

# Fishermen Rescued After 10 Days at Sea Saw 30 Ships Pass

By PAUL RECER  
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Three sports fishermen who survived 10 days drifting in a small boat in the Gulf of Mexico said 30 ships passed them by before they were rescued, but they were "too angry to cry."

The three, Roger Ulrich, 38, an appliance repairman; his stepson, Thomas W. Beasley, 25, a pipeline construction foreman; and Donald M. Balsley, 42, an appliance repairman; were picked up by the freighter Leslie Lykes Wednesday and they arrived at the Port of Houston Friday.

The Coast Guard in Florida had spent a week looking for them but had given up.

The three, all from Fort Myers, Fla., were sunburned and had lost about 10 pounds each, but were otherwise in good condition after their ordeal in an 18-foot open boat with a 65-horsepower outboard motor that had conked out.

They said about 30 ships passed close to their small boat but never offered help or indicated that they had been seen. It made them angry, Mr. Ulrich said, but inspired them to try to find ways to attract attention.

"We saw boats that almost ran us down and others went around us. Every time that happened, we got depressed. We prayed, but we were too angry to cry."

Their adventure started as a simple fishing trip in Redfish Pass near Captiva Island, a barrier island off the west coast of Florida.

Mr. Ulrich said winds whipped up to 30 mph and waves started running at about 5 feet. When they started toward land at mid-afternoon waves washed into the boat and drowned the engine. Attempts to restart the engine ran down the battery and the powerless boat started drifting. Mr. Ulrich said they tossed out the anchor, but the line parted. They improvised sea anchors, but all failed.

As night fell, the boat drifted out of sight of land, and they were alone on a dark sea.

Their provisions were two corned beef sandwiches, peanut butter crackers, beer and two 10-pound turkeys.

On the afternoon of the day, he said, a Coast Guard plane flew overhead and the men thought they had been spotted and rescued.

They celebrated by eating two sandwiches and drinking beer.

But no rescue showed and darkness fell.

In the days that followed, boats and ships passed them but none offered help. Mr. Ulrich said one shrimp boat came close to them, then appeared to avoid them and didn't stop.

They washed the clothes they had on board a piece of cloth that wouldn't dry. They had no road flares that wouldn't light. They had no clothing that was orange in color.

When the provisions were gone, they ate raw fish, which was unpalatable. Mr. Ulrich said he fashioned a stove out of a piece of wood and used galvanized slivers of wood for fuel.

Water was rationed to one cup a morning and night. When they were briefly, they sipped up water with a seat cushion.

"We even licked the bottom of the boat," Mr. Balsley, the owner of the boat, said.

They were down to water each Wednesday. Mr. Ulrich said he heard a boat heading toward them.

They were picked up by the Leslie Lykes, a vessel bound for Houston from the Mediterranean with a load of Italian marble, passing across the Gulf.

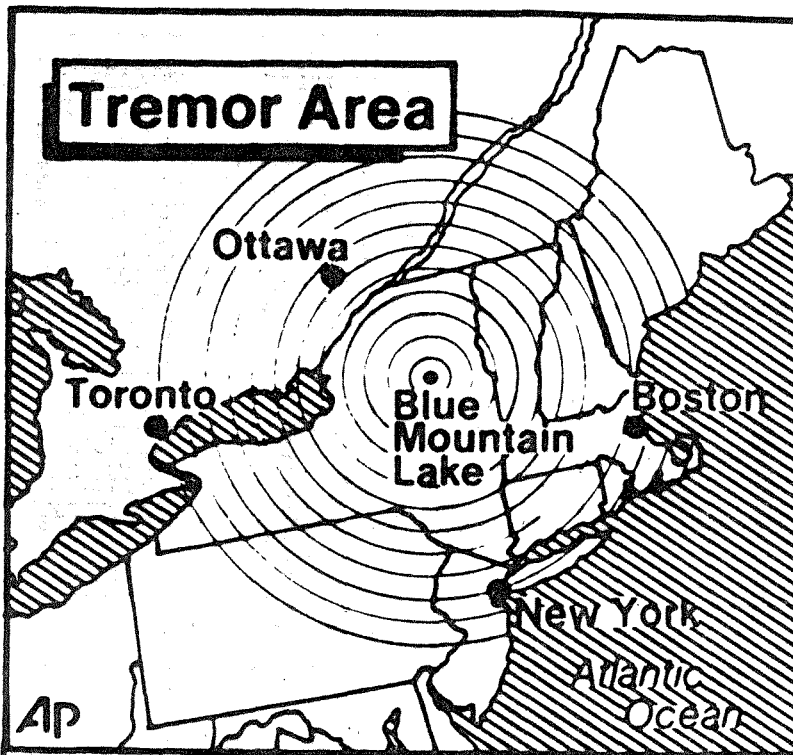
## Heroin Dealer Imprisoned

NEW YORK (AP) — A man who was lord of the domain from a Harlem neighborhood while living in suburbia was sentenced Friday to prison for narcotics trafficking.

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# Roswell Park



Map indicates area of Northeast shaken Friday morning.

## Did the Quake Shake You Up?

By MICHAEL BEEBE

Where were you when the earthquake struck Friday morning? Columbia University wants to know.

The university's prestigious Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory is seeking as many personal reactions as possible to the Friday morning tremor, which registered an impressive 5.2 on the Richter scale.

"There are two ways of measuring an earthquake," Cathleen Aviles, a Cheektowaga native and doctoral candidate at Lamont-Doherty, explained.

"One is the magnitude on the Richter scale," she said. "The other measure is intensity. How people felt it, how the building took it."

If your teacups rattled, if the bed shook or the dog barked, the seismologists at Columbia want to know.

"Earthquakes of this size don't happen that often in the Northeast," Ms. Aviles said. "This is fantastically useful information for us. It will supplement our data and help us predict future earthquakes."

She said teams from the observatory measured 30 to 40 aftershocks about five hours after the earthquake startled the Adirondack village of Blue Mountain at 6:18 a.m. Friday.

A Columbia University seismograph located 6 miles from the earthquake registered the total impact at 5.1. The regional impact was set by federal officials at 5.2 on a scale that indicates anything above 5 can cause considerable damage. No major damage was reported Friday.

A reading of 3 to 3.5 on the Richter scale was registered at the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works in Lewiston, where tons of radioactive waste left over from World War II's Manhattan Project is stored.

Lewiston Town Supervisor James J. Lombardi said Friday that federal Atomic Energy Commission officials assured him there was no visible damage at the site but promised a full inspection and report.

All the effects of the earthquake will eventually be compiled by Columbia as part of its study. If you want to receive a questionnaire, write the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, Palisades, N.Y. 10964.

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