

SHIPWRECK: Tragic Confirmation Of Missing Spanish Fishing Boat With SIX Sailors

By
Cristina Hodgson

-
27 January 2020 @ 10:32

PARTS of the fishing boat, based in Spain's Algeciras (Cadiz), missing since Wednesday with SIX fishermen on board, have been found.

The fishing boat 'Rua Mar', based in the Port of Algeciras, disappeared in Moroccan waters in the early hours of last Wednesday. Since then, a search team was set up, consisting of Maritime Rescue, Civil Guard and Spanish Navy personnel.

The owner of the fishing boat, Pedro Maza, explained that the intention of the crew was to return to their base in the port of Algeciras and that the six crew members on board consisted of the skipper, a mechanic and four sailors.

The fishing boat 'Rua Mar' had left Algeciras "on Wednesday at one o'clock in the morning to an area near Cape Espartel, in Morocco," as the fishing vessel's owner, Pedro Maza explained, adding "they were thinking of returning at night, because the weather was bad" However, Salvamento Maritimo (maritime rescue) contacted the shipowner and informed that the distress signal had been made, but shortly after maritime rescue lost contact with the vessel.

As *Euro Weekly News* understands, parts of vessel have been found, shipwrecked off the coast of Barbate, in the area of Retin.

Two oil drums and two rafts were located yesterday afternoon by another fishing vessel and Pedro Maza, owner of the missing 'Rua Mar', has confirmed that the serial number of the rafts are those which belonged to the missing fishing vessel.

A spokesperson from maritime rescue has stated that “the shipwreck of the vessel is confirmed ‘almost one hundred percent’” adding that the underwater search will be intensified “once the necessary equipment is available,” without ruling search “by sea, land and air” as “the hope that some survivors may appear” remains open.

The underwater search will be aided with the use of both a sonar and an underwater robot.

The collision with a merchant ship has been ruled out as a hypothesis, since none of the routes of those who passed through that area coincide with the point and time at which the radio distress signal was activated.

Spanish Navy tweeted: *“Our maritime action ship #Relampago is incorporated with @salvamentogob to the search for the fishing boat from Barbate”*



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Nuestro buque de acción marítima [#Relampago](#) se incorpora con [@salvamentogob](#) a las labores de búsqueda del pesquero barbateño [#RuaMar](#), desaparecido esta madrugada.

El [#Relámpago](#) permanecerá toda la noche en la zona. [#BuenasNoches](#)

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TRAGIC DISCOVERY IN SPAIN As Body Of 'Rúa Mar' Skipper Found

By
Cristina Hodgson

-
27 January 2020 @ 19:37

THE appearance of the body confirms the hypothesis of the shipwreck of the fishing boat, which has been missing since last Wednesday

A sports boat has found this Monday morning the lifeless body of one of the six crew members of the Rúa Mar, the fishing boat from Cadiz that disappeared in the early hours of last Wednesday, according to the Government Sub-delegation.

The body, which has appeared in the waters of Tarifa, belongs to the skipper of the boat, Javier Maza, 52, confirmed by his brother Pedro, who is also the president of the Andalusian Federation of Fisheries Associations (Faape). Another of his brothers, Angel, 60, was the mechanic and was also on board the boat.

The relatives of the sailors have been transferred to Tarifa to identify the body, which was located near land at about half past one in the afternoon.

The search is being aided by the appearance of a leak of fuel oil on the surface of the sea, which allows the search party in the area to be constantly alerted of the ship's position, an area that is far from where the radio emergency alarm signal was given, 28 miles west of Cape Escardiel, according to sources close to the investigation.

The priority now is to find the wreck and refloat it. Helicopters and air planes from Maritime Rescue and the Guardia Civil are working in the search as well as fishing boats from Barbate and Algeciras, the SAR Mastelero and the Navy's Lightning Ship by sea. The underwater search tasks to try to locate the Rúa Mar are carried out by the Sasemar Clara Campoamor, which has on board the underwater robot and the sonar of the Spanish Oceanographic Institute. In addition to this work, the Navy ship Tofiño has already begun to carry out underwater soundings. The fishing boat, according to the same sources, is at a depth of approximately 330 metres.

For seafarers, recovering the bodies of their sailors is sacred. As the days go by, there are growing concerns that the incident may see a repeat of what occurred 13 years ago in those same waters with the shipwreck of the *Nuevo Pepita Aurora*, a fishing boat based in Barbate, like the *Rúa Mar*. Of its 16 occupants, eight died, the remains of three of were never located.