

15/6/1998 EL DAILY NEWS

MILFORD HAVEN — Welsh police confirmed late on Saturday that there was no longer any hope of finding French yachtsman Eric Tabarly alive and offered condolences to his family.

Tabarly, 66, fell overboard from his yacht, the Pen Duick 1, off the

French yachtsman feared lost

coast on Friday night.

Coastguards here had earlier said that they had to presume Tabarly was dead after spending more than 12 hours in the water.

“The yachtsman had no life-

jacket and no seaman can survive more than 12 hours in the water at temperatures of 11 degrees Celsius,” said a spokesman, adding: “Sadly we have to presume he is dead.”

Despite having called off their main search operation on Saturday afternoon, the coastguard said they had sent an RAF helicopter to help a French navy aircraft that was still searching for the missing yachtsman. — Sapa-AFP