

TRANSCRIPT: SOUTHWEST REGION

Houston Center (ZHU): Sagar Patel, Robert Nelson

N350MM: Houston Center, November three-five-zero mike mike.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike, go ahead.

N350MM: Yes sir, we're declaring an emergency. We're losing power, and we're currently 98 points, uh, miles from BUFFI, just want to keep you informed right now we're working on [unintelligible], we're losing power.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike, roger. Let me know if there's anything I can do for you.

N350MM: Roger, we'd like to start down, see if we've got icing problems in the fuel. We'd like to start down to, uh, say one-eight-zero.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike roger. Descend and maintain flight level one-eight-zero. Keep me informed of your descent, let me know how the problem goes.

N350MM: Okay, copy that. Uh, we're gonna arrest our descent at this point, uh, power is up about fifty percent, don't know what the problem is yet but, uh, we're losing speed and power, but it seems to be stabilizing at the current speed so I want to maintain my altitude unless I have to descend.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike, could you give me your fuel remaining?

N350MM: Okay, mike mike has seventy-seven gallons remaining, uh, should be a little over two hours but we're still losing power. We're gonna begin the descent. We'll be leaving two-nine at this point.

PATEL: Three-five-zero mike mike, roger.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike, if I could get two things from you if you got time, uh, souls onboard and your present position in coordinates, if you can get that.

N350MM: Okay, standby on the coordinates, out of two-four-zero, we got six on board, uh, correction four on board, four passengers.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike, roger.

N350MM: Mike mike coordinates, position coordinates are north twenty-six sixty-five point three, west zero eighty-nine forty-seven point seven.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike roger. I've relayed the information to the supervisor. We'll get someone out there as soon as we can. You said you're still in the descent?

N350MM: We're out of [unintelligible] mike mike.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike, roger. November three-five-zero mike mike, say altitude.

N350MM: Zero mike mike, altitude fifteen eight.

PATEL: Three-five-zero mike mike, roger. November three-five-zero mike mike, can I get one last position report from you please?

N350MM: Zero mike mike is north two-seven point zero-three point zero-two-eight-nine-zero-three point one.

PATEL: Okay, I got that november three-five-zero mike mike, roger.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike, can I get the color of your aircraft please?

N350MM: White with black, zero mike mike.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike roger, and if you have floatation devices what color are they?

N350MM: Affirmative, floatation device is a raft, color yellow, individual floatation devices for all passengers.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike roger, understand yellow raft and individual floatation devices for each member, thank you.

N350MM: Roger. Houston three-five-zero mike mike.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike, go ahead.

N350MM: Yes sir, we've got a rig out here about two o'clock. I'd estimate about twenty miles. We're gonna deviate, heading of about, ah, zero forty-five to head for that rig.

PATEL: November three-five-zero mike mike, uh, roger. Could you give me, uh, coordinates?

PATEL: American two eighty, let me know if you hear him calling.

AAL280: November three-five-zero mike mike, this is American two eighty, how do you hear?

N350MM: Ah two eighty, we got you loud and clear. We're at, ah, passing nine thousand feet trying to make a rig in front of us about twenty miles.

DAL682: Center, Delta six-eight-two. We're picking up an ELT at our position.

PATEL: Delta six-eight-two, Houston Center roger. You're radar contact south of Apps flight level three-five-zero.

DAL682: Is that a valid ELT?

PATEL: Uh, Delta six eighty-two, uh, is it a pretty strong ELT?

DAL682: It's extremely strong now.

PATEL: Delta six eighty-two, roger.

DAL406: Delta four-zero-six, we have a rig in sight that may have been it. We're heading right toward that rig at this time. We do have contact with

something, it looks like it's about a, just a, oh, half a mile just to the east of the rig and I think that could be it. I'd have to go lower but I see something in the water, by this rig. And I tell ya, well, we're getting ready to fly right over it. Coordinates are twenty-seven thirty-six point five north, eighty-nine zero-five point two west.

PATEL: Delta four-zero-six, Houston Center. Appreciate your help a lot. We got a Coast Guard going out to there now to the coordinates you gave us of the object and, uh, appreciate your help.

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