



1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,550

\h Music

2
00:00:06,550 --> 00:00:11,410

\h Early in the morning along the east central Florida coast, rescue teams on land,

3
00:00:11,410 --> 00:00:15,120

\h sea and in the air sprang to action.

4
00:00:15,120 --> 00:00:18,020

\h Helicopters were silhouetted against the sky.

5
00:00:18,020 --> 00:00:20,560

\h Boats cut through the choppy seas.

6
00:00:20,560 --> 00:00:25,580

\h Military leaders huddled over computer monitors displaying real-time tracking.

7
00:00:25,580 --> 00:00:28,990

\h It was only a drill, but the scenario played out like a real

8
00:00:28,990 --> 00:00:32,510

\h space shuttle launch-day emergency.

9
00:00:32,510 --> 00:00:36,770

\h The shuttle search and rescue drill was a cooperative effort between NASA

10
00:00:36,770 --> 00:00:38,760

\h and the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security.

11
00:00:38,760 --> 00:00:43,320

\h It simulated an emergency situation where a space shuttle crew would need to

12
00:00:43,320 --> 00:00:48,110

\h bail out of their orbiter after liftoff and be rescued from the Atlantic Ocean.

13
00:00:48,110 --> 00:00:53,470

\h The exercise known as Mode eight was made as realistic as possible with

14

00:00:53,470 --> 00:00:56,980

\h complicated medical and communications challenges that would be experienced

15

00:00:56,980 --> 00:00:59,760

\h in a real bail-out situation.

16

00:00:59,760 --> 00:01:04,840

\h The shuttle crew in the drill was made up of real astronauts and volunteers,

17

00:01:04,840 --> 00:01:08,630

\h with each assigned various medical needs during the rescue.

18

00:01:08,630 --> 00:01:13,190

\h Unlike other such drills in the past, this one concentrated on a launch path that

19

00:01:13,190 --> 00:01:17,440

\h will be used during space shuttle Atlantis' STS-125

20

00:01:17,440 --> 00:01:19,690

\h Hubble repair mission this fall.

21

00:01:19,690 --> 00:01:25,350

\h After liftoff, the shuttle will head directly eastward out over the Atlantic Ocean

22

00:01:25,350 --> 00:01:30,580

\h instead of curving closer to the coast putting a rescue effort farther out to sea.

23

00:01:30,580 --> 00:01:34,050

\h This was the fifteenth Mode eight drill with the first conducted

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00:01:34,050 --> 00:01:36,240

\h almost 20 years ago.

25

00:01:36,240 --> 00:01:39,440

\h And while a sea rescue of a shuttle crew is the most complicated,

26

00:01:39,440 --> 00:01:44,510

\h it is just one of several emergency rescue drills conducted regularly.

27

00:01:44,510 --> 00:01:48,830

\h The teams involved in the Mode eight were able to sharpen their skills while