



Taller Map Smaller Map

Approximately 40 people in distress on Oinousses Island/Gr., all rescued



In Distress

VERIFIED

23.04.2015 / 22:39 / Oinousses Island, Greece

Watch The Med Alarm Phone Investigation – 23rd of April 2015

Case name:2015_04_23-AEG8

Situation: Approximately 40 people in distress on Oinousses Island/Gr

Status of WTM Investigation: Concluded

Place of Incident: Oinousses Island, Greece

Summary of the Case: On Thursday the 23rd of April 2015, the shift team of the Alarm Phone received a distress call in the early hours of the day. The contact person reported that about 40 people, including 8 children, had left Syria and were on their way to Greece. They had troubles with their vessel which started sinking but they were able to reach the coast of an island. The shift team understood that the place in question was the Greek island of Oinousses. The passengers had already tried to alert the Greek authorities but were unable to reach them. They asked for assistance and the shift team contacted the Greek authorities and passed on the obtained information, including phone numbers and coordinates.

The Greek coastguards told the shift team that they were not responsible for that area and passed on numbers for us to call. The shift team contacted JRCC Piraeus and was told that they would send someone to check on the situation. However, when contacting the authorities in Piraeus again, hours later, it became clear that they still had not sent out anyone to the people in distress. At last, they confirmed that a rescue operation would take place. The shift team reached out to the people on Oinousses Island again and gave further advice.

For hours, contact to the Syrian refugees could not be established. The shift team contacted the UNHCR in Greece and Turkey, JRCC Piraeus, the Ministry, and the Hellenic Police. Then, the shift team was able to reach the refugees again. They had already moved to a town and were waiting to be transferred to Chios. The UNHCR later confirmed that the local police on the island had found the group of Syrians who would be brought to the island of Chios shortly (see also source 1).

Sources

<http://www.hcg.gr/node/9954>

Related Reports

20:40 Oct 10, 2017 / Aegean Sea Kms

09/10: 45 travellers rescued by the Greek coast guard

12:12 Sep 09, 2019 / Aegean Kms

08/09: 30 people stranded on Oinousses, rescued to Greece

17:52 Apr 03, 2017 / Aegean Sea Kms

02/04: 23 travellers stranded on Inousses, brought to Chios

09:49 Dec 25, 2018 / Aegean Kms

24/12: 14 people (including 8 women and 1 child) stranded on Oinousses, Greece

19:06 Feb 19, 2022 / Eastern Med Kms

18/02: Illegal push-back of 37 travellers by Hellenic Coastguard

