

Adishem

Captain's Log: 02/09/2016

Interesting encounter today with a mysterious fog. The ship was surrounded by what I can only describe as an entity, given that while I wouldn't necessarily characterise it as intelligent, it definitely reacted to our presence.

When I waved my hand towards it, the fog moved backwards to avoid contact. It was however interested in the crystals we use to drive the airship and many of our other technologies on board. The fog gathered around the engines when they were fired up, and sent out ribbons towards a box containing them when it was carried across the deck. When the crystals were fully exposed, the fog raced towards them and snatched them out of my hand.

I theorize that the fog consumes the crystals for some yet unknown benefit, but that it is not extremely sensitive to their presence. While it was attracted to the engines and the box, it did not seem to be aware of the stores inside the ship, and so the thickness of the hull and internal walls blocked the fog's senses. We tried to reverse our course and navigate out of the fog, but it appears that the fog confuses sense of direction and we narrowly avoided a serious incident. I would not recommend anyone try this approach in any possible future encounters.

In the end we escaped by distracting the fog with some crystals. Throwing crystals into the fog and firing the engines was unsuccessful, as the extra power only attracted the fog again. We were then successful by firing some crystal fragments into the air with an arquebus, and cutting the engines at the same time, dropping the ship vertically downwards, before firing the engines up again. The fog followed the crystals, and did not chase the ship afterwards. Should any other captains meet this entity again, this approach should work next time, but I would recommend keeping an eye out for any unusual fogs and try to avoid if possible. Note: we were surrounded very quickly and out of nothing, so this may not be possible, although without any specific criticism, the crew are tired after a long journey, and it is possible something was missed.

Ship Notes: Excelsior needs repairs to the starboard side after scraping across the mountain, and to the keel after dropping further than expected into the trees.

Engine starter needs a complete overhaul before setting out again. The engine did not restart when required, and we were lucky it finally kicked in before we crashed. The engine needs to start on first attempt. Crew Notes: The crew acted with credit throughout the incident. They kept to their jobs and those not on shifts quickly came to provide extra support.

Special credit to William Cuthbert. After joining the crew on our last visit to our homeport, he acted bravely and with distinction. He climbed down through the fog without hesitation, and made important observations on the situation. His help in the final escape was also commendable. He has fitted in well with the rest of the crew during this journey, and I hope he will stay with us in the future.

Actions:

Ensure all airship captains receive a copy of this report and the actions carried out to escape the fog. Complete repairs as previously describe.

Signed: Captain Sonya Graham, Excelsior.