

16 migrants missing from shipwreck near Canaries

SIXTEEN refugees were still missing today after their rubber boat overturned near the Canary Islands.

At least 41 people were rescued and one body was recovered south of the island of Fuerteventura on Wednesday, according to authorities in the Spanish islands.

According to survivors' testimonies, a total of 58 people had left Cape Bojador, in the disputed north-west African territory of Western Sahara, Spain's Maritime Rescue Service said today.

The vast majority of those rescued were from the Maghreb region.

Spain's government delegation in the Canary Islands confirmed that 16 people from the boat had been reported missing.

Search operations have been called off due to the continuous arrival of other migrant boats in need of rescue, the Maritime

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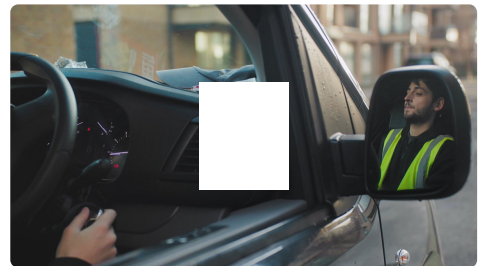
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