

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

OFFICE OF MARINE SAFETY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

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SELENDANG AYU :
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INTERVIEW OF USCG RESCUE :
SWIMMER AARON BEAN :
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An interview in the above entitled matter was held
on December 21, 2004, commencing at 12 p.m., before:

MARIETTE BURER, NTSB

SLOAN TYLER, USCG

RODDY CORR, USGC

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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MS. BURER: Hi. This is Mariette Burer. Basically what I'd like to do to start off with is just clarify that I would like to actually record this interview. It is strictly done for accuracy for the people who actually transcribe this, and in order how we do it is just basically go around and introduce ourselves with spelling of the last name, and then we will go ahead and I will start with our actual interview. Is that okay with everyone?

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MR. CORR: Okay.

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MS. TYLER: Fine.

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MS. BURER: My name is Mariette Burer B-U-R-E-R with the National Transportation Safety Board. Today - it is 12 o'clock eastern time and it is December 21st.

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MS. TYLER: I'll go next.

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MS. BURER: Okay.

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MS. TYLER: The name is Commander Sloan Tyler T-Y-L-E-R. I'm with the United States Coast Guard. I'm an attorney.

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MS. BURER: Okay.

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MR. CORR: This is Roddy Corr C-O-R-R United States Coast Guard.

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MR. BEAN: My name is Aaron Bean B-E-A-N and I'm an aviation survival technician in the United States Coast Guard.

1 MS. BURER: Okay. All right. Aaron Bean, are you
2 there?

3 MR. BEAN: Yes.

4 MS. BURER: Okay. I can barely hear you.

5 MR. BEAN: Yeah, me too.

6 MR. BEAN: I'll say again. My name is Aaron Bean
7 and I'm an aviation survival technician in the United States
8 Coast Guard.

9 MS. BURER: Okay. All right. Are you guys ready
10 for this then?

11 MR. BEAN: Yes, ma'am.

12 MS. TYLER: Yes.

13 MS. BURER: Just preliminary stuff. If you could
14 give me your height, your weight, and your date of birth, Mr.
15 Bean?

16 MR. BEAN: Yes, ma'am. I am 6 feet 3/4 inches, 180
17 pounds, and I was born December 4th, 1981.

18 MS. BURER: Okay. Can you give me a little bit of
19 your background, your educational background, and any kind of
20 Coast Guard trainings?

21 MR. BEAN: I have a high school education from
22 Summit High School in Silver Creek, Colorado and I -- some
23 college from the Community College, the Colorado Mountain
24 College. I have EMT training, I have been an EMT since 2001
25 and I've been trained through Rescue Swimmer School at

1 Elizabeth City, North Carolina to do the job that I'm
2 currently doing now.

3 MS. BURER: Okay. As far as your EMT since 2001,
4 what level EMT is it? Is it basic cardiac paramedic?

5 MR. BEAN: I've been in National Registry EMT
6 Basic.

7 MS. BURER: Okay.

8 MR. BEAN: Procedure.

9 MS. BURER: Okay. Did you do that through
10 volunteer fire department or just with the Coast Guard?

11 MR. BEAN: In 2001, I did it through the Colorado
12 Mountain College and then in 2004, I did it with Coast Guard.

13 MS. BURER: Okay. Can you tell me a little bit
14 about your rescue swimmer school, what it all entails as far
15 as your training experience?

16 MR. BEAN: Yes, ma'am. We are all trained on life-
17 saving skills and rescue equipment. We are also trained on
18 sound aviator and parachute disentanglement and we also have
19 -- we also have training for multi-survivor rescue, all in --
20 in a maritime environment.

21 MS. BURER: Okay. And how long does this school
22 take? Is it for 3-4 months or --

23 MR. BEAN: It's 17 weeks.

24 MS. BURER: 17 weeks? And that's going full time?

25 MR. BEAN: Yes, ma'am.

1 MS. BURER: What are the qualifications that you
2 would need to -- in order to be able to apply and be
3 considered for a rescue swimmer school?

4 MR. BEAN: Well -- any active duty member in the US
5 Coast Guard can apply and preliminary you need to have
6 completed like physical and you need a level of security
7 clearance before you can start your preliminary training as
8 airmen.

9 MS. BURER: As far as your life safety skills, what
10 all those set entail?

11 MR. BEAN: Life-saving skills are -- there -- we
12 were taught escapes and releases from panicked survivors.
13 That's what we call a life-saving skill.

14 MS. BURER: Okay. And then as far as with the
15 rescue skills?

16 MR. BEAN: We are -- we are trained on the use of
17 several pieces of rescue equipment. We are trained how to
18 use the rescue basket, a rescue litter, a rescue stroke, and
19 a quick stroke. And we are also trained on how to use our --
20 Tristar Harnesses. That's another rescue device.

21 MS. BURER: Okay. How much -- how many rescues
22 have you actually performed before this incident that
23 occurred on the 8th?

24 MR. BEAN: One rescue.

25 MS. BURER: One rescue? Okay. The rest of the

1 crew on your flight, were they rescue swimmers or were you
2 the only person?

3 MR. BEAN: No, ma'am. I was the only rescue
4 swimmer.

5 MS. BURER: Okay. Well -- let's go to the day
6 then, the 8th. Can you tell me your story in your own words
7 of -- from the very beginning when you first got the call to
8 all the way to the end?

9 MR. BEAN: Ma'am, I was -- I was notified that
10 there was a vessel in distress on Tuesday, December 7th at
11 0800. It was -- it was well -- well before anything -- well
12 before I ever had come on scene. I didn't get on scene to
13 the Selendang Ayu until December 8th in the afternoon. It was
14 probably like 1300 or 1400 hours before I even saw Selendang
15 Ayu, but I was told that they were in distress Monday
16 morning.

17 MS. BURER: Okay. So, would you mind then telling
18 me from the moment that you found out at 8 o'clock on the 7th
19 of December and then carry me all the way through the 8th?
20 What you did -- what you guys did to prepare yourself? What
21 are the normal steps, etc.?

22 MR. BEAN: I was -- I was being deployed to St.
23 Paul Island. We work here in Kodiak waiting for weather so
24 that we could take off in the C-130 and we were also --
25 another rescue swimmer was going to be on -- on the 860, the

1 mishap helicopter and they -- we were both en route to -- to
2 St. Paul Island. And while airborne, we were diverted to
3 Cold Bay and we were sent in to like standby or ready --
4 ready -- ready status there in Cold Bay.

5 MS. BURER: Are you there? I lost you guys.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

DEPOSITION SERVICES, INC., hereby certifies that the attached pages represent an accurate transcript of the electronic sound recording of the proceedings of the National Transportation Safety Board Interview regarding the grounding of the Selendang Ayu on December 9, 2004.

INTERVIEW OF USCG RESCUE SWIMMER AARON BEAN

Susan S., Transcriber