



Chinese Vessel “Fu Yuan Yu”

AFRCC Msn 14M0188A

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Summary:

USCG District 14’s Rescue Coordination Center notified the AFRCC at 2040z on 2 May 2014 that 11 crewmembers of the fire damaged Chinese-flagged fishing vessel “Fu Yuan Yu” had been brought aboard the Venezuelan-flagged fishing vessel “Falcon” with 4 survivors suffering from significant burn injuries (2 subsequently died of their injuries the night of 2 May), necessitating immediate medical care. Neither USCG nor PACFLEET units were able to respond due to the remote location-midway between Hawaii and Mexico. AFRCC coordinated a rapid USAF rescue response. On 3-4 May, 6 PJ’s parachuted to the Falcon, stabilized the victims, and facilitated MEDEVAC transport via USAF HH-60Gs and HC-130Js to the UC San Diego Burn Center at 2159z on 5 May.

Notable Mission Events:

Initial Alert: 2040z 2 May 2014

USCG District 14 (Honolulu, HI) received notification from and coordinated with the “Falcon”

Rescue Mission Plan:

USAF’s 563d Rescue Group (Davis-Monthan, AZ)

- Combined effort of 48 RQS, 55 RQS, 79 RQS
 - Stood up Rescue Operations Center on 2 May
 - Pararescuemen airdropped via HC-130J at 0026z on 4 May to stabilize the burn victims
 - “Falcon” steamed east towards Mexico where HH-60Gs with HC-130J refueling support recovered victims to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico on 5 May
 - HC-130J evacuated the victims to the UC San Diego Burn Center arriving at 2159z on 5 May
- ANG’s 161 Air Refueling Wing (Phoenix, AZ) supported HC-130Js to extend mission radius
SEMAR (Mexican Navy) supported rescue team with medical supplies



Closing Out the Rescue Mission:

- Victims receiving necessary medical care at the UC San Diego Burn Center (San Diego, CA)
- 563d Rescue Group recovering all assets to Davis-Monthan on 6 May
- USCG, US EMB Mexico, and ANG support was essential to mission success

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