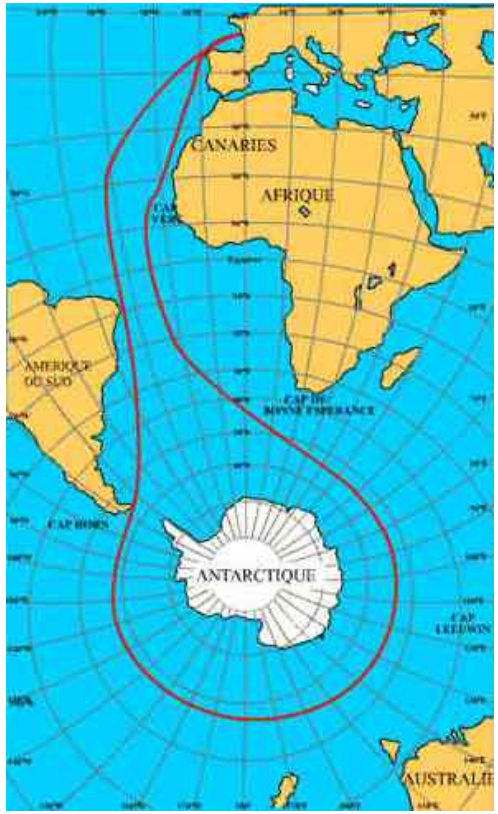
Southern Ocean Retrieval

David McIlroy

Vendee Globe

- Solo round the world yacht race
- Takes 100 to 110 days
- expensive



Atlantic
Ocean
Pacific
Ocean
Pacific
Ocean
Indian
Ocean
Cape of Good Hope
Cape Agulhas
Cape Leeuwin
Roaring
Forties
Furious
Fifties
Cape Horn

Yann Elies

On 16 December 2008 what was Yann doing?

- After 3 months a sea alone
- Incapacitated after accident
- Yacht traveling at 40 knots at the time
- 1000 nmiles south of Australia

RAN called to assist

- Commander Steve Bowater

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Dr Langford called

he sold it well!

- Would I be interested in a Southern Ocean cruise?

- Would I like to spend some time on a $6 million dollar yacht?

Equipment

- Take everything!
- no pumps
- No syringe drivers
- No PCA's
- No invasive monitoring
- No i-stat

- Better to have doubles than deficits

Some things I packed, no seriously!

- Scoop stretcher
- 1 box of bupivicaine
- 1 head cam/ helmet cam
- 3 of the best cigars money can buy
- Leatherman
- Hand held GPS and tiny binoculars
- 1 bottle of Irish whiskey
- 2 Hare traction splints
- 1 hand line 80 lb breaking strain

Information prior to arrival

- 34 year old Frenchman
- Poor English
- 500 ml fluid
- No analgesia
- Painful deformed left thigh
- Pain in left chest
- Pain in left back
- Generali holding a course
- Images and layout of Generali
- Another Yachtsman on scene

Planning

2.5 days to plan!

Plans and technical information of the Generali

Briefings

Train me

Should Safran attempt rescue?

Safran/Vendee Globe | YachtPals.com

Life on board

- On board 5 days
- Managed 1 hour sleep / day
- Very rough
- 2 hours of briefings / day
- Had access to the media, and public opinion

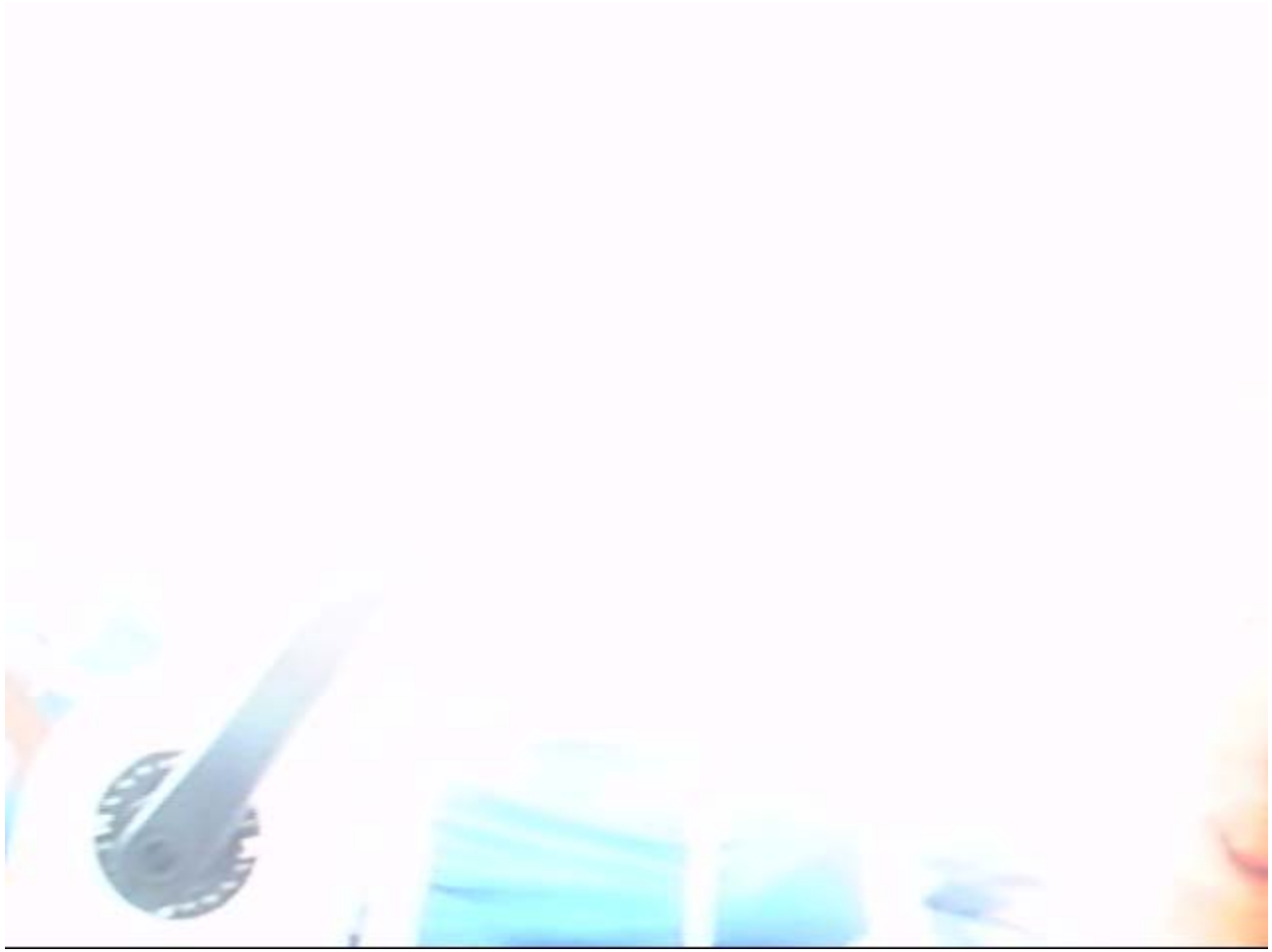
The execution

- 5 on RHIB, 4 navy and me
- 3 boarded yacht
- Second RHIB to rescue us if needs be

GENERALI
Solutions d'assurances
GENERALI

AL DUTY LIFEJACKET MK4
COMPLETE
20-66-146-6933

GENERALI



ENERALI

Photo Able Seaman Photographer Lincoln Commane

Onboard HMAS Arunta

- Where to nurse him
- What to watch out for
- Strained Irish/French relations
- French Dr
- Equipment
- Bush medicine at sea

Analgesia and splintage

- Morphine
- Fentanyl
- Ketamine
- Oral
- Nerveblock

- Hare or POP

Media

- Use them, they love it
- Complete change in public opinion
- Navy regulations on images
- Press conference

FFH-151

FFH-151
Guy Correll

Things that went well

- Mission accomplished
- Didn’t drop Yann
- Worked well with the navy
- Good use of the media, interview planning and preparation
- Used available resources well, Sat phone to French doctor
- Google translator!
- Powerguard 2 stretcher
- Head cam footage
- Friends and family outing
- Getting back for Christmas

Things that could have been better

- Could have been sober when I went
- Equipment choices
- Femoral catheter for nerve block
- I-stat, pumps, syringe drivers, PCA, full drug box, invasive monitoring, ventilator

Things I found difficult

- Mentally, physically and emotionally exhausting
- Discrepancy in medical report to the press
- Difficult , demanding patient
- Language difficulties

- But I'd be up for it again

SUTHERLAND
ALDRICK
BEKKERS