Survivor sets record straight about boat capsizing



(AP) David Olszewski savs there was no warning before the fishing boat he was on capsized, trapping

him and others in the upside-down cabin.

"I grabbed a breath of air, and I was thinking, 'I'm dead right here. I'm dead right here." he said.

Olszewski survived the ordeal, as did 11 others who were rescued from the cold Pacific water last Thursday

One member of the group died when the boat capsized. Two others are missing and presumed drowned.

Olszewski, a yeoman second class in the Navy, had taken the day off for a bottom-fishing excursion with 10 co-workers from the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center in Eugene.

Olszewski spoke publicly about his experience Monday, saying he wanted to set the record straight about the ill-fated

trip. The sea had been rough all the way in from where the group had been fishing Thursday morning, Olszewski said.

Some men were outside on the deck of the 50-foot charter boat while its captain steered a course through the entrance to Yaquina Bay, but Olszewski and five or six of his friends and the charter boat's first mate were riding out the rough crossing in the boat's cabin.

When the boat flipped, Olszewski and those around him were suddenly trapped in the upside-down cabin, swimming in icy water and breathing from an air bubble just above their shoulders.

Contrary to some reports, Olszewski said, the sinking occurred much farther out to sea than "a football field" from shore.

"I'm a certified lifeguard," he said. "I could swim that far, even in that water."

After the initial shock of the capsizing. Olszewski said, those trapped in the cabin were able to rationally discuss their sit'I decided in my own mind, I had to get out, or I was going to die.'

> David Olszewski, survivor of capsizing

uation.

Olszewski dove down toward what was the ceiling of the cabin and found no way out. He surfaced again in the air bubble, and they decided they'd have to find a fire extinguisher they'd seen earlier and break out a portal.

"Then I smelled the diesel fumes," he said. "It was filling up our air bubble. I decided in my own mind. I had to get out. or I was going to die."

Olszewski dove again and saw a glimmer of light through the water. He swam to it, then through it and surfaced beside the capsized boat.

Olszewski swam toward a life ring that

several men already were clinging to, and about a minute or two later the others from the cabin found their way to the surface

"We were in the water about 30 or 40 minutes, and it was just so, so cold," he said

Those who didn't survive were among those on the deck when the boat capsized.

The body of Navy Personnelman First Class Thomas McManus, 34, of Eugene was found last Thursday. Still missing are Navy Hospital Corpsman First Class Jeff Freeman, 23, of Baker City and Marine Cpl. William Ames, 25, of Veneta.

There were heroics in the frigid water. including the lifesaving efforts of Navy Hospital Corpsman Second-Class Thomas "Doc" Vogel and Marine Sgt. Joseph Kroto, who swam with critically injured Marine First Sgt. Monte Sain from the sinking boat. Olszewski said.

Sain was released from a Portland hospital during the weekend.

Document cites POW discrepancy



WASHINGTON (AP) The Clinton administration will ask Vietnam to explain a secret document alleging that Hanoi held 837 more Ameri-NATIONAL ~can prisoners of war in 1972 than authorities acknowledged, U.S. officials said

Monday The officials said they had some questions about the authenticity of the document, which Russian authorities turned over to American POW

researchers During negotiations on ending American military involvement in Vietnam, North Vietnamese officials said in September 1972 that they held 368 American POWs, according to the document.

But State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the Russian translation of the Vietnamese document indicated that Hanoi held 1,205 prisoners. As part of a peace agreement signed in January 1973, Vietnam agreed to release all Americans held prisoner and 591 were subsequently returned to U.S. custody. The last of the POWs came home April 1, 1973.

The Clinton administration, following the lead of the Bush administration, has linked establishment of normal relations to Vietnamese cooperation on the POW issue.

"The POW-MIA issue continues to be of great concern to the president." said White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers. "There can be no normalization of relations with Vietnam until we're sure the Vietnamese are doing all they can."

The document raises questions that must be answered, said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., chairman of the Senate Select Committee on POW-MIA Affairs

A committee report released this year "indicated that further information could be found in the former Soviet Union - in documents or in personal testimony." Kerry said in a written statement

"My understanding is that this new document was only very recently provided to U.S. officials and that it is still being analyzed," the statement said. "Meanwhile, our government should continue to press the Vietnamese government to cooperate fully on the POW-MIA issue.

The document was uncovered in January by Stephen J. Morris, a researcher for the Harvard Center for International Affairs. It purportedly was written by Gen. Tran Van Quang, deputy chief of staff of the North Vietnamese Army

Boucher said officials of the National Security Council have had several conversations with Morris

Last Thursday, the Russian government turned over a copy of the document to U.S. officials, who are evaluating it on an expedited basis, Boucher said



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Two hit in film studio gunfire

UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif. (AP) A former employee armed with a hunting rifle peppered a movie studio with gunfire Tuesday, wounding two people. Several others were injured by flying glass.

The alleged gunman was arrested at a park near Universal Studios Hollywood, where his primary target was the 16-story headquarters of MCA, Universal's parent company.

Brian Jarvis,





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studio driver, was booked for investigation of attempted murder, police said.

'He's indicated the possibility this arose from some past dispute from employment," said Los Angeles police Lt. John Dunkin.

Jarvis was a full-time studio driver until 1982, when he was laid off and used as a temporary employee until 1986, said Christine Hanson, an MCA spokeswoman. Two people were struck by bullets, six were hurt by flying glass and one complained of an ear injury. None of the injuries was life-threatening. officials said.