

# Collapse of a system – the sequence of events

## HMNZS Canterbury

Length: 131m

Speed: 19 knots

Complement: 53 Navy crew, 35 trainees, 10 Air Force, 7 Army, 4 Govt agencies, up to 250 soldiers.

Capability: Up to 4 NH90 Air Force helicopters, 40 light armoured vehicles, 1 Seasprite helicopter, 2 landing craft.

### How It happened



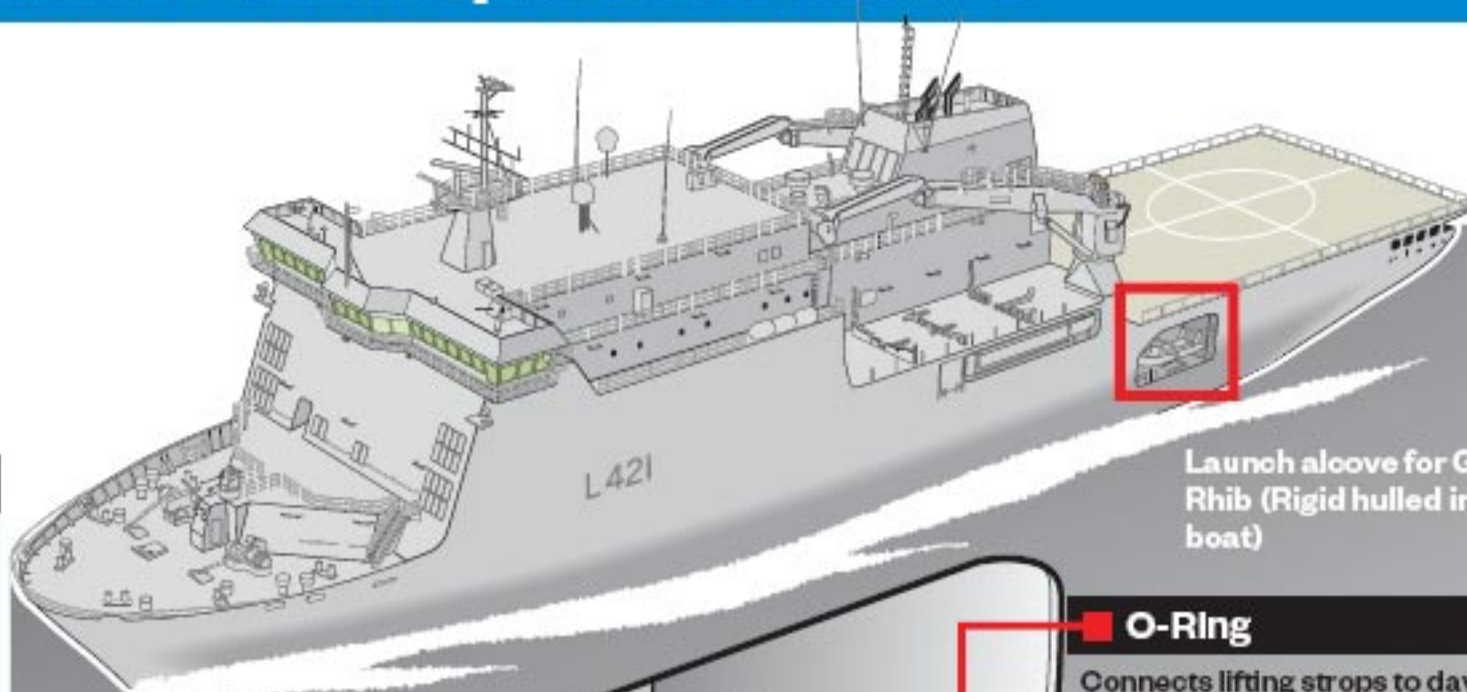
**1** Boat rope keeping Rhib alongside the ship comes free due to unscheduled release of Gibb shackle.

**2** Crew unable to quickly extract O-ring connecting lifting straps to davit hook.

**3** Bow of Rhib veers out due to force of water, broaches and capsizes.



**4** Byron Solomon and Leading Seaman Dwayne Pakinga are trapped between lifting straps and pontoon. Bernard Cooke and Adrian Shelford are thrown clear. Pakinga eventually frees himself.



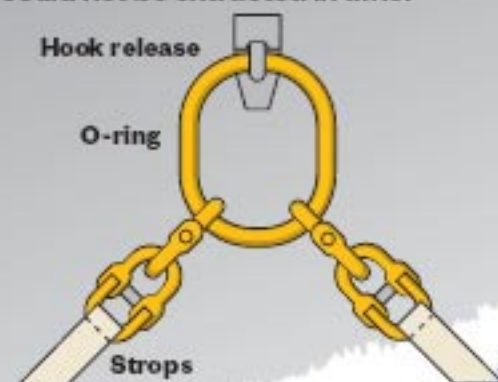
Launch aloof for Gemini Rhib (Rigid hulled inflatable boat)

### Hydraulic davit

Used to hoist and lower Rhibs. Not manufactured for speed of launch required on Canterbury. Attempts to hoist boat back in fail. Gear failure follows.

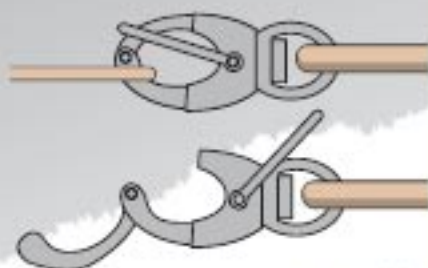
### O-Ring

Connects lifting straps to davit hook. Ring was oversized and incompatible with hook release mechanism. With the wire under strain, the O-ring could not be extracted in time.



### Gibb shackle

Connects boat rope from Canterbury to bow of Rhib. Prone to unscheduled release.



### Lifting straps

While hooked up, hinders coxswain's access to controls and risks entrapment of crew.

### Self-righting device

Failed to activate. Was subject of manufacturer's recall.

