

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

* * * * *

Investigation of:

*
*
*
*
*

COLLISION OF THE USS *FITZGERALD*
AND *ACX CRYSTAL*

Accident No.: DCA17PM018

* * * * *

Interview of: DICK ALLAN SALVADOR
AB

On board the *ACX Crystal*

Wednesday,
June 21, 2017

APPEARANCES :

U.S. COAST GUARD (USCG)

PHILIPPINE MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY (MARINA)

JAPAN TRANSPORT SAFETY BOARD (JTSB)

I N T E R V I E W

(11:53 a.m.)

USCG SPEAKER 1: It's June -- Wednesday, June 22nd [sic], at 11:53 a.m. I'm going to begin the interview with the AB -- what was your --

MR. SALVADOR: Salvador.

USCG SPEAKER 1: Dick Allan Salvador. In regards to the collision between the *ACX Crystal* and the *USS Fitzgerald*. We're going to go ahead and do an reenactment on the bridge with him.

INTERVIEW OF DICK ALLAN SALVADOR

BY USCG SPEAKER 1:

Q. So let's just start from the beginning. Tell us what was going on in the watch room prior to, prior to the incident, and then going to the actual whenever the second mate identified the target. So if you can just walk us through everything, the same way we just did with the second mate, and then we'll just go from there if we have questions.

A. After my -- relieve my watch, then at 1:00 (indiscernible) I take the GPS position. Then second mate told me -- I said to second mate we are already almost to the altering course to 0-6-9. And then I stand here. After that, I stand there and make a look out. And then after that, I saw one -- I don't tell it's the vessel because there's no AIS.

Q. Um-hum.

A. And then I go in and (indiscernible) here, and I point, only

1 point him there is one here.

2 Q. On radar number 2?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. So you did it on radar number 2?

5 A. Yes. Only just pointing.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. That's this, just this right here. And then I stand here.

8 The second mate goes there. And then after that, I go for a
9 moment there and come back here. Then after that, about 3 miles,
10 second mate officer is stand here. Then the visual, and I said
11 green. I already told him that the vessel was only green light I
12 saw. Only the green light, nothing -- no more, only green light.

13 So second mate is here and I stand here just --

14 Q. Did he ask you to stand there?

15 A. No, sir.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. I just only because I know that he was coming, anytime he
18 will tell me to alter course. So I just waited -- I just wait his
19 command, stay here. I just stay here. And then coming, he --
20 well, because coming is close, he ordered me starboard 10.

21 Starboard 10. So I switch. This one is the, on the --

22 SPEAKER: Autopilot, yeah.

23 MR. SALVADOR: Like this. Then after he ordered me
24 starboard, then I switched on, and then I put on the starboard 10.
25 And then, then I start the (indiscernible).

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. Yeah. After that time, at this exact time, I don't see it.
3 Then here. Like starboard 10. Then he ordered starboard 15,
4 starboard 15. Then hard starboard. So I switch on the hard
5 starboard like this. And then just swing toward other --

6 And so second mate was standing there. First he take some
7 flashing. Then I saw also the other vessel that -- not a, no
8 response. Then he run here. Then looked there. And then he go
9 again there and say make some flashing.

10 Q. And that's -- just you two are up here, right? So just --

11 A. Yes, sir.

12 Q. Okay.

13 BY JTSB SPEAKERS:

14 Q. (Male speaker) Now you said green light, you saw green
15 light --

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. -- in your sight. At that time was there only green light
18 or --

19 A. Only green light, sir.

20 Q. -- (indiscernible) another light, another one?

21 A. No. No.

22 Q. Why don't you see -- didn't you see the mast light, white
23 one?

24 A. Sir?

25 Q. White. White. Why don't you see (indiscernible) --

1 A. No, sir. Only the green light I saw.

2 Q. Only green light?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. (Female speaker) Why? Why do you think you saw the green --

5 (Male speaker) Only light, green light?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 BY USCG SPEAKER 1:

8 Q. And at no point you were asked or told to radio or to do

9 horn?

10 A. No, sir.

11 Q. You said he just wanted you to stand here?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. What about in your training, you know, doing stuff that you
14 do, is there anything that should have been done, like we
15 mentioned earlier, like maybe, maybe you would do differently?

16 A. No, sir. But I just thought I just stay here because anytime
17 second mate will order me to alter.

18 JTSB FEMALE SPEAKER: In your training, how did you learn?

19 MR. SALVADOR: In my training, sir?

20 JTSB FEMALE SPEAKER: Ship training, yeah. In that kind of
21 situation, similar situation, how did you learn to manage your
22 ship?

23 (Noise interruption)

24 MR. SALVADOR: In my training, in our training, ma'am, we --
25 I learn there's only here on the radar to check the -- just look

1 at or visual only -- using any equipment available for the
2 navigation. And then we will tell to the second officer what we
3 saw. And then the officer, duty officer will -- we will just wait
4 for the order.

5 USCG SPEAKER 1: Just wait for the order?

6 MR. SALVADOR: Yes, sir.

7 BY MR. [REDACTED]

8 Q. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] with the U.S. Coast Guard. Who noticed the green
9 light of the other vessel first, you or the mate?

10 A. I saw first the green light, sir.

11 Q. You first?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. And did you bring that to --

14 A. And the second mate was standing here.

15 Q. Okay.

16 USCG SPEAKER 1: And he was standing on number 2 radar. Just
17 right -- just over there?

18 MR. SALVADOR: Yes, sir. Like this.

19 USCG SPEAKER 1: Oh. Ah. Okay. Double. Okay.

20 BY MR. [REDACTED]

21 Q. So he was standing there. You were standing here at the
22 helm.

23 A. Not yet, sir. I didn't --

24 Q. You're standing there?

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. And that's when you noticed the green light?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. And when you noticed the green light, what did you do?

4 A. I turned and said to the second -- he was here. And I
5 said --

6 Q. Told him?

7 USCG SPEAKER 1: He pointed.

8 BY MR. [REDACTED]

9 Q. You pointed to the radar and showed him, right?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Okay. And did you expect that second mate was going to give
12 you any commands?

13 A. Yes, sir. I expect that, sir.

14 Q. What did you expect?

15 A. That even -- get a command, because we saw the green light.

16 Q. What command did you expect? What did you think in your
17 mind? You have experience. What did you think he may --

18 A. He will alter course, sir.

19 Q. I'm sorry? Say that again.

20 A. Alter course.

21 Q. Alter course?

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. You thought he would have told you to alter course?

24 A. Yes, sir.

25 Q. Because you --

1 JTSB MALE SPEAKER: Which side, which side do you expect?

2 MR. SALVADOR: More possible on the starboard side, sir.

3 Because we have one almost abeam with other vessel.

4 BY MR. [REDACTED]

5 Q. Another vessel abeam of you?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. And was that vessel headed in the same direction as you?

8 A. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

9 Q. How far off was that vessel?

10 A. About -- I don't make sure.

11 Q. No, rough. That's good.

12 A. Maybe 3 or 2.

13 JTSB MALE SPEAKER: How -- say?

14 MR. SALVADOR: Three or 2 miles, maybe, distance.

15 JTSB MALE SPEAKER: Three or 2 nautical miles?

16 MR. SALVADOR: Um-hum.

17 BY MR. [REDACTED]

18 Q. And what position was that other vessel running parallel with
19 you? Was he a little bit ahead of you, even with you?

20 A. Well, we are about ahead --

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. -- with him.

23 Q. Okay. Just a little bit ahead of him, huh?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And just a little bit ahead of him could you see that green

1 light over him or in front of him?

2 A. Which one? The --

3 Q. The green light of the Navy vessel --

4 A. Other vessel?

5 Q. The other vessel. Was it ahead of him or did you have to
6 look over him to see?

7 A. No, because the vessel -- if the vessel is here, then the
8 other vessel was here.

9 Q. Got you. Okay. Good. Okay.

10 Did the other vessel, do you know if they did anything
11 different? Did they change their course?

12 A. No, sir, I didn't, because I already stand here.

13 Q. Okay. So you don't know if they changed their course --

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. -- or changed their speed?

16 A. No, sir. Because --

17 Q. Do you know what the other name -- what the name of that
18 other vessel was?

19 A. No, sir.

20 Q. No. No communication?

21 A. We never.

22 Q. Okay.

23 BY USCG SPEAKER 1:

24 Q. And when you looked over at the radar --

25 (Noise interruption)

1 Q. -- at the -- when you looked over at the radar, could you
2 identify the name of the vessel that was coming towards you? Did
3 you know that it was a --

4 A. No, sir.

5 Q. You didn't know what it was at that time?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 Q. Okay. Did you guys try? You didn't try to see what it was
8 or --

9 A. I don't know to second officer, because I was just only
10 pointed at him.

11 Q. Um-hum.

12 A. And then I go only, just a visual look to them, to the other
13 vessel. And just wait for his -- also, I know that we are the
14 privileged vessel, but in my opinion, I think that second officer
15 will give me some order to change the course.

16 Q. So as far as the light, did you, did you -- did it work?
17 Could you see it?

18 A. The -- if he respond, sir?

19 Q. The flashlight.

20 A. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

21 Q. So you tested it or you could see it?

22 A. I see, I see it.

23 Q. Okay. I just want to make sure. I can ask the second mate
24 that.

25 BY MR. [REDACTED]

1 Q. Okay. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] again. When the mate, the second mate, shot
2 the light --

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. -- right, the signal light, you could see the light working?

5 A. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

6 Q. Did you watch the other vessel?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. Did you see the other vessel reply?

9 A. No, sir.

10 Q. Nothing?

11 A. Nothing, sir.

12 Q. And you could only see a green light?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. No white lights?

15 A. No, white, sir.

16 Q. No mast light?

17 A. No mast light there. Only --

18 JTSB MALE SPEAKER: Well, what do you think about that time?
19 Is it strange or something wrong? Do you hear about something
20 wrong? Only green, unusual (indiscernible). Why don't you think
21 about or hear about that something wrong or something strange? Do
22 you see that time?

23 MR. SALVADOR: Those --

24 JTSB FEMALE SPEAKER: Did you got any bad impression because
25 you just saw the green light only, not the headlight? So do you

1 feel something is wrong or did you feel -- yes, your impression?

2 MR. SALVADOR: No, no, no.

3 USCG SPEAKER 1: Yeah, did you feel uneasy? Did you feel
4 like we need to do something?

5 MR. SALVADOR: That moment, sir, I don't think. I just, I
6 just said to second officer we saw the green light. And then I
7 was here, just -- nothing. I just tell him. Just wait for the
8 order.

9 BY MR. [REDACTED]

10 Q. Well, let me ask you this. After he shot that white light
11 and you did not see a reply, did that make you think that
12 something was wrong?

13 A. Yes, sir.

14 Q. It did?

15 A. That he did not respond maybe we have to do something.

16 Q. Okay.

17 BY JTSB SPEAKERS:

18 Q. (Male Speaker) Flashlight is working? Was it working, the
19 flashlight? Did you can see the light, flashlight working?

20 A. The other vessel?

21 Q. No, (indiscernible) --

22 A. Oh, this one? Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

23 Q. -- this flashlight?

24 A. Yes, sir. I saw --

25 Q. You can see the light?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Working?

3 A. Yes, sir, working. Because two times he go to the August
4 light and make it flash.

5 USCG SPEAKER 1: So is this your normal watch?

6 MR. SALVADOR: Yes, sir.

7 USCG SPEAKER 1: And normal with second?

8 MR. SALVADOR: Yes, sir.

9 BY MR. [REDACTED]

10 Q. And was the chief mate on the bridge with you the entire
11 time?

12 A. No, sir. Only on our normal watch on third mate.

13 Q. I'm sorry. Second mate. Second mate.

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. I apologize.

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. Second mate, was he on the bridge with you the entire time
18 you were on the bridge?

19 A. Yes, sir.

20 Q. And he was right here with you?

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 JTSB MALE SPEAKER: How long do you stay in this boat?

23 MR. SALVADOR: In my duty --

24 JTSB MALE SPEAKER: In your --

25 JTSB FEMALE SPEAKER: On this ship.

1 JTSB MALE SPEAKER: How long this --

2 MR. SALVADOR: On the ship?

3 JTSB FEMALE SPEAKER: How long?

4 JTSB MALE SPEAKER: How long? One year? Three years?

5 MR. SALVADOR: I -- no, my first time here. But I am almost
6 coming to 7 months.

7 USCG SPEAKER 1: Seven months. Contract's almost up?

8 MR. SALVADOR: In 10 months.

9 USCG SPEAKER 1: Ten months. Okay.

10 BY USCG SPEAKER 1:

11 Q. How long you been doing this, been an AB?

12 A. A very long time, sir.

13 Q. Very long?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. How long?

16 A. I don't -- maybe more than 10.

17 Q. Ten? Okay.

18 BY MR. [REDACTED]

19 Q. And have you worked before with the second mate?

20 A. No.

21 Q. This was the first time?

22 A. My first time, sir.

23 Q. First time working with him.

24 USCG SPEAKER 2: On this vessel?

25 MR. SALVADOR: Yes, sir.

1 USCG SPEAKER 2: Yeah. Not the first watch, but the first --

2 MR. SALVADOR: First vessel, yeah.

3 BY MR. [REDACTED]

4 Q. How many watches have you stood with him now?

5 A. One month.

6 Q. One month working together?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 USCG SPEAKER 1: Do you have faith in him?

9 MR. SALVADOR: Sir?

10 USCG SPEAKER 1: Do you have faith in his ability?

11 MR. SALVADOR: Uh-uh.

12 (Laughter)

13 FEMALE SPEAKER: That's fair.

14 BY MR. [REDACTED]

15 Q. In the 1 month that you've been working together with the
16 second mate, have there been any times that you thought that maybe
17 he wasn't or hadn't performed to what you thought was customary?
18 Like when you said at this time you thought maybe something should
19 have come, a command to change to course. Had that happened --
20 anything like that happened before?

21 A. No, sir.

22 Q. Nothing before?

23 A. Nothing before, sir.

24 Q. Okay. Very good.

25 BY USCG SPEAKER 1:

1 Q. And you guys work well together?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. Good relationship?

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 Q. How about for you, for rest and everything? You were rested
6 and you had --

7 A. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. Yes, sir.

10 Q. No, like, extra hard work that you did during the day, you
11 know?

12 A. No, sir.

13 Q. How about for the second? I mean, just from your, from your
14 observation, did --

15 A. Almost same, sir, because after we left to be on the
16 (indiscernible) we stand by, we take a little rest. Then we pilot
17 up and we 1 hour, we run secure the (indiscernible). Then I take
18 a rest. So second mate, he go here for some -- make report.

19 BY MR. [REDACTED]

20 Q. So let me ask you this.

21 A. Yes, sir.

22 Q. The other ship, a little bit behind you, right? A little bit
23 behind you, and the other boat out there is -- you see green light
24 coming.

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. Confirm that by radar, correct? You see that in radar. And
2 this other vessel, the one on your port side, does she pass --
3 does that other Navy vessel pass in front of her or behind her?
4 A. We are overtaking the other vessel.
5 Q. You were overtaking. Okay. So it passed in front of the
6 other vessel?
7 A. Yes, sir.
8 Q. Huh?
9 A. Very long.
10 Q. Like this?
11 A. Yes, sir. And we are --
12 Q. You're -- here, one here? You, right?
13 A. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.
14 Q. Okay. And here comes Navy vessel outside.
15 A. I don't know if this other vessel turn here.
16 Q. Okay.
17 A. And we are over --
18 Q. Okay. Okay. What happened to the other vessel after the
19 collision? What did they do?
20 A. I don't know, sir.
21 Q. They kept going? I mean, you didn't see them anymore?
22 A. No. I don't -- no, sir, because I'm sitting on the --
23 Q. Yeah.
24 A. -- wing. Yes, sir.
25 Q. Okay.

1 BY JTSB SPEAKERS:

2 Q. (Male speaker) I want to know about the warship. How far,
3 how far when did you understand warship? How far? When?

4 (Female speaker) When you noticed the warship, how long the
5 distance? Where did you notice --

6 (Male speaker) When did you understand there's a warship?

7 A. About 3 miles.

8 Q. (Female speaker) Three miles?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. (Male speaker) Well, where do you see that's a
11 (indiscernible)?

12 A. I don't know if, I don't know if --

13 Q. (Female speaker) When do you know that the ship is a warship
14 or when did you know what it was?

15 A. Warship, I don't know. I don't know the -- I just only saw
16 the green light and the color of the vessel.

17 Q. (Male speaker) (Indiscernible) warship?

18 A. But I don't know, I don't know the -- that is the warship.

19 Q. (Female speaker) No, (indiscernible) when did you notice that
20 is the warship? When did you notice it?

21 (Male speaker): After collision?

22 A. I -- yes, sir. But and also when already captain is here.
23 And then we heard on the VHF somebody's calling for the distress
24 and said this is U.S. warship in some distress. That's the time I
25 know that that is the warship.

1 BY USCG SPEAKER 1:

2 Q. So following the accident, what occurred with the vessel for
3 you guys? I know you guys were attending to, you know, the
4 emergency.

5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. But it looks like you did a really large loop --

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. -- track back around. What was the -- what was going on with
9 the -- back here with the captain and what were they attempting to
10 do following the incident? Can you just tell us your observations
11 on what was going on? Because you said you stayed here, correct?

12 A. Yes, sir. Yes, sir. I saw captain already speak to the
13 other vessel and the Yokohama port radio, right? And then second
14 mate also ran (indiscernible) because I stay here, then captain
15 was almost -- at that time he, after all this, give order.

16 Q. Um-hum.

17 A. Then he called to the other crew to check on the
18 (indiscernible). Then just reported every move, every movement of
19 the crew, the damage. That's -- I saw to them.

20 Q. Okay.

21 BY MR. [REDACTED]

22 Q. I got a question for you.

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. When you came on watch, right --

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. -- the ship that you were overtaking, the one that you were
2 overtaking --

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. -- where was that ship at when you came on watch?

5 A. It was on our port side.

6 Q. Way out?

7 A. Oh, the other vessel, sir?

8 Q. The one you were overtaking.

9 A. Other one -- overtaking, yeah.

10 Q. Yeah. Yeah, yeah. Where was he at when you came on watch?
11 Was he way out there? Was he out in front of you?

12 A. The other vessel that was on our port side?

13 Q. Yes. Was he out in front of you when you came on watch?

14 A. Yes, sir. Almost.

15 Q. Like that?

16 A. Yeah, like that.

17 Q. When you came on watch?

18 A. Yes, sir. It was coming like this.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. He turned -- altered also to 0-6-9. Like --

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. -- just on our track, on 0-6-9, we are almost. Then --

23 Q. How did you know you were overtaking that ship?

24 A. I saw, I saw it in ARPA, sir.

25 Q. Was there any pass-down from the other --

1 A. No, sir.

2 Q. No one told you?

3 A. No one, sir.

4 Q. No -- no -- you didn't hear the second mate talking to his
5 relief about they were overtaking?

6 A. No, sir.

7 Q. Do you know if there was any radio communications with the
8 other ship about overtaking him?

9 A. I didn't know, sir.

10 Q. So you all, when you were on watch, you and your second mate,
11 no one communicated with the other ship about overtaking?

12 A. Yes. But I just only saw --

13 Q. You only saw the radar. Okay.

14 Would that be normal? If you were going to -- if there was
15 going to be a overtaking situation, would this vessel contact the
16 other vessel by radio to communicate overtaking? Would that be
17 normal?

18 A. Well, for --

19 Q. Does that happen when you're on the bridge? Does the
20 officer --

21 A. Yes --

22 Q. -- normally call the other ship?

23 A. Normally we call the other ship for overtaking which side the
24 overtaking.

25 Q. Yes, yes. And how do you do that normally? By radio?

- 1 A. Yes, sir.
- 2 Q. Does the same thing hold true in crossing situations? If
3 you're not sure, is there communications by radio?
- 4 A. Again, sir?
- 5 Q. If -- just like -- just overtaking --
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. -- okay? If there is a situation --
- 8 A. Right, when crossing --
- 9 Q. -- where a ship is crossing your path, is normally
10 communication by radio done?
- 11 A. Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. It normally -- normal?
- 13 A. Yes, sir.
- 14 Q. You've seen that before?
- 15 A. Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. Have you seen the second mate that you worked with do that
17 before?
- 18 A. No, sir.
- 19 Q. No. Has never done that?
- 20 A. That -- on the situation --
- 21 Q. Not this situation. Anytime?
- 22 A. The -- normally he would.
- 23 Q. Normally he would?
- 24 A. Yes, sir.
- 25 Q. But this time he did not, right?

1 A. (No audible answer.)

2 Q. Okay. That's it. Thank you very much. Thank you.

3 BY USCG SPEAKER 1:

4 Q. And so for this pass -- this watch, there was no pass-down?

5 A. No, sir.

6 Q. So they just said, hey, all right, we're done; see you later?

7 You didn't say, hey, there's a vessel here, there's a vessel

8 there, we're overtaking?

9 A. The other AB only speak me about the -- our speed and the
10 RPM, the visibility's good, and clear, no crossing, no coming --
11 or what they call it --

12 MR. [REDACTED] No meeting.

13 MR. SALVADOR: No meeting.

14 MR. [REDACTED] Okay.

15 MR. SALVADOR: No meeting. It's clear.

16 MR. [REDACTED] Yep.

17 MR. SALVADOR: Then we are almost on the altering course.

18 MR. [REDACTED] Okay.

19 BY USCG SPEAKER 1:

20 Q. So you were about to -- autopilot was going to, about to go
21 to the alternate course?

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. Or do you have to do that manually? You set autopilot and
24 then at a certain time it's going to --

25 A. If a big alteration, normally we use autopilot -- manual.

1 But only a short, only autopilot.

2 Q. Okay. So you were on autopilot the whole time?

3 A. Yes, sir.

4 Q. You didn't -- did you put it on autopilot or was it previous
5 watch?

6 A. The previous.

7 Q. Okay.

8 BY MR. [REDACTED]

9 Q. And you always set ARPA?

10 A. Sorry?

11 Q. ARPA?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. ARPA. Okay.

14 A. Because we alter on the 0-6-9, second mate adjust. And then
15 he told me to set this on 0-6-9. So I stand here and make adjust
16 by, by (indiscernible).

17 Q. And did you set -- did you or the second mate set up ARPA or
18 was that set already?

19 A. When we came up, already set.

20 Q. It was already set?

21 A. This one.

22 Q. ARPA was set?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Autopilot was set?

25 A. Yes, sir.

1 Q. Communications with the other vessel overtaking had been
2 done? You think? You don't know.

3 A. (Indiscernible), sir.

4 Q. Okay. All right. I remember.

5 And you don't know if any communication's made with the Navy
6 vessel?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. The battleship, warship, you don't know?

9 A. No, sir.

10 Q. Okay.

11 USCG SPEAKER 1: Do you log those things? So say the
12 previous watch, would they have logged when they made
13 communication to overtake the other vessel?

14 MR. SALVADOR: Yes.

15 USCG SPEAKER: So where's that?

16 MR. SALVADOR: If they have, they have --

17 SPEAKER: Radio log?

18 MR. SALVADOR: Yes, sir.

19 SPEAKER: VHF log?

20 MR. SALVADOR: Yes, sir.

21 BY MR. [REDACTED]

22 Q. And who, who would enter that?

23 A. The officer, sir. Just the officer.

24 Q. And who would make the call --

25 A. Usually --

1 Q. -- on the radio? I'm sorry?

2 A. Usually the -- just the officer, sir.

3 Q. Second -- the officer on watch?

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 Q. Would make the call and log the radio?

6 A. Yes, sir.

7 BY USCG SPEAKER 1:

8 Q. What about if you do find a contact, is there any logging?

9 Do you log when you make contact with somebody, a potential
10 crossing situation? Anything -- do you log that, when you find
11 contacts?

12 A. No.

13 Q. No?

14 A. Because they -- only the officer can write something in the
15 logbook there. And if there's somebody calling, port radio or
16 something, they also log.

17 BY JTSB:

18 Q. (Female speaker) Are you the person who found the green
19 light first or he found that green light first? Who found --

20 A. I saw the -- I was -- I saw the green light first.

21 Q. (Male speaker): You first? You first?

22 A. I don't know if he saw it because he was standing here and I
23 was there. But I, I saw the green light. And then I go here and
24 point it to him.

25 Q. (Female speaker) When you said that when just noticed the

1 ship, there was 3 mile distance.

2 A. Um-hum.

3 Q. But normally, normally when you find any ship that's in front
4 of you it's always, you know, 4 miles or 5 miles away, normally.

5 A. Yes, ma'am.

6 Q. So why do you think you didn't find the one until 3 miles
7 notice? Before the, you know, 4 miles, 5 miles, why do you think
8 why you couldn't find that one?

9 A. The alarm?

10 Q. No. That ship.

11 A. That -- the warship?

12 Q. Warship. Why do you think why you couldn't find the warship
13 when you were away, 4 miles away or 5 miles away? I mean, why you
14 couldn't find it?

15 (Male speaker) Well, I understand a very shorter distance,
16 short distance, 3 miles. So usually we can see the 4 miles, 5
17 miles, usually can see the lights, green light.

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. But you said only 3 miles to find before it's green?

20 A. No, about, about 4 miles, only the green light I saw. Then
21 much later when it's coming to 3 miles.

22 Q. (Female speaker) Even though the visibility was okay, you see
23 the green light itself clearly was the 3 miles distance --

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. -- was (indiscernible) at that time?

1 So once again, normally there is a mast light.

2 A. Yes, ma'am. Yes.

3 Q. With a green light. And then, once again, you didn't notice
4 the mast light, you see the green light?

5 A. I didn't, ma'am, because I just only -- when I saw that, I
6 just came here on the -- front of the wheel. That -- I just
7 thinking that anytime second mate will order me.

8 USCG SPEAKER 1: So what made you go over there and do that?
9 When you said you went over there and hit the button?

10 MR. SALVADOR: Just to -- oh, what do you call this -- the, I
11 start the other motor 2 must (indiscernible) the rudder.

12 USCG SPEAKER 1: Okay.

13 USCG SPEAKER 2: Started another steering pump?

14 MR. SALVADOR: Yes, sir.

15 USCG SPEAKER: That makes it faster?

16 MR. SALVADOR: Yes.

17 USCG SPEAKER 1: I just want -- he said he went over there.
18 And you did that on your own?

19 MR. SALVADOR: Yes.

20 USCG SPEAKER 1: Okay.

21 BY SPEAKER 2:

22 Q. Were you traveling with the other vessel? Were you -- was
23 the other vessel affiliated with your company?

24 A. Yes -- ah --

25 Q. The other -- the vessel that you were next to?

- 1 A. Yes, sir.
- 2 Q. This is your vessel. Was this vessel a part of --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. -- your company? You just don't know what vessel it was?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Don't know the name?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. So when they made the turn --
- 9 A. I just know it made the turn.
- 10 Q. But you were traveling next to them?
- 11 A. Yes. No, but --
- 12 Q. And you were on a track for autopilot. Did you turn in front
- 13 of them or did they turn first and then you turned?
- 14 A. The --
- 15 Q. Because you're sitting next to them, you said.
- 16 A. Yes, sir.
- 17 Q. Did you make the turn first and then they had to correct, or
- 18 did they make the turn first and then you followed?
- 19 A. They make the turn first.
- 20 Q. They made the turn first. So you were traveling parallel
- 21 with them?
- 22 A. Almost parallel.
- 23 Q. But on autopilot?
- 24 A. Yes, sir.
- 25 Q. So they turned exactly where you were planning on turning?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. Okay.

3 USCG SPEAKER 1: Do you have any more?

4 JTTSB MALE SPEAKER: Okay.

5 USCG SPEAKER 1: All right. That concludes our interview
6 with the AB.

7 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: COLLISION OF THE USS *FITZGERALD*
 AND THE *ACX CRYSTAL*
 Interview of Dick Allan Salvador

ACCIDENT NO.: DCA17PM018

PLACE: On board the *ACX Crystal*

DATE: June 21, 2017

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.



Kay Maurer
Transcriber