

SUSPECT ALERTS AND CASE STUDIES

Please feel free to ask specific questions – USMCC experts are here to answer your questions.

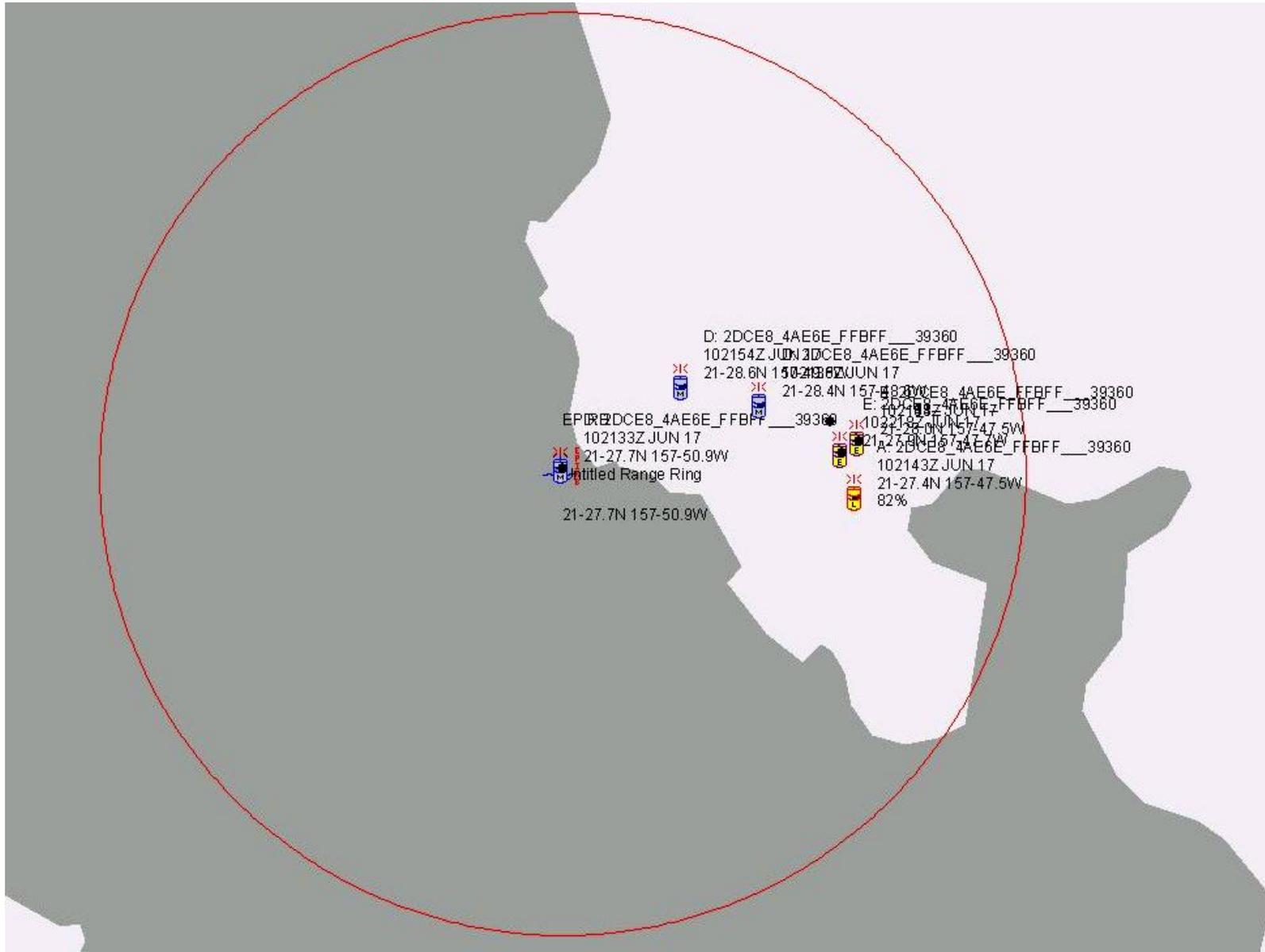


D14/HAWAII

10 JUNE 2017

- Background
 - Fell off Kayak
 - Activated PLB
 - Called 911
 - Personally vectored jet ski
 - Never heard from Coast Guard other than voicemail
 - Reached out to USMCC and to USCG





ACTIONS OF CASE

- D14 RCC passed the location to
 - City & County of Honolulu's Fire Department,
 - Ocean Safety Division (aka Lifeguards)
 - U.S. Navy's Waterfront Operations Division at Marine Corp Base Kaneohe.
 - Sector Honolulu Command Center (SCC)
- Sector heard it over their 800mHz interoperability radio. They knew rescue assets (fire & lifeguards) were en route.
- Sector issued an urgent marine information broadcast over VHF Ch 16, and continued to monitor the response until when Ocean Safety reported a safe recovery of the person in the water.
- Ocean Safety then helped get his kayak back to the pier.



LESSONS LEARNED

- LCDR Kevin Cooper is awesome!
- Always be aware that the public is not as informed as you are; inform them.
- Engage with them. Ask them about their experience; how long was the beacon active for, did they hold it, was it floating on the ground, etc...
 - Especially if non-consistent alerts
 - Suspect alerts
 - USMCC, Cospas-Sarsat, you, me all want to make the system better.
 - If they only waited 10 minutes before calling 911 then set expectations. (2 hours)



LCDR BOYLE — PLB ON SINKING VESSEL

- 60 foot Shrimping vessel taking on water in Gulf of Mexico
- Night
- No other vessels in the area
- Language barrier
- No refuel options in vicinity
- Deployed Rescue Swimmer and dewatering pump in record time, then departed w/ RS remaining on scene
 - Excellent work by the Rescue Swimmer!



CASE CLOSED RIGHT???

- Helicopter on oil rig; Rescue swimmer on the vessel
- Phone call stated “ELT” has been activated
- Second phone call
 - LCDR Boyle “Do the coordinates of the ELT match my location”
 - D8 RCC “Where are you”?
 - Read registration numbers of beacon
- Rescue Swimmer in distress
 - No homing signal – beacon is off – why?
 - No radio comms



LOCATED

- En route to Texas
- RCC/Sector – no distress ...so turn offright?
- What if the vessel moved then sank?
- The Guardian....”we don’t stop until they are safe on land”



2 SUSPECT ALERTS

- D13 RCC
 - Disabled vessel in communication with Coast Guard
 - Lost communication – Launched assets
 - Regained communication – notified making way for land
 - Request 406 activation
 - 10 minutes – 1 beacon transition received
 - Suspect alert with E solution
 - Satellite geometry looked good; waiting for beacon analysis



2 SUSPECT ALERTS

- D8 Alert – called – vessel en route from Florida to Texas
- Unlocated First Alert 1206 on 8 June
- SUSPECT - Registered- Unlocated First Alert 2041 on 8 June
- Commercial Salvage towed in near Dauphin Island, FL
- Vessel lost steering and engines two days earlier

- Q&A with owner
 - Beacon active – 18 hours
 - Hung from mizzen shrouds (rigging)
 - Sent in for analysis - battery expired but that the “unit worked as it should”
 - Manufactures are processing their own beacons...FYI

