

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Office of Research and Engineering
Vehicle Recorder Division**



GROUP CHAIRMAN'S FACTUAL REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

DCA19FM034

**By
Christopher Babcock**

WARNING

The reader of this report is cautioned that the transcript of a voyage data recorder audio recording is not a precise science but is the best product possible from a Safety Board group investigative effort. The transcript or parts thereof, if taken out of context, could be misleading. The transcript should be viewed as an accident investigation tool to be used in conjunction with other evidence gathered during the investigation. Conclusions or interpretations should not be made using the transcript as the sole source of information.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Vehicle Recorder Division

May 14, 2020

Voyage Data Recorder Transcript

Group Chairman's Factual Report
By Christopher Babcock

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Laplace, Louisiana
Date: May 16, 2019
Vessel: *M/V American Liberty*
Operator: Crowley Maritime
NTSB Number: DCA19FM034

2. GROUP

Chairman: Christopher Babcock
Aerospace Engineer
National Transportation Safety Board

Member: Captain Gregory Bush
President
Federal Pilots of Louisiana

Member: Robert J. Furukawa
Investigator-in-Charge
National Transportation Safety Board

Member: [REDACTED]
Investigating Officer
United States Coast Guard

Member: Captain Mike Killelea
Port Captain
E. M. Bisson & Son, Inc

Member: Captain Conrad Kuiken
Director of Maritime Operations
Crowley Maritime

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

3.1 Audio Recording Description

Audio was recorded by several microphones throughout the bridge and bridge wing. Audio quality was characterized as fair to good.¹

¹ See Attachment 1 – VDR Audio Quality Rating Scale

3.2 Timing and Correlation

Timing on the transcript was established by UTC timestamp of the audio files recovered from the VDR and converting to the local central daylight time (CDT) by subtracting 5 hours.

3.3 Description of Audio Events

The recording began at 19:53:00 CDT and covers the master-pilot exchange, departure from the dock, and accident sequence. The transcript ends at 20:59:58 CDT.

As part of the Safety Board's accident investigation process, the master of the *American Liberty* and the Federal Pilot aboard the *American Liberty* were invited to review the VDR transcript and suggest corrections or additions.

3.3.1 *American Liberty* Master Suggestions

2035:10.8 yeah we're probably going to need a little while especially **.
MASTER
Should be:

2035:10.8 yeah we're probably going to need a little while especially with the current.
MASTER

2041:52.9 alright. ***.
MASTER
Should be:

2041:52.9 alright. full astern.
MASTER

2043:26.1 starboard anchor. drop the starboard anchor. let it go. Are they clear?
?
Should be:

2043:26.1 starboard anchor. drop the starboard anchor. let it go. Are they clear?
CM

2043:54.0 starboard anchor pay out. [someone on the bow]
?
Should be:

2043:54.0 starboard anchor pay out. [someone on the bow]
CM

2044:23.3 two and a half-- three shots out. [someone on the bow]
?
Should be:

2044:23.3 two and a half-- three shots out. [someone on the bow]
CM

2044:32.9 five shots on deck. [someone on the bow]
?
Should be:

2044:32.9 five shots on deck. [someone on the bow]
CM

2045:02.1 four shots. [someone on the bow]
?

2045:18.3 five shots. [someone on the bow]
?
Should be:

2045:02.1 four shots. [someone on the bow]
CM

2045:18.3 five shots. [someone on the bow]
CM

At 20:45:58.2 add:

20:45:58.2 @ [3M-2] turn the Kongsberg on turn the Cargomax on. get a gauge on it now.
CM

At 20:46:20 add:

20:46:20.2 get gauges in there in fifteen seconds ** ballast tank immediately. please.
CM

2049:28.8 no. we're stopped engine.
MASTER
Should be:

2049:28.8 no. we're stopped engine.
3M-1

2049:37.4 slow ahead.
MASTER
Should be:

2049:37.4 slow ahead?
3M-1

At 20:51:48.2 add:

20:51:48.2 good.
PILOT

2053:50.4 alright captain all lines are up port side over here *.
?
Should be:

2053:50.4 alright captain all lines are up port side over here *.
3M-2

3.3.2 Federal Pilot Suggestions

2029:46.3 yeah I want you on my stern and ** lay against you as I work her out.
PILOT
Should be:

2029:46.3 yeah I want you on my stern and to * lay against you as I work her out.
PILOT

2045:00.1 #.
PILOT
Should be:

2045:00.1 #. boys.
PILOT

2056:34.2 ***.
PILOT
Should be:

2056:34.2 ***. [unintelligible comment about tug]
PILOT

Attachment I

VDR Audio Quality Rating Scale

The levels of recording quality are characterized by the following traits of the voyage data recorder information:

Excellent Quality	Virtually all of the crew conversations could be accurately and easily understood. The transcript that was developed may indicate only one or two words that were not intelligible. Any loss in the transcript is usually attributed to simultaneous cockpit/radio transmissions that obscure each other.
Good Quality	Most of the crew conversations could be accurately and easily understood. The transcript that was developed may indicate several words or phrases that were not intelligible. Any loss in the transcript can be attributed to minor technical deficiencies or momentary dropouts in the recording system or to a large number of simultaneous cockpit/radio transmissions that obscure each other.
Fair Quality	The majority of the crew conversations were intelligible. The transcript that was developed may indicate passages where conversations were unintelligible or fragmented. This type of recording is usually caused by cockpit noise that obscures portions of the voice signals or by a minor electrical or mechanical failure of the VDR system that distorts or obscures the audio information.
Poor Quality	Extraordinary means had to be used to make some of the crew conversations intelligible. The transcript that was developed may indicate fragmented phrases and conversations and may indicate extensive passages where conversations were missing or unintelligible. This type of recording is usually caused by a combination of a high cockpit noise level with a low voice signal (poor signal-to-noise ratio) or by a mechanical or electrical failure of the VDR system that severely distorts or obscures the audio information.
Unusable	Crew conversations may be discerned, but neither ordinary nor extraordinary means made it possible to develop a meaningful transcript of the conversations. This type of recording is usually caused by an almost total mechanical or electrical failure of the VDR system.

Transcript of bridge audio from a Consilium F2 Voyage Data Recorder, installed on the *M/V American Liberty*, which allided with several piers and vessels in Laplace, Louisiana.

LEGEND

MASTER	Voice identified as the master of the <i>American Liberty</i>
PILOT	Voice identified as the Federal Pilot aboard the <i>American Liberty</i>
3M-1	Voice identified as the third mate aboard the <i>American Liberty</i>
CM	Voice identified as the chief mate aboard the <i>American Liberty</i>
3M-2	Voice identified as the second third mate aboard the <i>American Liberty</i>
HELM	Voice identified as the helmsman aboard the <i>American Liberty</i>
LINE	Radio transmission from the shoreside line handler
JOSEPHINE	Radio transmission from the tug <i>Josephine Anne</i>
VERA	Radio transmission from the tug <i>Vera Bisso</i>
JOHNR	Radio transmission from the <i>John R. Ingram</i>
MYRNA	Radio transmission from the <i>Myrna Ann</i>
TUG1	Radio transmission from unknown tug
FLEET	Radio transmission from Fleet Tug
JK	Radio transmission from the <i>JK Mclean</i>
*	Unintelligible word
#	Expletive
@	Non-pertinent word
()	Questionable insertion
[]	Editorial insertion

Note 1: Times are expressed in central daylight time (CDT).

Note 2: Generally, only radio transmissions to and from the accident vessel were transcribed.

Note 3: Words shown with excess vowels, letters, or drawn out syllables are a phonetic representation of the words as spoken.

Note 4: A non-pertinent word, where noted, refers to a word not directly related to the operation, control or condition of the vessel.

Time and Source	Event
1953:00.0 START OF RECORDING START OF TRANSCRIPT	
1953:02.3	[bridge crew received radio transmission that pilot was on board.]
1955:12.7	[pilot arrived on the bridge.]
2000:20.5	[pilot told master that they would have the Vera and Josephine tugs to assist.]
2001:27.7	[pilot radioed to tugs that Josephine would be a tractor on the bow and the Vera would be "back here on the quarter."]
2005:05.9 MASTER	do you want a line up on that Vera or are you just gonna have him push?
2005:08.6 PILOT	naw I'll just have him push.
2005:10.0 MASTER	okay.
2005:10.9 PILOT	we'll just push out on that bow— bow tug you know. we'll just work her out bodily.
2005:15.4 MASTER	yup.
2005:16.8 MASTER	**.
2005:42.0	[coffee discussion]
2005:47.2 MASTER	do we have the final draft?
2005:49.6 3M-1	eleven point—
2005:51.0 MASTER	eleven feet *. thirty-six and nine?
2005:56.2 3M-1	um-hum.
2005:58.9 PILOT	deep draft is what?
2006:00.2 MASTER	thirty-six and nine.

Time and Source	Event
2006:01.2 PILOT	thirty-six and nine.
2006:04.1 MASTER	what— you didn't use those drafts did you?
2006:06.2 3M-1	yeah. that's what @ told me to use them for.
2006:12.7 3M-1	I asked him. that's what he said.
2006:22.0 3M-1	you want me to print a new one?
2006:25.2 MASTER	yup.
2006:26.0 MASTER	corrections. thirty-six and nine flat.
2006:28.4 3M-1	okay.
2007:02.2 PILOT	you figure uh fifteen knots uh south?
2007:06.0 MASTER	what's that?
2007:07.1 PILOT	you figuring fifteen knots— seventeen statute probably?
2007:11.4 MASTER	yeah.
2007:11.7 PILOT	nine and half hours out?
2007:12.8 MASTER	usually nine and a half— ten.
2007:14.5 PILOT	that's what I was thinking.
2007:15.9 MASTER	yup.
2007:17.2 MASTER	about what we've been doing.
2007:20.6 MASTER	we can do extra turns below the city if you like if it looks good.

Time and Source	Event
2007:25.2 PILOT	yeah.
2007:26.2 PILOT	what do have like eighty-two is full ahead?
2007:27.4 MASTER	yeah eighty-two— eighty— well eighty is technically full ahead but we can do eighty-two with no notice.
2007:32.6 PILOT	no notice. yeah.
2007:35.3 MASTER	if you want— if you just want to tell him— you can tell the mate just— eight— when you say full ahead just go straight to eighty-two if you want *.
2007:41.1 PILOT	yeah.
2007:42.9 PILOT	uh yeah that's probably what we'll do. we'll probably just run it at eighty-two when we're full ahead. and then you know we'll have regular slow downs. you know Norco— Saint Rose like that. we might even be slowing down by some of these buoys because you know they've been having a lot of trouble with them this year.
2007:51.3 MASTER	sure.
2008:00.4 MASTER	yeah. that's fine...no rush.
2008:04.1 PILOT	then all the dredges. you seen all that when we came in.
2008:06.4 MASTER	sure yeah. are they still up at the head of the passes there *—?
2008:11.2 PILOT	yeah all that— I think they're still around the head of the passes. they've got some rock work you know * anything or something like that. ** pulling it back *.
2008:28.7 MASTER	you got that @?
2008:29.8 3M-1	yes. eighty-two is full.
2008:38.9 PILOT	Federal thirty-five Associated.
2008:41.4 LINE	go ahead captain.

Time and Source	Event
2008:43.7 PILOT	okay we'll start on the stern and work our way forward here uh I don't know if you're out here yet or not.
2008:49.5 LINE	roger just came through the gate. heading to you now.
2008:52.5 PILOT	okay. sounds good. thanks.
2008:54.6 LINE	you know there's two crews captain. one on each end.
2008:58.4 PILOT	that's fine with me.
2008:59.2 MASTER	***.
2009:00.4 PILOT	yeah we'll work both ends uh we'll leave springs for last.
2009:05.7 LINE	roger that ends to middle.
2009:13.2 ?	*
2009:14.9 MASTER	@ call for stand by.
2009:16.9 3M-1	okay.
2009:17.9 MASTER	**.
2009:24.2 MASTER	we're gonna get one line on the Josephine on the bow and then no— no line on the stern.
2009:29.6 3M-2	alright. copy on the stern.
2009:30.5 3M-1	hey chief we'll call stand by engines twenty— twenty twelve?
2009:35.6 MASTER	* ready?
2009:36.4 3M-1	if you guys are ready. you guys ready?
2009:38.2 3M-1	okay. you guys are ready and all set.

Time and Source	Event
2009:46.5	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2009:49.1 ?	**.
2009:51.9	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2010:07.1 ?	* ready?
2010:08.1 ?	**.
2010:18.5 3M-1	pilot card's on this side.
2010:20.4 PILOT	okay I'll sign it in just a second.
2010:22.8 3M-1	no rush.
2010:33.8 3M-1	* famous coffee here.
2010:36.3 PILOT	thank you.
2011:15.0 3M-1	okay.
2011:26.2 JOSEPHINE	Josephine Federal thirty-five.
2011:31.7 PILOT	go ahead Josephine.
2011:33.2 JOSEPHINE	hey cappy did you happen to get a voyage number yet?
2011:36.3 MASTER	sir uh fifty-nine.
2011:38.0 PILOT	voyage number fifty-nine.
2011:40.4 JOSEPHINE	fifty-nine. five nine. thank you captain. appreciate it. uh they just dropped the line down to us so ours'll be going up shortly.
2011:46.6 PILOT	okay thanks.

Time and Source	Event
2011:48.0 PILOT	gonna hit the head **.
2011:51.7 3M-2	J-S-A complete on the stern.
2011:56.3 3M-1	I'll turn mine down.
2011:58.1 MASTER	**.
2011:59.7 3M-1	alright thanks.
2013:07.7 CM	alright one line up on the Josephine.
2013:10.8 JOSEPHINE	alright thirty-five. Josephine's all set captain.
2013:13.5 PILOT	okay thank you Josephine.
2013:16.7 JOSEPHINE	roger roger.
2013:17.5 MASTER	hey everyone uh stay clear of the lines uh we're gonna test the engine.
2013:20.9 PILOT	both tugs give me half straight in.
2013:24.1 JOSEPHINE	half straight in Jo.
2013:25.4 VERA	half straight in Vera.
2013:26.9 CM	all clear on the stern.
2013:28.4 JOSEPHINE	we'll call it fifteen thirty.
2013:29.6 MASTER	we're gonna test that engine captain real quick.
2013:31.4 PILOT	yes sir.
2013:32.3	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]

Time and Source	Event
2013:33.9 VERA	yeah it's fifteen.
2013:39.4 VERA	who's this? @?
2013:41.2 JOSEPHINE	roger.
2013:42.8 VERA	we meet again.
2013:45.4 JOSEPHINE	roger roger. how you been?
2013:50.7 VERA	I thought @ was on there.
2013:53.6 JOSEPHINE	naw I'm covering for him man. covering two hitches for him man. been on here for a while. this'll be my last one here. got one more then I'm going home. yeah he got his little baby girl.
2014:01.9	[sound similar to two engine response indicator alarms]
2014:02.9 VERA	roger that.
2014:17.4	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2014:22.9	[sound similar to bridge wing door]
2014:25.8 MASTER	we're ready to start dropping lines if you're ready captain.
2014:28.3 PILOT	alright.
2014:30.5 PILOT	we got some traffic right this second. got that ***.
2014:30.5 MASTER	alright.
2014:35.9 MASTER	okay do you want to get down to the springs and just hold em or do you just want to stay like this?
2014:42.3 PILOT	I'm just checking ***.

Time and Source	Event
2014:47.4 PILOT	let's see who it is— the John R Ingram. yeah let's go ahead and get it down to the springs. we can do that.
2014:55.2 MASTER	alright engine test complete. go ahead and start letting go ends to the middle. hold your springs. don't let the springs go.
2015:02.5 CM	okay roger that * here on the bow **.
2015:07.1 ?	***.
2015:09.0 MASTER	roger that. thank you. * testing complete.
2015:14.7 PILOT	thirty-five to the John R Ingram
2015:28.0 3M-1	is there a line on the Vera Bisso?
2015:31.3 MASTER	no *.
2016:16.7 PILOT	hard to the left.
2016:35.9 ?	twelve.
2018:28.9	[discussion between pilot and master regarding local insects]
2019:08.2 PILOT	Federal thirty-five to Associated.
2019:10.3 LINE	go ahead captain.
2019:11.6 PILOT	yeah we're gonna hold the uh springs for last. gonna hold them for this southbound tow.
2019:21.5	[discussion between pilot and master regarding local insects]
2020:16.8 PILOT	damn that dude— he's probably not gonna come out of it. cause damn he's almost overflank you know?
2020:24.2 MASTER	*** for the anchor.

Time and Source	Event
2020:27.7	[discussion between pilot and master regarding downbound John R Ingram]
2021:46.0 PILOT	hey uh Josephine and Vera give me three quarters straight in.
2021:51.5 JOSEPHINE	three quarters Jo.
2021:52.7 VERA	three quarters Vera.
2022:02.7 CM	alright standing by the forward springs.
2022:05.8 3M-1	okay just uh stand by for a few minutes. we got to wait for this uh big tow to get by.
2022:13.1 CM	roger.
2022:22.3 PILOT	yeah he's making almost ten.
2022:39.5	[discussion between pilot and master regarding downbound John R Ingram]
2023:05.6 MASTER	it's sticky out here. **.
2023:08.5 PILOT	is it hot?
2023:09.8 MASTER	yeah. **. [discussion of past weather event]
2023:48.7 PILOT	Federal thirty-five to the John R Ingram.
2023:52.6 JOHNR	John R go ahead.
2023:55.2 PILOT	yeah uh you stopping there at Triangle or going down?
2023:59.4 JOHNR	I'm stopping at Triangle. * on the east bank when I get down there **.
2024:06.9 PILOT	okay you gonna back in below the Fleet down there uh Triangle Fleet there above Dupont?
2024:12.0 JOHNR	that's correct. that's exactly what the plan is.

Time and Source	Event
2024:14.5 PILOT	okay sounds good. I'm on this ship here at Marathon so I'll be coming off. and uh I guess I'll plan on overtaking you when I get down there— come by you on the one you know if you're gonna be backing in but I'll be pacing myself for you.
2024:26.0 JOHNR	okay great. sounds good. thank you.
2024:28.2 PILOT	thank you.
2024:47.8 PILOT	Federal thirty-five is coming of dock two here at Marathon Garyville be turning going south...loaded ship. Federal thirty-five.
2025:06.9 MASTER	* fore and aft go ahead and bring em in.
2025:09.0 CM	fore and aft. bringing them in. **.
2025:11.6 MASTER	bring those springs on the working side and then once they're on deck you guys can put them on the storage side.
2025:16.7 PILOT	Vera are we clear on the uh port quarter there?
2025:22.3 ?	sorry captain you cut out. what was that? [someone on deck]
2025:24.4 PILOT	you don't see nothing on my port quarter there on the other side Vera?
2025:24.6 MASTER	bring those spring lines in on the working side and then once there— once there uh ***.
2025:32.8 VERA	no captain I mean you got that offshore tug * behind you.
2025:36.1 MASTER	bring em in on the working side and once they're on deck then you can move em to the storage side.
2025:43.8 VERA	yeah captain. I don't see anything behind you. you're clear.
2025:56.8 3M-2	all clear behind you.
2025:56.9 PILOT	Federal thirty-five to that small tow that just came out of Saint John's buoy.
2026:02.4 MYRNA	this is the Myrna Ann.

Time and Source	Event
2026:03.9 PILOT	Myrna Ann where you headed?
2026:05.3 MYRNA	I'm headed down to Global Plex I just got one little work barge. what can I do for you captain?
2026:09.3 PILOT	okay if you care to uh take it wide there toward the west bank and uh I'll start coming here out of dock two.
2026:16.3 MYRNA	roger that captain.
2026:17.3 PILOT	alright thanks.
2026:44.7 ?	*
2026:46.5 3M-1	alright just in time.
2026:48.7 HELM	**.
2026:50.1 3M-1	hmm? what do you want?
2026:52.2 HELM	turn the plate?
2026:53.4 3M-1	*
2026:54.3 HELM	turn the plate?
2026:56.0 3M-1	oh yeah.
2026:56.8 HELM	and heading? the heading?
2027:01.5 HELM	oh too much yeah that's good. and uh heading.
2027:07.5 3M-1	heading?
2027:07.9 HELM	heading has too much light.
2027:10.2 HELM	oh that's good. thank you. thank you. that's it.

Time and Source	Event
2027:14.5 3M-1	you okay?
2027:15.2 HELM	yeah.
2027:15.8 PILOT	hard right.
2027:16.4 MASTER	hard right.
2027:16.6 HELM	hard right.
2027:17.4 3M-1	hard right.
2027:22.1 PILOT	Josephine and Vera go all stop. Josephine uh get back **.
2027:32.6 JOSEPHINE	roger all stop *.
2027:35.3 VERA	all stop Vera.
2027:36.3 PILOT	Vera just stay off of me if you would.
2027:42.9 3M-2	all clear on the stern.
2027:43.9 VERA	you want me to stay off you?
2027:45.4 PILOT	stay off me until I ask you to push.
2027:45.5 MASTER	all clear roger.
2027:52.8 VERA	alright captain.
2028:05.2 PILOT	dead slow ahead.
2028:07.6 MASTER	dead slow ahead.
2028:10.0 3M-1	dead slow ahead.

Time and Source	Event
2028:12.5	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2028:13.0 PILOT	Josephine half astern on the ninety.
2028:15.9 JOSEPHINE	roger give it half.
2028:20.0 HELM	did you test this one Third? *.
2028:21.6 3M-1	um hum yeah.
2028:23.4 HELM	okay.
2028:25.3	[sound of beeps]
2028:30.2 HELM	that's it.
2028:31.0 3M-1	yes.
2028:31.5 HELM	roger this one.
2028:33.9 PILOT	bring it back to a forty-five Josephine.
2028:34.9 HELM	oh this one * thank you.
2028:36.7 JOSEPHINE	roger half on the forty-five.
2028:38.9 3M-1	set okay?
2028:40.7 HELM	yes.
2029:35.0 VERA	yeah thirty-five you got time * back on em.
2029:40.2 PILOT	yeah Vera say again?
2029:42.3 VERA	yeah are you going to float down river or do you want me back on you or you gonna want me on your stern?

Time and Source	Event
2029:46.3 PILOT	yeah I want you on my stern and ** lay against you as I work her out.
2029:51.2 VERA	roger roger. just trying to see how far to stay away from you.
2029:55.2 PILOT	yeah just— I don't want you to stay off me very far you know just get in position and hold off on me.
2030:01.7 VERA	roger roger.
2030:03.6 PILOT	yeah Vera when she comes around I'm gonna want you to push.
2030:07.3 VERA	roger cap.
2030:13.8 3M-1	he said hard right.
2030:14.8 HELM	yeah hard right. he said.
2030:38.3 PILOT	midship.
2030:39.3 MASTER	midship.
2030:40.3 HELM	midship.
2030:41.6 3M-1	midship.
2030:42.8 MASTER	@ leave those guys up there and head back to the stern to watch the swing.
2030:47.6 3M-2	roger.
2030:52.8 PILOT	hard left.
2030:53.8 HELM	hard left.
2030:54.3 MASTER	hard left.
2030:56.3 3M-1	hard left.

Time and Source	Event
2030:59.5 PILOT	hey Vera give me slow straight in.
2031:03.4 VERA	slow straight in when I get to you. I'm about two feet off you.
2031:16.5 PILOT	okay take her out on a ninety there uh Josephine.
2031:20.6 JOSEPHINE	alright. three quarters on a ninety captain.
2032:11.5 PILOT	okay Vera half straight in.
2032:14.5 VERA	half straight in Vera.
2032:19.4 MASTER	how does that swing look @.
2032:22.9 3M-2	roger looks like we will clear. probably got a hundred uh hundred twenty-five feet.
2032:26.4 PILOT	bring it back to a forty-five there Josephine.
2032:29.0 MASTER	and roger roger.
2032:29.5 JOSEPHINE	roger three quarters on a forty-five.
2032:41.7 PILOT	okay bring her alongside for me Josephine.
2032:44.8 JOSEPHINE	roger coming alongside three quarters.
2032:47.6 PILOT	Vera hard straight— straight in.
2032:51.1 VERA	hard Vera.
2033:01.2 MASTER	hey third mate @. how about you head forward.
2033:04.3 3M-2	roger.
2033:10.2 3M-2	swinging all clear on the stern.

Time and Source	Event
2033:12.8 MASTER	swinging clear on the stern.
2033:24.8 PILOT	stop engines.
2033:26.2 MASTER	stop the engine.
2033:27.6 3M-1	stop engine.
2033:31.1	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2033:44.1 PILOT	alright let's go in.
2033:46.3 HELM	still hard left.
2033:49.5 3M-1	rudder's still hard left.
2033:51.0 PILOT	alright. thank you.
2033:53.3 PILOT	midship.
2033:54.0 HELM	midship.
2033:55.0	[sound similar to bridge wing door closing]
2033:58.2 PILOT	*.
2033:59.1 HELM	good evening captain.
2034:02.5 ?	** good good.
2034:08.9 HELM	wheel midship.
2034:14.3 PILOT	okay Vera you can go all stop.
2034:18.5 VERA	all stop Vera. do you want us to back away?

Time and Source	Event
2034:21.0 PILOT	you can go ahead and back away. thank you.
2034:23.9 PILOT	dead slow ahead.
2034:24.9 3M-1	dead slow ahead.
2034:27.0	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2034:56.6 MASTER	working extra hard? great.
2034:59.7 PILOT	[sound of laughter]
2035:02.6 PILOT	left ten.
2035:03.6 HELM	left ten.
2035:08.5 HELM	left ten.
2035:08.8 PILOT	bring her up to slow when you— whenever you can.
2035:10.8 MASTER	yeah we're probably going to need a little while especially **.
2035:13.6 PILOT	okay Josephine uh you can go ahead and go all stop.
2035:17.2 JOSEPHINE	all stop Josie.
2035:22.4 VERA	okay I'm right behind you there @ [Josephine].
2035:25.7 PILOT	go ahead and pay out your line Josephine. **.
2035:37.4 PILOT	midship.
2035:38.1 HELM	midship.
2035:39.6 MASTER	do you want ***?

Time and Source	Event
2035:40.6	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2035:42.3	[sound of tone]
2035:44.6 HELM	rudder midship.
2035:56.3 PILOT	right twenty.
2035:57.3 HELM	right twenty.
2036:05.4 HELM	right twenty.
2036:06.1 3M-2	hey captain you need anything else from me?
2036:07.7 MASTER	alright.
2036:08.4 CM	give him their line?
2036:09.7 PILOT	hey Josephine you can take your line in *.
2036:12.5 PILOT	* half straight in *.
2036:14.9 ?	**.
2036:19.3 JOSEPHINE	roger that.
2036:30.1 PILOT	midship.
2036:30.8 HELM	midship.
2036:37.6 PILOT	give me whatever you can give me cap.
2036:38.7 HELM	wheel midship.
2036:40.0 MASTER	yup.

Time and Source	Event
2036:40.9 PILOT	you want to start shoving on it and get a little speed here.
2036:42.9	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2036:50.5 PILOT	midship.
2036:51.5 HELM	wheel midship.
2036:54.2 MASTER	yeah we should be good.
2036:58.9 PILOT	***.
2037:03.1 3M-2	chief mate do you need me on *.
2037:05.2 ?	yes.
2037:05.9 PILOT	hey Josie * tell Vera to get back here get on the midship and # push full.
2037:14.2 PILOT	midship.
2037:14.9 HELM	midship.
2037:15.7 ?	roger captain. [Vera or Josephine]
2037:19.0 PILOT	hard left.
2037:19.8 HELM	hard left.
2037:23.2 MASTER	we're at full.
2037:24.9 PILOT	full?
2037:25.8 PILOT	hard left.
2037:26.5	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]

Time and Source	Event
2037:26.9 HELM	hard left.
2037:29.8 PILOT	yeah Josephine just go all stop.
2037:30.4 3M-1	full ahead.
2037:33.9 PILOT	midship.
2037:34.6 JOSEPHINE	all stop.
2037:34.9 HELM	midship.
2037:36.1 PILOT	hey Vera.
2037:36.8 3M-1	midship.
2037:37.6 HELM	yeah.
2037:37.8 PILOT	hold on a moment.
2037:39.3 PILOT	midship.
2037:39.9 HELM	midship.
2037:42.8 PILOT	#.
2037:43.5 ?	push.
2037:45.1 PILOT	#.
2037:46.0 MASTER	tell em to push. push.
2037:48.3 HELM	wheel midship.
2037:48.4 PILOT	stop engines.

Time and Source	Event
2037:49.4 3M-1	stop engine.
2037:51.0 HELM	wheel midship.
2037:51.1	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2037:52.3 PILOT	#.
2037:53.5 PILOT	hey uh...Vera get back here push on my bow. Josephine get back here on the stern quarter.
2038:00.1 3M-1	stop engine captain.
2038:01.3 JOSEPHINE	hey captain I need em to drop my line. **.
2038:03.0 PILOT	hard left.
2038:04.1 HELM	hard left. hard left.
2038:04.2 PILOT	hard left.
2038:06.2 PILOT	God dang it.
2038:09.6 MASTER	we need the engine. we need to go.
2038:10.5 PILOT	yeah give me slow ahead.
2038:11.8	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2038:13.6 PILOT	I can't keep the speed up for ** you know.
2038:17.8 ?	*.
2038:19.0 HELM	hard left.
2038:21.4 JOSEPHINE	tell em to drop my line captain.

Time and Source	Event
2038:23.0 PILOT	alright.
2038:25.0 PILOT	hey Vera get back here and get a line on me if you can.
2038:28.1 PILOT	midship.
2038:28.2 VERA	I'm trying captain as fast as I can.
2038:28.7 HELM	midship.
2038:30.0 PILOT	#.
2038:32.1 PILOT	come on. #.
2038:35.2 PILOT	stop engine.
2038:36.9 3M-1	stop engine.
2038:37.7	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2038:38.2 PILOT	stop engine.
2038:39.5	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2038:40.0	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2038:40.1 MASTER	oh Jesus.
2038:40.9 PILOT	I can't keep going.
2038:41.1	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2038:42.0 MASTER	drive out of here. you— you— the current is gonna take you—
2038:44.8 PILOT	midship.

Time and Source	Event
2038:45.6 HELM	wheel midship.
2038:45.7 PILOT	I can't get that speed up to get out of here captain. so we're gonna have to back this thing.
2038:52.3 MASTER	once you get clear of this tug get it— get back to the right.
2038:54.6 PILOT	midship.
2038:56.2 HELM	wheel midship.
2038:57.0 PILOT	hard right.
2038:57.9 HELM	hard right.
2039:02.2 PILOT	full ahead.
2039:03.2 3M-1	full ahead. we're at full ahead sir.
2039:06.5 PILOT	#.
2039:07.8 MASTER	hard left hard left.
2039:09.2 3M-1	hard left.
2039:09.7 HELM	hard left.
2039:09.8 PILOT	hard right.
2039:10.0	[sound of tone]
2039:10.3 HELM	you said hard right?
2039:14.0 PILOT	since you're clear I'll go hard right. * full *.
2039:14.6 HELM	he said right to me.

Time and Source	Event
2039:14.7 CM	we're gonna clear. we're gonna clear
2039:19.7 PILOT	midship.
2039:20.1 3M-1	midship.
2039:20.3 HELM	midship.
2039:22.2 3M-1	hard left?
2039:24.3 HELM	wheel midship.
2039:25.0 MASTER	midship. midship.
2039:26.9 PILOT	I need to get some point on it captain.
2039:33.0 PILOT	if they can turn his line loose.
2039:34.5 MASTER	hard left hard left.
2039:35.6 HELM	hard left.
2039:36.3 MASTER	hard left.
2039:37.3 3M-1	hard left.
2039:38.0 PILOT	yeah hard left now.
2039:41.0 CM	you know what ***.
2039:42.1 MASTER	stay back stay back stay back stay back.
2039:42.1	[sound of tones similar to panel alarms]
2039:43.7 HELM	hard left.

Time and Source	Event
2039:44.8 PILOT	midship.
2039:45.5 HELM	midship.
2039:48.0 HELM	midship.
2039:48.4 MASTER	don't let anything go.
2039:49.8 PILOT	okay uh Josephine Anne midship.
2039:53.3 HELM	wheel midship.
2039:54.6 MASTER	hard left. hard left.
2039:55.8 3M-1	hard left.
2039:56.0 HELM	hard left.
2039:59.4 PILOT	oh this is good— hey this is getting terrible.
2040:02.4 PILOT	#. he's trying to drop his line.
2040:05.0 HELM	hard left.
2040:06.5 PILOT	midship.
2040:07.0 HELM	midship.
2040:07.5 CM	he's trying to drop the line captain.
2040:08.1 PILOT	this headway's killing us.
2040:09.7 PILOT	stop engine.
2040:11.2 PILOT	we can't get out of this.

Time and Source	Event
2040:11.5 3M-1	stop engine.
2040:12.3 PILOT	full astern.
2040:13.8	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2040:14.8	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2040:15.1 HELM	midship.
2040:15.3 PILOT	full astern.
2040:16.3 MASTER	hard left. full ahead. don't listen to the pilot.
2040:18.8 3M-1	okay.
2040:19.7 MASTER	hard left. full ahead.
2040:21.0 HELM	hard left.
2040:23.1 PILOT	captain we're gonna land on this stuff.
2040:25.9 3M-1	okay. full ahead.
2040:26.1	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2040:26.6	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2040:29.5 HELM	hard left.
2040:31.9	[sound similar to bridge phone]
2040:33.6 PILOT	*** fleet.
2040:34.8 3M-1	bridge. third.

Time and Source	Event
2040:35.4 ?	did you tell the captain to tell the dock **.
2040:36.6 3M-1	we're just— yeah we're in evasive maneuvering now.
2040:38.3 PILOT	yeah ***.
2040:38.9 MASTER	drop the line. drop the line. hard right.
2040:40.7 PILOT	we can't get out of this buddy ** can't let that come down in here.
2040:41.0 HELM	hard right.
2040:41.1 3M-1	hard right.
2040:44.3 MASTER	hard right.
2040:45.2 HELM	hard right.
2040:45.3 3M-1	hard right. hard right.
2040:47.5 PILOT	this is #— this is—
2040:50.0 MASTER	hard right.
2040:50.8 HELM	hard right.
2040:51.3 PILOT	you're not coming out of this captain. *.
2040:54.8 PILOT	geez back full astern. she's not coming out of this. * I said so.
2040:57.7 HELM	hard right.
2041:00.9 PILOT	aww # buddy.
2041:04.6 PILOT	# hard right. #.

Time and Source	Event
2041:09.4 JOSEPHINE	just drop it in the water.
2041:10.9 MASTER	hard right.
2041:11.8 MASTER	thanks.
2041:13.2 PILOT	Josephine if you can get out of there you need to get out of there buddy.
2041:16.8 CM	okay if we drop the line captain?
2041:18.4 PILOT	full ahead.
2041:21.5 MASTER	hard left.
2041:22.3 HELM	hard left.
2041:22.8 PILOT	no.
2041:25.7 PILOT	you're gonna have to get as much point as we can get captain to get out of here.
2041:25.9	[sound similar to ship's whistle]
2041:32.8 MASTER	tell those tugs to push when they can get back in here.
2041:36.3 PILOT	hard left.
2041:37.3 HELM	hard left.
2041:38.4 HELM	hard left.
2041:38.6 MASTER	hard left. rudder's hard left.
2041:40.5 PILOT	#.
2041:44.7 MASTER	midship.

Time and Source	Event
2041:45.3 3M-1	midship.
2041:47.3 PILOT	#.
2041:49.8 PILOT	that's it. we can't get out of this # #.
2041:52.9 MASTER	alright. ***.
2041:53.4 HELM	midship.
2041:54.4	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2041:55.9 PILOT	#.
2041:58.6 HELM	midship.
2041:59.4 PILOT	watch out.
2042:01.3 PILOT	#. # #. [sound of sigh] #.
2042:06.6 MASTER	why did that tug leave and not push?
2042:08.6 PILOT	I don't know man.
2042:10.5 PILOT	Federal thirty-five calling all tugs for uh...near A-D-M Ama. *.
2042:20.4 PILOT	hard left.
2042:21.3 HELM	hard left.
2042:26.8 JOSEPHINE	everyone in this vicinity uh the American Liberty is coming down. please watch out. please watch out.
2042:34.5 HELM	hard left.
2042:39.1	[sound of contact]

Time and Source	Event
2042:43.4 MASTER	sound the— sound the emergency.
2042:47.1	[sound similar to ship's whistle]
2042:50.4	[sound of contact]
2042:53.5	[sound similar to ship's general alarm]
2042:58.4 PILOT	gosh.
2043:09.6 PILOT	watch this crane.
2043:11.6 PILOT	what's the speed?
2043:12.1	[sound similar to bridge phone]
2043:12.8 MASTER	five knots over the ground.
2043:18.2 MASTER	stand by to drop the anchor.
2043:19.1 3M-1	bridge @.
2043:20.0 PILOT	dropping anchor? okay.
2043:21.7 3M-1	uh * drop the anchor. yeah.
2043:23.2 MASTER	drop the starboard anchor.
2043:24.4 MASTER	are they clear?
2043:26.1 ?	starboard anchor. drop the starboard anchor. let it go. are they clear?
2043:35.7 3M-1	okay. uh. okay.
2043:39.1 3M-1	chief wants to know what we're doing. have them stay down there?

Time and Source	Event
2043:41.7 MASTER	no. get out of the engine room.
2043:48.0 3M-1	everyone get out of the engine room.
2043:50.7 PILOT	somebody get over here— I'll uh * you.
2043:54.0 ?	starboard anchor pay out. [someone on the bow]
2043:55.7 PILOT	what's its lead?
2043:58.8 PILOT	Federal thirty— Federal thirty-five is uh dropping anchor here— topping around uh here at A-D-M Ama. Federal thirty-five. Reserve I mean.
2044:14.4 PILOT	this is—
2044:21.5 PILOT	we don't need to have—
2044:23.3 ?	two and a half— three shots out. [someone on the bow]
2044:25.8 PILOT	can you let more out? **
2044:27.9 MASTER	I am— just whatever you got.
2044:31.7 HELM	hard left. hard left.
2044:32.9 ?	five shots on deck. [someone on the bow]
2044:34.8 PILOT	should we go. let's see here. we're still at three knots. let's stop the engine a minute.
2044:41.2	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2044:53.6 PILOT	#.
2044:59.1	[VTS security call closing the river]
2045:00.1 PILOT	#.

Time and Source	Event
2045:02.1 ?	four shots. [someone on the bow]
2045:18.3 ?	five shots. [someone on the bow]
2045:22.1 MASTER	put it on the brake.
2045:23.6 PILOT	#.
2045:24.5 CM	on the brake.
2045:25.9	[sounds of contact]
2045:38.3	[sounds of contact]
2045:42.1 PILOT	alright let's go full astern. see if we can— see if we can **.
2045:44.6	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2046:03.6 PILOT	give me hard right.
2046:04.8 HELM	hard right.
2046:05.6 PILOT	* stern *.
2046:11.5 PILOT	Josephine can you uh come in and get a line on my stern here?
2046:15.8 JOSEPHINE	*** something in the water *** in there in fifteen seconds **.
2046:29.3 TUG1	hey captain I'm ready to get the bow here.
2046:30.7 ?	*** push push.
2047:00.9 PILOT	backing pretty good. or not. I don't know
2047:04.6 PILOT	J-K Mclean get a hold of me. get a line on me maybe pull me off this ship. get the stern going the other way or something. topped around *.

Time and Source	Event
2047:15.2 ?	hey Josie who's on that ship?
2047:18.1 MASTER	** keep listening.
2047:19.7 PILOT	yeah.
2047:21.0	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2047:21.7 3M-1	rudder's hard right.
2047:22.5 PILOT	Federal thirty-five.
2047:23.8 ?	hey bud what to you * ship?
2047:25.9	[sound of contact]
2047:26.8 PILOT	I'm just trying to get this thing to flip back the other way and I want to take my stern out in to the river where I can get off this stuff.
2047:35.0 ?	did you get the bow?
2047:37.1 PILOT	no. don't push the bow. * stern in the river where she'll flip around. I've got my anchor down.
2047:44.6 ?	yeah alright.
2047:47.8 PILOT	I'll get some tugs to pull the stern out. we'll get it to flip around on these chains and just lay there.
2047:56.7 PILOT	they got somebody to get a line back there captain?
2047:58.5 MASTER	yeah.
2047:58.9 MASTER	we need to get a line on this tug on the stern.
2048:01.8 PILOT	[sound of sigh] man...who knew the water *.

Time and Source	Event
2048:07.0 ?	what's up Josie?
2048:09.2 JOSEPHINE	trying.
2048:10.9 PILOT	man.
2048:14.7 JOSEPHINE	got some people back there captain to catch a line?
2048:28.5 PILOT	can they ***?
2048:32.4 MASTER	I need you on the stern to grab a line.
2048:33.8 PILOT	harbor boats uh the one coming up here to A-D-M Reserve can you all come up here and push hard straight out into the river for me?
20:48:49.5	[radio transmission indicating crew evacuated from the crane barge]
2048:53.6 ?	alright we need to get a harbor tug on the inside of the ship to push him off get these loads.
2049:02.2 JOSEPHINE	anybody back there to get a line?
2049:05.1 PILOT	# I need somebody to get a line **. get the line on the stern **.
2049:16.7 ?	need some people to take our stern lines— take a line on the stern so we can pull the ship away from the barges.
2049:20.9 PILOT	* don't want to do that * stop.
2049:26.0	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2049:27.2 PILOT	* we still be backing on it or?
2049:28.8 MASTER	no. we're stopped engine.
2049:30.2 PILOT	let's back on it ***. we're gonna tear up some more *.
2049:34.9	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]

Time and Source	Event
2049:37.4 MASTER	slow ahead.
2049:38.6 PILOT	no. slow astern. full astern. full astern.
2049:40.8 MASTER	full astern.
2049:41.5	[sound similar to two engine response indicator alarm]
2049:44.2 3M-1	**.
2049:53.4	[sound of three beeps]
2050:10.2 PILOT	hey Josephine. *.
2050:14.8 JOSEPHINE	Josephine's at the stern ready to take a line now.
2050:20.3 PILOT	everybody's busy?
2050:21.7 MASTER	stop the engine. no they're back there. they're taking a line.
2050:23.2 PILOT	oh okay. alright.
2050:24.1	[sound similar to three engine response indicator alarm]
2050:25.8 MASTER	the fenders are twisting right in to the *.
2050:27.5 PILOT	yeah I know it. I wanted to try to back her up.
2050:31.5	[sound similar to three engine response indicator alarm]
2050:33.6 PILOT	okay uh if we can get somebody standing by this fleet here at A-D-M Reserve. *.
2050:42.8	[sound similar to bridge phone]
2050:49.0 3M-1	uh chief wants to know if they can go in the engine room to answer his alarms.

Time and Source	Event
2050:51.1 MASTER	yes. check for flooding.
2050:52.1 PILOT	touching up on the A-D-M Reserve Fleet. all tugs...working the Fleet here.
2050:54.1 3M-1	yeah check for flooding.
2050:54.9 MASTER	taking— you taking a line from the tug on the stern?
2050:57.8	[sound of contact]
2051:04.6 MASTER	alright once he come's back in we'll take a line.
2051:07.5 PILOT	working the Fleet here.
2051:12.0 PILOT	catching these barges **.
2051:13.6	[sound of contact]
2051:15.1 FLEET	yeah see them loads are going— they're— they're coming your way.
2051:21.7 FLEET	uh probably about twelve uh fourteen.
2051:30.6 FLEET	everybody's standing by. we got all the boats we got coming but it's gonna take more than that..
2051:32.1	[sound of contact]
2051:35.8	[sounds of contact]
2051:38.8 PILOT	#.
2051:44.1 PILOT	what's our speed?
2051:46.7 MASTER	just about stopped now.
2052:16.9 PILOT	okay Josephine * line *.

Time and Source	Event
2052:30.1 PILOT	is there somebody that can get a line on me to— to go * without breaking your line?
2052:32.7 MASTER	whenever * get a line up. straight up?
2052:51.3 PILOT	we're backing hard straight (in / out).
2052:56.3 MASTER	can we get another tug on the bow so we can come in so I can get a line up on there?
2053:00.0 PILOT	well it— you got your anchor down captain. what it's going to do ** you know. and we can get that stern going around and flip it's setting down in here hard.
2053:10.0 MASTER	yeah.
2053:10.5 PILOT	so I need the bow to stay here and I just need her to flip out that way.
2053:21.8 PILOT	* straight in.
2053:44.1 ?	** hard.
2053:50.4 ?	alright captain all lines are up port side over here *.
2053:56.5 JK	J-K's backing hard.
2053:58.9 PILOT	okay back hard. straight out.
2054:05.2 ?	**.
2054:11.9 MASTER	* have the river push you in to the— the current push you in—
2054:18.7 PILOT	I don't want her to drop down any more you know.
2054:22.6 MASTER	you don't want her to drop down any more?
2054:23.9 PILOT	I don't want it to drop down river anymore. you know what I'm saying?
2054:28.9 PILOT	full astern.

Time and Source	Event
2054:29.9 MASTER	dead slow astern so you don't twist so much?
2054:31.6 PILOT	yeah that'd be good.
2054:32.5	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2054:42.2 PILOT	** down to me.
2054:45.3 ?	he dropped the anchor though. [tug]
2054:48.5 ?	he's been draggin that anchor. dragging on the wrong side too. vessel will flip. [tug]
2055:20.7 PILOT	** bow.
2055:29.1 PILOT	* lift us off here. J-K you still backing hard?
2055:34.3 JK	backing hard.
2055:48.8 PILOT	can we get * line on there Josephine? get on there—
2055:52.7 ?	*** transom for you. [tug]
2055:58.5 PILOT	okay if I just you know could get this stern to come out in the river. flip it around. you know.
2056:05.9 PILOT	flip it around and * on this anchor.
2056:29.6 PILOT	what's our speed now?
2056:31.4 MASTER	one knot.
2056:34.2 PILOT	***.
2056:49.3 PILOT	this is what the deal is captain. ** bow. ** stern.
2056:57.1 MASTER	I know but * right now so I don't want to get away from the— from the pier.

Time and Source	Event
2057:04.7 PILOT	yeah. if I could get two tugs back here on the stern...
2057:11.1	[sound similar to bridge phone]
2057:13.8 3M-1	bridge @.
2057:23.0 PILOT	try to get one on the transom?
2057:25.0 MASTER	yup. yeah let's do it
2057:26.6 PILOT	yeah let's try **.
2057:27.3 3M-1	no flooding in the engine room. just hull damage in the engine room.
2057:31.1 MASTER	okay we're gonna need another tug on the stern.
2057:33.5 3M-2	another tug on the stern. roger that.
2057:52.1 PILOT	Josephine tell me when you can get a line back there.
2057:59.0 MASTER	***.
2058:04.2 PILOT	hey Fleet boat there uh can you get a line on us there * Ingram boat— Arco.
2058:18.1 PILOT	* Jesus Christ.
2058:30.1 PILOT	she'll lay here.
2058:35.4 PILOT	okay J-K just keep backing hard.
2059:00.3 PILOT	everything you can back there J-K.
2059:03.6 JK	all I got cap.
2059:07.0 PILOT	alright.

Time and Source	Event
2059:08.9 PILOT	give her full astern one more time see if we can stop her— I think she's gonna lay here. on that dock.
2059:16.2 MASTER	yup.
2059:16.9 3M-1	captain what do you want? full astern?
2059:20.0	[sound of contact]
2059:21.3 MASTER	yup.
2059:23.0	[sound similar to engine response indicator alarm]
2059:24.3 PILOT	hopefully she lays here. I think she will.
2059:26.0 HELM	hard to starboard— hard right sir.
2059:28.1 MASTER	just midship.
2059:29.8 HELM	* midship.
2059:38.3 PILOT	tell him to let some more shots of anchor out. see if we can grab a hold.
2059:43.7 MASTER	we have to get that tug out of here. move him up to the bow.
2059:47.4 CM	roger I'm gonna head for the bow now. @ standing by * bring in a line now.
2059:48.6 PILOT	okay J-K uh...
2059:54.8 PILOT	keep doing what you do.
2059:57.9 END OF TRANSCRIPT	