

# Capt. Daley's Sea Stories

M/V Ken C Tamblyn  
Ghana, Africa

15 October 2010

Drills, Storms & Lobsters



Frac boats present different challenges than other oilfield vessels. There is a lot of equipment on board operating at very high pressures and flow rates. There are many clients on board who are contracted by the oil company, in this case, Tullow of Ghana, PLC to do the frac work. It is 95% rigging up, checking and rechecking and 5% actual frac operations.

There are few storms in West Africa, the birthplace of hurricanes for the US East Coast. But when they hit, the squalls have a strong punch. We encountered only one in two months, but it had wind speeds to 65 knots and lasted an hour.

Lobsters are plentiful on the Gold Coast (Ghana). You can trade an empty used barrel for ten lobsters. We enjoyed lobsters frequently!



A seaman is happiest when at sea. Handling a vessel as large as the Ken C Tamblyn brings an extra big smile to my face.



Backing into the SEDCO 702 to see how our coflex hanger fits.



A view from the rig looking down on the Ken C Tamblyn.



Lobster again. That's the third time this week! Lobsters are abundant in Ghana.



An interesting combination of deck lights and dusk.



The crew and clients of the Ken C Tamblin participating in an Abandon Ship drill. Hard hats are not compulsory in the muster area, but all of the crew have one on.



The mess room of the Ken C Tamblin.



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A reel of pipe weighing over 100 tons is being loaded onto Technip's Deep Pioneer to be laid in the Jubilee Field.



There are so many beautiful sunsets in West Africa.



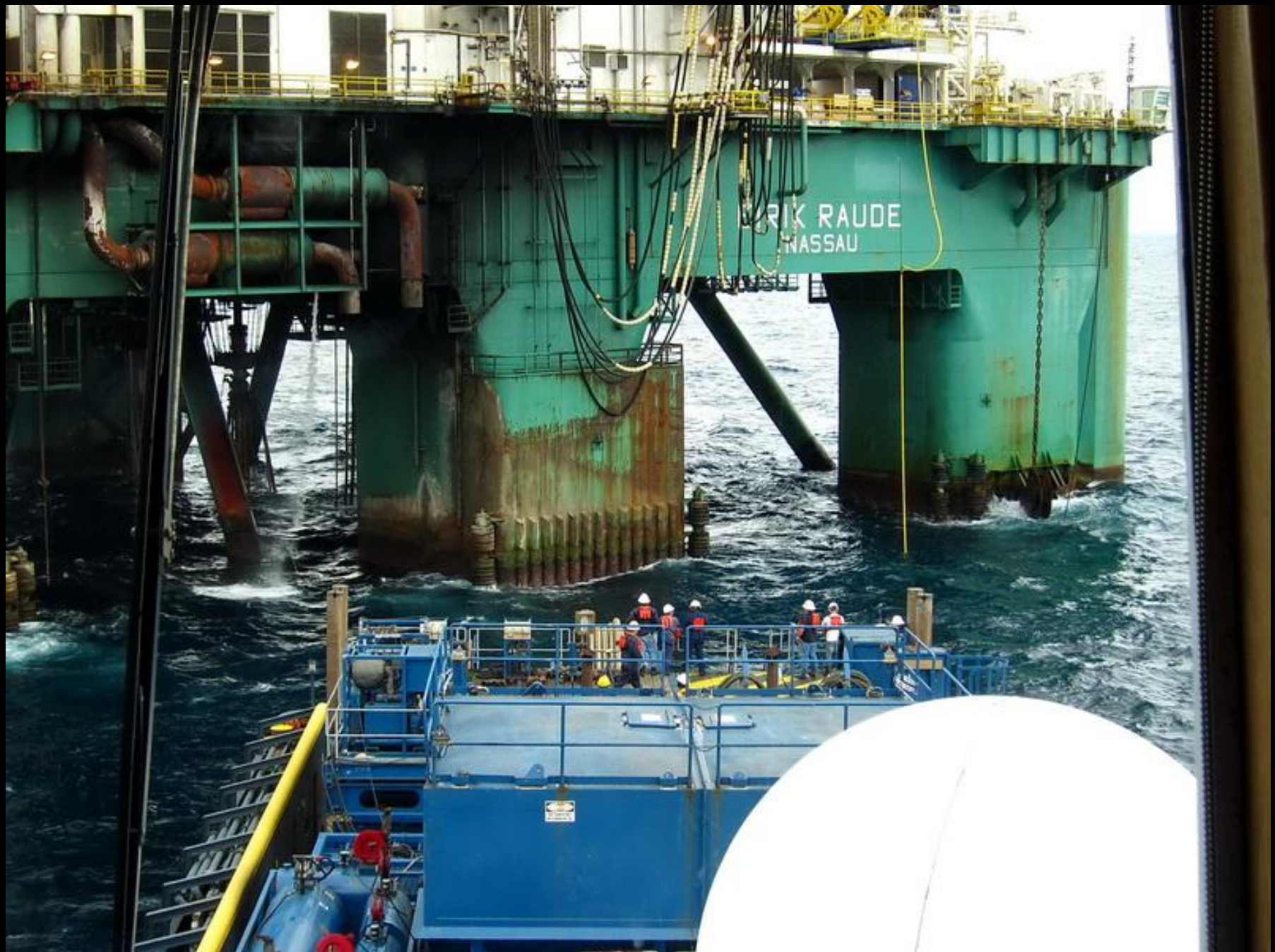
This drill is to learn how to strap a man into a litter ready for hoisting by a helicopter.



The fuel dock at Takoradi left much to be desired, but it is functional and we are able to re-fuel without issues.



The Ken C Tamblin is quite a vessel no matter how you measure her.



We are backing into the Erik Raude to test the coflex hanger. I worked this rig in the Gulf of Mexico two years ago. It's a small world. Many rigs have left or are leaving the Gulf of Mexico.



Night operations at the forward helm of the KCT underway.



The weather is typically calm in West Africa. But when a squall hits, it can be a doozy. This was the only squall we encountered in two months and the wind blew up to 65 knots for an hour.



Baker Hughes is overhauling the coflex hanger on the dock.