



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594

Office of Marine Safety

Date: January 6, 2003

Place: Telephone Interview

Person Interviewed: Jack Martin
Owner, *Hoosier Daddy*

Interview Conducted By: Robert B. Ford,
Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Jack Shirley Martin was interviewed in conjunction with the investigation into the sinking of the U.S. Small Passenger Vessel *Panther*. The text that follows is not a verbatim record of the conversation. It has been developed from my handwritten notes of the conversation and is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

INTERVIEW

Mr. Martin was the owner of the recreational vessel, *Hoosier Daddy*. On the afternoon of December 30, 2003, Mr. Martin was returning to his home and was near marker 7 in Indian Key Pass. He observed a group of people in the water splashing and saw a small boat with someone in the boat waving their arms. At first, he could not understand why people would be in the water. As he approached, he realized that the people were attempting to wave him over. As he neared the group of people, he observed three people in the water holding on to a section of railing less than two feet long. He assisted the three people in the water on to his boat and learned that one of the individuals was the master of the sunken vessel. None of the passengers that he saw were wearing lifejackets.

The master requested use of the VHF to make a distress call. He did not believe the master made contact with the Coast Guard. As the vessel returned to the marina, Mr. Martin stated that the captain showed concern for the passengers and that all were safely rescued. As the vessel returned, boats from the Everglades National Park Boat Tours arrived and his rescued passengers were transferred on to one of the company vessels.

END OF INTERVIEW

Robert B. Ford