

RCC Bermuda (Bermuda SPOC)

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Miami 2009

What we do

- ◆ 24 hour distress watch
- ◆ Search & Rescue Co-ordination
- ◆ Protect the Marine Environment
- ◆ Marine Safety Information

Search and Rescue in Bermuda

- ◆ 24 hour distress watch

24 hour distress watch



Operations Room

Global Maritime Distress & Safety System



A2 Station

2182 kHz / VHF CH16

Tlx - Inmarsat-C

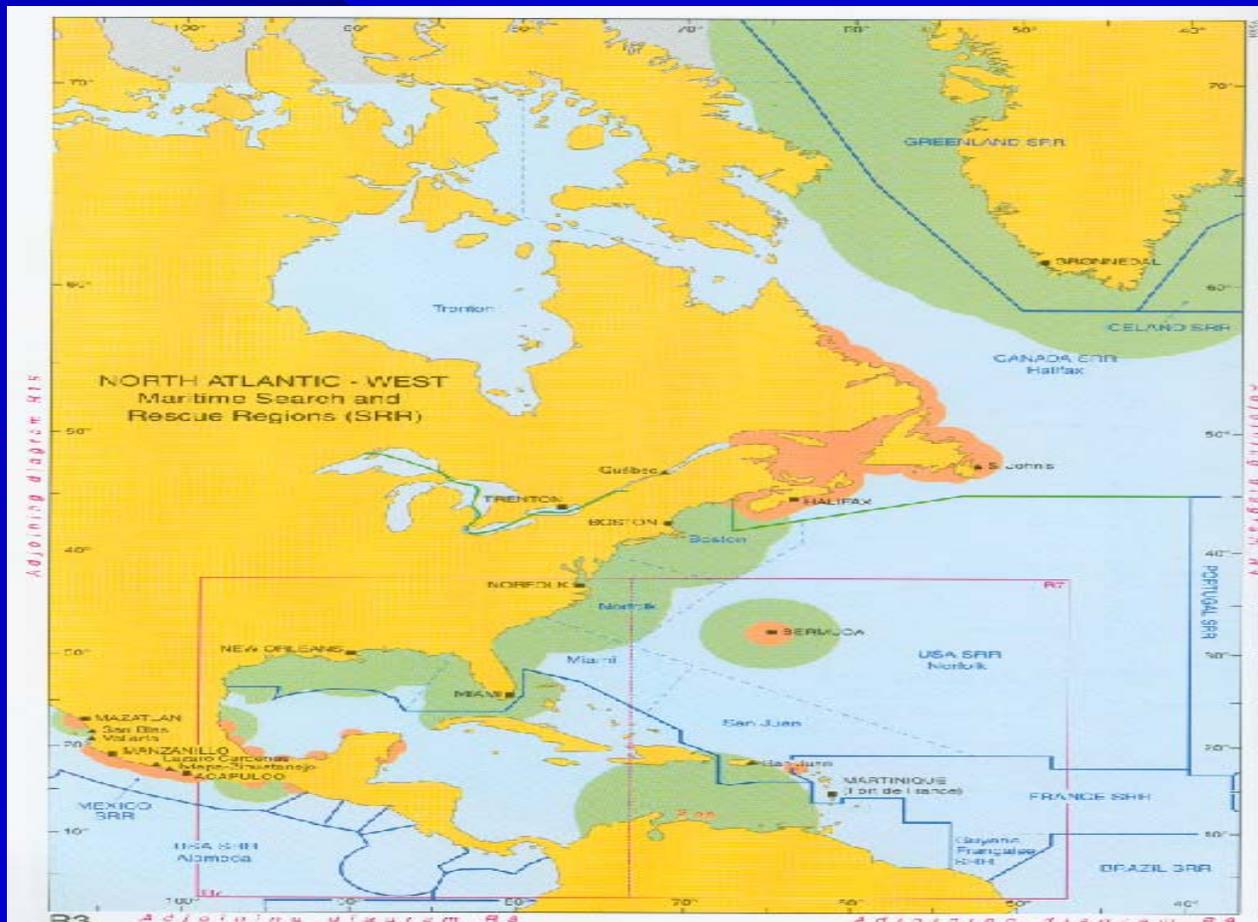
VHF & MF DSC

Navtex

Search and Rescue in Bermuda

- ◆ 24 hour distress watch
- ◆ Search & Rescue Co-ordination

International Search & Rescue



Local Search & Rescue Units



International Search & Rescue



U.S. Coast Guard

What we do

- ◆ 24 hour distress watch
- ◆ Search & Rescue Co-ordination
- ◆ **Protect the Marine Environment**
- ◆ Marine Safety Information

Marine Safety (Environment)



Marine Safety (Environment)

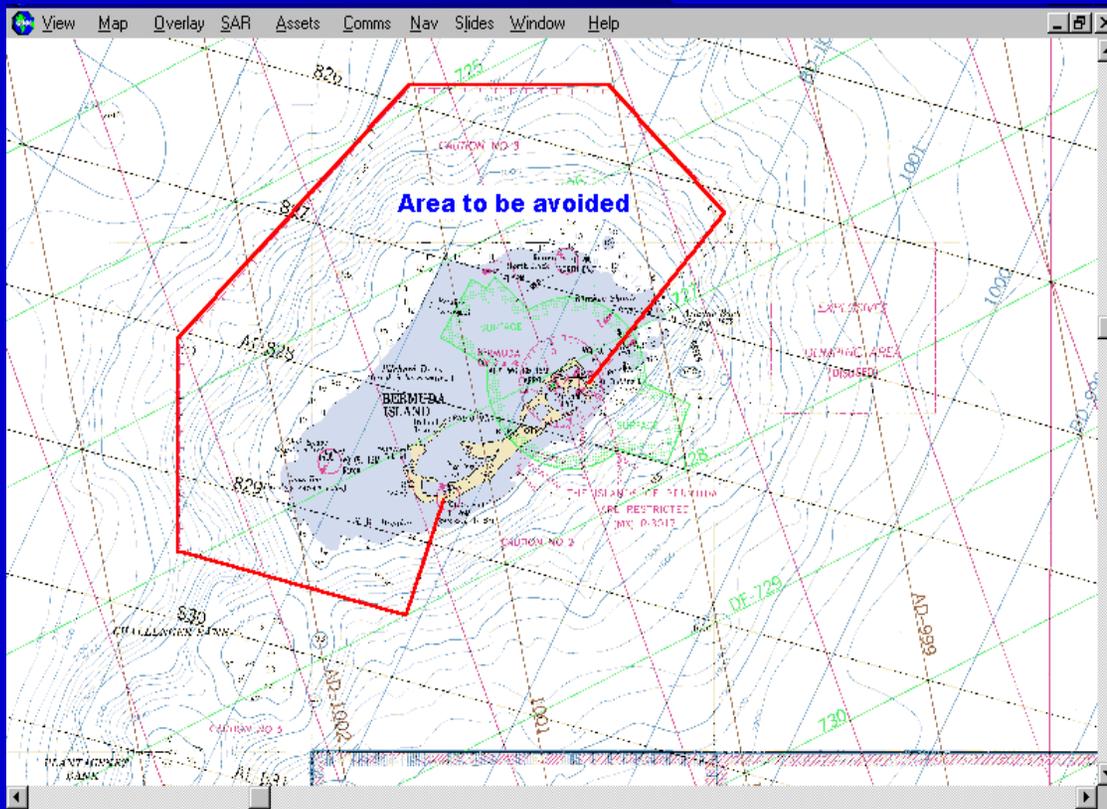


M/T Tifoso

Marine Safety (Environment)

- ◆ Area to be avoided
- ◆ Radar Surveillance System

Marine Safety (Environment)



Area to be avoided

Marine Safety (Environment)



Gibbs Hill Radar Site

Marine Safety (Environment)



Fort George Radar Site

Marine Safety (Environment)

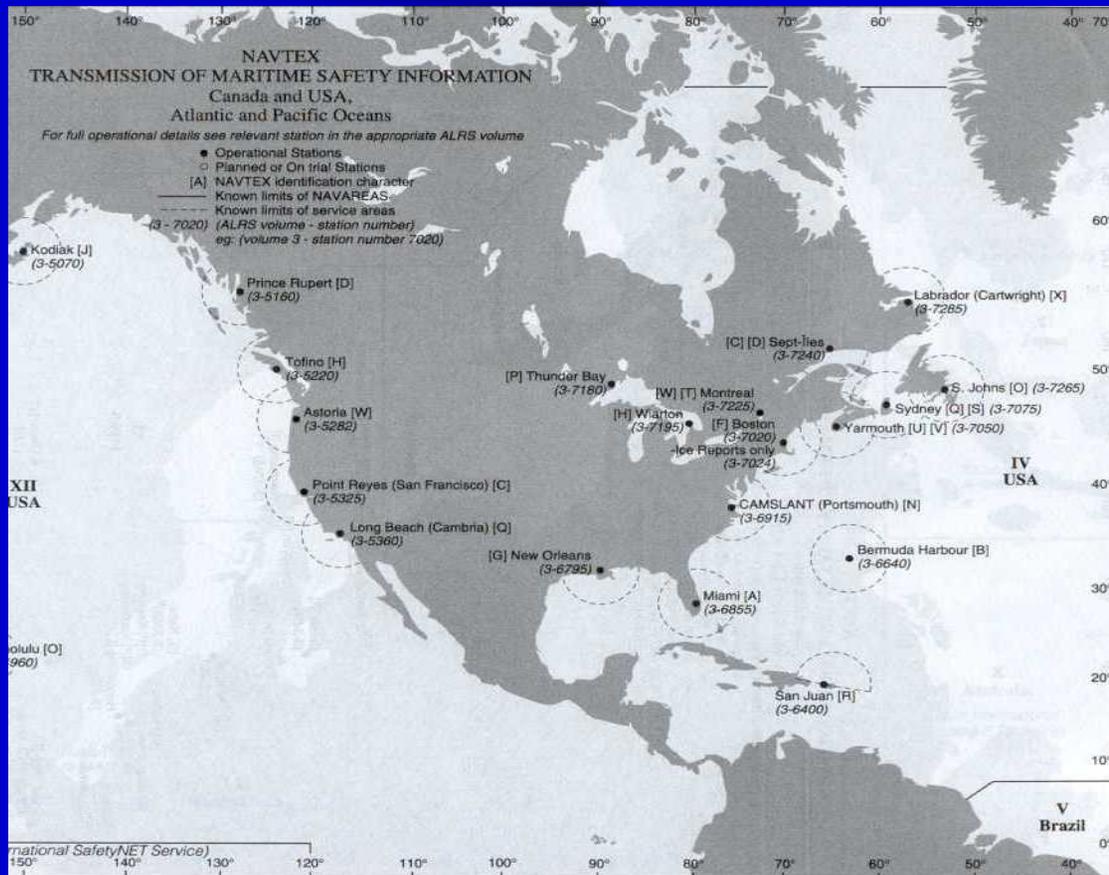


Visiting Ships

What we do

- ◆ 24 hour distress watch
- ◆ Search & Rescue Co-ordination
- ◆ Protect the Marine Environment
- ◆ **Marine Safety Information**

Marine Safety Information (Shipping)



Radio Broadcasts

Navtex

Weather information

Navigational Warnings

COSPAS-SARSAT ALERT

Beacon alerts within 200 NM Bermuda - Also routed to RCC Norfolk

Alerts from Bermuda programmed beacons worldwide

USMCC to Bermuda SPOC (RCC Bermuda)

AISR (FAA web based application - replace AFTN)

EMS SARMaster software using print function

COSPAS-SARSAT ALERT

Beacon alert from vessel 150 miles East Bermuda

Check of RCC Bermuda, U.S.A. RGDB & ITU databases using Hex Code / MMSI number to identify vessel

RCC Norfolk - Surpic / EGC Broadcast - Vessels in area

RCC Bermuda / RCC Norfolk assume coordination

Bermuda Radio UMIB Broadcast 2182 kHz / Navtex

COSPAS-SARSAT ALERT

Information shared between RCC's

Aircraft tasked by USCG from Elizabeth City

Communication established with vessel in area

Aircraft on scene and locates casualty

Surface craft on scene and effects rescue

Constant sharing of information back & forth between
RCC's; Aircraft; Vessels on scene; Bermuda Radio; ATC

COSPAS-SARSAT ALERT

Conclusion of case

Follow up information to USMCC / Reason for alert

Coordination - Other countries

Case History

- ◆ November 11, 2002 - S/V Altair abandoned approx 320 NM Northwest of Bermuda
- ◆ MV Oleander sights Altair 63 miles Northwest of Bermuda
- ◆ January 05, 2003 - F/V New Nuts and another private vessel race to depart
- ◆ January 06, 2003 0852 LT - New Nuts departs Bermuda to attempt to locate and salvage S/V Altair. 3 POB. Liferaft and EPIRB carried. BHR confirm that they are aware of latest weather forecast. Another private vsl also enroute.

New Nuts



LOA: 40 feet

Beam: 13 feet

Normal use: Long line fishing

Sailing Vessel ALTAIR - Abandoned - Nov 2002



F/V New Nuts - Communications - Jan 06, 2003

- 1429 LT - New Nuts advises 2182 kHz being in area where Altair last seen on Dec 31.
- 1758 LT - New Nuts updates their position on 2182 kHz. Nil sighted. Intend to stay out overnight. Second vessel offshore returns.
- 1920LT - Mr. Lambe Sr. calls concerned about New Nuts. BHR attempts to raise the vessel on VHF and MF. Wind SW 40+Kts.
- 2140LT - 121.5 composite 110 NM North Northeast of Bermuda. RCC Norfolk calls having received same. AMVER and EGC bcst requested. R/T and NAVTEX Urgency bcsts commenced.

New Nuts - Search - Jan 07, 2003

- 2330LT - EPIRB position resolved to a position 70 miles NE Bermuda
- 0010LT - RCC BER request USCG C-130 from RCC NORF for search. Discuss search options in dark and any fuel requirements at Bermuda before search commenced.
- 0250LT - EPIRB missed pass. USCG ask if aircraft can be cancelled. Bermuda request aircraft continue.
- 0320 LT - EPIRB re-detected
- 0456 LT - USCG C-130 Rescue 1502 airborne. RCC Bermuda update them with latest EPIRB position information via HF

New Nuts - Search - Jan 07, 2003

- 0530 LT - Rescue 1502 on scene. Nil on radar and conditions too poor for NVG use. Will await daylight for visual search.
- 0721 LT - Sunrise
- 0727 LT - EPIRB located. Grey unopened liferaft canister 3 ft x 2 ft in size and blue seat cushion also nearby. Wx: Wind West 35-40 kts. Visibility 8 miles.
- 0744 LT - AMVER shows no ships in area. Local tug to proceed to area.
- 0751 LT - Rescue 1502 advises life jacket located (empty)
- 0847 LT - R1502 re-locates liferaft canister and drops DMB. RTB Elizabeth City. Rescue 1500 will continue search.

New Nuts - Search - Jan 07, 2003

- 0942 LT - Ship heard North of Bermuda on VHF Ch16 calling "Vessel in position..., this is...etc". BHR establish comms with USNS Comfort (US Navy hospital ship).
- 1033 LT - Comfort requested divert through search area. Will do so as military ops allow.
- 1148 LT - Rescue 1500 reports PIW sighted. Attempting to re-locate.
- 1150 LT - USNS Comfort contacted 35 miles West. Requested that they proceed at best speed. No helo.

A large white medical ship, the USNS Comfort (T-AH20), is docked in a harbor. The ship features a prominent red cross on its side and the text "U.S. NAVAL HOSPITAL SHIP COMFORT". The ship is set against a backdrop of a city skyline under a clear blue sky. The water in the foreground is dark and reflects the ship's hull.

USNS Comfort (T-AH20)

Medical Treatment Facility

New Nuts - Search - Jan 07, 2003

- 1242 LT - R1500 drops survival equipment.
- 1253 LT - PIW now in raft.
- 1257 LT - Tug Powerful underway fm Bda.
- 1318 LT - R1500 able either 4 or 6 hours OS. No comms with survivor in raft. Comfort ETA 45 mins. Aircraft searching.
- 1500 LT - PIW recovered aboard Comfort.

USNS Comfort drifting down on Robert Lambe in raft (Courtesy USN)



Robert Lambe Jr. climbing aboard USNS Comfort (Courtesy USN)



Treated for moderate hypothermia (Courtesy USN)



New Nuts - Search - Jan 07, 2003

- 1507 LT - Attempting survivor de-brief. R1500 relays fm Comfort that “other 2 persons did not make it off boat”
- 1516 LT - R1500 continuing search. 2 hours on scene time before proceeding to North Carolina.
- 1532 LT - RCC BER request RCC NORF allow search to be extended by having R1500 land Bermuda for fuel.
- 1830 LT - R1500 low on fuel. RTB Bermuda
- 1832 LT - Tug Powerful posn 30 NM NE is directed return Bermuda due darkness, weather and poor comms
- 1918 LT - Decision to suspend search taken in consultation with RCC Norfolk

F/V New Nuts - Search Suspended

- Significant - Survivor's comments ref how vs1 capsized, and his own narrow escape from beneath. Stayed with boat until it sank.
- Duration in water 071830 to 081500
- Aircraft ability to detect debris and ultimately PIW sighting
- Predicted survival time for PIW w/out flotation or survival equipment (CESM)