



Turkish Australian AE2 Expedition 2007

Australian Diver Suffers Mishap After In-water Incident

Over the last four days divers from a joint Turkish Australian expedition have been examining the Australian World War 1 submarine HMAS AE2 which was sunk in the Sea of Marmara during the Gallipoli campaign in 1915.

Unfortunately one of the divers experienced difficulties close to the surface shortly after entering the water.

The diver's companion provided immediate assistance returning both to the surface where standby support divers entered the water to assist entry onto the diving support vessel.

The diving support vessel crew removed the diver from the water for immediate treatment by specialist hyperbaric physicians already embarked as members of the Dive Team Support.

The expedition's pre-planned responses were activated; the Turkish Coastguard provided a high speed vessel to transport the diver with supporting physicians to a shore base where a Turkish Navy helicopter transferred the diver to a modern hospital in Bursa.

The diver is now sedated, in a stable condition in an intensive care facility in the hospital.

The diver's family in Australia and all relevant organisations have been informed.

A further statement will be made when additional information is at hand.

If absolutely necessary, for further information please contact:

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