

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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Investigation of:

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SINKING OF THE FISHING VESSEL
REBECCA MARY SOUTH OF NANTUCKET,
MASSACHUSETTS, ON JUNE 17, 2020

Accident No.: DCA20FM021

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Interview of: HERMENEGILDO SANTOS, Deckhand
Rebecca Mary

Wednesday,
June 17, 2020

APPEARANCES:

CWO [REDACTED], Investigating Officer
U.S. Coast Guard

[REDACTED], Investigating Officer
U.S. Coast Guard

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2 CWO [REDACTED] This is Chief Warrant Officer [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and
3 Mr. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

INTERVIEW OF HERMENEGILDO SANTOS

BY CWO [REDACTED]

4
5
6 Q. Can you state your name?

7 A. Hermenegildo Santos.

8 Q. And what is your role and position on the boat?

9 A. I'm a deckhand.

10 Q. Deckhand. Okay. I guess we'll start with your experience.
11 How long have you worked with the company, and particularly on
12 this vessel?

13 A. Probably around I would say close to 4 years now. Three-
14 something, four -- about 4 years, yeah.

15 Q. On this vessel?

16 A. Yeah, on this vessel.

17 Q. And your role has been crewman the whole time -- crewmember,
18 deckhand?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And your role as a deckhand, what does that entail? What do
21 you do as a deckhand?

22 A. Deckhand, sometimes captain trying to say like, I'm the mate
23 because I've been fishing 20 years or more than those guys, and I
24 know stuff on the back of the boat. I don't run the wheelhouse,
25 but I run pretty much on the back of the boat. I set the net

1 (indiscernible), I run conveyor, and I fix the nets.

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. That is all my responsibility.

4 BY MR. [REDACTED]

5 Q. So you're a deckhand, but you're kind of the deck boss?

6 A. Yeah. Even as I don't yell. I don't say nothing, but --

7 Q. Right.

8 A. -- sometimes the captain trying to yell at me, like ahhh.

9 I'm like, you know, chill out, man. We all getting paid the same.
10 No trying to force me. But I do been fishing over 20 years. I
11 got experience.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. I've been around (indiscernible). I've been scallop, drag --
14 all kind of ship stuff.

15 Q. Got you.

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. But four years fishing --

18 A. Yeah, yeah --

19 Q. -- exclusively --

20 A. -- just on that boat, yeah.

21 MR. [REDACTED] Okay.

22 BY CWO [REDACTED]

23 Q. And let's see. So we'll start with leaving New Bedford. You
24 left on the 14th?

25 A. Yeah.

1 Q. Can you just walk me through from when you left the dock to
2 getting out fishing each day? You don't have to get into too much
3 detail because I already -- I've already talked to the captain.
4 But as far as, like, what your job was, when your sleep
5 schedule -- just go from when you left the dock until you were
6 picked up by the Coast Guard.

7 A. Yeah. When we left the dock, captain drove pretty much like
8 about 5 hours or 4 hours, whatever. Then he gave us watch like 2
9 hours apiece to get to the fishing spot. And from there, captain
10 started making the stow, you know what I mean, in the daytime.
11 Then in the nighttime, we run the watch because we don't fish at
12 night. Like 2 hours and a half, 2 hours apiece. That's the same
13 thing over and over. It's nothing --

14 MR. [REDACTED] The same thing at nighttime? So once you
15 guys are done fishing for the day, you do that 2-hour watch?

16 MR. SANTOS: Yeah, yeah. We do like 2 hours, 2 hours and a
17 half apiece to get to the morning for captain to be ready to be up
18 again.

19 MR. [REDACTED] Okay.

20 BY CWO [REDACTED]

21 Q. And then when you guys -- at nighttime, when you guys are not
22 fishing, are you guys steaming circles or you anchor?

23 A. No, no. Just boat in the gear -- boat will jog, but if boat
24 is jogging too far away because the wind, then we keep it in gear
25 to stay close to the waypoint.

- 1 Q. Just kind of drift?
- 2 A. Yeah, just kind of drift a little bit if it's a nice day
3 and --
- 4 Q. Drift or try to stay --
- 5 A. Yeah, near the fishing spot.
- 6 Q. Okay. So you did that for 2 days.
- 7 A. Yeah, yeah.
- 8 Q. Fish during the day --
- 9 A. We did 2 days. Yep.
- 10 Q. -- and then sleep at night.
- 11 A. Yep.
- 12 Q. You have your 2-hour shift when it's your turn.
- 13 A. Um-hum.
- 14 Q. And then, every now and then, you have to get back to the
15 waypoint.
- 16 A. Yeah.
- 17 Q. The engines stay on the whole time, or you turn the engines
18 off?
- 19 A. No. The engine stays on, but we just put the lift --
- 20 Q. It's out of gear?
- 21 A. Yeah, yeah, it's out of gear. Lay low lights and chill out.
- 22 Q. Okay. And so going to, I guess, just before the incident,
23 did you have the watch?
- 24 A. No. I didn't have no watch. I was sleeping.
- 25 Q. No. I'm just saying, like, that night -- so you fished until

1 about what time yesterday?

2 A. Probably 8:00 -- soon as it gets dark.

3 Q. Soon as it gets dark. So about 8 o'clock. And then last
4 night -- so from 8 o'clock, did you have watch until 4:00 a.m.?

5 A. I didn't have no watch.

6 Q. No watch.

7 A. Was just almost time for me to get my watch.

8 Q. Got it.

9 A. Then I heard the captain says, oh, we're sinking. Then I'm
10 just trying to -- you know what I mean?

11 Q. Because you said --

12 A. I didn't get there to the watch yet.

13 Q. Okay. I'm just trying to understand. I'm not like --

14 A. Yeah. But not -- last -- day before I did watch 2 hours.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. But now we're steaming home.

17 Q. Yeah.

18 A. So I didn't be able to do my watch yet.

19 Q. Got it.

20 A. I was sleeping.

21 Q. Got you. So you were sound asleep. And how did you get
22 woken up?

23 A. By I heard the captain yell that we're sinking.

24 Q. Okay. And then --

25 A. Because he must have seen that much water was already coming

1 from the stern.

2 Q. What did you do?

3 A. What did I do? I grab my stuff. I come out. I grab my
4 wallet, my keys, my -- this is why I have shoes, I don't have no
5 shoes. Then I -- you know what I mean? Then I come back. I
6 start see my wallet. I didn't -- I only come out one time
7 outside. I didn't keep going back and forth.

8 Q. Where did you exit the vessel? When you grabbed everything,
9 where did you go?

10 A. I came to the deck.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. Yeah, to the deck to the back of the boat, yeah.

13 Q. By --

14 A. By the -- right there near the door or the winches.

15 Q. Engine room is right there?

16 A. Yeah. Engine room is down below, and the door is right here.
17 This is the two winches, and this is the, the pen.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. Like, you know what I mean? So we stayed, like, just about
20 near the door.

21 Q. Was it, was -- when you did that, was there any light?

22 A. No. It was dark.

23 Q. It was dark.

24 A. It was dark.

25 Q. Talk to me about lighting on deck. Was there --

- 1 A. No, light -- no, like the boat light is good.
- 2 Q. Lighting is good?
- 3 A. Yeah, the light was good.
- 4 Q. So what did you see?
- 5 A. I see a lot of water coming. Then I know that we couldn't
- 6 beat that. If it was couple hours ahead, for example, we'd pump
- 7 it or try to get something or find out what's going on. But we
- 8 didn't have the chance to do that.
- 9 Q. How far up from where you were to where the water was?
- 10 A. Water start to coming probably like from here to the -- when
- 11 I first came out the deck, like, I was staying behind the door
- 12 right here, about right there.
- 13 Q. About 10 feet?
- 14 A. Yeah.
- 15 Q. And then --
- 16 A. Then the water start to come in more and more and start
- 17 taking more because it just sits. We probably had around 80,000
- 18 pounds of fish probably. You know what I mean? So --
- 19 Q. Yeah. Do you recall looking at your watch or seeing what
- 20 time that was?
- 21 A. I didn't look, but it probably was around after 12 probably.
- 22 I didn't -- I'm not sure what time.
- 23 Q. Okay. Okay.
- 24 A. Yeah.
- 25 Q. That's fine.

- 1 A. Yeah, around probably -- my watch would have been around
2 2 o'clock.
- 3 Q. Two?
- 4 A. Easy, yeah.
- 5 Q. So this was at 12 o'clock?
- 6 A. No. I'm talking about at night.
- 7 Q. Midnight?
- 8 A. Yeah.
- 9 Q. Yeah.
- 10 A. That's when it happens.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. It was just about for my watch, so I think my watch was going
13 to start around 2:00 or something like that.
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. I didn't be able to get my watch.
- 16 Q. Yeah. So normally, like, I guess, is there like a -- I know
17 you guys pretty much, you fish from like sunrise to sunset.
- 18 A. Sunrise/sundown, yeah.
- 19 Q. Yeah. And, like, how many, how many hauls do you usually get
20 in a day?
- 21 A. Three or four.
- 22 Q. Three or four.
- 23 A. If it's lots of fish around, you might scoop up with the four
24 or five because you make short tows.
- 25 Q. Sure.

1 A. But it wasn't too good.

2 Q. Yeah.

3 A. Because that little bit of northeast wind we just had, wasn't
4 catching nothing. Then all of a sudden, the last tow, 20,000
5 around there. It was nice though. We brought it in, put in the
6 pen, save it, send them down around hour and a half. Everything
7 clear out, nice.

8 BY MR. [REDACTED]

9 Q. So how long -- so normally, I guess, when you guys go out on
10 deck, you go out, you hook up the net, you set it out.

11 A. Yep.

12 Q. What do you guys do while you're waiting for that haul to
13 come back up?

14 A. Now captain goes to drive the boat. If we have to make some
15 food, we make some food. If not, take a rest.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. Because you know work is ahead to come.

18 Q. So then you haul up the net.

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. What do you guys do with the catch when it's brought on deck?

21 A. Start to put them down.

22 Q. Does it just dump on the deck and you guys have to sort it
23 out? Like, how's that --

24 A. No. This thing comes clean.

25 Q. Okay.

1 A. Just straight summer squids.

2 MR. [REDACTED] Okay.

3 BY CWO [REDACTED]

4 Q. So you put them, you put them in the fish hold?

5 A. No. We got the conveyer -- we got conveyer set up. We have
6 one conveyer look like a table like this, then we got one that
7 goes up. It dumps into this one that goes up. Then we got the
8 chutes, look like buckets.

9 Q. Yeah.

10 A. Then it goes into the, into the scupper -- no, into the
11 hatch.

12 Q. Got you.

13 A. Into deck plates.

14 Q. Okay. So you have like individual chutes --

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. -- for the, for the --

17 A. No, we got one chute, but we can move things around. We got
18 a like PCV [sic] pipes that we can put it on, go in this hole or
19 that hole. You know what I mean? It goes pretty quick because
20 it's just me stays up and two guys on the hold doing the ice and
21 captain is inside.

22 MR. [REDACTED] So was it, was the fish hold full of squid?
23 Did you fill it up pretty much?

24 MR. SANTOS: Yeah. That 20,000 is almost there. We had
25 probably around -- now it's call easy, but they were saying

1 probably around 80, 85 thousand.

2 MR. [REDACTED] Okay.

3 BY CWO [REDACTED]

4 Q. And when -- who decides where they go? I mean, is it like
5 you start from the right and you go to the left or you go from the
6 center, you work one here, one here, one here, one here?

7 A. I can decide, but sometimes captain will come in. For
8 example, if we start putting too much on this side right here, and
9 captain will be like what's going on? If he'll see the boat start
10 going like this, he'll come in and say something.

11 Q. Did the captain say anything on this trip?

12 A. No, no. He always, he always come back. He said something.
13 The boat was even.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. It wasn't nothing about the boat list. The boat was even for
16 real.

17 Q. No, I'm just -- yeah. But before you started steaming home,
18 did the captain say, we need more squid on this side or more squid
19 on that side?

20 A. No, we're sitting right in the middle.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. From the hatch, from the --

23 CWO [REDACTED] All right.

24 Did you want to --

25 MR. [REDACTED] No, I was just going to say, like in terms

1 of, like, your duties with the vessel, I know, like, 3 years ago
2 the vessel was hauled up to do dry-dock. Do you do any work on
3 the vessel when it's hauled out? Like, you personally. Or is it,
4 is it --

5 MR. SANTOS: I do a little painting. I do a little sharpen
6 this, some rust on this and that.

7 MR. [REDACTED] Okay.

8 MR. SANTOS: That boat was pretty good shape for real.

9 MR. [REDACTED] We saw -- we were sent a picture from our air
10 station crew of the boat looking at the bottom. Our first -- both
11 of our first reaction was it looks good.

12 MR. SANTOS: Yeah, yeah.

13 MR. [REDACTED] The underside of the boat is clean, it had
14 zincs and --

15 MR. SANTOS: Yeah, yeah. Everything nice.

16 MR. [REDACTED] -- looked nice.

17 MR. SANTOS: The captain is a good guy. He takes care of her
18 good.

19 CWO [REDACTED] So from the point where you were -- you noticed
20 the water right there. You come out. The captain has already
21 said -- you know, you grab your things. You're on the back deck.
22 What did you do from there?

23 MR. SANTOS: Captain says for us to be ready for the survival
24 suits. So they were -- they already brought four survival suits,
25 but it was still there at the moment.

1 CWO [REDACTED] Okay.

2 MR. SANTOS: But as things going by, then we went up, get the
3 raft. Get the raft ready. Then we came down, keep watching it.
4 Then it's like, let's get ready in the survival suits -- you know,
5 put them on.

6 BY MR. [REDACTED]:

7 Q. Where are these normally stowed onboard?

8 A. It's right on the galley on top of the table.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. Like you sit down, was on top of the racks. Yeah.

11 Q. Okay. So all the survival suits are all stowed above the
12 galley table?

13 A. Yeah. Yes.

14 BY CWO [REDACTED]

15 Q. Did you -- from the time you were there, captain said go get
16 the life raft, did you have your survival suit on?

17 A. No, no, no. I didn't.

18 Q. Not yet? Okay.

19 A. No, not yet.

20 Q. So you got the life raft?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. You and someone else?

23 A. No, they got it. I was sleeping. When I come in, they
24 already there.

25 Q. It was already there.

1 A. Just -- yeah.

2 Q. Okay. So when you got --

3 A. When I get up, the guys was running with survival suits.

4 Kind of same thing at same time.

5 Q. Okay. And then --

6 A. Captain see some -- like ain't going to survive it. He's

7 like, let's get ready.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. Yeah. That's what I heard. And he's, like, yelled, and I'm

10 like, I'm like, what can I do now?

11 Q. Yeah. So then, from the time that you got up there with all

12 your things, how long before you got in the survival suit? About

13 2 minutes, 5 minutes?

14 A. Yeah, because the water start to approach just a little bit,

15 and we can tell the storm is just about -- the boat is still

16 there, you know? You can tell it's still steaming.

17 Q. Yeah.

18 A. You know what I mean? So then he -- captain said, let's get

19 ready the survival suit, all of us.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. Even me, I had a hard time. He helped me out because some of

22 them is kind of small.

23 BY MR. [REDACTED]

24 Q. Did you personally, did he ask you to, like, check any spaces

25 for water or anything like that?

1 A. Had not time for that. You could not go in lazarette. Could
2 not go for nothing. Every time I got up close nothing.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. You know, if you see boat, like, fill up with water, you can
5 call the Coast Guard, drop the pump, like --

6 Q. Yeah.

7 A. -- did it in New Bedford before. Went all the way to
8 Georgia. We had a deck full of water. This is in the boat called
9 *United States*.

10 Q. Yeah.

11 A. It had a crack, crack on the back of the ramp because we got
12 the -- one side of the door fell. So we had to bring the doors in
13 two side -- in the one side. But when we hook the doorway, it
14 made a crack, so water came in. We didn't know. We call Captain
15 Harry, Captain Harry, Captain Harry. Captain says, you know, the
16 stern looks kind of low. The engineer went over, open up the
17 hatch like, whoa, it's full of water. Because we've got 15
18 minutes from Cape Cod to Georges Bend, drop us a pump. Then we
19 pumping, you know, like firemen, and we survive.

20 Q. Yeah.

21 A. But when we got to New Bedford, everybody says *United States*
22 sank. That's the boat from New Bedford. We're like at the
23 fishermen club drinking, chilling out -- oh, you guys sank; you
24 guys died. They like to make stories.

25 Q. Yeah, yeah.

- 1 A. But it seemed like everybody was happy.
- 2 BY CWO [REDACTED]
- 3 Q. I mean, did you --
- 4 A. Yeah, I didn't see much. That's the thing. Because I was
5 sleeping.
- 6 Q. How about, like, in the day before or 2 days before? Did you
7 notice anything about how the boat was operating?
- 8 A. Boat was fine.
- 9 Q. Boat was fine.
- 10 A. Boat's off the water, no problem. Nice. Everything nice.
- 11 Q. You didn't notice -- you sleep on this boat many, many times.
- 12 A. Yeah.
- 13 Q. Did it sound -- before you were going to sleep, the sound was
14 normal? Anything --
- 15 A. No, no, no.
- 16 Q. Did it sound like there was any knocking, anything?
- 17 A. No, everything's fine.
- 18 Q. Any pinging? Any vibration?
- 19 A. No, everything was fine, 100 percent.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 Q. There was no reason for you -- or I should say, was there any
23 reason -- or did you talk to the other deckhands about maybe the
24 boat wasn't riding right? Or did anyone mention to you --
- 25 A. No, no, no.

1 Q. -- is this normal for the boat to do this?

2 A. No. I didn't, I didn't even -- nothing came to me, nothing.
3 Because I trust that boat 100 percent. That's why I never be like
4 looking around or spying around. You know what I mean?

5 Q. Yeah.

6 A. We done working, we so tired, and I went to bed. Then the
7 guys start watch. On my watch, I get up, I pump the boat, I do
8 this, I do that. You know what I mean? Every time. But I don't
9 know what happened. I cannot tell. Nobody knows. Even captain.
10 He was sleeping too.

11 Q. Have you ever been on the bridge and alarms went off?

12 A. What's that?

13 Q. Like a -- you're just sitting there at night, right?

14 A. Um-hum.

15 Q. And it's your job to move the boat to go back to the fishing
16 ground if you go too far, right?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. Have you ever been there, and then you hear a beep, and
19 you're like, okay, what is that?

20 A. No. That's just -- there was a little beep going on, but
21 that's the bridge alarm on the radar when the boat gets into
22 1 mile, but I don't -- everything else, never heard no beep.

23 Q. Never heard a beep? Okay.

24 A. No.

25 Q. Okay. All right. What I'm asking is, like, have you ever

- 1 had to burn on a bilge?
- 2 A. To turn on the bilge for pumps and stuff like that?
- 3 Q. Yeah.
- 4 A. Oh, yeah, no problem. I can pump anything on that boat.
- 5 Q. You have done that?
- 6 A. Yeah.
- 7 Q. Was there anything that would tell you if it needed to be
- 8 pumped?
- 9 A. No. They have a -- we have a -- the alarm on the --
- 10 Q. That's the alarm I was talking about.
- 11 A. Yeah, the box, the box, the alarm box.
- 12 Q. Okay.
- 13 A. Engine room, the fish hole, lazarette.
- 14 Q. And those, sometimes have you heard them go off, or you never
- 15 heard them to off?
- 16 A. Yeah. No, they will come on.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. They will come on. Captain will say, oh, pump lazarette or
- 19 pump for the engine room. Or even sometimes he go by himself, he
- 20 does it.
- 21 Q. And then is there just a switch and --
- 22 A. Yeah. You go -- if you have to switch the pump, you go down
- 23 there, you switch the valve, then you just push the button.
- 24 Q. Okay. So you actually have to physically go down, turn on
- 25 the manifold --

- 1 A. Depends what's on it.
- 2 Q. Okay.
- 3 A. If it's just a sub (ph.), they want to pump more because the
4 fish goes down to the fish hold. There's two subs over there. We
5 -- most of the time we leave them on the sub, so we pump the fish
6 hold.
- 7 Q. But if you wanted to pump the lazarette --
- 8 A. If you want to pump, you got to go switch.
- 9 Q. Switch the box.
- 10 A. Yeah. And that's nothing. That's just --
- 11 CWO [REDACTED] Got you.
- 12 BY MR. [REDACTED]
- 13 Q. So during, like -- so you do, like, a 2-hour watch. Like
14 what's a normal -- what's the captain tell you? Like, what is
15 your -- what does he expect you guys to do while you're on watch?
16 Is it, like, you have the radar on watching for approaching
17 vessels? Do you pump out spaces? Like what do you normally do?
- 18 A. Yeah. If that alarm beep, he'll be sleeping, he'll hear it
19 too.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. So you not pump the boat, he'll tell you something. Pump it,
22 yeah.
- 23 Q. Okay. Is it normal to have to pump any other space besides
24 the fish hold?
- 25 A. Once in awhile, engine room might go off or -- yeah.

- 1 Q. Okay. But, yeah, that makes --
- 2 A. Lazarette or something once in awhile.
- 3 (Pause.)
- 4 CWO ██████████ You have anything else?
- 5 BY MR. ██████████
- 6 Q. I mean, I guess the last question is just a general -- you've
- 7 got the second most experience on this boat next to the captain.
- 8 A. Yeah.
- 9 Q. So, I mean, do you have any thought, in 20 years of
- 10 experience, why you guys would have been taking on water?
- 11 A. Yeah, I would say if that water was just coming very little
- 12 or just about to come through the back of the boat like on a level
- 13 with the water, we would have probably saved. Would probably do
- 14 something like -- you know what I mean, to get the captain up, or
- 15 let's call the Coast Guard or --
- 16 Q. Yeah, but I mean, in this case --
- 17 A. In this case, no chance, nothing.
- 18 Q. -- do you have any guess?
- 19 A. Nothing. Like --
- 20 Q. But do you know why -- do you have any guesses as to why you
- 21 guys were taking on water?
- 22 A. I cannot tell because it had so much fish too. So I don't
- 23 know, after -- and the boat has been fine. I got nothing bad to
- 24 say about the boat. About four years, like I said, no problem at
- 25 all. Nice.

1 CWO [REDACTED] I guess I have one other question we didn't ask
2 the captain. It's like -- the arrangement of the fish holds, is
3 it like pens that you have?

4 MR. SANTOS: Yeah. We got pens, then we got the middle of
5 the boat. They call the slaughter house. We use that too.

6 CWO [REDACTED] Okay.

7 BY MR. [REDACTED]

8 Q. So all of that had --

9 A. Yeah. Pretty much all of them was full.

10 Q. Okay. And then each side pen, is it -- does it -- do you
11 have like wood baffles you can put in to stack up?

12 A. No. We got the wood, yeah. When we put the squid in going
13 up --

14 Q. Yep.

15 A. -- we keep in baffles.

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. So it doesn't fall out.

18 Q. So there was a --

19 A. So everything is secure, yeah.

20 Q. Yeah. So as the vessel was taking on water, did it shift?

21 A. Each pen is secure, yeah.

22 BY CWO [REDACTED]

23 Q. You put the suit on?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And then who told you to go overboard?

1 A. Oh, the captain. This is the story. We had the suit on. He
2 launch the raft, but the raft got caught up. So I'm trying to go
3 help to move the raft around, but I see time is running out. The
4 boat is leaning towards port. So what I did, instead of going to
5 the port, I didn't listen to the captain at the moment. I start
6 going to the starboard.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. They was yelling at me, Gee, Gee, where? I say, I'm over
9 here. I'm standing like this. But when I seen, when I seen them
10 underwater, the boat's just about to go like this. I was high. I
11 seen them two just about to the back of the boat. I say, look,
12 it's time for me to go.

13 CWO [REDACTED] Yeah.

14 MR. [REDACTED] So you jumped off the starboard side?

15 MR. SANTOS: Yeah, yeah, to the starboard side.

16 MR. [REDACTED] Okay.

17 MR. SANTOS: So because I know -- because I felt the boat go
18 like this, it will probably knock me out.

19 MR. [REDACTED] Yeah.

20 MR. SANTOS: I was climbing like a mountain wall.

21 CWO [REDACTED] Did you all jump in at the same time?

22 MR. SANTOS: They jump like one -- couple of seconds before
23 me. Then when I see them, I was still on the -- I was the last
24 one to jump.

25 BY MR. [REDACTED]

1 Q. So you jumped off the front --

2 A. Then I swim, we got together.

3 Q. Yeah. But no issues with the survival suit? It worked the
4 way it was supposed to?

5 A. No. It work. It works pretty good, except it was kind of
6 small.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. Yeah. Captain helped me put the arm inside.

9 Q. Okay. So it was a little bit tight?

10 A. I know we tried before, but we don't know which one -- it's
11 one thing survival suit with the crew, they should have a name --

12 (Whereupon, the interview abruptly ended.)

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: SINKING OF THE FISHING VESSEL
 REBECCA MARY SOUTH OF NANTUCKET,
 MASSACHUSETTS, ON JUNE 17, 2020
 Interview of Hermenegildo Santos

ACCIDENT NO.: DCA20FM021

PLACE:

DATE: June 17, 2020

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.


K
Transcriber