



# BOWMANS

THE VALUE OF KNOWING

**“OCEANOS”**

**4 AUGUST 1991**

**AGAINST ALL ODDS**

**Andrew Pike**

Head of Ports, Terminals and Logistics  
Corridors



**IMCC**  
INT'L MARINE CLAIMS CONFERENCE





# MV JEAN LABORDE



# THE VESSEL

- **Built 1953**
- **Launched as *JEAN LABORDE***
- **Cargo ship on France / Madagascar route**
- **LOA 150m**
- **2 engines / propellers**
- **Underwent several name changes:**
  - ***MYKINAI - 1970***
  - ***ANCONA - 1974***
  - ***EASTERN PRINCESS – 1976***
  - ***OCEANOS – 1980***

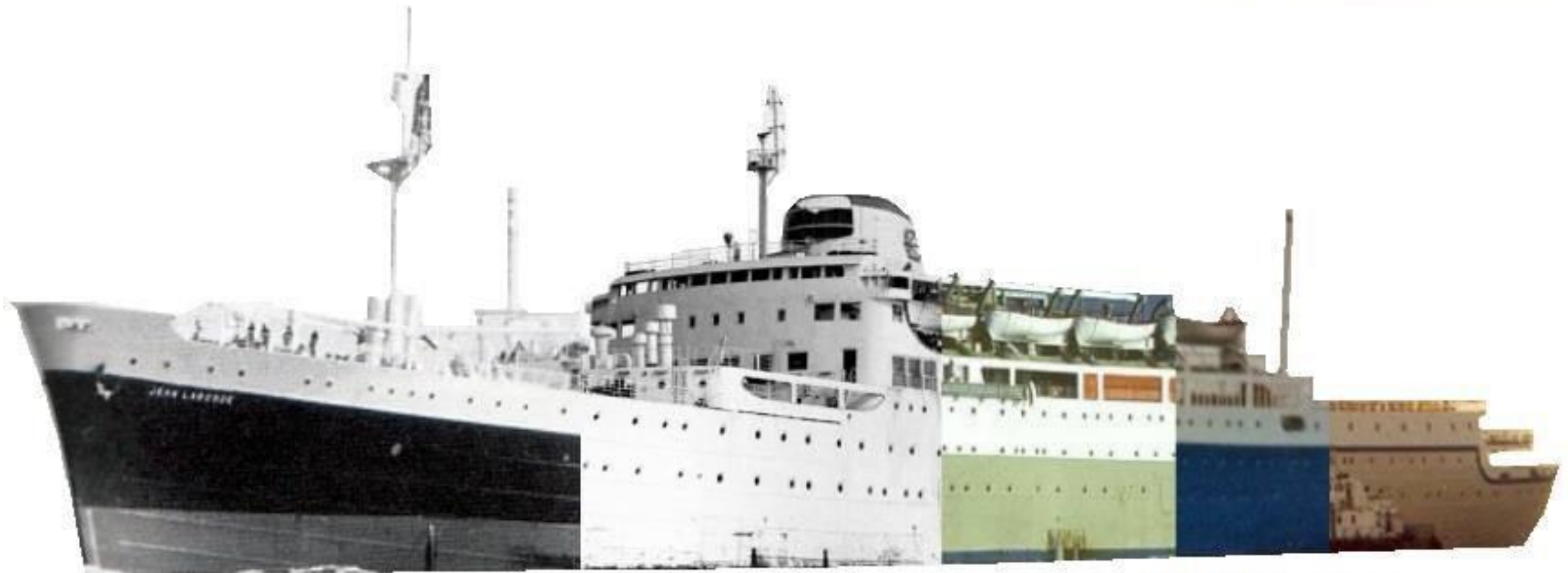


# THE VARIOUS FACES OF THE OCEANOS





# THE VARIOUS FACES OF THE OCEANOS



*Jean Laborde*

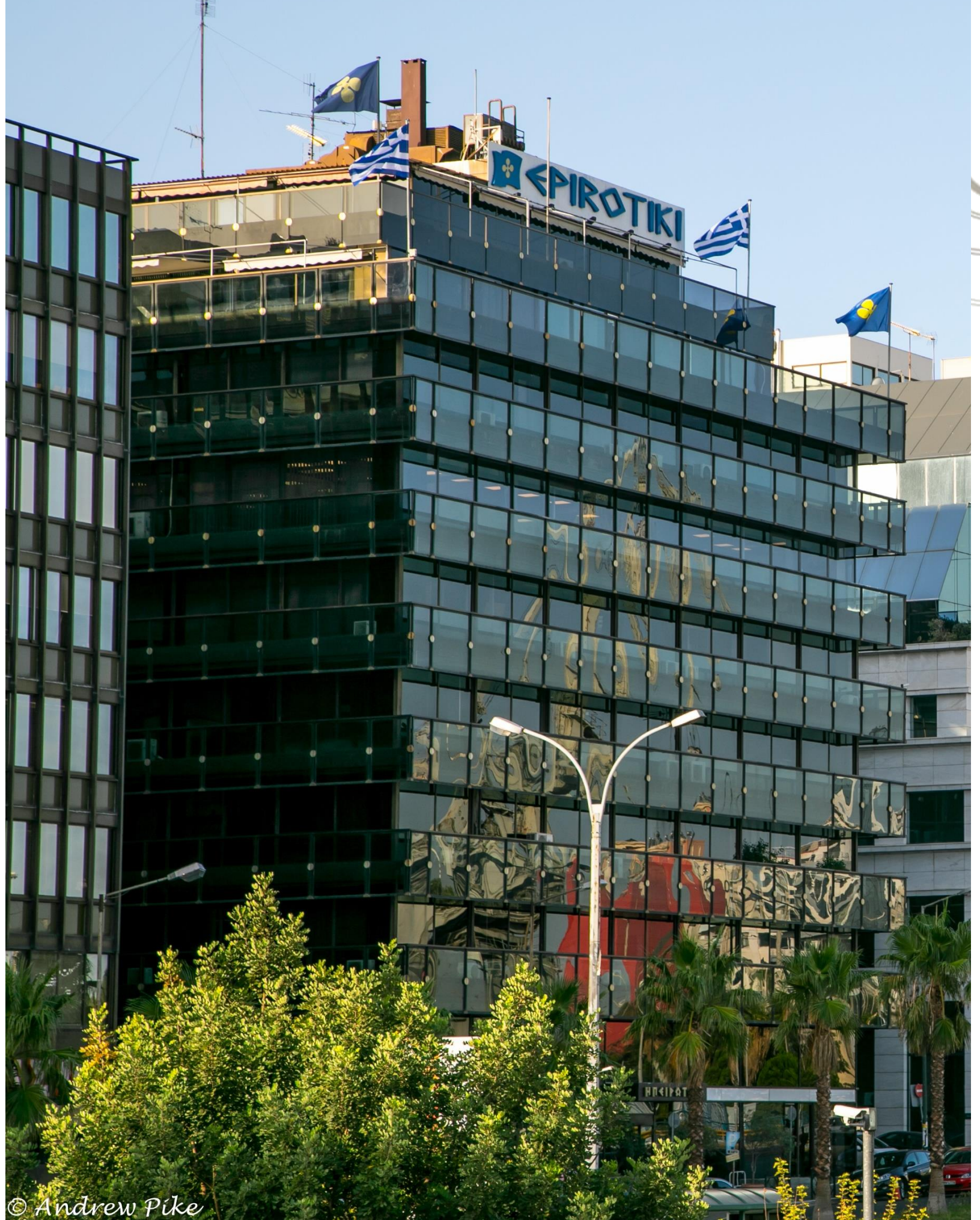
*Eastern Princess*

*MTS Oceanos*



THE OWNERS

EPIROTIKI LINE



© Andrew Pike



# THE CHARTER

- 8 month charter June 1991 by TFC Tours
- TFC entertainers and staff



- Itinerary:
  - Durban / P.E. / Cape Town
  - Indian Ocean islands

# TRAVEL IN STYLE

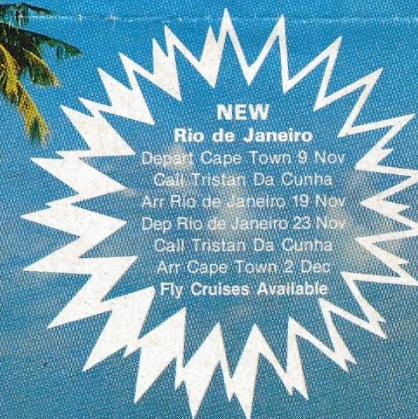
Experience a piece of Europe and enjoy a holiday with a difference without the negative effects our currency has on overseas travel.

No land based resort under the sun can come close to giving you the value you will enjoy on this ocean going holiday.

## THE OCEANOS

The luxury Oceanos has already arrived and is cruising out of Durban. She will remain in our waters operating a series of exciting cruises until February 1992. For a fun holiday, honeymoon, your next conference or incentive we have the answer, and remember ... **EVERYTHING IS INCLUDED.**

### 42 CRUISES TO CHOOSE FROM



**NEW**  
**Rio de Janeiro**  
 Depart Cape Town 9 Nov  
 Call Tristan Da Cunha  
 Arr Rio de Janeiro 19 Nov  
 Dep Rio de Janeiro 23 Nov  
 Call Tristan Da Cunha  
 Arr Cape Town 2 Dec  
 Fly Cruises Available



**INCLUDED IN YOUR FARE**

- 4 Meals daily
- Entertainment nightly
- Movies
- Dance lessons
- Deck games
- Aerobic classes
- Casino
- Cabaret
- Disco
- Library

**AND SO MUCH MORE!**

**Childrens Rates**  
 Infants — Free  
 3-12 yrs — 25% 13-16 yrs — 50%

CRUISES IN AUGUST	CRUISES IN SEPTEMBER
Madagascar - 4 to 18 August 14 Nights with 5 Island Stops From <b>R3616</b>	Maxi Island - 2 to 18 September 16 Nights All Islands From <b>R4472</b>
Durban - PE - Cape Town 18 to 22 August 4 Nights of <b>FUN</b> From <b>R 970</b>	Durban - Cape Town 18 to 21 September 3 Nights of <b>SUN</b> From <b>R 839</b>
Cape Town - Cape Town 22 to 25 August 3 Nights of <b>SEA</b> From <b>R 728</b>	Cape Town - Cape Town 21 to 23 Sept 2 Nights of <b>SEA</b> From <b>R 559</b>
Cape Town - PE - Durban 25 to 29 Aug 4 Nights of <b>ROMANCE</b> From <b>R 970</b>	Cape Town - PE - Durban 23 to 27 Sept 4 Nights of <b>ROMANCE</b> From <b>R1118</b>
Bazaruto Island - 29 Aug to 25 Sept 4 Nights of <b>SUN</b> From <b>R1118</b>	Mauritius/Reunion - 27 Sept to 8 Oct 11 Nights of <b>FUN</b> From <b>R3274</b>

SIMILAR CRUISES IN JULY, OCTOBER, DECEMBER & JANUARY



FOR BROCHURES, RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CALL  
 (011) 886-0710 (021) 21-7400 (031) 22-2741



# CAPTAIN YIANNIS AVRANAS





# MV OCEANOS: SCHEDULE

## PROGRAMME

### CRUISE DATES AND RATES

Rates in SA Rand per person

Month	Cruise Number	Sailing Date	Cruise Departs	Ports of Call	Return Date	Cruise Returns	Nights At Sea	Suite Berth	State Berth	A Berth
June	V01	15JUN	Seychelles	Comores	22JUN	Durban	6	3003	2693	2231
	V03	22JUN	Durban	At Sea	24JUN	Durban	2	1001	898	744
	V05	24JUN	Durban	Mauritius, Reunion	04JUL	Durban	10	5005	4489	3719
July	V07	04JUL	Durban	At Sea	06JUL	Durban	2	1006	956	792
	V08	06JUL	Durban	At Sea	07JUL	Durban	1	533	478	396
	V09	07JUL	Durban	At Sea	10JUL	Cape Town	3	1599	1434	1188
	V010	10JUL	Cape Town	At Sea	13JUL	Durban	3	1599	1434	1188
	V011	13JUL	Durban	Mauritius, Reunion	24JUL	Durban	11	5863	5259	4357
	V012	24JUL	Durban	Bazaruto	28JUL	Durban	4	2132	1912	1584
	V013	28JUL	Durban	At Sea	31JUL	Cape Town	3	1502	1347	1116
	V014	31JUL	Cape Town	Port Elizabeth	04AUG	Durban	4	2002	1796	1488
August	V015	04AUG	Durban	Madagascar (5 ports), plus Mauritius	18AUG	Durban	14	7462	6693	5545
	V016	18AUG	Durban	Port Elizabeth	22AUG	Cape Town	4	2002	1796	1488
	V017	22AUG	Cape Town	At Sea	25AUG	Cape Town	3	1502	1347	1116
	V018	25AUG	Cape Town	Port Elizabeth	29AUG	Durban	4	2002	1796	1488
	V019	29AUG	Durban	Bazaruto	02SEP	Durban	4	2002	1796	1488
September	V020	02SEP	Durban	Madagascar, Seychelles, Mombasa, Comores	18SEP	Durban	16	6008	7183	5951
	V021	18SEP	Durban	At Sea	21SEP	Cape Town	3	1502	1347	1116
	V022	21SEP	Cape Town	At Sea	23SEP	Cape Town	2	1001	898	744
	V023	23SEP	Cape Town	Port Elizabeth	27SEP	Durban	4	2002	1796	1488
	V024	27SEP	Durban	Mauritius, Reunion	08OCT	Durban	11	5863	5259	4357
October	V025	08OCT	Durban	At Sea	11OCT	Durban	3	1502	1347	1116
	V026	11OCT	Durban	At Sea	14OCT	Durban	3	1502	1347	1116
	V027	14OCT	Durban	Madagascar, Seychelles, Mombasa, Comores	31OCT	Durban	17	6509	7631	6322
	V028	31OCT	Durban	At Sea	03NOV	Cape Town	3	1502	1347	1116
November	V029	03NOV	Cape Town	At Sea	06NOV	Durban	3	1502	1347	1116
	V030	06NOV	Durban	Mauritius	20NOV	Fremantle	14	7007	6285	5207
	V031	20NOV	Fremantle	At Sea	21NOV	Fremantle	1	585	525	435
	V032	21NOV	Fremantle	Mauritius	05DEC	Durban	14	7007	6285	5207
December	V033	05DEC	Durban	At Sea	08DEC	Cape Town	3	1614	1467	1334
	V034	08DEC	Cape Town	At Sea	10DEC	Cape Town	2	1076	978	889
	V035	10DEC	Cape Town	At Sea	13DEC	Durban	3	1614	1467	1334
	V036	13DEC	Durban	At Sea	16DEC	Cape Town	3	1614	1467	1334
	V037	16DEC	Cape Town	At Sea	19DEC	Durban	3	1614	1467	1334
	V038	19DEC	Durban	Mauritius, Reunion	30DEC	Durban	11	6051	5501	5001
	V039	30DEC	Durban	Madagascar, Seychelles, Mauritius, Reunion	14JAN	Durban	15	8572	7793	7084
January	V040	14JAN	Durban	At Sea	17JAN	Cape Town	3	1614	1467	1334
	V041	17JAN	Cape Town	At Sea	20JAN	Durban	3	1614	1467	1334
	V042	20JAN	Durban	Bazaruto	24JAN	Durban	4	2002	1796	1488
	V043	24JAN	Durban	At Sea	27JAN	Durban	3	1502	1347	1116
	V044	27JAN	Durban	Comores, Mombasa, Suez, Haifa	14FEB	Piraeus	19	6858	6235	5667

Term Ends: 28/06

Term Begins: 28/07

\*3

Term Ends: 3/10  
Term Begins: 03/10

Term Ends: 4/12  
Term Begins: 21-23



# OCEANOS SAILING ROUTE





# THE WILD COAST





# THE VOYAGE



Sailed Cape Town Wed. 31.07.91

Arrived East London Thurs. 01.08.91





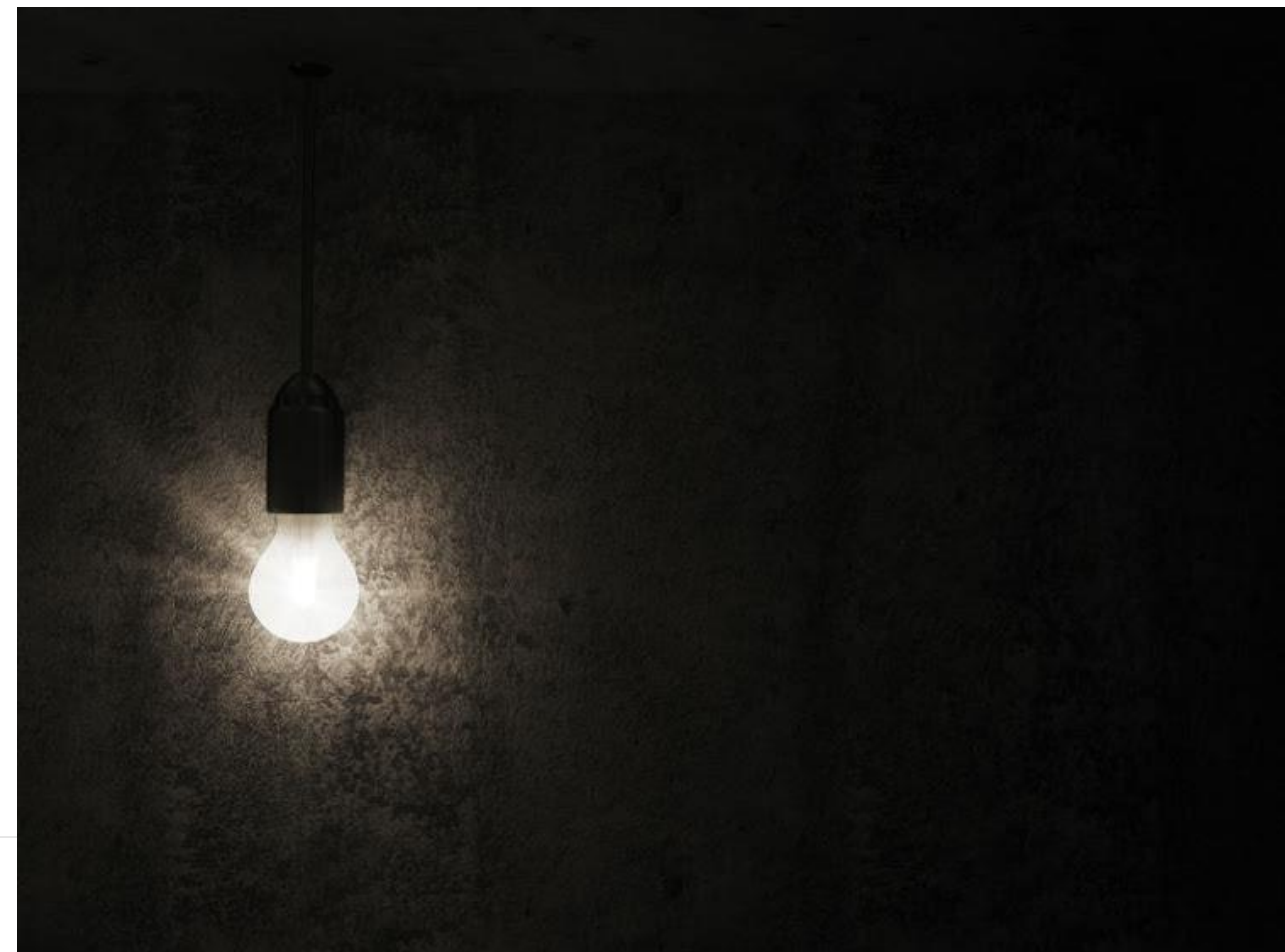
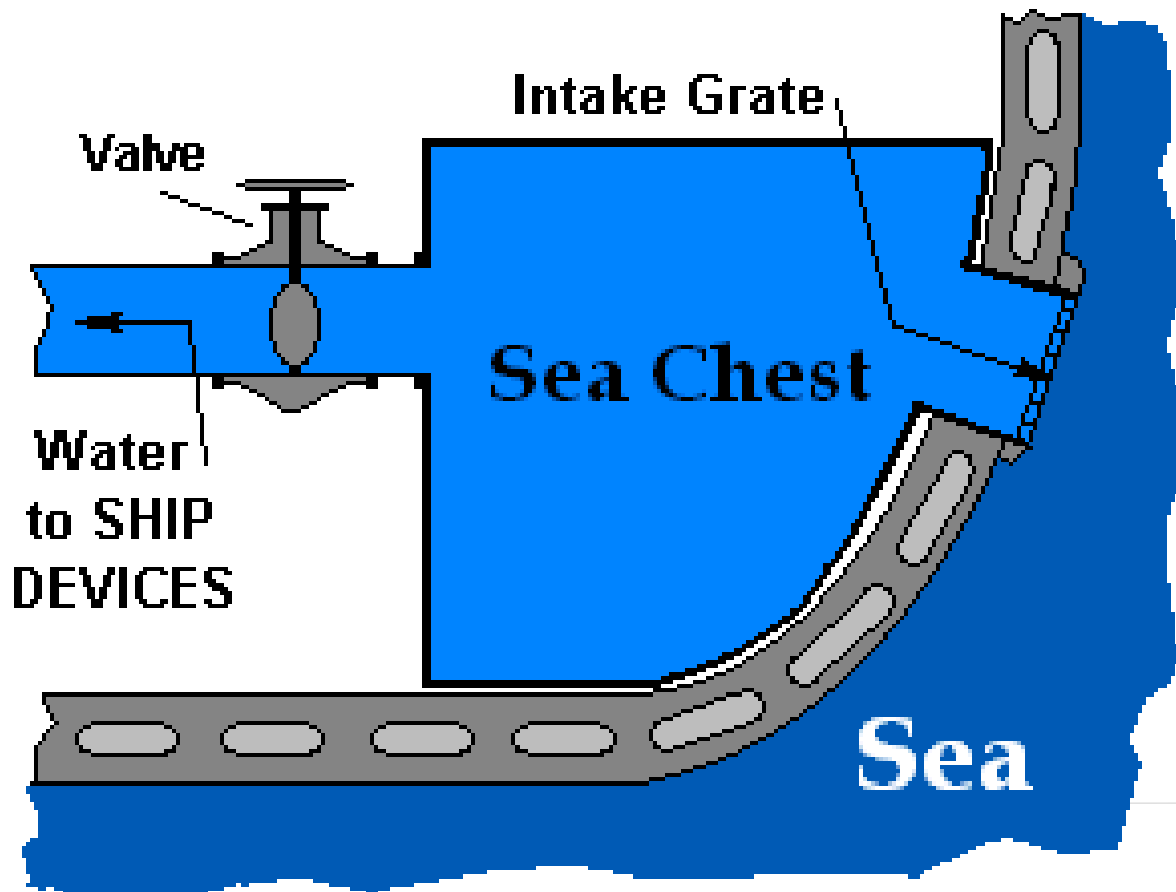
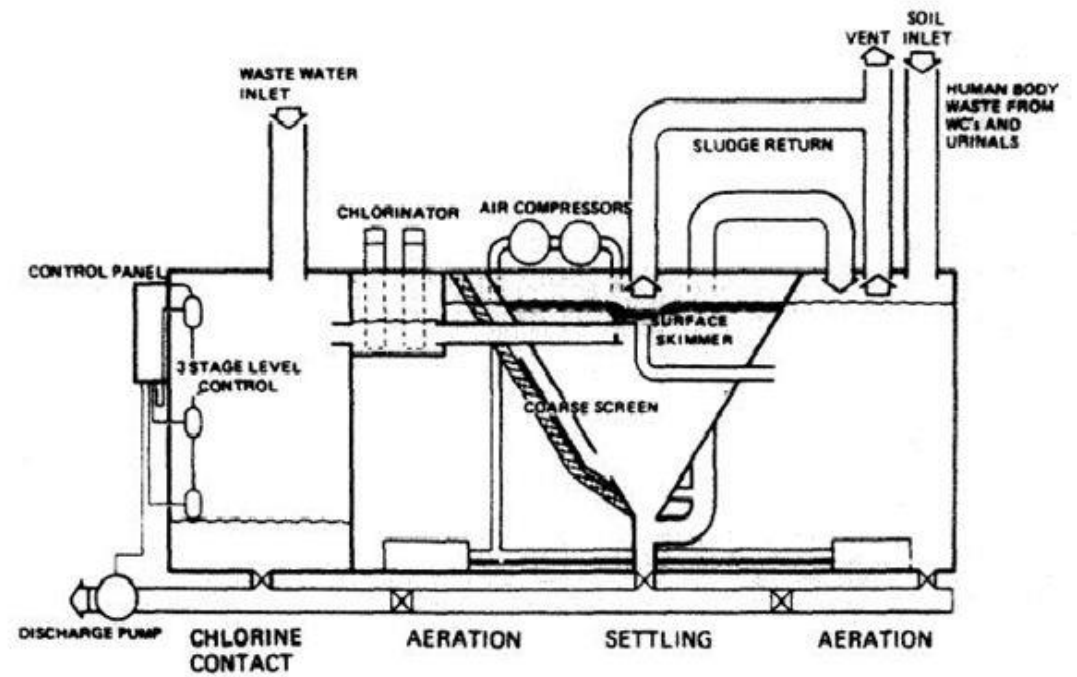
# EASTERN CAPE / WILD COAST: SAILED SAT. 03.08.91

## AT 17H00 WITH 581 PASSENGERS AND CREW





# THE VOYAGE





# THE VOYAGE



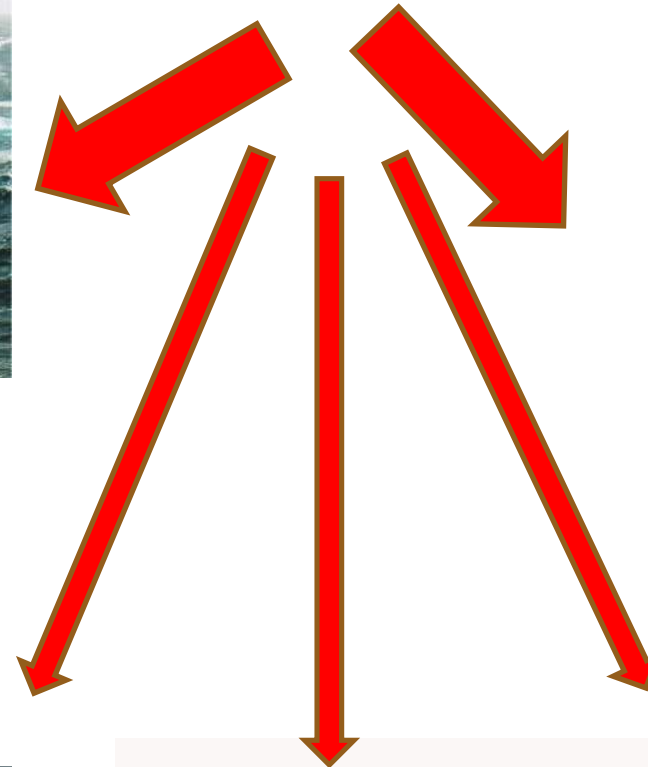
**22h40: 'SOS SOS SOS DE SZPK SZPK SZPK'**



# P.E. and DURBAN RADIO



**MRCC**





# MV OCEANOS: LAUNCH DAVITS FOR LIFEBOATS





# LIFEBOATS WITH FLEMING GEAR





**MV OCEANOS: HELICOPTER VIEW**





## MV OCEANOS: 30 DEGREE LIST





**MV OCEANOS: HELICOPTER VIEW AT 05H30, SUNDAY MORNING**





# MV OCEANOS: DIVER PLACED ON SHIP





# WORKING CONDITIONS FOR SAAF AND NAVY





# WORKING CONDITIONS FOR SAAF AND NAVY





# MV OCEANOS: HELICOPTERS WORKED FOR 8 HOURS, FLEW FOR 14





# ON THE BRIDGE...





# AIR AND SEA RESCUE ACTIVITY

## AIR AND SEA RESCUE ACTIVITY

3 Air Force Dakotas from Cape Town assist in airsearch for survivors

### SUNDAY

Air Force Puma helicopters start airlift of 236 stranded passengers and crew just after 5.30 am in gale force winds from fore and aft decks. All are transported to The Haven. The last are removed at 11.30 am. Navy divers placed on board for last quick search for survivors. Vessel finally sinks at 1 pm.

Survivors taken by bus from The Haven to East London.

● EAST LONDON

● The Haven

● Coffee Bay

### SATURDAY

Oceanos sails from East London at 5 pm for Durban with 580 passengers, crew and TFC staff

### REEFER DUCHESS

6 crew members, 1 passenger

### SATURDAY NIGHT

Auxiliary engine room springs a leak just after 9 pm. Engines and generators stop. Oceanos drifts then puts out anchors, listing heavily to starboard. Mayday call goes out at 10.40 pm. First of 5 lifeboats launched shortly thereafter

### ANIK

3 crew members

2 Alouette Helicopters assist in the search

### DAWN, SUNDAY MORNING

28 Squadron Transall C160 from Waterkloof arrives 5:30am and co-ordinate arrival of airforce helicopters

Total of 11 Puma Helicopters leave in the early hours of Sunday morning from Ysterplaat, Durban and Swartkop

4 Navy Strike craft sent from Durban

### NEDLLOYD MAURITIUS

51 survivors

### GREAT NANCY

176 survivors

### KASZUBY II

106 people, mostly passengers

● DURBAN



# EVERYONE OFF: 11H30





# THE RESCUE

- The NSRI helped coordinate from the Haven Hotel
- The Haven provided basic food and blankets





# MV OCEANOS: 13H30, SUNDAY - GOING, ...





# MV OCEANOS:..., GOING...





# MV OCEANOS: GONE





# WHAT THE CAPTAIN SAID...





# AFTER THE RESCUE

- **Buses transported people back to East London and Durban**
- **Charterers and ships agents made arrangements for everyone arriving by ship**
- **No casualties whatsoever (...other than a few marriages)**



# THE INVESTIGATION

- **DoT involvement: Preliminary Enquiry**
- **Legal investigation**
  - **Club and Owners**
  - **Hull**
  - **War Risks**
  - **Charterers**
  - **Passengers**



# CLAIMS

- Owners v Hull
- Charterers v Owners
- Passengers





# SOME OF THE PEOPLE INVOLVED

Civil Protection  
Danish Radio  
Department of Foreign Affairs  
Department of the Environment  
Department of Transport  
Haven Hotel  
Hospitals  
National Sea Rescue Institute  
Communications Centre  
P & I Associates (Pty) Ltd  
Private companies and  
individuals  
RCC Piraeus - (Greece)  
Ships Agents (Polaris Shipping)  
Civilians on the Wild Coast  
Doctors

South African Airways  
TFC Tours  
METRO  
– METRO Border  
– METRO East  
– METRO West  
South African Police Service  
South African Navy  
– Naval Command Post  
– 4 x Strike Craft  
– 14 x Divers  
– Silvermine  
– Naval Bases  
– South African Air Force  
– MRCC Cape Town  
– Air Force Command Post  
– Mobile Air Operating Team  
– Air Force Bases  
– Air Force Squadrons  
Port Captains  
(Portnet)  
– Durban  
– Port Elizabeth  
– East London

Coastal Radio Stations  
– Durban  
– East London  
– Port Elizabeth  
– Cape Town  
Civil Aviation Airfields  
– Jan Smuts Airport (now OR  
Tambo Airport - Jhb  
International)  
– Louis Botha Airport (then  
Durban International airport)  
– East London  
– Port Elizabeth  
– Cape Town International  
– Bloemfontein  
– Umtata  
South African Medical Services  
– SAMS Head Office Operations  
– Med Command Eastern  
Province  
– Med Command Natal  
– 1 Military Hospital Pretoria  
South African Army  
– Eastern Province Command  
– Group 8 Eastern Province



# LESSONS LEARNED

- HULL SURVEY
- OBJECTIVE SAILING STANDARDS / COMMERCIAL PRESSURES
- AIS
- LAW REGARDING WHEN A MASTER MAY ABANDON SHIP?
- PEOPLE, RESOURCES, SYSTEMS, COMMITMENT
- CHOOSE YOUR CRUISE
- DON'T TRUST ANYONE WHO SAYS: *"I'm going for help"*





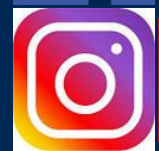
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THE VALUE OF KNOWING

[www.oceanosrescue.com](http://www.oceanosrescue.com)

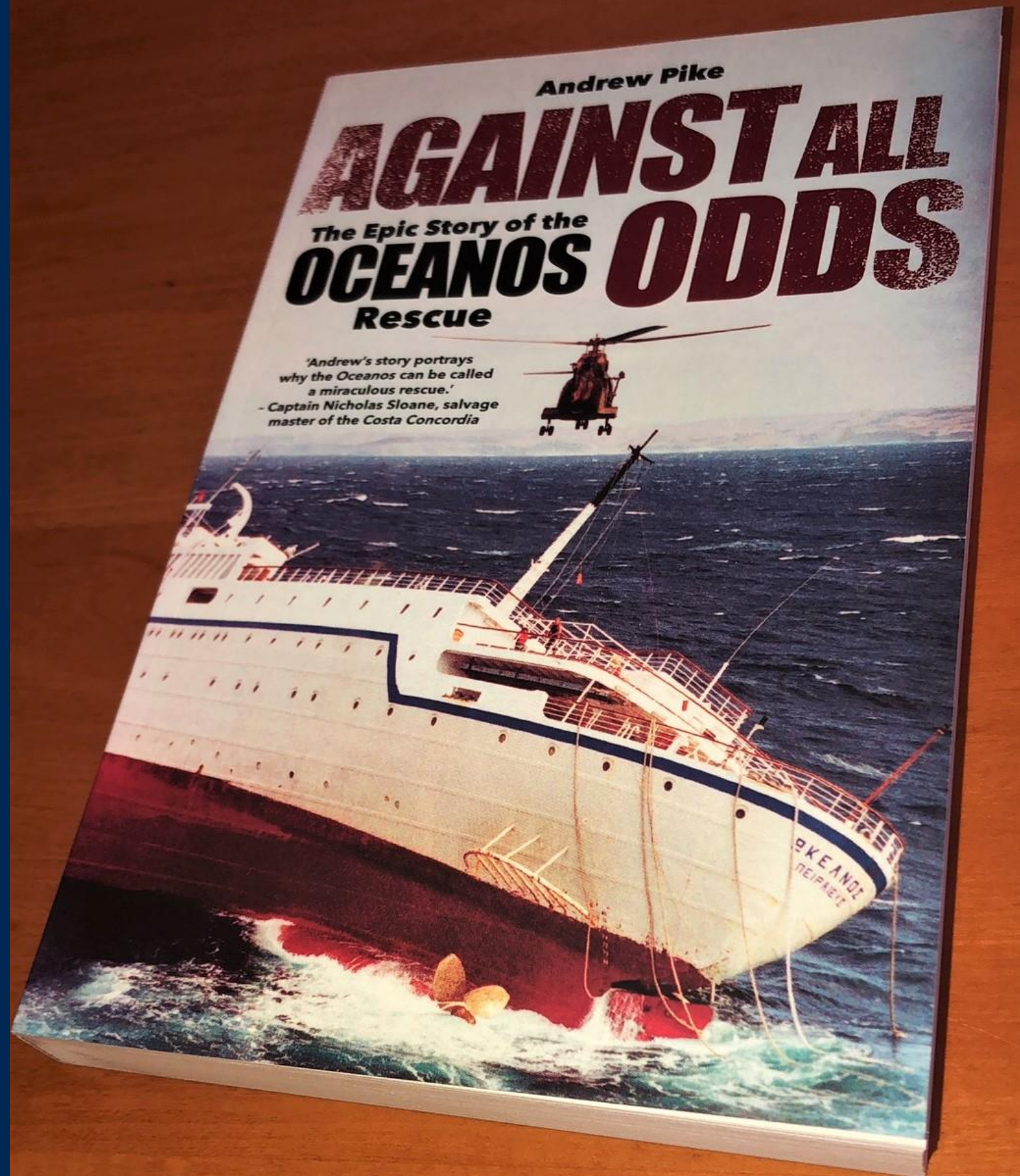


@OceanosRescue



@Oceanos\_Rescue

[andrew.pike@bowmanslaw.com](mailto:andrew.pike@bowmanslaw.com)







# BOWMANS

THE VALUE OF KNOWING



Credit: **Jesse Gillitt**

# THANK YOU



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