

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

MAJOR MARINE ACCIDENT - *
COLLISION OF THE JAPANESE *
FISHERIES TRAINING VESSEL * NTSB Project ID No.
EHIME MARU AND THE U.S. NAVY * 51701
NUCLEAR ATTACK SUBMARINE *
USS GREENVILLE, DCA01MM022. *

Tuesday, February 20, 2001

Telephone interview of Mr. Anthony Schnur
by
National Transportation Safety Board Investigator
Julie
Beal.¹

¹ Pursuant to a classification review conducted by the US Navy, certain classified information as to the operating capabilities of the U.S.S. Greenville has been expressed as a range or as an otherwise non-specific number. Expression of this data in this manner does not interfere with the utility of the information found in the transcripts and will not interfere with the review and deliberations of the Board.

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2

3 MS. BEAL: My name is Julie Beal. I'm with
4 the National Transportation Safety Board, and I'm
5 conducting this interview in furtherance of our
6 investigation of the U.S.S. Greenville and the Ehime
7 Maru off the coast of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

8 And if you would, please, state your name
9 for the record and spell it?

10 MR. SCHNUR: Anthony Schnur, S-C-H-N-U-R.

11 MS. BEAL: And would you give your address,
12 please, for the record?

13 MR. SCHNUR: (Omitted)

14

15 MS. BEAL: Okay. Very good. May I call
16 you Anthony?

17 MR. SCHNUR: Tony's fine.

18 MS. BEAL: Tony, okay. Tony, I would just
19 like for you in your own words, take your time, and
20 please describe for the record the events of the day
21 beginning at the time that you arrived at Pearl

1 Harbor, from the time you were met there and then
2 just the events of the day. If you would just walk
3 me through your day, that would be great.

4 MR. SCHNUR: All right. Well, I think we
5 must have arrived at about 7:30 or 7:45, if I --
6 something like that. Kind of got an early start of
7 it. And we piled out of our van and were -- were
8 met at the dock where the sub was docked and -- not
9 sure exactly how long this all took. But we were
10 met there by the captain. We were met there by the
11 -- I don't know what his -- chief of staff
12 Brandhuber, Captain Waddle, Navy -- the XO was out
13 there. And I don't recall anyone else, but I think
14 Pfeiffer was there, the XO.

15 Kind of a little welcoming -- a welcoming
16 to-do. They handed out some folders with some
17 literature about the submarines and -- and things
18 like that. It was kind of a welcome aboard. It was
19 somewhat informative, somewhat casual, not -- it was
20 not a party atmosphere but it was like, gee, really
21 great to have you here. If I recall, they described
22 why -- why the Navy allows these things to go on.
23 You know, we want to show the -- you know, basically
24 the taxpayers the commitment here, et cetera, et

1 cetera, things like that.

2 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

3 MR. SCHNUR: That may have lasted 15
4 minutes at the -- at the utmost. I would say that's
5 a max.

6 We walked on and went down into the sub
7 into the crew mess where we all got seated and were
8 -- were put through a little more of a -- as opposed
9 to a welcoming, more of a little detail. This is
10 sort of how your day is going to go, this is what we
11 have planned, kind of a -- a dos and don't. Don't
12 touch anything. Don't go anywhere. Don't do
13 anything unless you ask or you're escorted or both.
14 Mostly both.

15 But it was just kind of those things.
16 Described the ship in -- in some detail. Described
17 the areas we -- that we were not going to be allowed
18 to view, i.e. the reactor room, some other things
19 like that. You know, kind of housekeeping duties.

20 We -- I recall a -- a conversation about
21 the head, which restroom the ladies would be
22 directed to and -- and the men could go elsewhere.

23 Things like that, of that nature. And talked about
24 the different things. You'd have an opportunity to

1 go topside on the hull, have an opportunity to go up
2 -- up to the top of the -- the sail that -- that --
3 the thing on the top of the sub.

4 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

5 MR. SCHNUR: I believe I heard it referred
6 to as a sail. Oh, for -- I mean that was pretty
7 much it. They -- they kind of covered everything,
8 introduced a couple of guys, introduced Pfeiffer I
9 recall. The commander kind of set it up and someone
10 else, I don't recall. May have been Pfeiffer that
11 kind of walked through this where it was -- there
12 was another fellow. Meador or -- Mador, something
13 like that. Kind of an engineering type guy.

14 And then said, well, we'll -- we'll split
15 up into some groups and, you know, we'll start
16 taking you around. A couple of you'll be able to go
17 up on top on the hull. We can take a few people up
18 -- up to the top of the sail and -- and so my wife
19 and I kind of -- I don't exactly remember how we --
20 we got that choice.

21 But we -- we got ourselves prepared. I
22 remember we sat and waited for a while. I recall
23 the crew gathering life vests for the people that
24 were going topside, and a group of those folks left.

1 And then we were asked if -- if we would like to go
2 to -- to the top of the sail with the captain, and -
3 - and we did. So as we stood at the very bottom of
4 the -- of the ladder that takes you, you know, up,
5 up, and up, one of the crew members gave us
6 instructions. Told us -- I remember that the ladder
7 turned. You know, you kind of go up tubes, for lack
8 of a better term.

9 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

10 MR. SCHNUR: But you know, you go up one
11 side, and then you get halfway up and the ladder's
12 on the other side. They explained that you have to
13 switch positions. When you get to the top you do
14 this.

15 So as I -- as I rose -- my wife had gone up
16 before me. So as I rose, you know, I heard 'em
17 giving her instructions as to where to put this foot
18 and that foot. There were two other crewmen up
19 there and the captain was up on top. At the bottom
20 before we got going up the ladder they put us in
21 harnesses and there was a -- kind of a strap
22 attached to the back of this thing which they laid
23 over our shoulders. And as we rose up out they --
24 they took the harness and I could feel them clicking

1 it, you know, somewhere. So we were on -- on our
2 leashes.

3 MS. BEAL: So the ship was underway at this
4 point? Is that correct?

5 MR. SCHNUR: Yes.

6 MS. BEAL: Okay.

7 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah. At some point we -- we
8 pushed out and -- and were -- were on our way.

9 MS. BEAL: Okay.

10 MR. SCHNUR: Topside, obviously.

11 So I was -- I was really kind of taking it
12 in. We -- we got up to the top, had some -- some
13 chitchat with the captain. But I was pretty much
14 kind of standing and looking around and the fact
15 that I was standing there and kind of -- we were
16 making our way out through Pearl Harbor.

17 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

18 MR. SCHNUR: And we -- we were out there
19 for I would say quite a bit, meaning -- I'm going to
20 guess and say 10 minutes. I do recall what appeared
21 to be 'cause I could -- you know, I turned around.
22 I could see the Missouri and could see a little
23 slice of the Arizona Memorial at the beginning. And
24 then as that -- that faded in the distance behind us

1 my left I think I asked what was that part of the
2 base and I think he identified parts of it as -- as
3 not the naval base but Hickam. But I'm not sure.
4 He said there was housing. He actually pointed out
5 where he lived, the captain.

6 And then as I could see the -- what -- what
7 appeared to me, anyway, because of the -- there
8 seemed to be some -- what do they call them?
9 Pilings or -- or something, whatnot, in -- in --
10 what separates the harbor from the open ocean.
11 Looked like they had built up some -- some sea walls
12 or whatnot to -- you know, we were told it was time
13 to go back, obviously. We were approaching open
14 sea.

15 And we -- you know, we made our way all the
16 way back downstairs. We went into the mess and were
17 -- were going to be, you know, going on our tour.
18 And I think we ended up in -- in two groups of
19 eight. Or it seemed that way, anyway.

20 The group that -- the point is, the group
21 that we went on our internal tour with was larger
22 than what we were allowed to have up top.

23 By the way, I should mention while we're --
24 while we were on top we could look down and view the

1 people on the hull. And I want to say there may
2 have been six to eight of our -- of the quote,
3 unquote, "civilian guests" on the hull. And I kind
4 of recall on either side, you know, they have kind
5 of those -- those wire handrails there. I noticed
6 that there were a row on either side of the
7 civilians of three crewmen kind of standing watch,
8 so to speak.

9 MS. BEAL: Hmm.

10 MR. SCHNUR: Anyway, so they were on
11 topside while we were up there. We got back down.
12 It looked like they kind of machinated us into --
13 into two groups of eight. And they kind of took us
14 all around the boat explaining different things.

15 You name it. We saw torpedo room. Lots of
16 -- where they do the de-salination. You know, they
17 showed us -- we make our own -- he was explaining to
18 us, hey, we've got a nuclear reactor on board. We
19 generate as much electricity as we need. What that
20 means is we can generate our own air, we can produce
21 our own water, we have air conditioning, we have a
22 cooler that's all -- and -- and we saw all those
23 things. And you know, there were parts that were
24 completely over my head and I think I was a little

1 astounded at just the sheer volume of valves and
2 pipes, et cetera, et cetera.

3 But you know, showed us -- he -- one of the
4 crewmen had -- had -- it was the engineer. I think
5 it may have been a chief engineer. Again, I think
6 it was Meador. Mador, something like that.
7 Grumbled that the cooler took much more time to keep
8 maintained than the reactor itself, so.

9 But as we walked around the ship and -- and
10 took in different -- different things. And he gave
11 us some pretty detailed descriptive ideas about, you
12 know, the cooler and this and that. It -- it was
13 all very, from my perception, pleasant but
14 professional I guess is -- is what I would say.

15 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

16 MR. SCHNUR: Other crewmen would come by
17 and, "Excuse me, sir," and things like that.
18 Everything just seemed to be kind of calm and -- and
19 we went through that whole process.

20 And that -- that obviously took a heck of a
21 lot longer than I would have ever imagined. And
22 then it was -- it was our turn to go up and -- and
23 see the control room, and we did that. It wasn't --
24 you know, we were just cruising around at that

1 point. And heard off and on between, maybe, you
2 know, seeing Pfeiffer and our guy, Mador and other
3 people about lunch. Well, the first group's going
4 to sit at such and such and -- and then we'll take
5 this group in for lunch.

6 So at some time probably around 11 a.m.,
7 I'm guessing, to 11:30 they must have decided to
8 sit, you know, the first group for lunch, and that
9 was the time that we -- we spent a few minutes
10 getting a tour of the control room, pointing out
11 different valves and -- and I remember a description
12 -- I may have even asked why -- why they had two --
13 two steering wheels. And they explained to me that
14 one basically sends the ship left or right, the
15 other one sends it up and down kind of thing. So I
16 got the impression that, you know, there would be
17 two people driving to do distinctly different
18 things.

19 And I think I took a -- you know, we took a
20 -- a walk around. There were a couple of guys in
21 the area that would be behind the periscope. Looked
22 like mapping tables. And I had made the comment
23 that I was -- I said, don't -- isn't all this
24 computerized when they were doing their charting.

1 You know, they were actually using pencils and --
2 and you know, those little compass-type rulers --

3 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

4 MR. SCHNUR: -- or angle things, you know.

5 That surprised me that that wasn't all
6 computerized, you know. I guess I've seen too many
7 movies.

8 Anyway, did that, and then we made our way
9 and were invited into the sonar room. And that was
10 kind of neat 'cause they had -- you know, they said
11 they had captured -- that there were some whales out
12 in the area. And -- and I felt like we were there
13 kind of a good bit but it was sort of a feeling like
14 it was kind of a slow period. So we listened and --
15 and got the sense that we were just sort of waiting
16 around for our time to have lunch. I seem to recall
17 Pfeiffer suggesting that he was going to push 'em
18 along and -- and go -- he would go to check to see
19 how long it was going to be. Apparently he was
20 getting hungry.

21 And then -- then our time came to go have
22 lunch, so I mean I've covered about three to four
23 hours there.

24 MS. BEAL: Uh huh.

1 MR. SCHNUR: But you know, it was pretty
2 uneventful other than, you know, everything that we
3 were taking in as -- as -- you know, I have no
4 military background whatsoever so that was all
5 pretty -- pretty fascinating and interesting.

6 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

7 MR. SCHNUR: And then we went to the
8 officer's -- I don't know if they call that the
9 ward. But anyway, where the officers eat. And you
10 know, our group of eight sat at lunch with XO
11 Pfeiffer, and that was -- you know, that was
12 enjoyable. We asked a lot of questions. How long
13 are you out? How does your family feel about that?
14 Things like that.

15 And they were -- my general impression of
16 the crew overall was that they weren't -- they were
17 eager to respond to any questions. They seemed to
18 have a genuine interest in -- in kind of showing us
19 their craft. I guess I would -- I would -- I would
20 describe it that way. They were very pleasant. You
21 know, I -- I -- I kind of felt like I was in their -
22 - in their way in that, you know, here we are all --
23 on the boat, and -- but they -- they were real nice
24 about explaining things to us and kind of answering

1 any kind of question we had. And you still got a
2 sense of, you know, everybody kind of had a job to
3 do and they stuck to it.

4 And so we went -- went ahead and had lunch
5 and -- and that was very enjoyable. I think we must
6 have left there and gone directly up to the control
7 room and -- and were told that, you know, we were
8 going to go through these maneuvers.

9 And so we made it up there and I -- I in
10 the control room -- I was standing with my wife. I
11 was not on a straight line but I was between the
12 opening where the curtain was to the sonar room and
13 where the captain stands. So I was sort of standing
14 at an angle to the room. My right shoulder would
15 have been pointing toward the sonar room. My left
16 shoulder would have been pointing at the captain.
17 My wife was to my left, probably slightly behind me.

18 Directly to my left and sort of in front of me was
19 Koshy. Koshy is Mrs. Wyatt. And if I recall
20 correctly, and I think I do, there was a piece of
21 equipment that had a booster chair that as we went
22 through maneuvers she -- she was sitting in the
23 booster chair.

24 MS. BEAL: Okay. If -- when you had your -

1 - you say your right shoulder was toward the sonar
2 room and the periscopes were off to the left?

3 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah.

4 MS. BEAL: Okay.

5 MR. SCHNUR: You know, if I would have
6 stuck my left arm out and pointed with my finger I
7 would have been pointing approximately at the cabin
8 -- captain or -- or the periscopes.

9 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay.

10 MR. SCHNUR: The two periscope towers.

11 MS. BEAL: Okay.

12 MR. SCHNUR: And so I had somewhat of an
13 angular view to the large screen, whatever -- the
14 flat screen monitor.

15 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

16 MR. SCHNUR: I didn't have as crisp a view
17 of that as others, but if I, you know, kind of
18 turned myself around within my body to my left and
19 turned my head past my wife there was probably I
20 want to say a nine -- seven- to nine-inch diagonal
21 monitor.

22 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

23 MR. SCHNUR: Looks like there were -- oh,
24 there were one, two, three, maybe four of these

1 stations. I don't know what they were. Nobody -- I
2 didn't see anybody at them. But they had these
3 little lock-down chairs. But above it was this
4 little mini monitor. So I -- I spent more time
5 looking at that 'cause I didn't have a -- I didn't
6 have a terribly good angle from where I was at at
7 the, you know, the large monitor when it was on.

8 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

9 MR. SCHNUR: The captain kind of described
10 to us what we'd be doing. He -- he described it as
11 we would be going through some maneuvers. He called
12 them angles and dangles. I asked -- I asked the
13 question is -- you know, is this something like, you
14 know, evasive maneuvers? And he said, yes, this is
15 the kind of thing you would do in that -- in that
16 situation.

17 And he said, the first thing we'll do is
18 we'll dive to a depth in excess of 800 feet². And so
19 I believe it was then -- and I'm -- to be honest,
20 I'll be a little fuzzy exactly when we dove. But we
21 did go down at one point to a depth in excess of 800³
22 feet prior to the series of angles and dangles.
23 Don't know what depth we did those angles and

² See footnote 1.

³ See footnote 1.

1 dangles at, but the series of events would have been
2 the -- the going down to a depth in excess of 800⁴
3 feet, then the series of angles and dangles, and
4 lastly the emergency blow were the three sets of
5 procedures that I understood that we would be going
6 through, and -- and that's what we did.

7 So we went down. We dove, and I distinctly
8 recall as we were diving -- of course, you're --
9 you're leaning forward a bit. And the -- there was
10 some crewmember calling out the depths as they went
11 by. You know, so that -- that was at some time
12 prior to angles and dangles but I do believe after
13 lunch. And you know, a depths in excess of 800
14 feet⁵, et cetera, et cetera until we got down there.

15 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

16 MR. SCHNUR: And I believe all along the
17 captain was encouraging his crew when he gave his
18 orders. You know, we want to hit the depth plus or
19 minus, you know, five feet, and I can't recall
20 exactly what his tolerance is. So he -- it -- I got
21 the impression that, you know, this wasn't just for
22 show, that he was putting them through drills and
23 there must, at least in my mind based on what he was

⁴ See footnote 1.

⁵ See footnote 1.

1 ordering, there must be tolerances within the -- you
2 know, the Navy wants to see these things
3 accomplished. And was very congratulatory. You
4 know, good -- good job, crew. We're -- you know.

5 I -- I think on the dive he wanted it plus
6 or minus 20, or that may have been one of the
7 angles. I'm not going to say 'cause I don't
8 remember.

9 But anyway, don't know if we came back up
10 or not, but then he said, okay, we're going to go
11 through this series of angles and dangles. Kind of
12 told us what that meant, that, you know, the ship
13 would lean. You need to find a place to stand. He
14 said, now, some people prefer -- if you don't want
15 to be up here you can go down to the mess.
16 Actually, it's kind of -- it's interesting there as
17 well. If you look at the juice machines you can see
18 at what angle you're --

19 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

20 MR. SCHNUR: -- you know, the boat is.

21 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

22 MR. SCHNUR: I don't believe anyone left
23 the control room. I did not see anyone leave. I
24 think we were -- anybody that was up there when we

1 started was there. I know occasionally in the
2 morning or throughout the morning a couple of people
3 weren't feeling so well so they would -- you know, I
4 think the captain had offered up, like, his state
5 room or something for people to lay down if they
6 weren't well.

7 Anyway, so the -- I'm not sure all 16 of us
8 were up there. I really don't know. I would guess
9 and say pretty sure probably 14 of us at least were
10 up there. But thinking we were all there.

11 So we went through angles and dangles, and
12 that was, you know -- you know, right 15 degrees, so
13 we all kind of felt ourselves, you know, as we were
14 hanging on kind of sturdy. And right to 15, and
15 then left 15, and then right, you know, 30, and left
16 30. And he did some other maneuver where I think he
17 had this -- he wanted the boat to stop within so
18 many feet and turn a certain way. And then it was,
19 you know, up 15 degrees, down 15 degrees, up 30
20 degrees, down 30 degrees. That was pretty much the
21 series of maneuvers that he put us through.

22 And I believe it was then he announced,
23 okay, you know, let's go to periscope depth. And as
24 we were rising he said, okay, this'll be the last

1 thing of the day. What we're going to do is an
2 emergency blow-down. We'll go down to 400 feet and
3 what we'll do is we'll fill the -- we'll fill the
4 ballasts with air and it -- it will bring us to the
5 surface at approximately, you know, 30 degrees.
6 Something like that. That is not a quote, by the
7 way.

8 MS. BEAL: Right. Okay.

9 MR. SCHNUR: Something to that effect.

10 And so when we got up -- up to -- you know,
11 up to periscope depth I heard, "Up periscope." And
12 I recall I was -- you know, I was looking around
13 because of my angle and my head turning. Cohen did
14 two turns or sweeps of the periscope in -- in
15 circles. But I'm thinking it was three only because
16 --

17 MS. BEAL: I'm sorry. Who did? The
18 captain?

19 MR. SCHNUR: It was Cohen.

20 MS. BEAL: Cohen? Okay.

21 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah. I'm thinking it was
22 three, only -- only because he was already en route
23 on -- on one of his turns when I started looking.

24 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

1 MR. SCHNUR: And then I saw two more
2 complete turns. Not -- not that I could decipher
3 that from what I was seeing on the monitor, but he
4 was taking, you know, sideways steps so you could
5 watch him --

6 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

7 MR. SCHNUR: -- rotate around the floor.

8 MS. BEAL: And were you looking at the
9 monitor?

10 MR. SCHNUR: I was going back and forth
11 between this little screen over my -- behind my
12 left-hand shoulder --

13 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

14 MR. SCHNUR: -- and -- and Cohen.

15 MS. BEAL: Okay. And did you see anything
16 on the screen?

17 MR. SCHNUR: No, I didn't.

18 MS. BEAL: Okay.

19 MR. SCHNUR: But I -- you know, I'll be
20 perfectly frank. I was not glued to the monitor.

21 MS. BEAL: Okay.

22 MR. SCHNUR: In other words, I didn't -- I
23 know that he went around. I wasn't watching the
24 screen or watching the complete circles on the

1 screen that -- you know, theoretically I could have
2 looked away. Something could have been there; I
3 could not have seen it.

4 MS. BEAL: Right.

5 MR. SCHNUR: But it was -- it was during
6 that time that Commander Waddle stepped into the
7 sonar room. And I recall him coming back out
8 saying, I'll take a look. And then in there --

9 MS. BEAL: Did he say, "I'll take a look,"
10 like they had told him that there was something
11 there or --

12 MR. SCHNUR: I can't tell.

13 MS. BEAL: Okay.

14 MR. SCHNUR: I don't know. It was --

15 MS. BEAL: Okay.

16 MR. SCHNUR: I didn't know if it -- is it
17 normal for the captain to take a look? You know, if
18 I -- if I would have known that I would have known
19 whether that was odd or not.

20 MS. BEAL: Right. Okay.

21 MR. SCHNUR: So I don't know.

22 MS. BEAL: Okay.

23 MR. SCHNUR: Other than, you know, it's
24 "I'll take a look."

1 And he went up periscope. He did -- he did
2 two turns at least. And I was sort of right in that
3 line between Captain Waddle and the sonar room when
4 -- when I saw now -- I know because we've talked
5 about it. My wife said she saw Pfeiffer stick his
6 head out the first time. I didn't see that. But I
7 did see this little conversation between the two of
8 them. And -- and really didn't think anything of it
9 at that moment, but you know, obviously -- you have
10 25 hours on a submarine that you didn't expect to be
11 on you have time to think about what went on. And
12 it -- in hindsight it appeared odd.

13 Commander Waddle -- Pfeiffer was not
14 speaking -- he either didn't say anything or he
15 didn't say anything loudly. And the commander said
16 something -- something to the effect of, yes, I'm
17 aware of it, you should stay in the sonar room for
18 the procedure. Some -- something to that effect.

19 MS. BEAL: And that was the commander or
20 the captain that said that?

21 MR. SCHNUR: Well, I -- I'm using those
22 terms interchangeably.

23 MS. BEAL: Okay. It was Waddle?

24 MR. SCHNUR: It was Waddle.

1 MS. BEAL: Okay.

2 MR. SCHNUR: Why don't we do it that way?

3 MS. BEAL: Okay.

4 MR. SCHNUR: I'm sorry. I'm totally
5 ignorant of their -- their titling system.

6 And he kind of nodded his head and went
7 back in the sonar room. And -- and that happened --
8 I -- I honestly don't know if that happened
9 immediately prior or immediately post. I think it
10 was prior to Waddle taking his -- his looks in the
11 periscope.

12 MS. BEAL: Okay.

13 MR. SCHNUR: And I saw him go around twice.

14 But again, same thing, I was -- I was moving my
15 eyesight from him rotating around actually
16 physically on the periscope and then over my left
17 shoulder looking in this -- this monitor. Kind of
18 back and forth.

19 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. When he said, "Yes, I'm
20 aware of it," you say in the sonar room, was he
21 talking to Pfeiffer?

22 MR. SCHNUR: Yes.

23 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay. But you didn't
24 hear what Pfeiffer was -- had said to him?

1 MR. SCHNUR: No.

2 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay.

3 MR. SCHNUR: It -- it wasn't a -- I -- I
4 remember -- I mean I can see Pfeiffer's face right
5 now and I don't want -- I don't want to overstate
6 this. I can't say it was concern. It was more than
7 a casual, though. Do you know what I mean?

8 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

9 MR. SCHNUR: But I have no idea what was
10 happening, so it was like, oh, whatever. And it was
11 kind of -- you know, like a very -- a very brief
12 nod, like a -- a look of if you know what I'm -- do
13 you know what I'm meaning here. But that -- that's
14 complete conjecture.

15 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay.

16 MR. SCHNUR: But if -- something happened
17 there and you'll have to ask those two.

18 MS. BEAL: Did he feel comfortable speaking
19 to the captain? Or was there any kind of hesitation
20 in his voice that maybe -- you know how sometimes
21 you -- it's difficult to -- to talk to a boss? Did
22 you sense any kind of --

23 MR. SCHNUR: No, I didn't --

24 MS. BEAL: -- comeuppance or anything?

1 MR. SCHNUR: -- sense any of that. As --
2 again, clearly, as an afterthought I sensed an
3 awareness that we were there, not that he any -- had
4 any problem communicating with his boss. If I
5 sensed anything, it was a problem communicating in
6 front of us.

7 MS. BEAL: Okay.

8 MR. SCHNUR: But that was a thought I had
9 after the fact.

10 MS. BEAL: Okay. Mm-hmm.

11 MR. SCHNUR: Fair enough?

12 MS. BEAL: All right. That's good
13 observation.

14 (Pause)

15 MR. SCHNUR: Before we dove we were at
16 periscope depth. He said, okay, now we're going to
17 dive to 400 feet. Would any of my guests like to
18 participate? And I obviously -- you know, I -- we --
19 -- we were a number of people. I didn't make a big
20 deal of it but I kind of half raised my hand. But
21 these other two fellows were closer, more senior in
22 age, and apparently, you know, from our group it was
23 -- it was John Hall who kind of got us all on the
24 boat and I think that Commander Waddle was aware of

1 that, that he had made the arrangement. And then
2 this other -- this other fellow, Jack Clary kind of
3 seemed to be the apparent choices.

4 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

5 MR. SCHNUR: So, fine. So he directed them
6 now to the other side of the control room and said,
7 you know, when we get there, you know, we'll -- it
8 seemed to me they were getting instructions that I
9 couldn't hear from crew members. Didn't appear to
10 me like this was something that hadn't been done
11 before. You know, they -- they kind of knew what to
12 do. Somebody took John over. I saw him sort of
13 pointing up a little bit at -- at whatever these
14 levers are. And -- and they had Jack standing
15 beside the right-hand steering wheel, for lack of a
16 better term, or stick or whatever they call 'em.
17 You know, they have those two seats, one on the
18 left, one on the right. He was taken to the -- the
19 chair on the right and they -- you know, they were
20 pointing and talking but I couldn't hear what was
21 going on.

22 And at some point on the way down I believe
23 that -- that -- or when we were at the top. I don't
24 know for sure. But Jack got in the chair, that

1 right-hand chair, and he was sort of surrounded by -
2 - you know, he had the driver on the left, you had a
3 guy in between, then you had a -- a crewman in
4 between. And then he had a crewman sort of off of
5 his right shoulder.

6 Then, you know, we got down to the bottom.

7 And I wasn't really watching so how long he sat
8 there I'm not positive. But at some point during --
9 from the time we went down periscope and were
10 beginning our descent to 400 feet, somewhere in
11 there Jack got in the chair, and I don't know when
12 he got out.

13 MS. BEAL: Okay.

14 MR. SCHNUR: And that would be Mr. Clary.

15 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

16 MR. SCHNUR: We got down to the -- the --
17 we got down to the bottom. You know, all the time
18 the captain was giving orders, and you could hear,
19 you know, "Aye aye, sir," or -- or -- you know, you
20 could tell it was like regimented. You know,
21 captain says this. And I -- just totally lost as to
22 what was happening. But it was obviously -- you
23 know, it was like a tennis match. He said one thing
24 and you -- you got a response out of a crewmember.

1 Whether that was an "aye aye, sir" or that was a,
2 you know, "200 feet" or whatever it was. And many
3 of those orders were repeated by Cohen and then
4 repeated back through Cohen to the captain, if that
5 makes sense.

6 MS. BEAL: Okay.

7 MR. SCHNUR: You know, it was like a --
8 this -- this phone tree thing.

9 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

10 MR. SCHNUR: You know, the captain would
11 order it, Cohen would -- would repeat the order, a
12 crewman would respond, and somebody would give some
13 kind of detail, you know -- you know, "20 degrees"
14 or "200 feet" or whatever it was. And that would go
15 back and be repeated.

16 We got down to the bottom and -- or the
17 bottom, I should say. You know, 400 feet. You
18 know, 400 feet, and I -- I distinctly remember the
19 order, prepare for emergency blow.

20 A couple of things happened. I heard a
21 horn blow. And then -- again, I'm on the right side
22 of the control room. On the left side of the
23 control room -- and it's pretty dark at this point.
24 You know, I could see John -- John Hall. He's a

1 pretty big guy. You know, he reached up and did
2 whatever, and there was a crewman with him. And we
3 all kind of knew by the explanation that we were
4 given that once, you know, he -- this -- once this
5 happens we would start to rise rapidly and -- and we
6 did so. And I was taking in the sensation or
7 whatever.

8 I -- I do recall John doing whatever he
9 did. Again, I was on the other side of the room.
10 But that's really the last I looked over in that
11 direction. I -- I may have looked at -- at my wife
12 and kind of smiled at the sensation. You know, we
13 were -- we -- we -- it seemed as though we were
14 rising relatively rapidly.

15 And then I personally seem to recall a
16 slight scrape and a bang, but it was more a noise
17 than a feeling, if that makes sense to you.

18 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

19 MR. SCHNUR: I mean I -- my initial
20 reaction was that like -- like it threw a piston or
21 something. It sounded to me like an internal noise.

22 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

23 MR. SCHNUR: Okay? So I wasn't -- you
24 know, I was just, wow, what was that? And then, of

1 course, looked at the captain and -- and -- and he
2 looked, you know, very concerned. I don't -- I
3 don't want to say -- I don't want to overstate.
4 He obviously was in control. He was, you know,
5 Jesus, what -- what the hell was that?

6 And I -- and I'm -- and I'm embarrassed to
7 say this. I hope this doesn't show anywhere, but,
8 you know, I honestly thought, okay, what's -- what's
9 the game here? You know what I mean?

10 MS. BEAL: Hmm.

11 MR. SCHNUR: I mean I -- I couldn't believe
12 -- I guess my mind didn't want to believe that
13 something actually had gone wrong.

14 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

15 MR. SCHNUR: And -- and heard -- you know,
16 heard, "I don't know, sir" and heard, "Up
17 periscope." You know, at this point everyone's kind
18 of looking a little -- civilians, I should say. I
19 mean I -- I mean I looked at my wife's face and we
20 kind of looked at each other. It was like, okay,
21 what -- what's going on?

22 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

23 MR. SCHNUR: Obviously, in a -- probably in
24 -- internally very frantic but everything seemed

1 to be happening very orderly around us.

2 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

3 MR. SCHNUR: You know? And they went up
4 periscope. And because they went up periscope --
5 the video on all the time or what happens, but
6 obviously that extra light, you know, immediately
7 attracted me to the video. And it spun around. It
8 -- before I could focus in on it the captain said,
9 we have -- you know, we have struck the -- the Emu
10 Mary and I -- I say that to you now. Had I not read
11 it 50 times in the past week I wouldn't have
12 recognized the name.

13 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

14 MR. SCHNUR: I don't know if you pronounce
15 the name correctly or not. But he said, we struck
16 the X boat.

17 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

18 MR. SCHNUR: And we could -- we could see
19 it on the screen, and that's when I heard Pfeiffer's
20 voice back around to my right who had walked out --
21 my guess is he walked out of the sonar room past my
22 right shoulder heading toward the captain and said -
23 - I believe it was Pfeiffer that said, should we
24 escort our guests to the mess? And we -- obviously

1 somebody responded yes. I don't know because I just
2 -- I got in line behind 'em and -- and we all were
3 walked down. I don't believe it was Pfeiffer that
4 walked us down but somebody else.

5 MS. BEAL: Were you able to see the -- the
6 Ehime Maru on the screen at this point?

7 MR. SCHNUR: Yes.

8 MS. BEAL: Okay.

9 MR. SCHNUR: Briefly.

10 MS. BEAL: And what did you see?

11 MR. SCHNUR: I just saw the fact that there
12 was a boat. And in that brief flash it looked to
13 me, to -- to give you an idea how brief it was, it
14 looked to me like -- like a little fishing boat,
15 like something you would go off of Galveston here
16 for a, you know, three-hour fishing junket kind of
17 thing. I had no concept based on that. And maybe
18 it was just my depth perception and that little
19 screen and not having a sense of size. At that
20 moment -- and I wasn't getting a side view of it --
21 it just looked like, oh Jesus, you know, we hit this
22 little fishing boat.

23 And I was still a little bit I think in --
24 in disbelief like this can't really be happening as

1 we made our way down to the mess.

2 MS. BEAL: Well, there are very few things
3 in life I think you can associate this with.

4 MR. SCHNUR: Pardon me?

5 MS. BEAL: I said there are probably few
6 experiences in life that you can associate this
7 with.

8 MR. SCHNUR: Well, yeah. My wife and I
9 have discussed it and we reacted very differently.
10 I think she kind of started to worry about our own
11 safety, but the -- the impact was so insignificant
12 in -- you know, that I was -- I never -- that never
13 crossed my mind.

14 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

15 MR. SCHNUR: I thought, ooh. It's like --
16 sounded like some internal bang, you know, or
17 somebody hit a -- you know, to me it sounded like,
18 you know, a big old 55-gallon drum that somebody
19 took a ball bat and smacked the side of.

20 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

21 MR. SCHNUR: That's kind of what it sounds
22 like.

23 So we made our way to the mess. And they
24 walked us into the mess, and I -- I honest -- just

1 don't know who it was. We sat down. The screen was
2 going there. And -- and I think that's when it --
3 it started to sink in for me.

4 At this point I went from a very small, you
5 know, five-person fishing boat to, again, to not
6 perceptively -- must have -- must have been -- had
7 my head together, but then it looked like maybe, you
8 know, more of a -- a yacht-ish kind of thing, you
9 know. I'm thinking, oh Jesus, you know, a 50-foot
10 boat or something. I had no concept how big it was.

11 But from the time that I saw it very first
12 on the screen when we got down to the mess I would
13 say you could tell it was taking on water. And
14 within a minute the -- we were ordered or requested
15 or ordered or escorted off -- off the mess down to
16 the torpedo room. And in that -- say it was 60
17 seconds give or take, I don't know, that we watched
18 -- and that -- that might be a little bit long. I'm
19 earring here. We watched -- I'd say that thing was
20 halfway gone by the time we were -- we were shuttled
21 out of the -- out of the mess.

22 MS. BEAL: And could you see any people on
23 the boat?

24 MR. SCHNUR: No.

1 MS. BEAL: Okay.

2 MR. SCHNUR: No. And I'm -- I'm not sorry.
3 Just the -- the vision is haunting enough in
4 itself.

5 MS. BEAL: And what about the crew? Were -
6 - now, was the crew -- was the crew briefing you at
7 this point or giving you any --

8 MR. SCHNUR: No. There was -- there was
9 activity and -- and I've been trying to go in
10 sequence and -- and some of this is going to fall
11 out of sequence now. I distinctly recall seeing two
12 guys in -- in tan shorts, which I assume were
13 divers. I -- I recall hearing --

14 MS. BEAL: Now, this was on the submarine?

15 MR. SCHNUR: Yes.

16 MS. BEAL: Okay.

17 MR. SCHNUR: "Prepare the divers" was
18 something I heard along the way. And this is all
19 in, say, a three-minute span here between the time
20 we leave the control room to the time we end up down
21 in the -- in the torpedo room.

22 We leave the control room, we go to the
23 mess, so we may have been on that control 15 to 20
24 seconds after the accident before we get shuffled

1 downstairs --

2 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

3 MR. SCHNUR: -- to the mess.

4 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

5 MR. SCHNUR: And then we might be there

6 another 30 seconds to 60 seconds. Can't tell you.

7 Wasn't all that long.

8 MS. BEAL: Okay.

9 MR. SCHNUR: When we got there, enough time

10 to sit down, enough time to soak in what was on the

11 monitor in front of us. Enough time for somebody to

12 come in and explain that we have to get this ready

13 for the -- if Medivac -- some -- you got the

14 impression that it -- this was their -- going to be

15 their makeshift, you know, medical room, whatever.

16 MS. BEAL: Okay. So at this point you have

17 the impression that they're going to go out and try

18 to help rescue these people? Is that what I'm

19 hearing you say?

20 MR. SCHNUR: I'm hearing all the

21 preparations for that, yes.

22 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay. Was there a

23 medical officer on the ship?

24 MR. SCHNUR: Yes, there was.

1 MS. BEAL: Okay.

2 MR. SCHNUR: Because he gave us all
3 Dramamine later.

4 MS. BEAL: Okay.

5 MR. SCHNUR: When I -- when it kind of
6 soaked in I -- I asked for some. I said, well, you
7 know, we're here for at least three or four hours
8 and I just didn't want to take that chance.

9 Anyway --

10 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

11 MR. SCHNUR: So from that time we were
12 there 60 seconds. We get down to the torpedo room
13 and you're -- you're kind of hearing different
14 things going on.

15 Let me give you the overall impression of
16 what I thought was happening because there were --
17 there were orders coming over the PA system. It --
18 it appeared to me that they were preparing to -- and
19 -- and you heard reports, okay, you know, I see life
20 rafts, things like that. You know, you could hear
21 these things, some of it over the PA system. We've
22 got X number, and that count changed. You know, I'm
23 counting 18, we've got 25. And then it was like,
24 okay, we've got 26 people, we've got 26 people. Is

1 there anybody in the water? No, we have nobody in
2 the water.

3 I got -- here's what my amalgamation of
4 these things, which are not clear in any kind of
5 sequence in my mind. They determined that it was
6 too rough to go topside. And -- but they had divers
7 at the ready. And it seemed to me they were
8 watching for anybody that would be in the water.
9 And I got the sense that if they saw somebody in the
10 water, it looked like they were going to drown, they
11 were going to go. But otherwise, they were going to
12 wait, as long as everybody was in a life raft.

13 MS. BEAL: Okay.

14 MR. SCHNUR: That was my impression of this
15 compressed three- to five-minute span of hearing
16 stuff.

17 MS. BEAL: Okay.

18 (Pause)

19 MR. SCHNUR: You know, a couple of the more
20 poignant moments. The captain came on. I think it
21 was during that time, that 60 seconds where we were
22 in the mess where he got on, talked to his crew,
23 said I understand that the adrenaline might be pump,
24 pump, pumping. Take a deep breath. Settle down.

1 You've been trained for this. You're the best, lets
2 do this right. Kind of -- kind of that kind of
3 thing.

4 (Pause)

5 MR. SCHNUR: And -- and the -- I apologize
6 but it was just -- it's all -- it's -- you know, I
7 kind of got a sense of what was happening but I
8 can't give you a -- you know, this happened and then
9 this happened and this happened.

10 MS. BEAL: Oh, that's all right.
11 Impressions are important, too.

12 MR. SCHNUR: We got sent to the -- you
13 know, the torpedo room to kind of sit around and
14 wait. We were all just like, oh my goodness.

15 Brandhuber -- chief of staff Brandhuber --
16 Bob Brandhuber came down to check on us to make sure
17 we're okay, did we need anything, sort of gave us
18 updates as to what they knew along the way. You
19 know, there was a request for anybody that spoke
20 Chinese and then there was a request for -- spoke
21 Japanese. And -- and I don't know. We could have
22 been there an hour, we could have been there two
23 hours.

24 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

1 MR. SCHNUR: Down in that torpedo room.
2 I'm thinking it was probably outside of an hour but
3 not much more than maybe an hour and 15 minutes, as
4 a guess. And Brandhuber came down probably twice
5 during that time. I believe the captain made a
6 brief appearance, Captain Waddle made a brief
7 appearance in that time just to say everything's
8 okay, we're completely safe, here's where we at. I
9 think he gave us a head count. At that point I
10 think some time in there he knew, you know, it would
11 appear, we're not sure, we're still looking for
12 missing, but things like that.

13 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

14 (Pause)

15 MS. BEAL: Okay. Then what?

16 (Pause)

17 MR. SCHNUR: I think the updates got to the
18 point where the people that were in lifeboats had
19 been picked up by the Coast Guard. They then
20 informed us that we were going to be there
21 overnight. And you know, we went up, we had some
22 dinner in the -- did we eat -- I don't recall where
23 we had dinner. We may have eaten -- eaten in the
24 main mess and then -- and then were moved up into

1 the -- into the ward or the officer's -- officer's
2 mess.

3 MS. BEAL: Okay.

4 MR. SCHNUR: You know, as far as how the
5 rest of the night went, obviously they had some
6 things to work out. They cleared out a -- they
7 cleared out a 21-rack suite -- beds are called
8 racks. Terribly uncomfortable things, by the way.

9 But it's just the fact that you don't get
10 any space between you and the guy above you, so I --

11 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

12 MR. SCHNUR: -- constantly was smacking my
13 head.

14 But a -- you know, people just kind of
15 peeled off through the evening and were escorted
16 down when, you know, when they felt they could
17 sleep. I personally -- and Sue and I both -- we --
18 we tried to stay awake as long as possible only --
19 only because we didn't want to wake up at three a.m.

20 MS. BEAL: Right.

21 MR. SCHNUR: And -- and so we stayed up
22 probably till about one.

23 They had movies in. Nobody really watched
24 'em, you know. A couple decks of cards. We talked

1 to -- I believe he had gold stitching so he would
2 have been an officer, Techmyer. And -- and through
3 this time the captain did stop in. And Brandhuber
4 came in. He asked us, okay, who -- who should we
5 call? Is there anybody expecting to hear from you
6 this evening? That kind of thing. And so we -- you
7 know, we got that information together. And he --
8 you know, he was able to get those calls out to our
9 families or anybody that might be concerned.

10 MS. BEAL: Were they making any comments
11 regarding the in -- accident at this point?

12 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah. Yeah. He -- he -- all
13 along from the torpedo room where he may have
14 visited three times and then through the course of
15 the night. I -- I can't tell you but he was between
16 giving us updates on the process, the incident,
17 where we stood with, you know, who we hit, the
18 likelihood that we had missing people, the 26 had
19 been rescued. We were going to stay out overnight
20 to continue with the search and rescue. This whole
21 idea about contacting relatives if -- if necessary.

22 Yeah. I mean they kept us really nicely
23 up-to-date on -- on where the process was at with --
24 with the accident. There was never any suggestion

1 of -- I'm just guessing. Curious as to whether they
2 -- was there any coaching? No.

3 MS. BEAL: Or explanations of what they
4 thought happened?

5 MR. SCHNUR: No, no. We -- we -- I don't
6 know that we were all afraid to ask or figured they
7 didn't know. I don't recall anybody specifically
8 saying, all right, how -- how the hell did that
9 happen?

10 MS. BEAL: Right.

11 MR. SCHNUR: I'm sure everybody there was
12 thinking it.

13 MS. BEAL: Were you able to hear the
14 conversations when you were down in the torpedo
15 room? You -- were you able to hear the
16 conversations from the command room?

17 MR. SCHNUR: I could hear things that came
18 over the -- the internal PA.

19 MS. BEAL: Uh huh. Okay. But you couldn't
20 hear the conversations just among themselves?

21 MR. SCHNUR: No.

22 MS. BEAL: Okay.

23 MR. SCHNUR: No. No, everything that I --
24 like my description of my impression of what was

1 happening were an amalgamation of the guys that were
2 walking through the mess.

3 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

4 MR. SCHNUR: You know, you could see -- I
5 saw what I thought were a pair of divers, you know,
6 and different things. And what I could hear coming
7 over the PA system. And in fact, as far as did they
8 -- nobody talked about the accident, but I -- I
9 probably wish I didn't, but I -- I have wished I had
10 a tape of the announcement, and this would have been
11 heading into the night. I believe the -- the --

12 MS. BEAL: I'm going to switch phones here
13 for a second. I'm sorry. Go ahead.

14 MR. SCHNUR: The victims had been picked up
15 and were on Coast Guard ships and whatnot. And it -
16 - and Commander Waddle came on with what was -- what
17 was in my book a rather heavy voice that -- I
18 remember how he started -- I wish I could remember
19 the whole thing. Something to the impact of I don't
20 know -- you know, he described the accident. As you
21 understand, we've had a tragic accident. Hit this
22 ship. We have nine missing people, 26 have been
23 rescued. He said I don't know what this will bring,
24 but you are one of the finest crews I have ever

1 worked with. You know how we operate this ship.
2 Our -- our code of conduct here is safety, honesty,
3 and integrity, and you have to remember that going
4 forward. You know, this is -- incident will be
5 fully investigated. We must tell the truth.
6 Remember what you saw, remember what happened, do
7 not embellish, tell the truth, and maintain your
8 integrity. And this was over the PA system to the
9 crew.

10 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

11 MR. SCHNUR: He delivered a very similar
12 message to us in person in the ward or in the
13 officer's mess room.

14 MS. BEAL: Okay.

15 (Pause)

16 MR. SCHNUR: You know, we hung around until
17 about -- I think there may have been four or five of
18 us left at -- at 1:00 in the morning, and -- and we
19 finally tried to go get some sleep. You know, I got
20 in my rack and tossed and turned and got up at five.
21 Went upstairs to eat. John Hall was awake. And I
22 believe Mickey Nolan was awake when I got up there.
23 And you know, kind of got some coffee. We sort of
24 sat around and breakfast was either -- I think it

1 was just getting started or it was starting shortly
2 after I got up there. And we had some breakfast as
3 the others all kind of pretty consistently came in
4 within the next 30 to 40 minutes.

5 Kind of felt in the way. There was a lot
6 of people coming in to get breakfast, crew members.

7 And so we made our way back up to the officer's
8 mess where we kind of just waited out the morning.

9 Brandhuber came in again, gave us an
10 update, described to us how we would be transported.

11 We would go into the harbor. We would be
12 transported to a -- some kind of torpedo transport
13 boat or something. You know, kind of looked like a
14 ferry -- have a -- there was no underside. We stood
15 on top. You know, go in the harbor, we would go
16 there, they would take us, off-load us, you know, at
17 a dock. They would go get our vehicles for us.
18 There'd be a short debriefing. So he kind of
19 explained how that process was going to go. Gave us
20 another -- he kind of gave us an update. And of
21 course, we were asking questions. You know, we're -
22 - we're totally in the dark. You know, is this on
23 national news? Is it world news? Who's involved?
24 That kind of stuff. And he said this was gone all

1 the way to the -- I believe it was in the morning he
2 said this has gone all the way to the top, which we
3 all assumed meant, you know, to President Bush.

4 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. They weren't kidding,
5 were they?

6 MR. SCHNUR: No. No.

7 MS. BEAL: Okay. Have you had any
8 communication with anybody from the Navy since you
9 left the base that day?

10 MR. SCHNUR: No. I mean we had the brief -
11 - brief briefing from Admiral Konetzni -- Konetzni,
12 which was really an apology and there's going to be
13 press everywhere. We're not here to tell you what
14 to say or what to do. We'll be conducting an
15 investigation. The NTSB will be conducting an -- an
16 investigation. You know, please cooperate fully.
17 Left the base.

18 I have called -- my wife and I have called
19 Dave Warner. I had a -- a former friend and
20 neighbor who knew where we were and what we were
21 doing, and as soon as he saw it on the news he sent
22 an e-mail to NBC News. Thank you very little.

23 And so of the whole group of us, the 14 of
24 us that knew one another minus the Clarys whom we

1 were not familiar with, we were the only ones who
2 got called. Somebody, you know, at NBC Houston
3 leaves a message here at our home and calls us at
4 our hotel room in Waikiki. So you know, they'd
5 given us some numbers if we had questions so we
6 called in. We talked to Dave Warner about that, and
7 a couple of days later this -- what had ended up
8 happening is we -- we basically lied. They caught
9 us on the phone one day and we -- I just said, well,
10 I'm not familiar. You know, are you the Anthony
11 Schnur that was, you know, in this submarine thing?
12 And I was like, oh, I'm not familiar with that.
13 And then we were like, well, gosh, we can't be lying
14 and what do we do? So maybe two conversations with
15 Dave Warner.

16 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm. Okay.

17 MR. SCHNUR: But none of the other -- no
18 other individuals.

19 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay. Is there anything
20 else, Tony, that you would like to add to the
21 record? Anything that you recall either, you know,
22 prior to the day, during the day, during the night,
23 anything that -- you know, anything else that you
24 think might be useful to us?

1 MR. SCHNUR: Not -- not that I can -- I can
2 think of other than I was struck by how -- through
3 the whole -- the whole ordeal, but mostly through
4 the day. I was struck by the -- the professionalism
5 and, you know, everything seemed to be very orderly.
6 Yet, the -- the crew members seemed genuinely
7 interested that somebody was taking interest in what
8 they did. But all the while, you could see that
9 everybody had a job to do and it was getting done.
10 And that -- that was kind of my overall impression.

11 Specific incidents, I think I have -- you
12 know, I've covered as -- as well as I could.

13 MS. BEAL: Okay.

14 MR. SCHNUR: I think. But you know,
15 obviously if I come up with something or if I am
16 able to read through a transcript and say no, that -
17 - that wasn't what I meant, give me a call back.

18 MS. BEAL: Yeah. Well, no, as I -- I told
19 your wife and I'll tell you is that, you know,
20 certainly you can feel free to call me if you think
21 of any additional information that you think might
22 be useful to us. Feel free to call. And I would
23 like to ask to reserve the -- you know, the right to
24 contact you again if -- we're talking to everybody.

1 We're talking to the crew, we're talking to all the
2 civilian passengers, and as we -- you know, as we
3 start to put all this information together, I mean
4 it -- it's altogether possible that we -- we may
5 want to call you back and get some clarification on
6 some issues, too.

7 MR. SCHNUR: Absolutely.

8 MS. BEAL: So --

9 MR. SCHNUR: Everybody's pretty consistent?

10 MS. BEAL: You know, I don't know. I'm
11 only conducting some of the interviews. But yes, I
12 mean you seem to be saying pretty much what
13 everybody else --

14 MR. SCHNUR: Well, we didn't plan it that
15 way, by the way.

16 MS. BEAL: Well, I mean that -- that's the
17 beauty of sticking the truth, you know, is that, you
18 know -- you know, if you stick to the facts as you
19 know them then there -- there ought to be an awful
20 lot of overlap because --

21 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah, one thing -- one thing.

22 I did not speak directly to the JAG Officer
23 McDonald.

24 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

1 MR. SCHNUR: But I have had an attorney
2 check on a few items.

3 MS. BEAL: Uh huh.

4 MR. SCHNUR: Of personal liability.

5 MS. BEAL: Uh huh.

6 MR. SCHNUR: I mean I don't -- this doesn't
7 happen to me every day.

8 MS. BEAL: Right.

9 MR. SCHNUR: And I was -- knowing the
10 litigious society that we live in, we're like, you
11 know, if somebody wanted to, namely a grieving
12 Japanese parent, could they sue the civilians? And
13 the answer is yeah, anybody can sue anybody. So as
14 far as other contact, we -- we have gone through
15 some channels to see that the -- the Navy, the
16 United States Government would be taking care of
17 that kind of stuff.

18 MS. BEAL: Yeah.

19 MR. SCHNUR: But that -- that would be the
20 only other.

21 MS. BEAL: Yeah. Oh, well, yeah. I don't
22 -- I can't -- I don't know about that, but --

23 MR. SCHNUR: Right.

24 MS. BEAL: -- it seems -- it seems to be

1 farfetched, but --

2 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah, just a little bit.

3 MS. BEAL: I'll keep my fingers crossed for
4 you because that would really be ugly, yeah. Yeah.

5 But what we'll do is I mean our
6 investigations are going to take some time, you
7 know. We -- we go out and, you know, we start to
8 collect information as we find it. And you know, we
9 often describe it as being like a large jigsaw
10 puzzle. We --

11 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah.

12 MS. BEAL: -- you know, take all these bits
13 and pieces and -- you know, and after the fact-
14 finding portion of the investigation we start to put
15 all these together and see if we can't get a clear
16 picture of, you know, what it is that -- you know,
17 that the -- that went wrong. And --

18 MR. SCHNUR: Does -- does the Navy think
19 they know what went wrong?

20 MS. BEAL: You know, I don't know. I've
21 not -- I have not talked directly to the team that's
22 still in Hawaii. I mean we still have our team in
23 Hawaii that's doing all of the interviews with the
24 Navy and doing, you know, the record checks and the

1 background checks and the procedures and were the
2 procedures followed. I mean they're documenting
3 everything out there. So it'll be a while before we
4 -- you know, before we really have all the facts
5 that we want to start putting together.

6 MR. SCHNUR: You know, something that I
7 didn't mention.

8 MS. BEAL: What's that?

9 MR. SCHNUR: Now that -- now that I think
10 of it.

11 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

12 MR. SCHNUR: When we were in the sonar room
13 there were two sonar unit. Two sonar screens. A
14 right screen and a left screen.

15 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

16 MR. SCHNUR: And that left screen went out
17 at least three times. That machine was rebooted.
18 The sonar room is a long, narrow room. And if you
19 were standing in the center looking at the panel of
20 controls, to the right, to the far right would be
21 two chairs and two screens. And then to the far
22 left was almost just like a hallway and it went out
23 somewhere else. So there were two entrances to this
24 room, okay?

1 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

2 MR. SCHNUR: So if I'm looking straight at
3 -- like I've described --

4 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

5 MR. SCHNUR: -- and the sonar guys are to
6 my right, to my left there was a -- a black fellow,
7 senior. He seemed to be the senior guy. He would
8 reach above his head and push one or two buttons,
9 and he would say, I don't know what's up with this
10 thing but we've got to reboot it. And they would
11 reboot that particular machine three times in the 15
12 minutes or so that we were there.

13 MS. BEAL: Okay. I'm glad you told me
14 that.

15 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah. I'm sorry.

16 MS. BEAL: Uh huh.

17 MR. SCHNUR: Well, when I try to go in
18 sequence, you know, you don't get all the good --

19 MS. BEAL: Right, right.

20 MR. SCHNUR: -- kidding. But --

21 MS. BEAL: Now, was -- was -- was Pfeiffer
22 in there at this point?

23 MR. SCHNUR: No.

24 MS. BEAL: Okay. This was before lunch,

1 then?

2 MR. SCHNUR: This was the earlier --

3 MS. BEAL: Okay.

4 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah, this is before we went
5 down for lunch.

6 MS. BEAL: Okay.

7 MR. SCHNUR: I never went back into the
8 sonar room, but it was -- there were two sonar type
9 operator-listener guys, you know, listening.

10 MS. BEAL: Mm-hmm.

11 MR. SCHNUR: And they -- they were kind of
12 pointing out -- you know, we were asking questions
13 about the whale sounds 'cause they had that over the
14 speaker. And they were -- you know, you see those
15 sounds on the screen and they were pointing out, you
16 know, what they read or what they listen to. And
17 then to the left was this -- was this seemingly more
18 senior fellow who would reach up and reboot it when
19 the thing acted up.

20 MS. BEAL: Hmm. Okay. Well, that's an
21 interesting piece of information.

22 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah, probably something I
23 should have mentioned along the way. I apologize.

24 MS. BEAL: Yeah. Let -- let me ask you

1 something. Both you and your wife, you know, had
2 difficulties remembering the names of many of the
3 people on the -- on the ship, but you both clearly
4 seem to remember Pfeiffer?

5 MR. SCHNUR: Well, we spent -- we spent
6 lunch with Pfeiffer.

7 MS. BEAL: Okay. Okay.

8 MR. SCHNUR: Yeah. I mean so we kind of
9 get to know that guy. It's like Techmyer. I mean -
10 -

11 MS. BEAL: Yeah.

12 MR. SCHNUR: -- I wouldn't be able to pick
13 him out again.

14 MS. BEAL: Right.

15 MR. SCHNUR: -- night with him.

16 MS. BEAL: Okay. Well, I thought maybe he
17 was just more animated than the rest or just more
18 approachable.

19 MR. SCHNUR: No, no. If anything he was
20 probably a little less animated than the rest.

21 MS. BEAL: Huh. Okay.

22 MR. SCHNUR: He's a redhead.

23 MS. BEAL: And that means?

24 MR. SCHNUR: That means just statistically

1 speaking there are far fewer redheads than brown-
2 haired guys running around a boat.

3 MS. BEAL: Okay. Oh, so -- okay. So
4 physically --

5 MR. SCHNUR: He was the only redhead that I
6 saw the whole time we were there.

7 MS. BEAL: Okay. I see what you're saying.
8 I thought maybe you were referring to a -- you
9 know, a personality characteristic or something that
10 I was --

11 MR. SCHNUR: Oh, no.

12 MS. BEAL: -- missing.

13 MR. SCHNUR: No. Another reason why he --
14 he was easily recalled.

15 MS. BEAL: Okay. Gotcha. Okay. All
16 right. And well, anything else?

17 MR. SCHNUR: No, but I -- you know, I'll be
18 interested in reading through my transcript, and if
19 -- if something else arises, you know, we'll give
20 you a call.

21 MS. BEAL: Okay. Good. Yeah. And I told
22 Susan that I -- you know, I -- I'm assuming that the
23 -- I'm assuming that the Marine Division at the
24 Office does transcripts. I know I can at least send

1 you a copy of the tape. I -- I certainly -- oh, of
2 course, the -- I'm sure they will transcribe them
3 because it'll have to go into the docket. So I will
4 make sure that, you know, that you and Susan both
5 get copies of yours. And feel free to call me if
6 you think of anything else that you think might be
7 useful to us, and -- and we'll do the same with you
8 if we need some additional information.

9 MR. SCHNUR: Well, if you have a few
10 minutes over there in D.C. you can call over to the
11 Armed Services Committee and make sure that we get a
12 little coverage on this deal.

13 MS. BEAL: Coverage how?

14 MR. SCHNUR: Liability.

15 MS. BEAL: Okay.

16 (Laughter)

17 MS. BEAL: Well, I wish I could help you on
18 that. It's sort of a -- that's beyond the Board's
19 jurisdiction, but I'll keep my fingers crossed for
20 you.

21 MR. SCHNUR: Thank you.

22 MS. BEAL: Tony, thanks for talking.

23 MR. SCHNUR: All right.

24 MS. BEAL: And tell Susan I said the same.

1 MR. SCHNUR: I will do that.

2 MS. BEAL: All righty.

3 MR. SCHNUR: Thank you.

4 MS. BEAL: Bye-bye.

5 MR. SCHNUR: Bye.

6 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)

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