was Tinifu's job the day of the welding?

3 A. Is down there watching the guys.

4 Q. As a fire watch.

5 A. Yeah, as a fire watch with the bottle and the water hose.

6 Q. So you assigned him to do that.

7 A. Yeah, I tell him to be watch the guys.

8 Q. What would -- what does a fire watch do?

9 A. Who is --

10 Q. What does he do, the fire watch?

11 A. The fire, the fire watch is the one have to see when you have
12 fire, to stop the fire before it's coming stronger and stronger.

13 We have, we have two guys, actually, watch the guys.

14 Q. Two fire watch.

15 A. Yeah. We have two --

16 Q. Who is the second fire watch?

17 A. Is the -- Anthony sometimes be watching the guy. Is partner
18 the other -- the first guy be welding, is partner with the guy.
19 But he be watching all the three guys, watching the guy what he
20 do.

21 Q. Typically, where would the fire watch personnel be located?

22 A. What do you mean?

23 Q. Where would they be at? So the welding is being done on the
24 wet deck above. Excuse me. Tinifu was down on the wet deck.

25 A. No, Tinifu is up there. But sometimes he too can -- he be

1 there watching, look. (Indiscernible) whatever the guy's doing,
2 welding or cut. But he be up there watching for anything to come
3 on fire or whatever he wants to.

4 Q. So for the --

5 A. He's a watching guy. He's permanent guy watching the area.
6 He be there looking for anything to be happening.

7 Q. So if the welder is down below on the wet deck, one is up
8 top?

9 A. Yeah, one is on top and two guys is down there. And
10 sometimes a guy go -- the guy on the top who's go down and come
11 up. In a minute, go up again to be watching the area.

12 Q. The fire watch, are they delegated other duties besides
13 watching the welding?

14 A. What do you mean? The guy we be watching?

15 Q. Are they supposed to do paint chipping?

16 A. At the end of the day. When they end of the day when
17 everything done, everything cold, not hot --

18 BY LT [REDACTED]:

19 Q. When you're a fire watch, are you just a fire watch, or can
20 you be doing other things --

21 A. No, no, no.

22 Q. -- and be a fire watch?

23 A. No, just be permanent here.

24 Q. Just fire watch.

25 A. Yeah, just permanent in the area. No move.

1 Q. Okay. Just so I understand, Vinitu [sic], he was a fire
2 watch, right?

3 A. Yeah. No, is not the, is not the -- the permanent fire watch
4 is not him, but I put the guy there because those guys down there
5 is busy. I need to have a guy to watching those guys what he do.

6 Q. You told him that day on Wednesday to --

7 A. No, the guys --

8 Q. That morning?

9 A. -- they do the job for over a week. Be welding little holes,
10 small pipes, over -- for over a week, they be doing the job.

11 LT [REDACTED]: Do you need something?

12 MR. HALL: Who was the other fire watch?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Anthony.

14 MR. MARTINS: Anthony.

15 LT [REDACTED]: Anthony and Vinitu --

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible).

17 MR. MARTINS: Anthony and -- we call Para, the Samoan guy.

18 LT [REDACTED]: Anthony Adrias was the other fire watch.

19 MR. MARTINS: Yeah.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You said there was a third one? Who
21 was the third person? There's two?

22 MR. MARTINS: Is a guy next to the welding, the guy be
23 welding. He's a partner. Sometimes the guy welding too.

24 LT [REDACTED]: As a fire watch and a welder?

25 MR. MARTINS: Sometimes. But when you have big works to do,

1 the guy would be a guy watching him, what he need to do, what he
2 needs. He needs anything, to pass him.

3 LT [REDACTED]: Right.

4 MR. MARTINS: Yeah, so --

5 MR. FLAHERTY: This is David Flaherty again. When they were
6 conducting the welding, there were two welders, if I remember
7 correctly, doing work in the same space. Did you ever go by
8 during the morning time period prior to the fire to see how things
9 were going?

10 MR. MARTINS: Every morning I go see it.

11 BY LT [REDACTED]:

12 Q. Did you go and look at them doing work while they were, while
13 they were welding?

14 A. Yeah, sometimes when we no have much work on the top, I --

15 Q. Did you do it that day? Did you go look at them that day on
16 Wednesday?

17 A. Yeah, the day I go, I go check the guy.

18 Q. The welders?

19 A. No, the first in the morning, I go down. When these guys go
20 down, you work everybody together. We say okay, we're going to do
21 this job. Before we start, I go, I go see what the guys doing.
22 And make sure I have my guy be watching the guy when -- before he
23 start, and my guy already next to the guy.

24 Q. Did you -- so you checked on them in the morning.

25 A. Yeah, I check in the morning, and sometimes I go down

1 every -- we have a break 9 o'clock. We go down. We be, we be go
2 up and down almost the whole day. We go checking the jobs.

3 Q. Did you --

4 A. But actually, we have assistant. He's the one permanent to
5 give the guys job and to be watching what are the guys -- he wants
6 to do. Like, the chief, he explain the guy, you know.

7 MR. THOMSEN: When was the last time you were down on the wet
8 deck before they told you up on the bow there was a fire?

9 MR. MARTINS: Before -- after the break. After the break.

10 LT [REDACTED]: What time was that?

11 MR. MARTINS: When we start, we break -- we start 9 and --
12 you stop 9 and we have a break until 9:30. 9:30 is like -- around
13 9:30 before -- when the guys starting again.

14 LT [REDACTED]: So you checked on the welders at 9:30?

15 MR. MARTINS: Yeah. Around 9:30 when he start again.

16 BY MR. THOMSEN:

17 Q. Did you verify whether there was a fire watch in place on the
18 main deck?

19 A. Yeah, he have, he have an -- areas where the bottles.

20 Q. No, I mean, did you -- when you gave the, gave the work
21 detail for the guys.

22 A. No, I don't give the work details. The guy he give the work
23 details is the assistant. Chief assistant. He's the one have all
24 these -- the paperwork to give to the guys the weldings to do. My
25 job is just go check, see everybody. I have my guy in the area

1 where he welding.

2 Q. When you were going through the boat passing the guys, did
3 you see any fire watch up on the main deck?

4 A. I see, I see the other welding is not welding the time.
5 Sometimes he welding, but sometimes he be there passing something,
6 whatever the guy needing. Sometimes he needing a (indiscernible),
7 he needing a torch, he needing the wire for welding.

8 Q. What I mean is, did you actually see people at their
9 stations? Because there's two welding jobs being done at the
10 bottom on the wet deck. Did you see two fire watch personnel up
11 on the main deck?

12 A. Yeah, on the deck. I see, I see all the three guys working
13 together with the -- in the area. Always I go down the three guys
14 right there, and the guy, he be on the top to checking the area.

15 Q. So you -- so you're saying you saw fire watch up on main deck
16 observing the welding.

17 A. Yeah, I get my guy on the top, on the top where we -- the
18 guys see the fire by the chief's room and the storeroom.

19 Q. So who was up on the main deck?

20 A. Is Para, the Samoan guy.

21 LT [REDACTED]: You saying Vinitu [sic].

22 MR. MARTINS: Yeah.

23 MR. THOMSEN: And who was the other one?

24 LT [REDACTED]: Tinifu.

25 MR. MARTINS: Is the other two guys be welding.

1 BY MR. THOMSEN:

2 Q. No, I mean just for the fire watch up on the main deck.
3 Because there's two hot working gun. Tinifu is -- who's the other
4 one?

5 A. No, it's -- one is be watching the welding. It's three guys.
6 Guy watching the top and guy -- and the other one be watch the
7 welding guy.

8 Q. So only one fire watch up on main deck.

9 A. Yeah, on the top is one --

10 Q. To observe --

11 A. Yeah. One observe on the top, and the other two is down
12 there.

13 Q. The other two fire watch.

14 A. The other two fire watch.

15 LT [REDACTED]: So there's three fire watches or just two?

16 MR. MARTINS: No, we have our crew from the deck be watching
17 the top, watching the top. That's what the guy be watching, the
18 top.

19 BY LT [REDACTED]:

20 Q. Who is the guy up top? It was Tinifu?

21 A. Tinifu.

22 Q. He was on the main deck.

23 A. Not main deck, but sometimes the guy go in the bathroom.
24 Sometimes he's going down.

25 Q. Okay, and then on the deck below --

1 A. See when the guy -- when they see the guy we done, that's
2 when the time -- the guys stop working. The guy go down and tell,
3 you guys going to stop because almost 11.

4 Q. All right. So on the deck below, there's two welders. Was
5 there anybody else down there?

6 A. We have sometimes the guys from the engine working --

7 Q. I don't care about -- I don't, I don't mean them. I mean,
8 there's two welders. Were there any fire watch with them also?
9 Not Tinifu, because he's on top.

10 A. Yeah, but --

11 Q. Is there anybody else?

12 A. -- Tinifu sometimes coming down.

13 Q. So there's Tinifu on top, two welders on the -- below. Was
14 there any -- was there another fire watch down with the welders?
15 A second, a second fire watch with the welders.

16 A. Is Tinifu.

17 Q. So it's just one?

18 A. Tinifu is going down and is going up.

19 Q. Okay, so it's just Tinifu.

20 A. Tinifu.

21 Q. I thought you said Anthony Adrias was also.

22 A. Yeah, is Adrias partner of the welder. He's a guy work with
23 him. Is assistant with Michael. Assistant. So is another guy to
24 be watching --

25 Q. He was a welder. Anthony Adrias was welding. So maybe --

1 MR. THOMSEN: So only one fire watch.

2 LT [REDACTED]: Only one fire watch.

3 MR. MARTINS: Yeah.

4 LT [REDACTED]: Okay.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is there a ship or company policy on
6 welding?

7 MR. MARTINS: A ship --

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is there, is there, like, a policy on
9 how welding is done? Fire watches and stuff.

10 BY LT [REDACTED]:

11 Q. Like instructions, procedures. Instruction, procedures.

12 A. Is the assistant is the one that take care of all this.

13 Q. The assistant?

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. Who is the assistant?

16 A. Nelson.

17 Q. Nelson.

18 A. Is the one gives all the jobs and be watching them.

19 Sometimes (indiscernible).

20 MR. HALL: So Anthony was -- he's a crewman, but he was
21 actually welding and welder's helper. Was there another welder?
22 Who was the other welder? Was that also a crewman or was that a
23 contractor?

24 MR. MARTINS: No, from the boat crew, the boat's crew, is the
25 two guys and Michael. Anthony and Michael. Michael.

1 MR. HALL: Michael is the other welder?

2 MR. MARTINS: No, Michael is the welder. But Anthony is
3 assistant from Michael.

4 MR. HALL: Welder helper?

5 MR. MARTINS: Yeah, welding help.

6 MR. HALL: Got you.

7 LT [REDACTED]: Okay.

8 MR. HALL: Okay, Michael (indiscernible).

9 MR. FLAHERTY: And I'm sorry. Just a question. Now this is
10 just getting to your own experience as a mariner working on ships
11 and having welding done. What are some of the safety concerns
12 that you have before anyone starts welding?

13 MR. MARTINS: That I have?

14 BY LT [REDACTED]:

15 Q. So what are the things you think about for safety --

16 A. For safety.

17 Q. -- before you start welding? What are some of the things
18 that you check for and things like that?

19 A. All of my job is up there. The jobs from down there is
20 nothing up at me. I'm not -- I not give a job to the guy down
21 there. It's all the chief, when the chief is there.

22 Q. So you're not in charge of --

23 A. No, I'm not in charge to do the guys --

24 Q. Of the welding?

25 A. No, no.

1 Q. But you're responsible for walking around?

2 A. No --

3 Q. Looking at the welding?

4 A. No, I'm not in charge, but I'm walking around to make sure
5 you have a guy watching him for anything, any fires.

6 MR. FLAHERTY: What are, what are some of your safety
7 concerns on board a ship when there is welding going -- happening?
8 Like, before you start welding, what would you want to ensure that
9 the people do to prevent a fire or something else from happening?
10 Just kind of walk me through your thought process.

11 LT [REDACTED]: Yeah.

12 MR. MARTINS: I not get.

13 BY LT [REDACTED]:

14 Q. So when -- before welding starts -- you're not, you're not in
15 charge of the welding.

16 A. No.

17 Q. You said that. But when the welding is, when the welding is
18 happening, you walk around to make sure everything is going --

19 A. Make sure, make sure what is the guy -- which area he's
20 working.

21 Q. Tell me other things that you, that you check. So you make
22 sure the guy is checking. Tell me some other safety things that
23 you, that you look for.

24 A. I'm just go watching all the guys is in the right positions.

25 Q. Okay, what else? You check that, make sure everyone's in the

1 right place. What other things do you check, do you do? Is that
2 it or --

3 A. No, is that it. It's all. It's all I -- I no check nothing
4 more about what are the guys doing, because they have a guy to
5 check.

6 Q. Do you make sure that the fire watch has a radio, if there's
7 a problem, or do you make sure that they have water or a fire
8 extinguisher?

9 A. If they have water and fire extinguisher.

10 Q. Those are the things we're asking. Like, tell me all the
11 things that you're --

12 A. Yeah. They have more water and fire, and fire extinguisher
13 next to him. Next to --

14 Q. Is there anything else, or is that all?

15 A. Yeah, it's all.

16 Q. Because I'm -- I told you that. So I just want -- I want you
17 to tell us rather than me tell you.

18 A. Yeah, but I not get, I not get what you -- I no understand
19 what you're --

20 Q. Now you know what I'm saying, so --

21 A. Now I get.

22 Q. So tell me everything that you think about when -- for
23 welding, for safety.

24 A. For safety is get the bottle and the water. And the water
25 hose always next to the guy.

1 Q. Did Tinifu have water and --

2 A. He have a bottle and the water, and the water and the --

3 Q. He carried it with him up high on the top deck, and then he
4 carried it all the way to the bottom, and he carried it all back
5 --

6 A. Is carrying, is carrying, but the bow, the bow box has
7 extinguisher. They have, they have box all over the boat.

8 Q. A box?

9 A. Yeah. A fire extinguisher.

10 Q. Is it a hose or is it a fire bottle, extinguisher?

11 A. No, you have a bottle. A bottle -- the fire extinguisher.
12 The red bottles.

13 Q. Okay, okay, okay. So it's not water. It's like the CO2.

14 A. Yeah, like the CO2 to stop the fire.

15 Q. So he didn't carry it with him. There was one up in a box on
16 the top, and --

17 A. No, he carries one up there, and the guy have one down there.
18 The guys always have a bottle next to where you work.

19 Q. The welders have one.

20 A. The welders. Always you have a bottle.

21 Q. That's your job to make sure that they have all that?

22 A. No, is not my job, but I go make sure that everything is
23 there. It's not my job. That's the chief's job down there. The
24 wet deck, that's all chief's job. My job is everything up there.
25 No, nothing about me down there. But I take, I take around. I

1 go, I go take a look what he do, and if I need to -- after the guy
2 done, to cleaning, whenever everything gets cold. Sometimes I
3 wait for the next day to paint with primers. That's all what I
4 do.

5 BY MR. THOMSEN:

6 Q. Bruno, you said that Tinifu would be up on the main deck and
7 go back down to the main deck.

8 A. Yeah, he's make watching the guy. He watching the top.
9 Permanent is be on the top deck watching the area where he -- the
10 guy's doing the job.

11 Q. Why would he need to go down?

12 A. Sometimes he go down when the guy have breaks to make sure
13 the guy -- he can stop 9:30, have a break so the guy can have a
14 coffee too. Make sure he take a look. Go down, stop the guy to
15 have a break, to have a coffee. When he comes back, he be in the
16 position where the guy doing the jobs.

17 Q. Did you tell Tinifu on -- over this past weekend to make sure
18 that paint chipping is conducted in a part of the vessel
19 throughout the week?

20 A. No, after we be done, sometimes I would -- for the next day,
21 when is getting cold, to (indiscernible) and paint.

22 Q. Okay, what I mean is, did you, did you tell Tinifu over the
23 weekend to begin chipping paint --

24 A. Yeah, the --

25 Q. -- beginning Monday and that section of the space completed?

1 A. Yeah, the first section, the first section -- the section,
2 the first one we cleaning, is rusting. The job is mostly chipping
3 and paint.

4 Q. Okay, so --

5 A. Just a few, a few little things. The spots -- the guy he's
6 welding the holes, all the holes.

7 Q. So Tinifu was doing fire watch. And was he also doing
8 chipping?

9 A. No, no. When the -- when these guys were cutting and
10 welding, this guy no paint. No, no. He no have a paint -- just
11 be watching the guy. The guy paint when the guy, he be done.
12 Everything be done to --

13 Q. So Tinifu is -- I'm asking. Is Tinifu aware that his job is
14 to be a fire watch? Did you tell him that's his job that day?

15 A. Yeah, that day.

16 Q. So he is aware that he is supposed to be a fire watch?

17 A. Yeah, he's a fire watch. Tinifu just do when this guy is
18 nothing -- not have nothing no more to welding. When they have
19 nothing to welding, it's him and Larry sometimes. He go help
20 Tinifu to (indiscernible) and paint, so --

21 Q. During the break -- how long is the break for?

22 A. The break is a half, a half an -- 9 to 9:30. And stop 11, it
23 start 1 o'clock, stop 3.

24 Q. So during the breaks, during the 30-minute break, lunch
25 break, does a fire watch leave that position to go on break?

1 A. Especially when they have breaks, all the crew, you work in
2 the area. You walking. He go inside the -- his rooms. He go
3 wash his hands. He put -- he washing clothes.

4 Q. So during breaks, the fire watch can --

5 A. He have, he have his coffee, sometimes make his sandwich, but
6 always go back to his position.

7 BY LT [REDACTED]:

8 Q. So you can leave -- so the fire watch can leave during break
9 and go eat a sandwich and drink, right? Even though it's still
10 hot, they're allowed to go leave and eat and have breaks?

11 A. No, we still hot, the guy is still there. He's up there.
12 He's permanent there. And he call me, Bruno, he can have a guy to
13 be -- sometimes I be watching and I tell the guy, I'm here; go
14 have a coffee and come back when you finish having your sandwich
15 and coffee.

16 Q. Because Tinifu, he went on break. He left and went and had a
17 sandwich -- I mean, washed his hands, like you said. He went and
18 washed his hands during the break. He did.

19 A. Yeah, but --

20 Q. And they were welding.

21 A. No, no, is -- the guy already finished. The guy never run
22 away till these guys is stop completely, come in bathrooms, wash
23 his hands. He never leaving.

24 Q. The welding stopped. The welding stopped, but it was still,
25 but -- because everyone left to go on break.

1 A. Yeah, but the guy never ran away. He be here. He's over
2 there.

3 Q. Who is the guy?

4 A. Tinifu. Tinifu is always be watching. He's the guy is be
5 watching, be here for wherever the time, the place we be cold.

6 MR. THOMSEN: Okay. During lunch break, during lunch break,
7 everybody went on lunch. Tinifu was getting ready for -- to go on
8 lunch. He left the area that he's supposed to be watching.

9 MR. MARTINS: That's the time before he go on lunch. That's
10 the time these guys go looking for me. We have a fire. I'm in
11 the bow with da Silva, Claudio da Silva. That's before the lunch
12 when he looking -- he tried to stop the fire and go looking for
13 me, because is the time he have a fire over there. That's the
14 time the cook is open the door. We see the fire, and he start
15 killing the fire. But I'm not there. I'm not sure.

16 BY LT [REDACTED]:

17 Q. I'm telling you --

18 A. That's what he tell me.

19 Q. -- Tinifu left to go wash his hands.

20 A. No, no. Tinifu is the one go look for the cook when he feels
21 the smoke come out of the air condition and all over the hallways.
22 That's the time he see the fires coming.

23 Q. Tinifu said that he left to go wash his hands before lunch.

24 A. No, no. Tinifu, that day, he never ran in to wash his hands,
25 because before lunch is the time he get the fire.

1 LT [REDACTED]: What were you going to say, Dave? I'm sorry.

2 MR. FLAHERTY: Yeah, let's -- you know, we can -- you weren't
3 present -- sir, you weren't present there when the fire was
4 started. You were on the bow at the time, right?

5 MR. MARTINS: Yeah, I'm in the bow.

6 MR. FLAHERTY: Okay. All right. We should probably move on
7 to further questioning on maybe how they responded afterwards, if
8 there are any questions on after the fire part.

9 LT [REDACTED]: Okay.

10 MR. THOMSEN: Bruno, how many SCBAs on board?

11 MR. MARTINS: CBAs?

12 MR. THOMSEN: Self-contained breathing apparatus.

13 LT [REDACTED]: The masks.

14 MR. MARTINS: The masks? You have, you have one on the deck
15 before you walking inside the hallway. One box. You have a box
16 by -- next by the fire, where is the fire, because we try to
17 running, but the fire is already -- air very strong. You have
18 another one on top deck. That's the one we bring into -- to going
19 in to stop the fire. You have three, but one is by -- right by
20 the fire, where the fire start.

21 MR. FLAHERTY: Sir, if you don't mind, what firefighting
22 training have you had during your maritime career?

23 LT [REDACTED]: What kind of training do you have for fires?
24 If there is a fire, what kind of training did -- has the company
25 given you for fighting fires?

1 MR. MARTINS: We have a guy -- every time we make fire
2 drills, right? We have a guy to, we have a guy --

3 MR. FLAHERTY: I'm sorry, sir. What experience do you have
4 as a mariner?

5 BY LT [REDACTED]:

6 Q. You. What training do you have? Training that the company
7 gave you?

8 A. My training is help the guy put his dress, the fire --

9 Q. Did you go to school for that?

10 A. No, no, no. I no, I no going to school.

11 Q. Did they give you -- watch a video? How do you know how to,
12 how do you know how to fight fires?

13 A. Because we make -- in the trip, you make a lot of fire
14 drills.

15 Q. So you --

16 A. On the boat, we make a lot of fire drills outside fishing.
17 Especially sometimes we do twice in port. Mostly we do outside
18 fishing a few fire drills.

19 Q. So all your experience and training came -- comes from
20 drills.

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. Okay.

23 BY MR. THOMSEN:

24 Q. So you used the SCBA from the pilothouse to respond to the
25 fire.

1 A. Yeah, from the top deck.

2 Q. And who was wearing the SCBA?

3 A. The time, the time -- that (indiscernible) too fast. The
4 time the smoke's coming, I'm in the bow, and I try to go from the
5 bow to kill the fire with the thing. I no have -- I'm not have
6 the suit. Is the guy, the welding, he gets the mask with the
7 stern box. He gets the mask to go inside. But when I come, the
8 fire is so stronger, that's when the Samoan -- fire's coming.
9 That's the guy when he go inside, we help him to slacking the hose
10 to go all the way in to stop the fire.

11 Q. I just want to get this correct. The SCBA from the
12 pilothouse, that's the one that was used.

13 A. Yeah. By the sprit bow (ph.) deck.

14 Q. Okay. And the other SCBA was right next to the
15 (indiscernible).

16 A. The fire.

17 Q. Did anybody grab the SCBA at the entry from the main -- from
18 aft?

19 A. From aft to the hallway?

20 Q. Um-hum.

21 A. When I, when I go around, already the welder, Michael, and
22 the -- what do you call? (Indiscernible). These guys have the
23 mask and the waters. The bottles, the oxygen bottles. When I
24 come, I just open the box and bring the -- all the, all the hose
25 water and bring inside, spray the water on the fires.

1 Q. Okay, that's with the SCBA from the top. Now what about the
2 one from aft of the vessel at the stern?

3 A. No, that's the one from the -- next to the hallway. That's
4 the one.

5 Q. Okay, so that's the one.

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. So the one from the pilothouse is not used?

8 A. Not used. You know, we bring down, but already the Samoan is
9 already -- is inside the fire -- the hallway with -- the dress,
10 the fire.

11 Q. So Tinifu was wearing the SCBA?

12 A. No, no. The Samoan, the --

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Firefighters.

14 MR. MARTINS: -- the fire, the top --

15 MR. THOMSEN: Oh, the firefighters?

16 MR. MARTINS: Yeah.

17 MR. HALL: Did any of the crew put one on?

18 MR. MARTINS: The crew, we have -- they have all the masks.
19 Because all the smoke, he put the masks for breathe.

20 MR. HALL: Which crew? Michael, the welder?

21 MR. MARTINS: Michael and Charge. Charge is -- Charge, a
22 Filipino guy, is the second assistant.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Who is he? Who is the second
24 assistant?

25 MR. MARTINS: Charge. Charge is the assistant a couple trips

1 ago. Michael and -- this guy didn't have a -- we give names.

2 MR. THOMSEN: He's not on the list. We have one at the stern
3 and --

4 MR. MARTINS: Yeah, he is in a list, but maybe you have
5 another nickname.

6 MR. THOMSEN: But they didn't put it on because fire
7 department was there.

8 LT [REDACTED]: Right. The fire department -- or the welders
9 had it on --

10 MR. MARTINS: Roman. This guy, I think.

11 LT [REDACTED]: Remy?

12 MR. MARTINS: Yeah, Remy.

13 LT [REDACTED]: Welders had it on.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And what's his nickname?

15 MR. MARTINS: Charge. Charge.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Charge?

17 MR. MARTINS: Charge.

18 BY MR. THOMSEN:

19 Q. So who -- so when you grab the SCBA, you brought it down, the
20 local fire department was already there?

21 A. Yeah, when I come around the bow, already the guy's inside
22 with the fire extinguisher and with the mask.

23 Q. Okay. Did --

24 A. When I be there, all the box is already open. Where I went
25 is grab the water hose and bring inside and to stop the fire.

1 Q. Okay. Did --

2 A. These guys already automatically running for the boxes where
3 you have the fires.

4 Q. Okay, but did the crew of the *Jeannette* use the SCBA?

5 A. Yeah, already the boxes is already around the deck. And
6 that's -- the two guys use the mask. Especially the mask, because
7 they can't breathe through all the smokes coming out of the
8 hallway.

9 Q. So who are the two guys?

10 A. Michael and Charge.

11 Q. Remy.

12 A. Remy.

13 Q. Michael --

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And Remy.

15 MR. MARTINS: Remy.

16 MR. HALL: Michael Batralo and Remy --

17 LT [REDACTED]: Michael Batralo and Remy --

18 MR. HALL: Mandadero (ph.).

19 LT [REDACTED]: Mandadero.

20 MR. MARTINS: Yeah.

21 MR. HALL: You say his nickname is Charge?

22 MR. MARTINS: Charge.

23 LT [REDACTED]: His name is -- okay, that's Charge.

24 MR. MARTINS: He's an, he's an assistant before when Nelson
25 take (indiscernible).

1 LT [REDACTED]: So, David, Remy -- you see his name? His
2 nickname is Charge.

3 MR. MARTINS: Charge. Yes. Right.

4 LT [REDACTED]: Okay.

5 MR. MARTINS: And so we try to working hard to stop the fire.
6 We try hard. We try hard.

7 LT [REDACTED]: Right.

8 MR. MARTINS: We cannot -- we need more helpers, but it takes
9 a little longer to be there. It should be more faster for sure is
10 going to kill the fire. But, well --

11 MR. HALL: How long after that did the airport fire
12 department show up?

13 MR. MARTINS: I don't know it show up because -- but it's
14 taking long. Too long to --

15 MR. HALL: At that point when the -- when your two crew had
16 the masks on, the airport fire department wasn't there yet?

17 MR. MARTINS: Not there yet. Not there.

18 MR. THOMSEN: Okay. So Michael and --

19 MR. FLAHERTY: Sorry. Go ahead.

20 MR. THOMSEN: Go ahead, Dave.

21 MR. FLAHERTY: So the airport fire team showed up. The other
22 fire team from the area was already there. The vessel had been
23 evacuated by the crew. At what point was -- were you involved in
24 the decision to tow the vessel out?

25 LT [REDACTED]: Do you know about that?

1 MR. MARTINS: No, I not get. I no understand what --

2 LT [REDACTED]: The towing the boat. Were you involved in any
3 of that?

4 I can, I can probably speak for that, David. I don't -- the
5 only people that were involved in that decision was the Port and
6 the Coast Guard.

7 MR. FLAHERTY: All right. So no one, no one from the vessel
8 said, sure?

9 LT [REDACTED]: I'm going to say no. The crew was all
10 mustered against the building and they were just standing by once
11 the fire department got there.

12 MR. FLAHERTY: Okay. Thanks.

13 MR. HALL: Itchy told me that he was aware of the discussion
14 and I guess was listening in on --

15 LT [REDACTED]: Yeah, we were standing right here talking
16 about it.

17 MR. HALL: He didn't have any objections.

18 LT [REDACTED]: Yeah, we had a quick little -- a meeting in
19 the parking lot. The Port, the Port and the Coast Guard talked
20 about it. We spoke with the -- with Itchy. And we ended up --
21 police department was there, and we asked if there were any
22 objections to towing it, and there were none given. And then we
23 moved, we moved ahead with that operation.

24 MR. HALL: And the local EPA was involved in that too, right?

25 LT [REDACTED]: That's true. Yeah. The EPA was there. The

1 EPA was concerned about all the smoke and everything in the --
2 that was coming off of the vessel.

3 MR. FLAHERTY: All right. I just wanted to see who from the
4 vessel was involved in the -- at least making with that decision.
5 But it was done after everyone was mustered and we knew that
6 everyone had been taken off the boat, correct?

7 LT [REDACTED]: Correct.

8 MR. HALL: Correct. I think Itchy was leading that project,
9 making sure all the crew over --

10 LT [REDACTED]: Yeah, he was. Yeah, Itchy --

11 MR. FLAHERTY: I didn't hear --

12 LT [REDACTED]: Itchy was doing crew accountability when I,
13 when I was there.

14 MR. FLAHERTY: Okay. So the -- do you think you have
15 anything else you want to go over with this gentleman?

16 LT [REDACTED]: Do you want to go into any more management of
17 Tinifu? I know we kind of beat the -- beat a dead horse on that,
18 but -- you guys have anything? I think that'll do it.

19 All right, we're going to, we're going to stop the recording.
20 Thanks, Bruno, for coming in.

21 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)
22
23
24
25

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: SINKING OF THE FISHING VESSEL
 JEANETTE OFF THE COAST OF PAGO PAGO
 DECEMBER 5, 2018
 Interview of Bruno Martins

ACCIDENT NO.: DCA19FM010

PLACE:

DATE: December 7, 2018

was held according to the record, and that this is the original,
complete, true and accurate transcript which has been transcribed
to the best of my skill and ability.

CBH


Transcriber