



YOUNG ENDEAVOUR
ADVENTURE AT SEA FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS

Young Endeavour Youth Scheme



PO Box 399 Potts Point NSW 2011
Building 24 Garden Island NSW
Ph (02) 9368 1800 Fx (02) 9368 0183
Toll Free 1800 267 909
E-mail yrgendvr@ozemail.com.au

34/37/1

MHQ

Attention:

DFOO

STS YOUNG ENDEAVOUR - NARRATIVE OF INVOLVEMENT IN SAR OPS 27/28 DEC 98

1. The following narrative is forwarded for information. It has been prepared quickly for transmission prior to YE proceeding out of telephone range.


N.R. GALLETTY
LCDR RAN
CO

28 Dec 98

Enclosures:

1. Narrative. (2 pages)
2. SATCOM C messages - 14 in number (3 pages)

NARRATIVE OF EVENTS 27 DEC 98

a.m. 27 Weather forecast poor, storm sails bent on.

p.m. 27 YE proceeding south under storm sails only.

1711 YE proceeding iaw message one to search for "STAND ALONE".

1719 Overheard VHF Mayday from "WINSTON CHURCHILL" (WC) which was responded to by ABC Helo. Details of Mayday recorded as follows: "WC in posn. 20 miles SE Twofold Bay taking on water rapidly, 9 persons onboard preparing liferafts".

1720 YE in posn. S37 23.8 E150 16.0

1724 YE VHF transmission " WC this is YE launch a red flare to indicate your posn." (times 2)

O/C Investigated three yachts in vicinity of S 37 25.0 E 150 17.0 whilst en route to STAND ALONE.

1730 Transmitted SATCOM C Mayday relay. (Message 2)

1748 Altered course to respond to WC Mayday iaw AUSSAR 98/4372 (message 3) Transmitted message 4 to RCC re proceeding to WC instead of STAND ALONE.

1749 Received AUSSAR 98/4381 (message 5) requesting YE to proceed to S 37 14 E 150 19. (This is to be recorded as 'northern posn.' in this narrative)

simultaneously Over heard A/C speaking with C/S OYQJ2 garbled conversation re being in area and able to assist. Also RX cancellation of AUSSAR 98/4372 (message 3) at message 6.

1804 RX AUSSAR 98/4381 (message 7) indicating WC position as being S 37 46 E 150 33 (to be recorded as 'southern posn.' in this narrative.)

1815 YE altered course to close southern posn. (YE noted that this did not tie in with Mayday which said WC was 20 NM SE of Eden.)

1828 sent message 8 - [proceeding to southern posn.]

1834 RX message 9 indicating STAND ASIDE crew had been rescued by helo. (YE contined to southern posn.)

2022 Attempts to establish comms with SAR A/C unsuccessful.

2041 RX message 10 advising that A/C had sighted WC in southern posn, dis-masted but not not sinking. Continued to southern posn.

O/C WX deteriorated markedly, sea state 6 wind force 11, forestaysail and topgallant square sail, which were sea furlled, now torn apart. One sail cover carried away. During this period several VHF CH16 conversations were taking place between aircraft and ships. In particular, conversation heard between aircraft C/S SAR and vessel C/S OYQJ2 in which aircraft believed WC to be at southern posn. YE then suspected possibility existed that aircraft had misidentified STAND ALONE for WC- both reported positions being relatively close. YE broadcast on CH 16 to SAR and OYQJ2 suggesting checking they had indeed correct location of WC. OYQJ2 did RX YE but SAR may not have. Also several red flares had been sighted by YE and reports of red flares made by yachts to TELSTRA CONTROL, YE under storm sails could not manoeuvre to windward to investigate the red flares. Meanwhile tug Moira Elizabeth (spelling) and dis-masted yacht TEAM JAGUAR and TELSTRA CONTROL were communicating trying to locate TEAM JAGUAR for tow purposes.

2319 Arrived in southern position TX message 11. "Hove to etc"

0045 Rx message 14 "carry on with fleet tasking" after which YE sailed north with weather at approx 6 knots. Two more red flares sighted quite close range, approx 3 miles. YE tried several Wears (gybes) to close but nil vessel found.

0110 RX message 12 cancelling the southern posn.

0116 Rx message 13 establishing amended northern point in posn. S 37 16.5 E 150 19.0

0300 Moira Elizabeth closed YE believing YE to be TEAM JAGUAR.

0700 Contacted RCC by telephone to recommend search for WC be centred around down wind area from northern position seeing no sign of WC found at southern posn.

Enclosure 2 to
Yr minute 34/37/1
dated 28 Dec 98

1. FM YOUNG ENDEAVOUR
TO RCC AUSTRALIA
REF RCC AUST 270528Z DEC 98(AUSSAR 98/4372)
YE CURRENTLY IN POSN 3722.1S5-15014.5E6. ETA STAND ASIDE 270930Z1.
INTEND RECOVERING REMAINING PAX FM LIFERAFT AS REQD. AWAITING FURTHER
INSTRUCTIONS
BT

2. FM YOUNG ENDEAVOUR
TO RCC AUSTRALIA
RECEIVED MAYDAY FM WINSTON CHURCHILL IN POSN APPROX 20NM SE OF
TWFOLD BAY. ABANDONING SHIP TO LIFERAFTS - VESSE;L TAKING ON WATER
RAPIDLY. YE UNABLE TO DETERMINE EXACT POSN ABC A/C IN CONTACT
BT

3. LES 222 - MSG 9567 - Distress Distress Call to Area: 37 S 150 E 300 -
PosOK
Y1227113

MAYDAY

FM RCC AUSTRALIA 270554Z DEC 98 AUSSAR AUSSAR 98/4372
POINT HICKS TO MONTAGUE ISLAND CHART AUS359
YACHT WINSTON CHURCHILL WITH 9 PERSONS IN POSITION 27 14S 150 19E AT
270615 UTC DEC HOLED AND TAKING WATER. CREW ABANDONING TO LIFE RAFTS
VESSELS WITHIN FOUR HRS REPORT BEST ETA AND INTENTIONS TO THIS
STATION OR TO TELEX 7162025. OTHER VESSELS REQUESTED TO MONITOR
COAST RADIO STATIONS OR SATCOM THROUGH PERTH LES

FM YOUNG ENDEAVOUR
TO RCC AUSTRALIA

4. REF AUSSAR 98/4372

CURRENTLY ENROUTE YACHT STANDASIDE 10 NM SOUTH OF WINSTON CHURCHILL.
REQUEST ADVISE PRIORITY. INTEND PROCEEDING TO WINSTON CHURCHILL
UNLESS OTHERWISE ADVISED. ETA 270800Z.
BT

//

5. TELSTRA SATCOM-C SERVICE
98-12-27/06-49 UTC
MSG REF : 14830
FROM : 505262752032 via X.25
LES ID : PERTH (222)
//

P 270646Z DEC 98
FM RCC AUSTRALIA
TO YOUNG ENDEAVOUR VMGW 450300141
BT
AUSSAR 98/4381 - WINSTON CHURCHILL
PLEASE PROCEED TO POSITION 37 14S 150 19E WHICH IS WINSTON
CHURCHILL'S LAST KNOWN POSITION. CREW REPORTED TO BE ABANDONING TO
LIFERAFT.
BT

LES 222 - MSG 9570 - Distress Distress Call to Area: 37 S 150 E 300 -
PosOK
Y1227127

MAYDAY

FM RCC AUSTRALIA 270657Z DEC 98
CANCEL MY 270554Z DEC 98 AUSSAR 98/4372 (WINSTON CHURCHILL) DISTRESS
RELAY MESSAGE.
UPDATED MAYDAY RELAY AUSSAR 98/4381 REFERS.
SILENCE FINI

LES 222 - MSG 9572 - Distress Distress Call to Area: 37 S 150 E 300 -
PosOK
Y1227126

MAYDAY

FM RCC AUSTRALIA 270650Z DEC 98 AUSSAR 98/4381 YACHT WINSTON
CHURCHILL SINKING.
POINT HICKS TO MONTAGUE ISLAND CHART AUS359
YACHT WINSTON CHURCHILL WITH 9 PERSONS SINKING IN POSITION 37 46S
150 33E AT 270700 UTC DEC.
VESSEL WITHIN FOUR HRS REPORT BEST ETA AND INTENTIONS TO THIS
STATION OR TO TELEX 7162025. OTHER VESSELS REQUESTED TO MONITOR
COAST RADIO STATIONS OR SATCOM THROUGH PERTH LES

FM YOUNG ENDEAVOUR
TO RCC AUSTRALIA

REF AUSSAR 98/4381

PROCEEDING TO WINSTON CHURCHILL POSN AT REF. ETA 271030Z. ATTEMPTING
COMMS WITH SAR AIRCRAFT FOR DIRECTION.
BT

LES 222 - MSG 9575 - Distress Distress Call to Area: 38 S 151 E 300 -
PosOK
Y1227146

MAYDAY

FM RCC AUSTRALIA 270727Z DEC 98
CANCEL MY 270528Z DEC 98 AUSSAR 98/4372 DISTRESS RELAY MESSAGE.
YACHT STAND ASIDE ALL PERSONS RESCUED BY HELICOPTER AND TAKEN TO
MALLACOOTA. SILENCE FINI

//
TELSTRA SATCOM-C SERVICE
98-12-27/09-54 UTC
MSG REF : 25210
FROM : 505262752032 via X.25
LES ID : PERTH (222)
//

P 270941Z DEC 98
FM RCC AUSTRALIA
TO STS YOUNG ENDEAVOUR VMGW 450300141
BT
AUSSAR 98/4381 YACHT WINSTON CHURCHILL
1. LAST KNOWN POSITION OF WINSTON CHURCHILL WAS AS REPORTED BY VH-SAR
WHEN IT OVERFLEW YACHT IN POSITION 37 46S 150 33E AT 270639Z.
AIRCRAFT REPORTED YACHT HAD NO MAST AND APPEARED NOT TO BE SINKING.
ORIGINAL ADVICE WAS THAT CREW WERE ABANDONING TO LIFERAFT. THIS
INFORMATION CANNOT NOW BE VERIFIED. HELICOPTER SEARCH UNDERWAY
BT

FM YOUNG ENDEAVOUR
TO RCC AUSTRALIA

REF AUSSAR 98/4381

ARRIVED IN POSN 37 46S 150 33E. PRESENTLY HOVED TO. SET NORTH AT 4
KTS. KEEPING BEST LOOKOUT. WIND 269 50 KTS GUSTING TO 65 KTS HEAVY
SEAS POOR VISIBILITY.

BT

12. LES 222 - MSG 9587 - Distress Distress Call to Area: 37 S 150 E 300 -
PosOK
Y1227295

MAYDAY

FM RCC AUSTRALIA 271405Z DEC 98
CANCEL MY 270650Z DEC 98 AUSSAR 98/4381 DISTRESS RELAY MESSAGE.
UPDATED BROADCAST FOLLOWS.
SILENCE FINI

13. LES 222 - MSG 9588 - Distress Distress Call to Area: 37 S 150 E 300 -
PosOK
Y1227297

MAYDAY

FM RCC AUSTRALIA 271409Z DEC 98 AUSSAR 98/4381 - YACHT WINSTON
CHURCHILL SINKING.
POINT HICKS TO MONTAGUE ISLAND CHART AUS359
YACHT WINSTON CHURCHILL WITH 9 PERSONS ONBOARD SINKING IN VICINITY OF
POSITION 37 16.5S 150 19E AT 270700UTC DEC.
VESSELS WITHIN FOUR HRS REPORT BEST ETA AND INTENTIONS TO THIS
STATION OR TO TELEX 7162025. OTHER VESSELS REQUESTED TO MONITOR
COAST RADIO STATIONS OR SATCOM THROUGH PERTH LES

//
TELSTRA SATCOM-C SERVICE
98-12-27/14-06 UTC
MSG REF : 37140
14. FROM : 505262752032 via X.25
LES ID : PERTH (222)
//

O 271345Z DEC 98
FM RCC AUSTRALIA
TO MASTER YOUNG ENDEAVOUR/VMGW
BT

AUSSAR 98/4372 - SYDNEY/HOBART YACHT RACE.
1. NO SPECIFIC TASK FOR YOU AT PRESENT. PLEASE CONTINUE WITH YOUR
NORMAL DUTIES WITH THE FLEET.
2. RCC AUSTRALIA IS CURRENTLY DETECTING SEVEN ACTIVATED EMERGENCY
BEACONS IN SOUTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES/BASS STRAIT WATERS.
3. APPRECIATE IF YOU COULD BROADCAST THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE
SYDNEY-HOBART FLEET.

QUOTE

IF NOT IN GRAVE AND IMMINENT DANGER OR IN NEED OF LIFE SAVING MEDEVAC
PLEASE CONSIDER DEACTIVATING YOUR EMERGENCY BEACONS.

UNQUOTE

BT