

SOS Log SS *Prinsendam* by Radio Officer Richard Singer
(K6KSG; SOWP) during the SOS Distress Call of the
passenger ship PRINSENDAM / [callsign] PJTA
October 4, 1980.

Source:

D.J.J. Ring, Jr. [N1EA] [via googlegroups.com](#)

Apr 17, 2023, 5:16 AM (3 days ago)

to radio-officers@googlegroups.com

Here's the SOS log kept years ago by R/O Richard Singer
(amateur callsign K6KSG) during the SOS of passenger ship
PRINSENDAM/PJTA October 4, 1980.

Dick kept up the proud tradition of radio officers and has a
melodic Vibroplex fist as well.

Keep the history coming!

73

DR

POB=PEOPLE ON BOARD:
SOA=SPEED OF ADVANCE:
WGOA=SS WILLIAMSBURG:
NOJ-USCG KODIAK
RADIO LOG - Only For Compulsorily Equipped Ships
EXXON COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY 0919Z=0119 SHIPS TIME:

Sheet No. -52-

Date: 01 OCT 80

S.S. EXXON NEW ORLEANS

Call Signal

WNDM

Bound for VALDEZ AK

from LONG BEACH CAL

NOON POSIT: @2000Z 5027N 13120W

GMT	CALL LETTERS		PARTICULARS OF COMMUNICATIONS	FREQUENCY
	TO	FROM		
0100Z			ON WATCH..A/A..OFF	500 KH Z
15-18			SILENT PERIOD OBSERVED..QUIET..	" "
30	CQ	KFS	TFC LIST ON 476	" "
45-48			SILENT PERIOD OBSERVED..QUIET..	" "
0203Z	KFS	3FAL	QRU? K..NO ANS	" "
15-18			SILENT PERIOD OBSERVED..QUIET..	" "
31	CQ	KLB	TFC LIST ON 488	" "
38	WHNL	KLC	QTC K..NO ANS	" "
45-48			SILENT PERIOD OBSERVED..QUIET..	" "
51	KFS	JAUD	QTC K..NO ANS	" "
0300Z			OFF WATCH..A/A..ON	500 KHZ
0919Z	*		SOS SOS SOS DE PJTA PJTA PASSENGER SHIP PRINSE NDAM/PJ-TA 57.38N 140.25W FIRE IN THE ENGINE ROOM FLOODED ENGINE ROOM WITH CARBON DIOXIDE KNOW PASSEN- GERS 320 CRFW 190- MASTER...A/A ACTIVATED.	500 KHZ ↓ Distress
23	WGOA		ANSWERED QSL	
24	WFDPA		ANSWERED QSL PSN 55.48N 140.33W CPSE 302 SPD 21 KTS	
56	WGOA		ETA 0635 LOCAL PJTA QSL	
57	SOS	PJTA	US COAST GUARD HELICOPTERS UNDERWAY WITH FIRE EXTE- N- GUISHERS BUT EXACT SITUATION UNKNOWN AS ENGINE ROOM CLOSED TO LET CO2 DO ITS WORK... (WNDM) POSIT 47.56N 132.25W TOO FAR.	
1010Z	PJTA	5LVG	QSL NW OUR QTH 52-24N 148-00W KH K..QSL QSL TOO FAR	
1015Z	PJTA	5MSK	OM...DE 5LVG QUM HW? K..ORM DID NOT GET ANS QTH 51-06N 136-38W HW R TX PSE OM YR QTH 57.38N 140.25W?	
1018Z	PJTA	KGBE	R GR QSL R AS TX	
1020Z	PJTA	WFDPA	QSL SOS QTH 52.06N 135.24W..PJTA R TX.	
1025Z1	PJTA		PJTA DE WFDPA (TA UR PMET) 950 QRI QRI WFDPA DE WGOA	
1025Z	PJTA	WGOA	2182 KHZ BT BT (PJTA UR EMERG MITR) QSO ON 2182 KHZ...WGOA ETA 0635 LOCAL AND WFDPA ETA TO VSL IS 0600 LOCAL..	
1030Z			SECURE FROM 500 KHZ WNDM TOO FAR AWAY A/A ON	500 KHZ
1202Z			A/A ACTIVATED..DDD SOS WGOA PRESENDA/PJTA ON FIRE	
1220Z	PJTA	WGOA	PSN 57.38N 140.25 W QRM ON 500 HRD TO COPY R..	
			QSO HOW IS IT ON BOARD? K..DE PJTA STILL BURNING BUT IS GETTING WORSE AND HAVE TO GO INTO THE BOATS DE WGOA	
			R MSG NW ETA ETA 1450 1450Z SPEED NOW 17.5 QSL? K..	
			PJTA QSL...QSO AT 1242Z DE PJTA FIRE NOW INTO DINNING ROOM..	
1245Z	PJTA	WGOA	ARE YOU ABANDONING SHIP? K..DE PJTA. THEY HAVE QSO ON CH16 VHF WITH US HELICOPTER..QSL	
55	WGOA	WNGW	APPROX PSN 59N 148W K..DE WGOA AS..PJTA WGOA=WNGW ADVISES APPROX PSN 59N 148W K..DE PJTA R TOO FAR K	
13012W		PJTA	THE PASSENGERS ARE ABANDONING SHIP NOW K..DE WGOA QSL	
1310Z			A/A SIGS SOS DDD SOS DE WGOA SENDS DISTRESS FOR PJTA AGAIN AT 1318Z..PJTA NOW ON EMERG XMTR..MAIN POWER OFF..	
1318Z	DDD SOS NOJ		REPEAT ABOVE DISTRESS	
1330Z	WGOA	PJTA	THE SHIP IS TO RE ABONDONED, PASSENGERS FIRST THEN WE,	

PLEASE USE 15 MIN

1314Z	WGOA	WSRY	POS 547N 13737W CAN WE HELP K..DE WGOA AS	"
1348Z	NOJ	WGOA	NOANS FM PJTA ..	"
1344Z	NYOQ	WGOA	UR ETA PJTA ? K..OSO 1100 LOCAL ETA	"
1402Z	SOS	PJTA	WE HAVE LOWERED SIX LIFEROATS AND THREE REAUFORT RAFTS AND HOLDING THE REST FOR THE ...ORM	"
1406Z	PJTA	WGOA	OSL ..	"
1406Z	WGOA	PJTA	WE CAN ONLY QSO ON MOTOROLA WALKIE TALKIE CH8 K	"
1406Z	WGOA	R OSL		"
1423Z	NOJ	WGOA	HAVE PJTA ON RADAR AT 20 MILES DE NOJ OSL	"
1443Z	NOJ	WGOA	ORU? K..ORU	"
1459Z	NOJ	WGOA	ORU? K. DE NOJ ORU	"
1509Z	NOJ	WGOA	SOS. ORU K..OSO ORU	"
1511Z	NOJ	D7RI	PSN 52.50N 1-14.30 W DE NOJ OSL	"
1517Z	NOJ	WGOA	HAVE PRINCENDAM IN VISUAL CONTACT NOW K..DE NOJ OSL	"
1539Z	NOJ	WGOA	SOS - HAVE ARRIVED AT SCENE	"
1540Z			OFF WATCH A/A ON	500 KHZ
1600Z			ON WATCH..A/A..OFF	500 KHZ
02	KPH	DHEE	QTC K..NO ANS	"
03	NOJ	PJTA	CANNOT COPY DUE TO QRM ON 500	"
10	NOJ	PJTA	DO WE GET PUMPS? K..OSO HAVENT GOT ANSWER YET AS	"
13	PJTA	NOJ	SOS. WGOA ANS K. DE NOJ JUNEVA WRKING ON PUMPS K DE WGOA QSO OSL	"
14	WSRY	NOJ	SOS K..QRM FM D7YN CALLING KLB	"
15	NOJ	WGOA	SOS PSE ADVISE AID DESTINED PJTA K..OSO AS	"
22	NOJ	KACK	QRA SOHIO INTREPID MY ETA PRINCENDAM STILL 2030Z	"
			ADVISE IF I SHOULD RESUME GSE FOR VALDEZ K DE NOJ AS	"
33	NOJ	WGOA	IS NYCO A CUTTER OR WHAT ?	"
43	PJTA	NOJ	HOW MANY PERSON ON BOARD AND ANY INJURIES? K..OSO	"
			DE PJTA NO.... ABOUT 40 CREW	"
45	NOJ	WGOA	ORU ON PUMPS? ..OSO ORU	"
57	WNDF	NOJ	SOS QTH?..K DE WNDF U AS..DE WNDF QTH 57.10N 142.26W	"
			SOA 17KT K SOS WNDF DE NOJ RR	"
1701Z	WNDF	NOJ	ETA ? K.. DE WNDF AS..2100Z ETA 2100ZK..DE NOJ R AR	"
02	NOJ	WGOA	ETA PUMPS? DE NOJ ORU..	"
16	NOJ	WGOA	PSE ETA ON PUMPS K..OSO AS	"
19	WGOA	NOJ	SOS 1. WHAT DO YOU NEED TO FIGHT FIRE WITH ANYTHING PECULIAR? 2. ARE YOU FIGHTING FIRE ANY SUCCESS? 3. DO YOU INTEND TO STAY ABOARD? 4. DO YOU STILL HAVE BOATS FOR PEOPLE ONBOARD TO GET OFF? 5. DO YOU HAVE POWER OR JUST PORTABLE PUMPS?.. DE WGOA AS	"
			PROCEED NORMAL DESTINATION K..OSL	"
26	JEUS	NOJ	SOS. NED GUD PUMPS FOR WATER. 2. YES, NO SUCCESS. 3. YES, STILL ACCEPTABLE. 4. STILL HAVE 5. INFLATABLE RAFTS	"
28	NOJ	WGOA	5. NO POWER AVAILABLE..	"
1730Z			WNDF LSN UP ON 12 MHZ FOR KPH QTC FOR HIM	2 MHZ
44	KPH	WNDF	UP 623 K..OSO SEND 041730Z/1746Z 041731Z/1747Z AND 041732Z/1750Z	12 MHZ
1803Z	NOJ	UYZY	OBS K..	500 KHZ
17	NOJ	WGOA	SOS 150 OUT OF 450 PASSENGERS ABOARD SEAS 12-15 FEET	"
			WIND 25-30 KTS..NOJ OSL	"
21	KPH	SLFX	QRU...DE WNDF QRT SOS	"
25	NOJ	WNDF	LV CKT FER 10 MINS K..	"
30	NOJ	WGOA	150 TO 250 POB WGOA K..OSO	"
33	WGOA	KSFK	WE GOT PORTABLE AIR OPERATED PUMPS ONLY. AS	"
34	NOJ	WGOA	ETA PUMPS K..OSO QRU	"
45	WGOA	NOJ	SOS QRU? K..QRU TU	"
57	VAI	WTFS	OBS K..	"
58	NOJ	WGOA	SOS QRU? K..OSO QRU	"
1902Z	WGOA	NOJ	SOS IS IT OK WITH YOU IF WE SHIFT SOS TO 2182 KHZ AND RESUME NORMAL WORKING THIS FREQ DE WGOA AS	"

Distress

867-00098

RADIO LOG - Only For Compulsorily Equipped Ships
 EXXON COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY

Sheet No. -53-Date: 01 OCT 80S.S. EXXON NEW ORLEANSCall Signal WNDMBound for VALDEZ AK from LONGREACH CAL

GMT	CALL LETTERS		PARTICULARS OF COMMUNICATIONS	FREQUENCY
	TO	FROM		
1905Z	WGOA	KACK	CAN YOU GIVE ME AN ACCURATE QTH PSE K ..OSO AS	500 KHZ
08	KACK	WGOA	QTH OF PRINSFNDAM/PJTA 57.42N 140.42W K..OSL TU	" "
24	KPH	WNDM	UP 623 K..OSO SFND NR4 041748Z/1927Z	12 MHZ
30	NOJ	8KAY	K..OSO UP 468 K..	500 KHZ
30			QUM FM NOJ NOW NORMAL OPERA-TION OF 500 KHZ	" "
			TESTED GEAR DAILY AND OPERATED AS FOLLOWS..EMERG XMTR TESTED USING SIG-KEYER TO SEND 2 DASHES ON 410 KHZ AND ALL BELLS EXCEPT BRIDGE BELL RANG LIGHT OK..BATTERIES BELL RANGING UP..WILL FIX LATER.. EMERG RCVR OK NOJ HRD ON 500 KHZ..EMERG BATTERIES TESTED UNDER LOAD AND ALL CELLS READ NOT LESS THAN 1.31VDC CHG RATE 5 AMPS FULL CHG..POLARITY CORPECT..AUTO ALARM TESTED BY SENDING 4 PROPERLY SPACED 4 SECOND DASHES WITH TEST KEY AND ALL BELLS EXCEPT BRIDGE BELL RANG WILL FIX LATER.. LIGHT RESPNDED OK.. STATIC HRD ON A/A RCVR..EMERG XMTR OBTAINED 3.6 AMBS OF ANT-CUR....RADIO ROOM CLOCK CHECKED WITH WWV TIME TIC AND WAS 4 SECS FAST	
43	NMC	ESBZ	K..OSO UP	" "
45-48			SILENT PERIOD OBSERVED..STN CALLS KLB NO ID AT 47	" "
49	KLB	ZCNI	QTC OSS 480/88 K..NO ANS	" "
2000Z			OFF WATCH..A/A..ON <i>R. Soper</i>	500 KHZ
2300Z			ON WATCH..A/A..OFF	500 KHZ
01	CQ	KPH	TFC LIST ON 426 AND 12 MHZ COPY NIL FOR WNDM	1 2 MHZ
15-18			SILENT PERIOD OBSERVED..QUIET..	500 KHZ
33	D9BM	VAE	QTC K..NO ANS	" "
45-48			SILENT PERIOD OBSERVED..QUIET..	" "
48	TTT	NOJ	COPY NTM ON 470NBR 778:	" "

PLEASE USE OTHER SIDE

[This archivist's note is prepared by Bart Lee, K6VK,
CHRS Archivist for the website of the Society of
Wireless Pioneers >>>

See:

<https://archive.org/details/SosMsPrinsendamOctober41980>

for recordings and more information.



David Ring, N1EA, served as a Radio Officer on the *Prinsendam* at the time of the fire at sea. This is his amateur radio QSL card.

See also:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MS_Prinsendam_\(1972\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MS_Prinsendam_(1972))

(20 IV '23 de K6VK) ##