

State Shark Task Force

In response to a Jan. 13 letter from Jim Logan, I would like to clarify the reason I resigned from the State Shark Task Force.

Originally the task force was supposed to remove only the sharks that were actually attacking people. Then it expanded to big sharks that were sighted would be eliminated, to make the area "safe." Mr. Paty publicly announced that he encouraged fishermen to go out and hunt the sharks on their own, and actually supplied them with bait. After the sharks were

caught and the "trophies" displayed, Mr. Paty said he would make sure that the skins of the sharks would be given to a hula halau, and that would satisfy the Hawaiians. Then, after I resigned, Bill said that he does not condone private shark hunting.

Bill Paty is a pleasant person but he tends to speak from two sides of his mouth. As a Hawaiian, I could not condone what was happening, knowing that my ancestors deified the shark and other animals.

What the state is doing is only creating a false sense of safety among people who use the ocean for recreation. The shark is only doing what it was created to do. You would think with all his intelligence and advanced technology man would find a way to coexist with the animals on land and sea, instead of obliterating them from the earth for his own convenience.

CHARLES KAULUWEHI MAXWELL
Pukalani

Learn behavior, nix the shark hunts

COMMENTARY - Maui News 12-20-72
By CHARLES KAULUWEHI MAXWELL

As a member of the state Shark Task Force, I would like to clear up misconceptions and misinformation in your editorial (Dec. 13). "Knowledge of shark behavior is shallow."

Under the direction of Bill Paty, chairman of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, a task force was put together consisting of scientists, biologists, fishery experts, police, fire and rescue, lifeguards, water safety personnel, surfers, canoe paddlers and Native Hawaiian historians and cultural experts. Myself and Parley Kanakaole represent Hawaiian interests and the outside islands.

Meeting over the past six months, we have come up with a very positive program in educating the public in water safety and instilling in water users some knowledge of shark behavior that would make them aware of the dangers in the ocean.

From these meetings we have learned that over the last several years, the shark attacks have not increased, but what has increased are the people that use the ocean. An estimated 20 million people go into Hawaiian waters every year throughout the Hawaiian Islands. Compare that with 2 or 3 shark attacks a year and the percentage would be miniscule at best. However, the sightings and encounters would increase because of the increased use of the ocean.

The statement whether to hunt sharks or not is based more on prejudice than knowledge, and saying that hunting for sharks should have started long ago is not accurate. The fact is that in the late '60s and throughout the '70s, the state had a bounty

Not true - late 50's
bounty

ty on sharks and conducted an ongoing shark hunting program. The results were that it did not eliminate the shark attacks (one or two a year), and when there was an attack it would be smaller sharks with small bites.

The picture in a fishing newspaper of an estimated 20-foot shark consuming the 2,000-pound steer shows sharks doing exactly what they were created to do, clean up the ocean. It is well known to divers and fishermen to stay out of the water by the mouth of a stream that enters the ocean, because all kinds of animals are washed down from the mountains and sharks congregate in these areas.

The experts in the task force have scientific information that shows every shark attack is a matter of mistaken identity by the shark for its natural food of turtles and seals.

A surfer or boogie boarder from underwater looks exactly like a turtle, and a person's silhouette swimming with fins looks like a seal. On every attack there were sightings of turtles swimming in the area of the victim. The protective lids on its eyes close and it relies on electric impulse emitted by its victims. After making the first strike it releases its victim realizing that it's not prey. This accounts for the one-bite attack on its live victims.

Modern man is the most intelligent being of all the animals in the world and the most dangerous. With all his knowledge of modern technology and his supreme accomplishments in outer space, he cannot protect his own environment. He has created artificial chemicals to the extent of changing the weather patterns and endangering his own existence on this earth, and now he wants to eliminate the shark because he wants to swim "safely" in the ocean.

How do we find a happy medium? By educating everyone who uses the ocean on rules to follow; be aware that the ocean is not a bathtub, things that live in the ocean can harm you. Do not go into the ocean with an open cut or women in menstruation. Scientists have shown that the scent of blood can be detected by a shark in one part blood to a million parts of water. Never swim in the water when it is very rough because the water is not clear and fish are usually feeding during this time. Always swim with someone so you can look out for each other.

The Native Hawaiians feel that the months of Makahiki — September, November, December and January — are not the time to be in the ocean because the sharks are hunting close to shore as the ocean tides are not really low and the ocean is agitated by the winter storms. These conditions invite the presence of sharks. Tourists should inquire from local residents how safe are the waters they intend to swim in. Right now they just jump in the water without any care, an accident waiting to happen.

Finally, I must say that if Bill Paty, with all his sensitivity and respect to the Hawaiian culture had not pulled us together and personally participated with us, this task force would not have been successful. He truly understood the *aumakua* concept (sharks being ancestral deity) to some Native Hawaiians, and respected the fact that sharks are an important part of the ecosystem and should not be hunted like it was before.

Local radio personality Charles Kauluwehi Marwell is a *Pukalani* resident, a member of the state Shark Task Force, and is active in issues regarding Native Hawaiians.

Letters *THE MAUI NEWS* JAN 7, 1993

Shark attacks are not 'mistakes'

I am writing to correct a mistake made in the commentary (Dec. 20) about sharks written by Charles K. Maxwell.

The statement was made that, "The experts in the (shark) task force have scientific information that shows every shark attack is a matter of mistaken identity by the shark for its natural food of turtles and seals." The fact is that there is no scientific information whatsoever to support such an idea.

There must have been a misunderstanding of information presented during one of the task force meetings. The proposition that tiger sharks have to "mistake" something floating at the surface for a turtle or other prey in order to attack it simply has no basis in fact. The idea also runs contrary to common sense, as well as the known feeding strategy of tiger sharks, a species that consumes an incredibly wide array of items, humans included.

Explorer Jean-Michel Cousteau summarized the situation correctly when interviewed last year following the tragic death of Mrs. Morrell at Olowalu. Cousteau said, "Tiger sharks are particularly dangerous to swimmers. Some sharks are more fussy than others about what they eat. Tiger sharks are known to eat almost anything and everything, and . . . are more likely to attack anything on the surface whether it's a piece of wood, a surfboard, a boat, or a bird."

The 2,000-pound steer mentioned in Mr. Maxwell's column was in fact seen alive swimming off Maui when attacked and devoured by large tiger sharks. Certainly the steer wasn't "mistaken" by the sharks for a turtle, or even a Hawaiian monk seal, a very rare species around Maui.

Similarly, a surfer on a 6-foot, 4-inch-long surfboard, 21 inches wide, bears little if any resemblance to a turtle. The common element, however, is that both the surfers and intermittently the turtles are at the surface where tiger sharks are known to feed.

Recent attacks on surfboarders, as well as the fatal attack on a boogie-boarder took place during

The Maui News policy on letters

The Maui News welcomes and encourages letters to the editor. The letters should be brief and to the point and on subjects of general interest. Letters must be signed and include an address and phone number where the writer can be reached during working hours for verification. The writer's name and community will be published.

Letters should be limited to 250 words or less with shorter letters being given priority. Letters of any length are subject to editing. Typed letters are preferred but others will be accepted if they are legible.

Letters may be mailed to The Maui News, 100 Mahalani St., Wailuku 96793; or may be faxed to 242-9087.

daylight hours in clean, clear water. It's hard to imagine that the sharks involved mistook the victims for something else.

George H. Balazs
Honolulu

Shark task AI 1/7/93 THA force called offensive

Hawaiian activist quits state group

By Thomas Kaser
Advertiser Staff Writer

The state's Shark Task Force is not doing enough to discourage — in fact, it is encouraging — random shark hunting, which is not only ineffective but also offensive to Hawaiian culture, a Hawaiian activist said yesterday moments after he resigned from the task force.

"I cannot belong to any group that condones the eradication of sharks for no reason," said Charles Maxwell, a Maui community leader and radio disc jockey.

Arriving late at a task force meeting yesterday afternoon in the state's Kalanimoku Building, he announced his resignation, then walked out to talk to reporters, who were not allowed into the meeting.

Inside, the task force decided to resume limited hunting of large tiger sharks because of the number of reported sightings and recent incidents on Oahu's North Shore.

Bill Paty, chairman of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, said the task force will resume shark hunting on an as-needed basis, "not only to make the waters safer for recreational use but also to conduct research on tiger-shark biology and educate the public about safety measures and shark behavior."

As for individuals who hunt sharks on



Maxwell

See Sharks, Page A2

Sharks: Hawaiian on task force resigns

FROM PAGE ONE

their own, "we cannot prevent anyone from fishing for tiger sharks," Paty said. "We cannot sanction these private hunting efforts unless we work with the fishermen to ensure that valuable research information is being obtained."

In announcing his resignation to reporters, Maxwell said the task force and Paty "are encouraging the creation of instant 'Great White Hunters' who laughingly pose with with their prize 14- and 15-foot sharks," he said, referring to a free-lance shark hunter's catch of 15-foot and 11-foot sharks off Haleiwa early Dec. 31.

Maxwell said many Hawaiians still accept the traditional Hawaiian view that some sharks, especially those that frequent a particular area, are 'aumakua, or personal gods, and should be respected, not killed.

"Modern man is the most intelligent being of all the animals in the world — and the most dangerous.... Now he wants to eliminate sharks because he wants to swim safely in the ocean," Maxwell said.

"The only way to make the ocean 'safe' is to eliminate ev-

Recent attacks

Recent attacks that have occurred in Hawaii include:

Nov. 26, 1991 — Martha Morrell, 34, of Olowalu, Maui, is fatally attacked while swimming near her home.

Feb. 19, 1992 — Bryan Adona, 29, of Ewa, disappears while bodyboarding at "Leftovers" on the Oahu's North Shore. The next day his board is found at Waimea, missing a chunk that appears to have been bitten off by a large shark.

Oct. 23, 1992 — Rick Gruzinsky, 26, of Hawaii Kai, is attacked while surfing at Laniakes on Oahu's North Shore. His board is almost bitten in two.

Nov. 5, 1992 — Aaron Romento, 18, of Pearl City, is fatally attacked by a large shark while bodyboarding at Keaau on Oahu's Leeward Coast.

Dec. 23, 1992 — Gary M. Chun, 30, of Kaneohe, is attacked while surfing at Chun's Reef on Oahu's North Shore. His board is almost bitten in two.

everything that can cause harm, from sharks to jellyfish, and that is ridiculous. (Man should)

learn how to co-exist with animals in the sea."

Paty later said he had no idea Maxwell intended to resign, "and I'm sorry to see him go. I valued his input; I valued him as a strong Hawaiian viewpoint on shark fishing, as someone who could help us avoid letting shark hunting become a media spectacle.

"Despite what he says, this task force does not sanction individuals going out and killing sharks. We want them to work with us in coming up with effective, non-hysterical reactions when humans are attacked by sharks. Unfortunately, there is some shark hysteria in the North Shore surfing community at this time."

Paty emphasized there are "no guarantees" that shark-hunting will make the ocean safe for swimmers and surfers.

"The ocean is the sharks' territory, and people must use common sense and follow basic safety precautions" such as "staying out of the ocean at dark, dawn and dusk; staying away from stream mouths, especially after a storm; and bleeding away from wounded or type products in the water, he said.

On Maui yesterday, Hawaiian

educator and cultural specialist Parley Kanakaole spoke out against free-lance shark hunting that goes beyond guidelines established by the task force.

He said he was consulted when the task force was organized in the wake of repeated shark attacks on Oahu, and felt the guidelines initially established met with Hawaiian cultural concerns.

But now individuals fishing for sharks are not following those guidelines, and the state is not doing anything to prevent hunting that ignores Hawaiian cultural concerns, he said.

Kanakaole compared a shark 'aumakua to having an animal pet, but going beyond that and having the animal "accepted as part of the family.

"There are fishermen going out and eliminating sharks without the OK of the state. And the state is not doing anything to prevent it," he said.

"I don't know if they can control it — or if they want to control it, as they control fishing of lobsters or other seasonal fishing," he said.

Advertiser Staff Writer Edwin Tanji contributed to this report.



John Conley photo

Gary Chun, 30, (carrying his bitten surfboard) laughs with fellow surfers about their close call yesterday after a large shark attacked his board at Chun's Reef north of Haleiwa.

Surfer survives N. Shore shark attack

By Jon Yoshishige

Advertiser Staff Writer

A 30-year-old Kaneohe man escaped with some cuts on his left hand after a 10- to 12-foot tiger shark attacked him while he was surfing Chun's Reef north of Haleiwa about 5:30 p.m. yesterday. 12/23/92

It was believed to have been the third shark attack on a human in Oahu waters in three months and the fourth this year. Two of the attacks are believed to have been fatal (see story on Page A5).

Yesterday, Gary M. Chun had caught a wave in and was paddling back out and gliding to a stop and starting to sit up on his board when the shark took a huge bite out of it, said Bernie Baker, a surfing photojournalist who was at the scene.

"It happened so fast, he didn't even see it," Baker said Chun told him.

Chun was treated by an ambulance crew at the scene.

"He is insanely lucky" that the shark didn't do more than cut his finger, said Baker.

Chun had been surfing with about 20 others less than 100 yards from shore in surf of 4 to 5 feet, Baker said. The waters quickly emptied after the attack, and city lifeguards warned surfers to avoid Chun's Reef at least through today.

Beachgoer Michele Conley, a doctor, went to Chun's aid and said he "looked like he'd seen a ghost."

Her husband, John, said, "All the surfers were really freaked out."

Chun couldn't be reached later last night.



Not again!

Wahiawa police officer Lance Hayaishi, seated at the typewriter, is framed by a 15- by 9-inch chunk bitten from Gary Chun's surfboard. Chun was surfing at Chun's Reef on the North Shore yesterday when a shark took a bite out of the board. Chun suffered cuts to his hand from the attack.

By Dennis Odo,
Star-Bulletin

Shark hunt planned for weekend

□ Yet another surfer on Oahu is attacked

By Mary Adamski
Star-Bulletin

The state Shark Task Force plans to launch another shark hunt off the North Shore this weekend after a shark bit a mouthful out of a surfer's board yesterday.

The attack on Gary Chun, 30, of Kaneohe, was the third attack this year along the North Shore. Chun received a cut on two fingers of his left hand while he was surfing at Chun's reef just after 5 p.m.

not able to say what size it was. He said he pushed his board toward it, then paddled back in to shore."

Pestana administered first aid while another life-guard warned other surfers to get out of the water.

Ocampo said Chun was surfing near a channel where "the current flows like a river" through a break in the reef.

Pestana said the bite taken from Chun's board was not as large as the 16-inch chunk bitten from surfer Rick Gruzinsky's board in an Oct. 22 attack at Laniakea, a surfing spot along the same coast.

A shark attack is also considered a strong possibility in the Feb. 19 disappearance of Bryan Adona. He was last seen body-boarding at Leftovers, about a mile from Waimea Bay. His board was found the next day with a piece missing.

Bill Paty, head of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, said this morning that a group of six will be shark hunting this weekend at the North Shore.

"We'll initially go out to that area and see how it goes," Paty said.

But he said he was not committing task force members, who last week suspended shark hunts indefinitely, to any more hunts.

Paty said the shark-hunting group is the same one that laid hooks off the North Shore a week ago.

"None of them were touched," Paty said. "We assumed that since none of them were touched, the problem had disappeared. We were wrong."

Yesterday's attack was reported after Chun came ashore with his board and the chunk bitten by the shark, said Sunset Beach Fire Capt. Jacob Ocampo.

Other surfers described seeing a shark about 10 to 12 feet long.

The attack occurred about 75 yards offshore, in about 5 feet of water above the reef. About 30 other surfers were in the water at the popular surf break, said Lt. Edmund Pestana of the city Water Safety Division.

"He said he was lying on his board and had just pulled his hand up," Pestana said. "He came eye to eye with the shark, but he was

The attack on Gruzinsky and a fatal shark attack Nov. 5 on surfer Aaron Romento, 18, at Keau Beach Park on the Leeward Coast led the Shark Task Force to hunt and kill several sharks.

Pestana said Allen Wicklund of Wahiawa, who surfing near Chun, saw a shark over 10 feet long.

"He said he saw it between the surfer and surfboard. He saw a surfer in the water yelling. He caught the next wave in.

"I had him draw what he saw, trying to identify the shark," Pestana said. "He drew the dorsal fin and back. It had a blunt broken fin, almost like fish fin."

Pestana said officials may close the area tomorrow.

Ocampo said Chun's hand cuts were treated by ambulance paramedics from Wai-
alua station.

Star-Bulletin reporter Devi Sen Laskar contributed to this report.



Hunt goes on for 14-foot shark that attacked surfer

23 DEC 92

By Kris M. Tanahara
Advertiser Staff Writer

Friday night's effort turned up empty, but local residents continue the hunt for the large tiger shark that took a bite out of a surfer's board Wednesday at Chun's Reef.

More lines were laid in waters off the North Shore last night and were to be checked this morning.

Lines were placed off Haleiwa, Laniakea and Chun's Reef Friday night, said dentist Craig Kamisugi.

Heavy rains yesterday turned the waters at North Shore surfing spots a cloudy brown, which commercial diver and surfer Perry Dane hoped would increase his chances for snagging the shark.

"It's going to bite whatever's out there," he said. Dane said he would be using ulua, aku and uhu as bait.

The state Shark Task Force will not conduct its own hunt, but will monitor ongoing efforts, said Bill Paty, state Land and Natural Resources Department chairman.

Kamisugi, his brother Arthur and four other fisherman hooked a 12-foot tiger shark Friday about three miles from Chun's Reef near Haleiwa Boat Harbor.

But that shark is not believed to be the one that

ripped a chunk out of Gary M. Chun's surfboard Wednesday. That shark reportedly had a damaged fin and is an "easy 14 feet."

Kamisugi said three more lines, some baited with beef, were set out last night.

Dane said he was also going to be setting out a line with six hooks along Chun's Reef and the nearby surf breaks known as Jocko's and Leftovers last night.

It was at Leftovers that bodyboarder Bryan Adona disappeared on Feb. 19. His board was found the next day, a large piece of it apparently bitten off.

On Oct. 23, surfer Rick Gruzinsky escaped injury when a large shark bit his board while he was surfing at Laniakea on the North Shore. On Nov. 5, body boarder Aaron Romento was fatally bitten by a shark at (Keaau) on the Waianae Coast.

Since then, Dane said, he has launched two unsuccessful hunts for a menacing shark he thinks is responsible for the attacks and which he calls "Tony the Tiger."

"Somebody is going to catch it sooner or later," he said.

Chun, who escaped with minor cuts on his left hand, remained unavailable for comment yesterday.

Learn behavior, nix the shark hunts

COMMENTARY *Muni Luna* 12-20-72
By CHARLES KAULUWEHI MAXWELL

As a member of the state Shark Task Force, I would like to clear up misconceptions and misinformation in your editorial (Dec. 13). "Knowledge of shark behavior is shallow."

Under the direction of Bill Paty, chairman of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, a task force was put together consisting of scientists, biologists, fishery experts, police, fire and rescue, lifeguards, water safety personnel, surfers, canoe paddlers and Native Hawaiian historians and cultural experts. Myself and Parley Kanakaole represent Hawaiian interests and the outside islands.

Meeting over the past six months, we have come up with a very positive program in educating the public in water safety and instilling in water users some knowledge of shark behavior that would make them aware of the dangers in the ocean.

From these meetings we have learned that over the last several years, the shark attacks have not increased, but what has increased are the people that use the ocean. An estimated 20 million people go into Hawaiian waters every year throughout the Hawaiian Islands. Compare that with 2 or 3 shark attacks a year and the percentage would be miniscule at best. However, the sightings and encounters would increase because of the increased use of the ocean.

The statement whether to hunt sharks or not is based more on prejudice than knowledge, and saying that hunting for sharks should have started long ago is not accurate. The fact is that in the late '60s and throughout the '70s, the state had a boun-

ty on sharks and conducted an ongoing shark hunting program. The results were that it did not eliminate the shark attacks (one or two a year), and when there was an attack it would be smaller sharks with small bites.

The picture in a fishing newspaper of an estimated 20-foot shark consuming the 2,000-pound steer shows sharks doing exactly what they were created to do, clean up the ocean. It is well known to divers and fishermen to stay out of the water by the mouth of a stream that enters the ocean, because all kinds of animals are washed down from the mountains and sharks congregate in these areas.

The experts in the task force have scientific information that shows every shark attack is a matter of mistaken identity by the shark for its natural food of turtles and seals.

A surfer or boogie boarder from underwater looks exactly like a turtle, and a person's silhouette swimming with fins looks like a seal. On every attack there were sightings of turtles swimming in the area of the victim. The protective lids on its eyes close and it relies on electric impulse emitted by its victims. After making the first strike it releases its victim realizing that it's not prey. This accounts for the one-bite attack on its live victims.

Modern man is the most intelligent being of all the animals in the world and the most dangerous. With all his knowledge of modern technology and his supreme accomplishments in outer space, he cannot protect his own environment. He has created artificial chemicals to the extent of changing the weather patterns and endangering his own existence on this earth, and now he wants to eliminate the shark because he wants to swim "safely" in the ocean.

How do we find a happy medium? By educating everyone who uses the ocean on rules to follow: be aware that the ocean is not a bathtub, things that live in the ocean can harm you. Do not go into the ocean with an open cut or women in menstruation. Scientists have shown that the scent of blood can be detected by a shark in one part blood to a million parts of water. Never swim in the water when it is very rough because the water is not clear and fish are usually feeding during this time. Always swim with someone so you can look out for each other.

The Native Hawaiians feel that the months of Makahiki — September, November, December and January — are not the time to be in the ocean because the sharks are hunting close to shore as the ocean tides are not really low and the ocean is agitated by the winter storms. These conditions invite the presence of sharks. Tourists should inquire from local residents how safe are the waters they intend to swim in. Right now they just jump in the water without any care, an accident waiting to happen.

Finally, I must say that if Bill Paty, with all his sensitivity and respect to the Hawaiian culture had not pulled us together and personally participated with us, this task force would not have been successful. He truly understood the *aimakua* concept (sharks being ancestral deity) to some Native Hawaiians, and respected the fact that sharks are an important part of the ecosystem and should not be hunted like it was before.

Local radio personality Charles Kauluwehi Maxwell is a Pukalani resident, a member of the state Shark Task Force, and is active in issues regarding Native Hawaiians.

Paty quits state land post, joins

By Shannon Tangonan
Advertiser Staff Writer

William "Bill" Paty yesterday bid a fond aloha as he announced his resignation as director of the state Land and Natural Resources Department to take a position as a trustee with the Mark A. Robinson Trust.

Paty, 71, who guided the department through such controversies as newly launched shark hunts around Oahu and the arrest earlier this year of Hawaiian protesters at Iolani Palace, leaves the state post Dec. 18.

No replacement has been named. John Keppeler and Dona Hanaike

serve as deputy directors.

Paty will be serving as one of three trustees of the Robinson estate, established by one of Hawaii's earliest landowners, James Robinson.

According to Herman Lemke, one of the trustees with the Robinson estate, Paty will earn between \$100,000 to \$150,000 a year, depending on the trust's income. Paty said he gets \$85,000 a year as a cabinet member.

He said he was taking the trust position mainly because the trust has no mandatory retirement age. Paty is also a part of the lame-duck administration of Gov. John Waihee, whose term ends in 1994.

"I had not planned to step down

from DLNR at this time. I enjoy the work, sticky issues notwithstanding," he said.

But under a provision of the trust, a new trustee had to be named by the end of the year.



Paty

but is land rich and penny poor."

The Robinson trust owns interests

A3 HONOLULU ADVERTISER 12/12/92

Robinson Trust

in 2,900 acres in central Oahu for sugar cane production and interests in 56 acres of primarily commercial lands in Waipahu, Kalihi and the downtown Honolulu area.

Since the mid-1970s, the estate has been voluntarily selling leased fee interests under home lots at Robinson Heights, Harbor View, Seaview, Crestview and Village Park.

Before joining the Waihee administration, Paty was chairman of diversified agriculture for Castle and Cooke and held various positions with Waiialua Sugar Co., including that of plantation manager.

Paty's ties to Waihee go back to the 1978 Constitutional Convention,

where he and Waihee worked closely as leaders of the majority faction. Paty served as a delegate and convention president.

He went on to become campaign chairman for Waihee's 1986 gubernatorial campaign and was appointed by Waihee to head the land department in early 1987.

Waihee said, "His management and people skills and understanding of how government functions has made him an invaluable member of this administration.

"Bill and I have been through a lot together and, as a personal friend, I will miss his wise counsel."

Bill Paty

He brought energy, sensitivity

A one-time paratrooper in the legendary 101st Airborne Division in World War II, William Paty was not afraid to jump feet first into controversies in his six years as director of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Paty, 71, brought to the job hands-on energy and the enthusiasm of a man half his age. He was raised in Hawaii with family roots going back many years, and approached problems with special sensitivity to the environment, culture and people.

While we didn't always agree with his positions or actions, he has been open, straightforward and accessible.

His resignation to become a trustee of the Mark A. Robinson Trust leaves another gap in Governor John Waihee's administration, which still has two years to run. It comes as Waihee faces the toughest issues of his tenure, beginning with the budget crunch.

Waihee and Paty met in the 1978 Hawaii Constitutional Convention. Paty was president;

Waihee an emerging leader.

At this point, Paty is best remembered as Waihee's troubleshooter on any number of hot topics: Kahana Valley living park, the occupation of



Paty

Makapuu Point, spraying of marijuana plants, Krishnas at scenic points, seawalls, geothermal energy, Waimanalo squatters, long-line fishermen, conservation lands, archaeological sites, Iolani Palace protests and shark hunting.

He didn't sit in his office like many officials, but enjoyed being in the field — whether at sea when sharks were hauled in, or hiking Sacred Falls State Park after a fatal flash flood.

Waihee is unlikely to find another Bill Paty for the final two years of his administration, but the governor needs more than a bureaucratic time-server to fill this sensitive position.

A3

MONEY

Gun return offer _____

Obituaries _____

C7

Hawaii

The Honolulu Advertiser 11/27/92

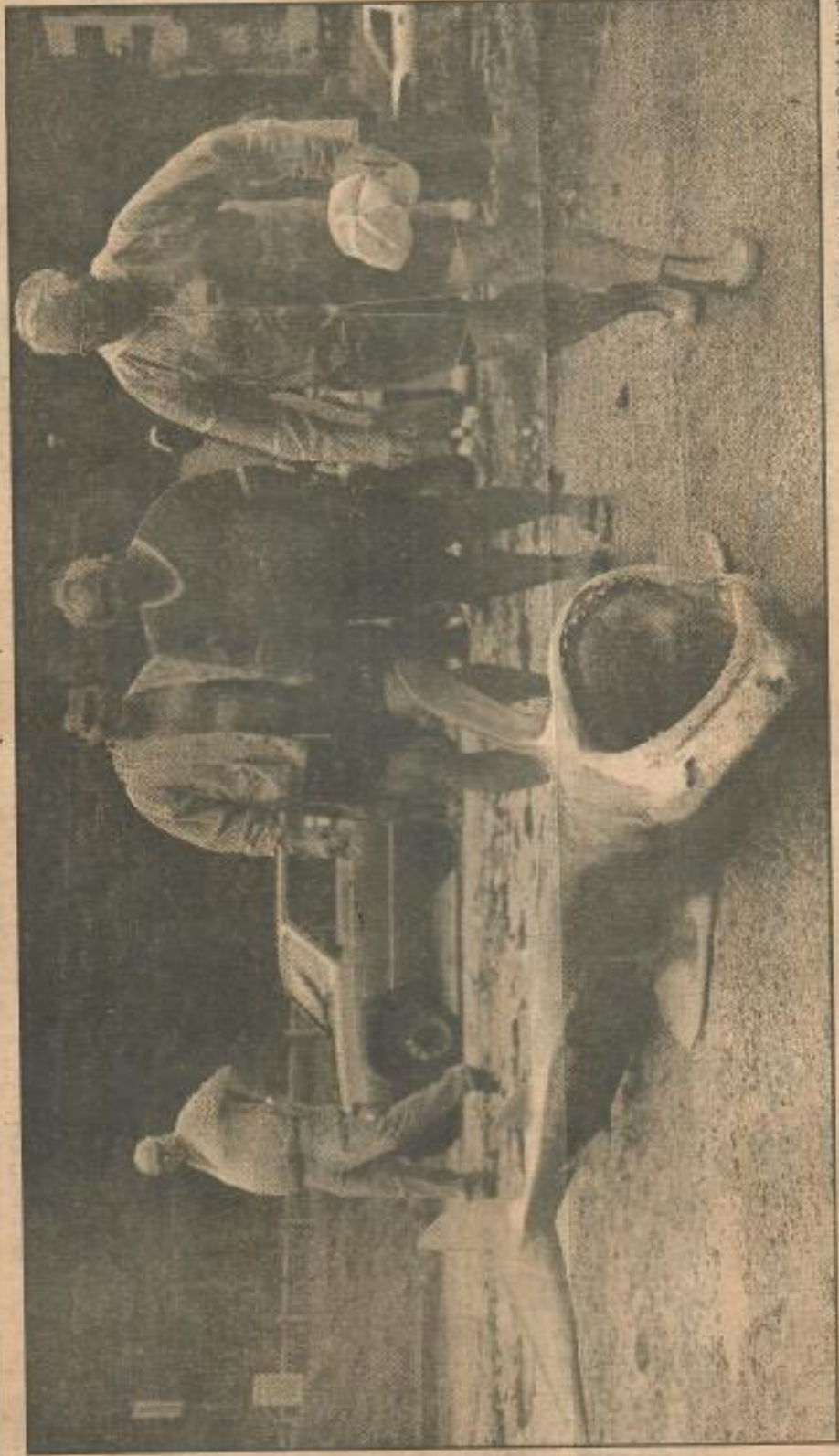


Photo courtesy of Father Randy Novak

Dwayne Howland, Mitchell Balutski, middle, and Father Randy Novak look over their catch of the day: a 700-pound, 12-foot shark.

3 fishermen have tiger by the tail

By Shannon Tangonan

Advertiser Staff Writer

Fire Capt. Mitchell Balutski has some fishing — or shark — tale to pass on to his grandchildren.

A 700-pound, 12-foot tiger shark tale to be exact.

Balutski, captain at the Kaaawa fire station — along with Father Randy Novak of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Waikane and firefighter Dwayne Howland — hauled in the 12-footer Wednesday at Kahana Bay, just north of Kaneohe Bay.

The three set out their gill net in about 30 foot-deep waters Tuesday evening, about a quarter-mile offshore, and returned at dawn Wednesday to find the shark tangled in the net, Balutski said.

"The buggah was a big one, was still alive, too," said Balutski, who noted he had wondered why the net was so heavy when they picked it up. The shark wasn't the normal menpache and awaawa the crew normally fishes for each week.

The three men, who were in a 12-foot Zodiac (a motorized inflatable boat) didn't want to kill the shark, so they struggled with it, dragging it back in to Kahana Bay Pier. The ordeal took nearly four hours, said Howland.

"We tied a one-inch (thick) nylon rope to his tail and had to reverse in (to the pier)," Balutski said. "We thought he would lift up the boat ... he was dragging us. I thought the buggah would take us to Kaneohe, he was still kicking like crazy." Balutski, 52, drove the boat while Novak, 67, and Howland, 28, held on to the rope and net.

Howland said every 15 minutes or so the shark would start dragging and get snagged on the rocks. The high surf didn't help their efforts either, he said.

Finally, when they got to the pier, the crew contacted John Naughton of the state Shark Task Force.

Balutski was advised to check the contents of the stomach and told to kill the shark. Only an 18-inch awaawa (milkfish) and part of the net was discovered in its stomach, Balutski said.

"I wanted to let him go, but I made the marine patrol decide," Balutski said.

Naughton, who works for the National Marine Fisheries Service, said yesterday it's unusual that a shark that large was caught at Kahana Bay, which is not heavily populated nor a popular surfing site. Normally there are sightings at Kaneohe Bay, but there's no telling if the shark was the one sighted in the Kaneohe Bay area recently, he said.

Also unusual is that sharks of that

size can normally untangle themselves from nets, Naughton said. Naughton said anyone catching a large shark should call him at 955-8831 or call the state Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Naughton was unable to go to Kahana Bay Wednesday, but over the telephone instructed Balutski on how to best utilize the shark for food and so forth. Balutski said they were told to pierce the shark's head to kill it and then cut the shark open.

The shark catch comes after recent shark attacks at Oahu beaches. An 18-year-old Pearl City man was fatally attacked Nov. 5 while body-boarding off Keaau Beach Park. On Oct. 22, a Hawaii Kai man escaped injury while surfing off Laniakea on the North Shore, where a tiger shark bit a chunk out of his surfboard.

The state Shark Task Force, formed in the wake of the attacks, is planning the first of six shark hunts around Oahu for this weekend, said Bill Paty, state Department of Land and Natural Resources director. He would not say where the hunts will take place.

Balutski said he's been fishing all his life and is not afraid of sharks. In the last few months, he's caught a couple of five-foot white tip sharks and about 50 small hammerheads, he said.

Naughton works near sharks

Learning the ways of large sharks can get hairy, as federal biologist John Naughton knows.

The Honolulu marine expert has been dangled close enough to tag the fin of an unhappy 15-foot tiger shark, tied alongside a research boat off Nihoa.

And he's seen rare great whites cruise past ominously in waters near the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, and off the Kona coast.

"I do a lot of diving in my work, and consequently I'm very interested in sharks," says Naughton, of the National Marine Fisheries Service habitat conservation program.

A key member of the state Shark Task Force, the Kailua resident grew up in Hawaii with a love for the ocean. As a graduate student at the University of Hawaii, he took part in a massive shark hunt in the 1960s that greatly reduced the tiger shark population but also provided valuable scientific information about the mysterious beast.

But while he often is tapped as a leading authority on Hawaii's tiger sharks, Naughton says little is really known about the fearsome, magnificent predator.

"They're a hard animal to work with," he says. "A big predator like this is not like a grizzly bear or some other land animal you can easily follow around."

Sharks are really a sideline of Naughton's work. The scientist spends most of his time studying reef and marine ecosystems in clear tropical waters from Hawaii to Micronesia.

It's a life's work he obviously loves.

"What I like most about the job is I get to spend a lot of time in the ocean," he says.

The local-born father of a 23-year-old son draws a thin line between work and play.

"On weekends I'm either diving, fishing, kayaking, or surfing," says the youthful waterman, a competition-level bodysurfer.

While concerned about Hawaii's increasing shark population, Naughton said he favors selective hunting as a security measure for swimmers. Like bears, tigers and other dangerous predators, sharks have an important place in nature and shouldn't be unduly tampered with, he says.

"When I was in graduate school back in the 1960s, the attitude was, 'The only good shark is a dead shark,'" he says. "I'd hate to see that again."



Name: John Naughton
Age: 50
Position: Fisheries biologist, National Marine Fisheries Service
Education: UH
Pastimes: Diving, fishing, kayaking, competition-level bodysurfing

Peter Wagner, Star-Bulletin

Squid cholesterol, shark force details corrected

SINCE this is our official national week of thanksgiving, it seems like a good time to thank you, readers, for, well, for reading. I also appreciate those of you who take time to write or call with comments or corrections. Without that special effort, I would never know when my facts are wrong or when I make mistakes in my reasoning.

One such recent caller was Dr. John Arnold, a University of Hawaii researcher who has studied squid for more than 30 years.

Arnold called in response to my column about cholesterol levels in seafoods and meats.

According to Arnold, the cholesterol numbers for squid that are listed in most nutrition books are way too high. This is because cholesterol testers grind up the entire squid, including the internal organs, when checking cholesterol levels. Since squid livers are extremely high in cholesterol, the technique gives the creature's meat a false high number.

Squid meat is actually "incredibly low" in cholesterol, said Arnold. "It's almost immeasurable." And because squid lovers almost never eat the bitter-tasting liver, this makes squid good food for people on low-cholesterol diets.

Other readers had comments about my recent column on sharks and the various options that task force members have in response to recent attacks on humans.

Oliver from Kauai (who left no last name) left a message on my answering machine saying that he thought the article was informative, balanced and made good sense.

About the same column, biologist George Balazs, from the National Marine Fisheries Service, wrote to correct my use of the word eradicate in my explanation of a past shark control program.

"It is wrong to say that any of the shark control programs in the '60s and '70s ever tried to eradicate sharks.

"A synonym of eradicate is exterminate. The (late) Dr. Tester, reknown shark researcher at the UH, would roll over in his grave . . . if he knew people were saying his research and control program was an attempt to eradicate sharks in Hawaii."

I stand corrected. In that column, I wrote that one extreme response to the recent shark attacks in Hawaii would be to try to eradicate tiger sharks from Hawaii, as suggested by some people as the best solution.

Eradication, however, was not the goal of the '60s program, as I wrote in the column. Rather, the



OCEAN WATCH

By Susan Scott

11-23-92

aim was to reduce the number of tiger sharks around the main islands and study the results. The name of the group states that goal: UH Cooperative Shark Research and Control Program.

Those researchers learned that it is possible to greatly reduce the number of tiger sharks in Hawaiian waters, but that this caused an increase in the populations of other kinds of sharks.

On a happier subject: Several weeks ago, Reyn Kauhane, a sixth-grader at Waimalu Elementary School, read my column about starving monk seals and invited me to his class, which is studying Hawaiian endangered species.

I went to the class and showed the students slides of biologists at work in the French Frigate Shoals, one of Hawaii's protected atolls where monk seals, sea turtles and seabirds reproduce.

Soon after, I received a packet of thoughtful and well-written letters that made my day. One from Leslie Yap said: "I really appreciate you coming out of your way so early in the morning to help us understand about the Hawaiian monk seal. I thought it would be boring but it turned out to be very interesting. You have inspired me to become a marine biologist."

And Jennifer Soo wrote: "I loved reading the newspaper article. You should become an author. I liked the picture of two seals cuddling next to each other. You should become a photographer."

Thanks, everyone, for reading, writing and calling.

Susan Scott is a marine science writer and author of three books about Hawaii's environment. Her Ocean Watch column appears Monday in the Star-Bulletin.

Sharks, schools, City Charter

Let's get back to reality

Having surfed, swum and dove most of the reefs in Hawaii for the past 38 years, I have encountered sharks, some quite large.

In front of my Pupukea house, just after sunset, I have bodysurfed and there used to be a 6-to 8-foot shark that examined me at close range, but never assumed a threatening stance. Diving at Kahuku I have had sharks play, like a game of basketball, with my fish stringer while I cautiously swam to the beach. There was a huge hammerhead shark at Sunset Beach surf break that would examine you if your board was lost in the riptide, which coursed straight out to sea. I dreaded swimming to retrieve my board before the advent of leashes.

However, until recently, sharks were accepted by me as part of the reef. I did not want to encounter them, but we seemed to occupy the ocean in semi-harmony. Not so, presently. Long lining, the protection of the turtle, the lack of abundance of natural food for the shark have brought them in proximity to surfers, swimmers and divers. As in California the white shark attacks surfers possibly because of a resemblance to seals, a prime food. We do not look unlike a turtle sitting atop a surfboard or boogie board. In both instances the natural food has been largely eliminated.

The ecological balance in all systems has been altered mostly by man. We created the problem and we must solve it.

Increasing numbers of people using the ocean force us to take responsibility for culling the number of sharks by hunting so that we can again live in some kind of harmony with these huge animals. It's not cruel, it's not arrogance, it's not going to make the species extinct. It's reality. I agree with the comments offered by Dr. Rick Grigg and surfer legend Buffalo Keaulana.

Let's not wait for another incident!

FRED VAN DYKE
Kailua

We need more study

It seems that immediately after a shark attack (particularly a fatal one) many people lose their sense of logic, and rightfully so. We are all afraid of the unknown and fear what we cannot control or explain. However, we must try to remain rational and look at the problem from all sides, since sometimes solutions that appear logical may not be the right ones.

We do not understand exactly why sharks attack people. Is it possible to control something we don't understand? Maybe we are mistaken for prey or appear as intruders or as a potential threat. We do not know if tiger sharks move between islands, how long they stay in an area, if they defend a territory, if they stay in groups, etc. In fact, shark fishing might even worsen the situation, since removing sharks from an area might provide an "opening" for even larger and possibly more aggressive tiger sharks. Because we lack essential information on shark behavior, we just don't know.

The one thing we do know is that as long as

there are people who enter the water there will be shark attacks. Even if hundreds of tiger sharks could be removed from a single stretch of beach over a short period of time, attacks will still occur. Shark attacks still occurred during the shark control programs of the '60s and '70s. If reductions in shark populations in Hawaii and Florida have had little effect on decreasing the number of shark attacks, why should we assume it will work here and now?

The people of Hawaii have several choices: either waste valuable time and money trying to control sharks that we know little about, accept the risk when going into the water, or try to learn more about shark behavior so that we can better understand how to reduce the risk of shark attack.

CHRISTOPHER LOWE

Shark control program needed

I am writing to urge Bill Paty and other elected officials to support Richard Grigg's recommendation for a shark control program.

During the '60s and '70s it was a long fight to get our politicians to fund adequate life guard and sea rescue units despite continued drownings along our relatively unprotected coastline.

Now, 20 years later with greatly expanded recreational use by locals and tourists of our coastal waters, we must have continuous shark control if we are to prevent further tragedies.

One of these sea-going killers can disembowel a swimmer faster than you can open a can of tuna.

MIKE LONG
Punaluu

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What do YOU think can be done about the problem of sharks attacking swimmers and surfers?

A23

ASB 11/13/92



Ella Townsend, Kahaluu. clerk; "Kill 'em. Get rid of them. Stay out of the water. Use helicopters to hunt them. Put nets out in the shallow water. I live close to the ocean at St. John's of Kahaluu. I've seen small sharks in the water where people go swimming there."



Lorraine Oplana, Punchbowl, salesperson: "I don't think they should kill the sharks. They can't help it. From below, someone on a surfboard looks like a turtle. Swimmers and surfers should just be more aware. You can't stop people from surfing. There are probably more sharks because of fishermen taking more fish from the ocean. I stay away from the beach. I'm already brown."



Hernando Pinedo, Honolulu, sand blaster/painter: "People should be more careful about sharks. In the olden days some people believed sharks were sacred. Now some do and some don't. I don't know if they should be hunted."



George Morita, Honolulu, radio communications engineer: "I don't know that you can get rid of them. People have to watch out for themselves. There's not enough money in the world to fence in the whole island, whether by man made reefs or what. Shark hunts get into ecology. When we are in the water, we are in their world. If one comes on land, he's in my domain, and that would be a different matter."



Helen Quiñones, Punchbowl, high school sophomore: "Have more lifeguards on the beach. Lifeguards are getting lazy. Some of them at Haleiwa and Ala Moana just sit there. I've never seen a shark, but friends have at Waikiki and on the Lolo side. If you kill one shark, more will come in. They could put nets out before the break, but that would hurt other marine life."



David Wu, Honolulu, anthropology professor: "There should be more warnings posted on the beach and perhaps more guards to warn people to be more careful. I've lived here for 25 years, and this is the first year there have been 50 many sharks seen. Perhaps authorities should do more research as to why before they just go out and hunt them. But there certainly should be more warnings."



WAIKIKI AQUARIUM

November 6, 1992

William Paty, Chairman
Department of Land & Natural Resources
1120 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, HI, 96813

Dear Bill:

I leave for a trip to the Solomon Islands Monday night, and will be back in Honolulu on November 28. I will undoubtedly miss the next Shark Task Force meeting, but before going I would like to send along a few thoughts and observations regarding the shark situation.

Speaking for myself, I keep hoping that each Task Force meeting will be the last and that there will be no need to continue with it. As a result, I feel I may have been a bit too casual in my attitude towards the objectives of the committee. By that I mean that I did my duty and participated in a discussion of the issues, but didn't really feel that we had anything significant to contribute other than airing the issues from our various perspectives. We were not (and still are not) organized in any formal way to make decisions.

That changed for me at last Monday's (November 2) meeting. We were given an issue where we did indeed have to make a significant decision -- John Earle presented us with, in his words "a ticking time bomb" concerning the Maili tiger shark, and urged that we take pre-emptive action. I remember feeling very concerned towards the end of the meeting that we were about to adjourn without providing you with any consensus of opinion. A vote was finally called, with Jack Randall, Richard Pyle and myself voting in favor of such action, but unfortunately we still adjourned with most of the members abstaining from voting. Looking back, we should have stayed longer to either resolve everyone's objections and concerns and recommend a hunt, or conclude that a pre-emptive hunt was not practical/feasible/desirable or whatever. We did not make a decision, and I do not feel good at all that we left with most of the members still undecided.

Of course, no one could have known that only a couple days later a surfer would be killed ("apparently" not by the Maili shark) but it was in an area where people had clearly been harassed by a tiger shark only two weeks earlier and only a day after the north shore attack (and we did discuss the Makaha tiger shark at our Monday meeting). If we had been able to resolve the Maili shark situation and develop clear guidelines/criteria for conducting a pre-emptive hunt, the Makaha shark would undoubtedly

have come under our scrutiny for a decision. I don't want to imply that we could have prevented last Thursday's attack -- even under circumstances where we had made a decision to act, the urgency to act on the Makaha shark simply wasn't that apparent to recommend an immediate hunt before Thursday.

I don't know any more than the next person why there have been so many shark incidents recently. Perhaps it is all coincidence, but each new attack makes it harder and harder to argue that there won't be another attack in the near future. I would like to state my position, and also make a few observations:

1. We need to conduct research to find out more about the tiger shark. DLNR should aggressively lobby for major funding (\$100,000+) from the 1993 legislature to conduct such work. Funding should be asked for both years of the biennium and should be considered a long-term program. The objectives of this study should include (but not be limited to):
 - a. An estimate of the population size of tiger sharks around Oahu (preferably through tag-release, although the only valid sampling method might have to be through catch-per-unit-effort analysis which may be objectionable if it involves killing lots of sharks).
 - b. Describing the daily activity patterns of at least ten tiger sharks (more if possible) including both short-term patterns (7+ days and nights), and long-term patterns (one year or more). If more specimens can be sampled, then variation in patterns relating to size and sex of the individuals should also be investigated.
 - c. Quantitatively describing the life history of the tiger shark: the number and size of the young, survival of size classes, growth rate, age at maturity and first reproduction, and life span.
 - d. Determining the natural diet of the tiger shark.
2. We should develop a written policy regarding shark control measures:
 - a. DLNR has the authority to develop policy, but the role of the Shark Task Force needs to be more clearly defined (especially now that we seem to be involved with life & death issues!). Who "officially" are the members of the task force?, what are the rules by which the task force conducts business?, should minutes be taken?, should members be required to vote on issues?, how binding will the decisions of the task force be?, when should the task force meet? what is our exposure to liability?
3. It is my opinion that our policy towards shark control should be very much like the policy adopted by the state of Florida towards alligators. I am not an expert on their policy, but I there are at least three general areas of policy and action: 1) alligators which get too close to populated areas are relocated even if there has been no attack, 2) alligators

which attack people are killed, and 3) the state has resisted wholesale hunting of alligators despite the fact that people are periodically killed by gators (although I know there is pressure to open up hunting for them). I see clear parallels with our tiger shark situation.

4. On the KGMB news Thursday night, footage was shown of people baiting tiger sharks presumably for photography (and profit?), and/or for amusement. I believe they said the area where this activity was taking place was Waianae. If this is a regular practice, and particularly if it is a commercial activity, it should be banned immediately! You know I am not in favor of feeding fish in the wild, but in the past we have only been discussing reef fishes. I think it would be highly irresponsible if someone was out there on a regular basis "teaching" sharks that boats, humans, and inshore waters equate with food (does dangling a tuna partly in the water over the side of a boat, as the people in the news footage were doing, conjure up any images similar to a surfer with his legs hanging in the water -- it does to me, and maybe it would to a shark too).
5. The talk of a "burgeoning" turtle population being the root cause of an increase in the tiger shark population should not be casually injected in discussions of why there seem to be more shark attacks. I read this over and over again in the newspapers -- mostly coming from fishermen. If it is repeated enough times, everyone will believe it. This hypothesis may have some basis in fact, but there are other equally, and perhaps even more plausible, hypotheses:
 - a. Perhaps their normal prey has been depleted due to overfishing, particularly by indiscriminate use of gillnets, to a point where tiger sharks are now feeding on "other" species.
 - b. Perhaps tiger shark numbers really were at a reduced level in past years due to the shark control program, and have returned to normal or above-normal levels, but they are otherwise acting naturally (ie, it has nothing to do with turtles being abundant).The point I am trying to make here is that none of us should imply that turtles alone are related to this situation until we have data that indicates one way or the other. (Keep in mind, using reverse logic, one could argue that if it weren't for an abundance of turtles, there might be even more shark attacks on humans).
6. As a casual observation, is it a coincidence that the two known attacks during the past year both occurred in November? Is there any indication from the existing data that there is a particular season when tiger shark attacks are more prevalent? This question ought to be part of the research effort, although the data may be too slim to ever say anything definitively.

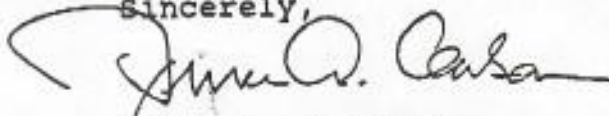
7. Steve Kaiser brought up a very real concern regarding his personal safety when conducting shark hunts. I can understand his concern and I do not believe that he is overstating his case. If he is going to be asked to conduct shark hunts (he is certainly the most qualified to do this work), he ought to receive every bit of support possible not only from the Shark Task Force, but also from DLNR including its enforcement division if that's what it takes.

To summarize my personal position:

- 1) I continue to be against an all-out shark control program as too expensive, too open-ended, and potentially harmful to the species and the environment,
- 2) I believe there is sufficient cause to go after the Maui Shark,
- 3) I favor pre-emptive hunting in selected areas after case-by-case discussion (we need to develop criteria everyone on the committee can live with),
- 4) I urge strong DLNR lobbying for more research funds from the 1993 legislature,
- 5) Steve Kaiser's concerns about support/protection should be resolved by providing as much support as he needs, and
- 6) if there are any commercial activities going on such as shark-baiting, they should be stopped immediately.

Thanks for taking a few minutes ~~to talk~~ to talk about this over the phone the other day. And, as I keep saying, I hope the need for a Shark Task Force will not be required much longer.

Sincerely,



Bruce A. Carlson,
Director

P.S. After reading a draft of this letter, Jack Randall added that in his opinion a comprehensive research program is definitely needed, and if there is a tag-release study, then there should also be a policy to not release the very large animals, especially if it is in a swimming or surfing area.

Aerial survey fails to locate any sharks

Star-Bulletin staff

State land board chief William Paty took to the air yesterday in a private helicopter in search of shoreline sharks, but found none.

The aerial survey, along the Waianae coast and North Shore, was part of a Shark Task Force experiment to locate big tiger sharks. An 18-year-old Pearl City man was killed last week by a large shark while boogie boarding in shallow water at Keaau Beach Park.

"We saw lots of green sea turtles and several pods of dolphins, but no sharks anywhere, Paty said.

Paty was joined by state harbor-master William Aila and city life-guard Brian Keaulana in the search, which paid close attention to surf spots.

Paty called the helicopter approach an "excellent" way to track sharks. He said the task force will rely on helicopter searches again, probably in cooperation with routine U.S. Coast Guard and other military flights.

Star-Bulletin

A-6 □ Friday, November 13, 1992

✓ HSB
A-14 □ Wednesday, November 11, 1992

OBITUARIES

Rites Sunday for Aaron Romento, 18, attacked by shark

Star-Bulletin staff

Services for Aaron Apalahama Romento, the 18-year-old Pearl City surfer who was fatally injured Thursday in a shark attack at Keaau Beach Park in Waianae, will be at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at Pearl City Community Church.

Friends may call from 6 to 9 p.m. Services also will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Oahu Cemetery Chapel. Call after 8:30 a.m. Burial will be in Oahu Cemetery. The family asks that flowers be omitted and aloha attire be worn.

Romento, a car lot attendant at Thrifty Car Rentals, was born in Hawaii. He is survived by mother Viola Ramalla; stepfather Bill Ramalla; father Larry Romento; brothers Ryan Romento and Bernard, Brandon, Bert and Brice Ramalla; sisters Kristen, Bernadine and Bonnie-Ann Ramalla; grandparents Walter and Daisy Schumacher and Larry and Eleanor Herolaga; and girl friend Jamie Shintaku.

Service will be Sunday for shark attack victim

Services for Aaron Apaiahama Romento, the 18-year-old body-boarder who was fatally attacked by a shark last Thursday in the waters off Keaau Beach Park, will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at Pearl City Community Church.

Romento was born in Hawaii and attended Pearl City High School from 1988 to 1992.

He was employed as a lot attendant and van driver by Thrifty Car Rentals at Honolulu Airport.

He is survived by his mother, Viola Ramaila; step-father, Bill Ramaila; father, Larry Romento of Oregon; brothers, Ryan Romento, Bernard, Brandon, Bert and Brice Ramaila; sisters, Kristen, Bernadine and Bonnie-

Ann Ramaila; maternal grandparents, Walter and Daisy Schumacher; paternal grandparents, Larry and Eleanor Herolaga; girlfriend, Jamie Shintaku; uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews.



Romento

Friends may call 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday at Pearl City Community Church. Or from 8:30 a.m. Monday at Oahu Cemetery. Service 10:30 a.m. Monday at the cemetery chapel. Burial 11:30 a.m. Aloha attire. Arrangements by Leeward Funeral Home.

Winds delay shark flight by helicopter

A demonstration to show how useful a helicopter can be in spotting sharks near Oahu's beaches has been postponed till tomorrow or Friday morning, the state Department of Land and Natural Resources said yesterday.

The owner of a private helicopter had offered to take Land and Natural Resources Director Bill Paty on a demonstration flight yesterday morning, but the flight was postponed because of high winds, said department spokeswoman Linda McCreery.

She said Paty is considering using helicopters to supplement other means of collecting data related to shark sightings, including a hot line that can be called by people who sight a shark.

LETTERS

Wednesday, December 25, 1991 □ A-15

Sharks must be controlled, but not eradicated

In my personal opinion, your Dec. 12 editorial, "Sharks and Justice," expressed the proper and prudent viewpoint.

It was also fully consistent with an editorial you ran 16 years ago entitled "Controlling Sharks." In that earlier piece you stated, in part: "Now that the horror of shark attack has been brought home to thousands of islanders by the film 'Jaws,' the legislators may be willing to revive the (shark) control program. Although shark attacks are not common here, even a few are too many. It would take only a few well-publicized attacks to do tremendous harm to the tourist industry."

The key word here is "control," not eradication. We need to be proactive in the matter rather than reactive.

George H. Balazs
Hawaii Kai

Increase in shark sightings, attacks, calls for new control program

How many more shark attacks in Hawaii must occur before a shark control program is reinstated? In 1958, Billy Weaver was killed and the state launched a successful shark control program. In about 18 months of fishing, the catch of larger tiger sharks dropped by about 90 percent.

Ten years later, an increase in shark sightings triggered another shark control program. In 1971 and again in 1976, two more shark control programs were sponsored by the state.

None of these programs "upset" the ecology of the reef. The fact that sharks have once again recovered is evidence of that. It has been 16 years since the last shark control program and increases in sightings sug-

gest that populations are once again nearing maximum levels.

Steve Kaiser caught six sharks with only 11 baited hooks off Lanikaea after the last "attack." How many more are still out there? John Naughton of the National Marine Fisheries Service tells me there is one very large tiger shark off Maili Beach that has been sighted so many times by the surfers and fishermen in that area that they have given it a name, "The Maili Tiger."

Four attacks have occurred in the last year alone and two people have died (one person was not recovered).

More and more people are recreating in the ocean each year. A review of the record of shark attacks compiled by George Balazs

for each decade in Hawaii since 1900 shows that attacks have increased significantly in the last 20 years.

I believe that people are more important than sharks — even *ʻaumakua* sharks, for those who truly believe that they might be some sort of family gods.

Or will it take a tourist swimming off Waikiki to be eaten before public opinion on this issue swings back to common sense?

RICHARD W. GRIGG
Professor of oceanography
University of Hawaii at Manoa

Editor's note: Grigg's letter was written before the shark attack that on Thursday took the life of Aaron Romento.

With all the controversy surrounding the recent shark attacks, we asked three avid fisherman, "What is your reaction to the proposed "culling" (State controlled killing of sharks to reduce the population)?"

Here are not only their answers but some truly amazing fish stories. (K)

Jay Dowsett - Operations

I don't like it, I never have. Sharks were here before us. Man tends to take nature into his own hands and play God.

When we do take a shark, we utilize everything. The Education Department gets the jaws and fins. The Waimea Park Halau uses the skin for their drums and we barbecue the meat.

I have a lot of respect for sharks and sentimental value, like Bonehead and KKK (see connected story) some of the sharks that follow us when Cary and I go fishing.

Area hunting seems to have the most public support. I don't agree with an all out bounty program. Not all sharks are responsible on attacks on humans.



Vinny DePaolo - Maintenance

I feel we need to thin them out for two reasons. Sharks feed on fish so there will be a lot more lobsters and fish if we get rid of some of the sharks. Secondly, it seems that by thinning them out like we did 15 years ago, it helped and there wasn't a problem until recently. Maybe if they don't do it again we won't have a problem for another 15 years.

Cary Chiswick - Maintenance

I don't believe in the process. Fishing for sharks as a whole is not a good idea. It's like setting traps Downtown to catch one murderer. Nobody knows if there are sharks that turn bad. A shark is an opportunist, it doesn't go hunting for people. They go where the food is. I once caught a 12 foot tiger shark off Diamond Head bouy. In his stomach I found a deep ocean 8 pound spider crab, a 30 pound turtle, with only a few nicks on the shell, and shallow water tubeworms. Since they were still undigested this means in a 24 hour period, this shark had been in waters as deep as 900 feet and as shallow as 10 feet.

The sharks are in tune to my engines. I just have to idle my boat and 10 to 20 will gather at the surface and the fathometer picks up many more below so the water is teeming with them. They aren't all the same species.

If they are going to fish for sharks they should use the meat for the homeless. I don't believe in killing to just kill. Sharks are a part of an ecosystem which we play havoc upon. Sharks are scavengers. If there are none left it will cause pollution in the waters.



As mentioned in the previous answers, numerous sharks follow the "Kamahele" Cary's boat when they go out to pick up their traps. Some of these sharks have become "pets" and Jay often feeds them.

One such shark is a Silkie named KKK and is easily identified by the scar markings on his back which form those three letters. This resulted from a collision with the Kamahele's dual propellers.

Another "pet" shark was nicknamed "Bonehead" since he had what appeared to be a bone protruding out of his head. One day Mary Pickett was fortunate enough to be on board with her camera when Jay enticed the shark close enough to the boat for Cary to pull the bone out of his head with a pliers. Amazing feat! It turned out to be the spine of an eagle ray which he apparently previously swallowed, had gotten stuck in his head and remaining undigested had attempted to work it's way out. Thats incredible!



MEET A DOCENT

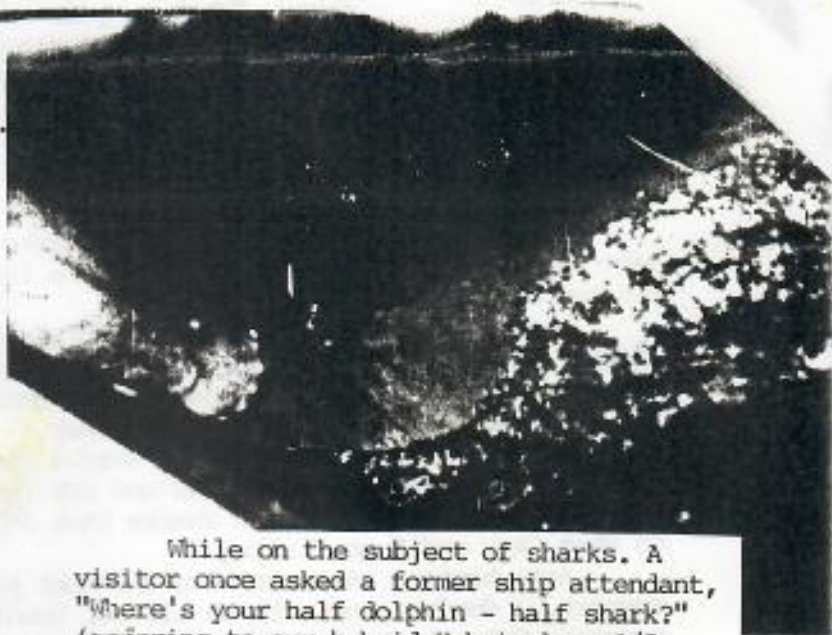
He's warm and caring. He has a nice manner in making things fun for the kids. The children really enjoy his presentations.

The name is well known around the Education Department. It has been for the past 6 years. It seems he was just made for the position. He should be great - he certainly knows his job.

The ocean seems synonymous with Kip Wildern. He received his degree from the University of Hawaii in Zoology. He graduated from the Marine Option Program there and did some graduate work on sharks along with a graduate recompression chamber course.

Being a certified diver he has been diving for over twenty years at underwater paradises like Ponape and Truk. He has taken CPR and Life-saving as well.

He admits that underwater research was his choice as a career but he wound up in music. Being the President of Island Instruments and the manufacturers representative and distributor of musical professional and Industrial products should keep him pretty busy. Yet his ambitious nature has allowed him to put in 350 hours in Sea Life Park Hawaii's Education Department so far. Before owning his own music company, he was a professional musician, playing drums and Percussion.



While on the subject of sharks. A visitor once asked a former ship attendant, "Where's your half dolphin - half shark?" (referring to our hybrid Kekaimalu - 1/2 whale 1/2 dolphin) This witty response followed, "Sorry, but the shark half ate the dolphin half."

(K)

Yet he confesses, his true love has always been the ocean. He once was a sports diver aboard an I169 submarine. His deepest dive being 225 feet.

Talent certainly is not lacking in Kip for he won several awards from Innerspace Pacifica for underwater still photography. He hopes to one day fulfill his dream and work as a commercial underwater cinematographer and researcher.

With his hectic schedule you wonder where he finds the time for teaching Tidepool Creature to the fourth graders. Specializing in Arthropods he is one of our most valuable docents. He has also helped educate sixth graders about whales. His jovial nature made him the perfect Santa Claus at the docent Christmas party. And if that's not enough, when you join one of the many truly fascinating, unique and educational field trips the Education Department offers each year, remember that Kip also helped plan some of these by serving on the field trip committee.

Being an avid sportsman, he has served the community by coaching Little League and as a soccer Linesman.

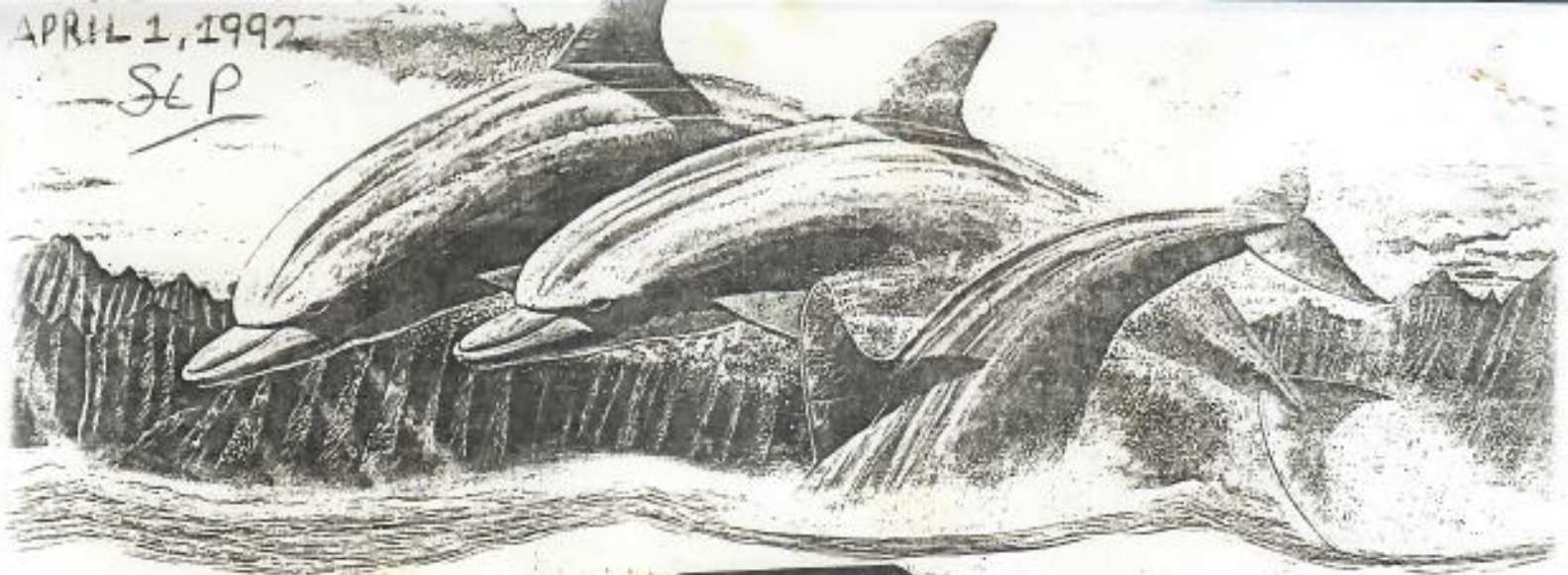
With his dedicated, responsible, hardworking and caring manner, Kip Wildern is easily my choice for Docent of the Quarter.



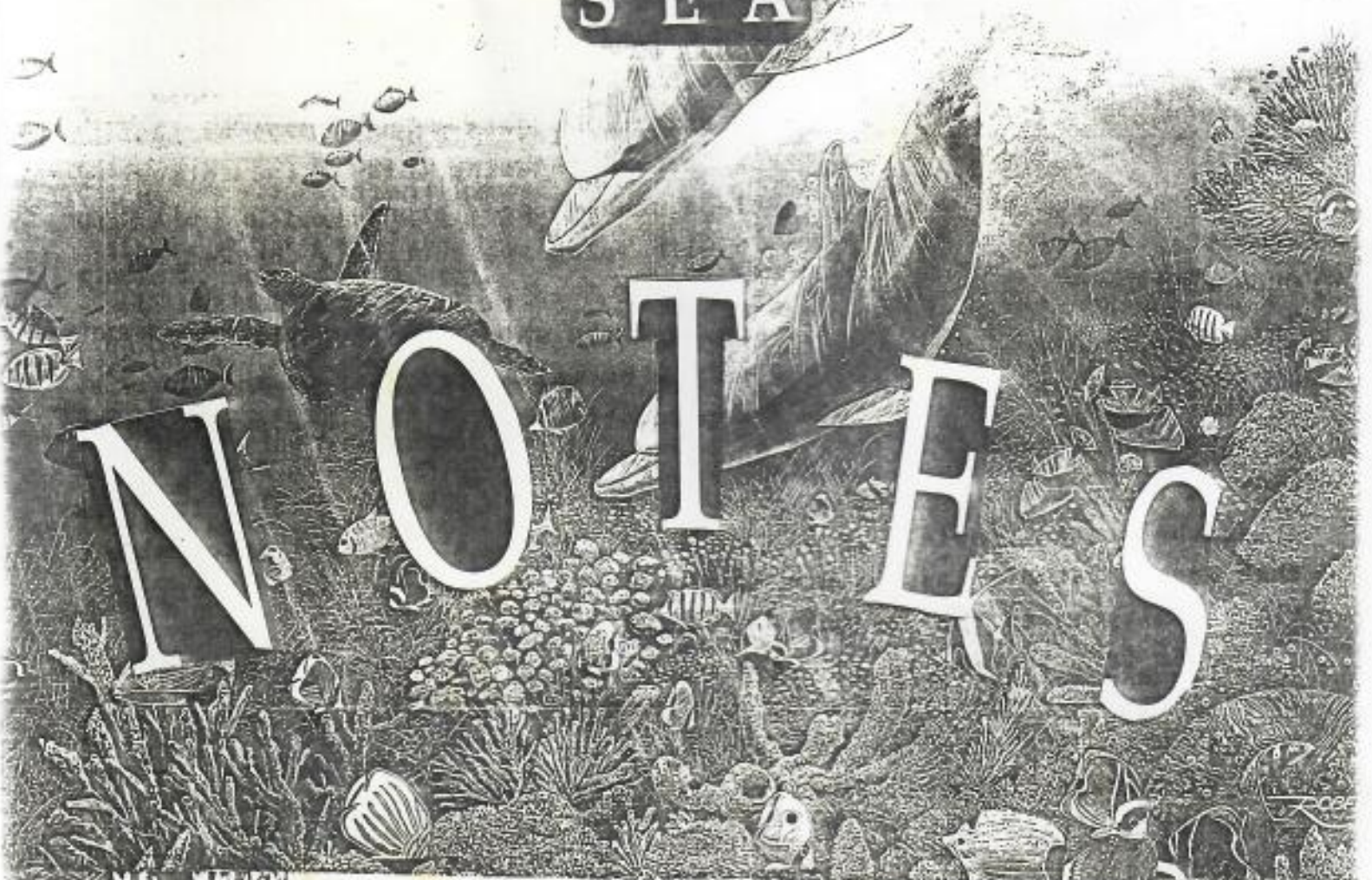
(K)

APRIL 1, 1992

SLP



SEA



NOTES

THIS IS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

Help! Sea Notes needs your kokua. Without it this may be our last newsletter.

Employees or Docents, if you have typing or computer skills or would like to help xerox and staple and are willing to donate a few hours of your time quarterly, please see Susan ☺ or Stephanie ☺ in the training department.

Your efforts will not go unnoticed. If you've ever wanted to kiss a sealion or dreamed of petting a dolphin, join this team effort and we will give you a chance at these and other exciting activities.

Remember - EXTINCTION IS FOREVER
S.O.S. - SAVE OUR SEA NOTES



3 snagged in shark hunt



□ The largest female will be gutted and examined for the remnants of the surfboard

By Tino Ramirez
Star-Bulletin

Three large tiger sharks were caught on baited overnight hooks that were set off Lanika in the wake of a shark attack yesterday.

Bill Paty, chairman of the state Department of Land & Natural Resources, said that the largest shark weighed about a ton and was a female. The three sharks ranged in size from 10 to 14 feet.

Paty said the county and state shark hunters also caught three smaller sharks, including a black-tip shark that was freed. But officials couldn't determine if the two smaller sharks might have attacked a surfer and bit his board yesterday because they were eaten by other

SHARKS WHICH SUGGESTS THE SIZE.

"All we had on the other two were heads," Paty said, "so they served as pupus for the bigger ones."

Paty said there are no immediate plans to continue the shark hunt.

"We were looking for the one that bit the surfboard and think the female shark may be the one," he said. The shark will be gutted and its stomach contents will be examined today for remnants of the surfboard.

Rick Gruzinsky, 26, of Hawaii Kai said he was attacked at 7:45 a.m. yesterday while surfing at Laniakea north of Haleiwa. The shark bit a 16-inch wide chunk out of Gruzinsky's board, but aside from scratches made by torn fiberglass, he was not hurt.

Fishermen hired by the state set lines last night off the North Shore beach where a shark attacked Gruzinsky earlier in the day.

One of the fishermen, Steve Kaiser, caught a 13-foot tiger shark off Olowalu, Maui, two weeks after Martha "Martie" Morrell, 41, was killed there last Nov. 26.

Paty consulted several members of DLNR's Shark Task Force before deciding to hunt the shark.

"We want to emphasize that we are conducting a limited control effort," said Paty. "We are going after only one large animal that attacked the surfer at Laniakea."

Gruzinsky said he had been surfing for about a half hour before the shark chomped at the surfboard.

"I was alone, except for some turtles, and I had this eerie feeling," he said.

Minutes later, he was attacked.

"I never saw it coming," Gruzinsky said. "It just felt like the water was boiling under me and then it flipped the board. It had to be about 8 or 10 feet long and I remember seeing his eyes."

Gruzinsky said the shark had a portion of the board in its mouth while he was on the other side

See SHARK, Page A-8



By Steve Russell, Special to the Star-Bulletin

Fisherman Steve Kaiser and a crewman measure a trio of tiger sharks on the Haleiwa Harbor boat ramp this morning. They caught the large predators overnight on baited lines set far offshore near Laniakea on the North Shore.

SHARK: Hunt ends with 3 big ones caught

Continued from Page A-1 of the board.

"I was playing tug-of-war with it for the board," Gruzinsky said. "But I needed the board to get back to shore.

"Luckily, a piece broke off and while he went under to swallow it, I started paddling."

The attack took place about 150 yards offshore, Gruzinsky said. "All I could think about was that he was coming back for me. I got out of this real easy.

"You don't think about sharks when you're out there but there are some big ones out there."

Immediately after the attack was reported, a Fire Department helicopter and rescue patrol boats, plus lifeguard jet ski teams, were sent out to warn people in the water, and to locate the shark.

Lifeguard Brendan Shea, who patrolled the area on a jet ski, said yesterday that he saw turtles and spinner dolphins but no shark.

"I didn't really expect to see it," he said. "It's not going to hang around close by, and we don't really know a lot about how sharks behave. It could be half way to Kauai by now."

Shea, a world-class paddleboarder and surfer, said North Shore surfers aren't too concerned about the attack.

"The surf wasn't good at Laniakea so people were willing to stay out of the water, but at Chun's Reef (a few hundred yards north) the guys thanked me for the warning and kept on surfing.

"If Laniakea had been good, it would have been hard to get people to go in or to keep them from going out.

"If Laniakea is good tomorrow, this attack isn't going to keep me out of the water."

A few North Shore residents were concerned that no warning signs were posted at the beach later in the day.

Lifeguard Capt. Jim Howe said the city Water Safety Division has no "beware of shark" signs and the beach at Laniakea is Bishop Estate property.

Howe said the public was being advised of the attack through the media, a rescue patrol vehicle at the beach and jet ski patrols in the



By Dean Sessal, Star-Bulletin

Rick Gruzinsky said a shark attacked him and bit a chunk out of his surfboard yesterday while he was surfing off Laniakea.

water.

Shea said the consensus among North Shore lifeguards is that the same shark is responsible for yesterday's attack and last February's attack on Bryan Adona.

Adona, 29, was reported missing from the Leftovers surf break, nearly a mile north of Laniakea. His bodyboard was found with a 16-inch bite taken out of it.



Jan Ten Bruggencate
Kauai Bureau

What happened? How did it happen? What did you do? What did you do? What did you do?

Shark attack

Victim shrugs off pity — and gets on with his life

KAHUI — In the midst of a crisis a person has a choice to give up control or lose control. To survive, you have to take it, no matter how much it hurts.

That's a bit of the philosophy of Joseph Thomson, 35. His personal crisis was a confrontation with a shark in waters off Papeete Oct. 18, 1985. The shark bit off his right hand and tore a gash across his left.

Thomson spent several years traveling and dealing with the loss. Today, he's back dancing again. He goes still, lives within view of where the shark bit him.

"I've made my peace with the area," he said. But he has still been frightened out of the water by seeing someone being strange, like a turtle's head peering up nearby.

Thomson is a water-ski-fact about the attack. He said it has taught him some things about how to handle oneself in waters where sharks live. He was surfing alone, which he now says was a mistake. He believes sharks are less likely to attack a group than an individual.

There were tuna running

nearby, which might have attracted sharks. He saw turtles in the water with him. Another die to get out of the water, he said, since sharks prey on turtles.

His hand-made body board had a yellow bottom, the same color as the bottom of a turtle.

From below, with his hands off the front and feet off the back of the board, he must have looked pretty close to a turtle, he said. "You don't want to look like what is the board surface should break up the bottom of their heads with ripples, so they look less like prey. It might even be useful to color boards in some light gray and paint a large mouth, a circle of the way back from the nose, to look a little like another shark," he said.

It seems the white flash of a swimmer or surfer's hand is also attractive to sharks. "An old Hawaiian guy told me when his boat went down and he had to swim to shore, he wrapped a cloth around his hands so the white part couldn't be seen," Thomson said.



Joseph Thomson in the hospital holds a piece of his bodyboard a day after a shark attacked him.

local knowledge. Know where sharks are, four-eyed. I realized that I couldn't play the game any more. A lot of balloons popped later, but something good can come out of something bad," he said.

A week out of the hospital, feeling he'd need to see his brain more to get along in life, he was admitted to the pain he would live with.

"I lost the hand on the 18th. On Halloween night I was in tears from the pain. One time it hit me so hard it threw me out of bed. It was torture. I couldn't sleep. Pain all the time. When exhaustion finally knocked him unconscious, it was okay, and for 30 seconds after awakening. Then it was back.

Thomson's get friend, Pam Plante, stayed by him. She gave him support and was a crucial factor in getting him through with a good attitude.

"There were times when I would use break down and cry and she would hold me and comfort me, and she kept me from wallowing in it. I got no longer," he said. They left Kauai and traveled, working for a time with mentally retarded children.

"I got involved with other handicapped people who were worse off than me, and it



Thomson hugs his wife, who is holding a board he used to go bodyboarding again.

"From there I went up and down the ladder many times, but it made me realize that something good can come out of something bad," he said.

A week out of the hospital, feeling he'd need to see his brain more to get along in life, he was admitted to the pain he would live with.

"I lost the hand on the 18th. On Halloween night I was in tears from the pain. One time it hit me so hard it threw me out of bed. It was torture. I couldn't sleep. Pain all the time. When exhaustion finally knocked him unconscious, it was okay, and for 30 seconds after awakening. Then it was back.

Thomson's get friend, Pam Plante, stayed by him. She gave him support and was a crucial factor in getting him through with a good attitude.

"There were times when I would use break down and cry and she would hold me and comfort me, and she kept me from wallowing in it. I got no longer," he said. They left Kauai and traveled, working for a time with mentally retarded children.

"I got involved with other handicapped people who were worse off than me, and it

made me really grateful. Being with them I saw that I was not so handicapped, not handicapped," he said.

He took college courses feeling he'd need to see his brain more to get along in life. Now that he'd lost his hand, and all the time, his attitude was improving, he said.

"There are many ways to approach it, but basically, you have a choice. Am I going to be a victim of it, or am I going to rise to it? Or take the bull by the horns and steer it? He laughs. "Of course, the bull does half the steering."

There are lots of opportunities for despair, and it's all yours to feel sorry for yourself for a while. But then you have to get it over with. "Emotions are like an energy. If you block them and hold them back, they only build up more of that energy. It's therapeutic to express it and release it. A friend told me, 'You've got every right. Don't make a habit of it, but if the pain is too much, go out and drink a bottle of tequila and get drunk.' I guess

18 Oct 85
Thomson case

Part Bottom
of Board
Black

FEBRUARY 7, 1988 A3

SUNDAY STAR-BULLETIN
AND ADVERTISER

Shark victim shrugs off pity, gets on with his life

From Page A-3

that's OK if you like tequila. I don't, but I had a lot of vodka a couple of times."

Thomson said he's seen in a distant relative the effects of drug addiction, and has tried to avoid dependency. Instead, he has trained himself to set the constant pain aside and go on with life. It's harder when he's tired, he said.

"You have to ignore the negative and search for the positive,"

he said. He found he could easily judge people by how they react to his artificial hand, made of urethane and titanium, called "The Grip III." Some look away, feeling pity.

"They're generally not the kind of people I want to know, anyway. Kids are fascinated by it. It's right down there at their level. Kids are the best."

At first, Thomson took it for granted there were things, like making furniture, that he could no longer do. He's found he was

wrong about that, and better. "Now I know, shoes last longer, and I wear heavy shoes because I drop things. I need my own shop, with extra clamps, to take the place of the missing hand, he said.

Thomson once again builds his own bodyboards, but with black bottoms so they're less likely to attract sharks. He also designs and builds artificial hands. Most of the ones available for people who need them are not adequate, he said.

He has built several, some for

different purposes. One is a body-surfing hand, a foam contraption. He has a swimming hand in mind. The one he wears most was built by a one-handed friend, Bob Fladocky of Colorado, who makes the best, he said.

It has a series of crescent shapes in a prehensile grip for grasping objects of different sizes. It twists and opens and closes.

Thomson said he finds "The Grip III" much preferable to the more common split hook design, but he's continuing to work on

design improvements. And he wants something with classic simplicity.

There are electronic hands that look real, but Thomson said he's not thrilled with having a hand that's not easy to repair. He had an artificial hand break down in northern Thailand and was able to get it fixed in a bicycle shop. Had it been electronic, he'd have had to throw it away.

In three to five years, Thomson said he expects to have designed the best artificial hand in the world.

Improvements to parks readied

Contracts worth nearly \$250,000 have been awarded by the city for park improvements, the mayor's office has announced.

A sprinkler system at Lanakila Playground, a comfort station at Waiala Neighborhood Park, basketball and volleyball courts at Waipio neighborhood park and a concrete drainage ditch at Honolulu Park are some of the improvements included in the contracts.

Letters

(continued from page 16)

MERELY A VICIOUS RUMOR

Your interesting article "Shark Attack" (March '93) stated in bold type that attacks on surfers by tiger sharks are "believed by some to start as cuses of mistaken identity" for sea turtles. This is a misguided belief. There is no scientific information to support such an idea. Unfortunately, the news media in Hawaii has repeatedly voiced this speculation, causing many to believe it is true.

The fact is that tiger sharks don't have to mistake anything floating on the surface in order to strike, bite or eat it. Taking things at the surface is a natural part of the tiger shark's feeding strategy. The theory by some scientists that great white sharks mistake surfers for seals off California simply can't be transposed to tiger sharks and sea turtles in Hawaii. Very different species of sharks and prey items are involved.

Explorer Jean-Michel Cousteau summarized the situation correctly when interviewed a year ago following the death of a swimmer attacked by a large shark at Olowalu, Maui. Cousteau said: "Tiger sharks are particularly dangerous to swimmers. Some sharks are more fussy than others about what they eat. Tiger sharks are known to eat almost anything and everything, and...are more likely to attack anything on the surface whether it's a piece of wood, a surfboard, a boat, or a bird."

George H. Balazs

Deputy Chairman

IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist Group



924-1516
732-4982

ʻĪlalo No'ēau
Māzzy Kawena Pūkui
Bishop sp pub. no 71, 1983
[295]

HAWAIIAN PROVERBS

The lehua is in bloom.

Said by the people of Kawaihae when the *aku* fish appear in schools. It was considered unlucky to speak openly of going fishing.

2696 Pua ka neneleau, momona ka wana.

When the neneleau blooms, the sea urchin is fat.

The *neneleau* blooms about the time when the *hala* fruit ripens. These were signs for uplanders that the sea urchins were ready to be gathered.

2697 Pua ka uwahi he ahi ko lalo.

Where smoke rises there is fire below.

Where there are strong words the fire of wrath lies beneath.

2698 Pua ka uwahi o kā'e'a'e'a moku o Hina.

Up rose the smoke of the experts of the island of Hina.

Said of the quickness of the athletes of Moloka'i—they were so fast that they smoked.

2699 Pua ka uwahi o ko a uka, mana'o ke ola o ko a kai.

When the smoke [from the fires] of the upland dwellers rises, the shore dwellers think of life.

Shore dwellers depended on the uplanders for poi.

Pua ka uwahi o Manuokekula. 2700

The smoke of Manuokekula rose.

Said when one goes off with all speed. *Manuokekula* was a steamer in olden days; smoke was seen from her stack as she departed.

Pua ka wiliwili nanahu ka manō; 2701

pua ka wahine u'i nanahu ke kōnāwai.

When the wiliwili tree blooms, the sharks bite; when a pretty woman blossoms, the law bites.

A beautiful woman attracts young men—sharks—who become fierce rivals over her. The law prevents the rivalry from getting out of hand—it can "bite." It is said that when the *wiliwili* trees are in bloom the sharks bite, because it is their mating season.

Pua ke kō, ku ka he'e. 2702

When the sugar cane tassels, the octopus season is here.

The sugar cane tassels in late October or early November.

Pua ke kō, ne'e i ka he'e hōlua. 2703

When the sugar cane tassels, move to the sledding course.

The tops of sugar cane were used as a slippery bedding for the sled to slide on.

Pua lehua i ka lawai'a. 2704

A lehua blossom in fishing.

An expert in catching fish.

Letters

Deadly digestion

May I provide some clarification to statements made in a recent letter ("The fisherman's point of view," *HW* 12/23) on sharks and shark attacks in Hawaii. The letter stated that "...in some fisheries in the Pacific, 60 to 70 percent of the tiger sharks examined are found to have turtle remains in their stomach contents." Readers might easily get the flawed impression that turtles are the overwhelming component of the tiger shark's diet. That's simply not the case. Numbers don't always tell the whole story. In this instance some basic knowledge of tiger shark and sea turtle biology is required.

The digestive tract of tiger sharks functions in such a way that only paste-like material — the broken-down remains of prey — can pass out of the stomach into the intestines. Objects that can't be broken down in the stomach are retained there for an unknown and likely extended period of time. The outer surface of sea turtles is made of a tough keratin-like substance that is completely resistant to decomposition in the stomach. Consequently, these large and clearly recognizable items are held in the stomach, while the rest of the turtle, including the meat, bones and all else, is digested. These factors over-represent turtles in tiger sharks' stomachs, and give a biased picture to persons cutting open the animals to see what they eat. It is a biological fact that tiger sharks eat a wide variety of items. In a two year study conducted by the University of Hawaii, tiger sharks in Hawaiian waters were found to prey upon the

following items (in descending order): fish, crabs and lobsters, garbage, birds, sharks and rays, squid and octopus, turtles, porpoises or whales, and humans. Jean-Michel Cousteau summarized the situation correctly following the tragic death of Mrs. Morrell on Maui. Cousteau said, "Tiger sharks are particularly dangerous to swimmers. Some sharks are more fussy than others about what they eat. Tiger sharks are known to eat almost anything and everything, and... are more likely to attack anything on the surface whether it's a piece of wood, a surfboard, a boat or a bird."

George Balazs
Deputy Chairman
IUCN Marine Turtle Specialist
Group

Roddy Lewis
P.O. Box 276
PAIA, Maui 96779

5/1/93

Dear George,

5/21
Birthday

Thank you for you + your wife's kindness + concern for me. You've been such a blessing + a source of information to me + your wife's kind words were an encouragement to me - she seems like a real sweetheart. Thank you for your generous contribution towards my medical expenses.

Thought you might be interested in these pics + article. You can keep the article but please send the pics back as soon as you can please.

For your records, my left leg wound was caused by 2 teeth - length of cut $2\frac{3}{4}$ " - 7 staples to close it. The right leg inside bite measurement is $14\frac{1}{2}$ ", outside measurement is 13" (straight line measurement) + required 145 staples externally (unknown amount of internal sutures).

Perhaps by the photos of the shark you can figure out how big it was.

My friend Brian said it was about 14' or 1200 - 1500 lbs. They cut it in half in back of the dorsal fin & tried to move the front half with a big branch & a rope for a lever & couldn't budge it - he figured that half was about 900 lbs.

The top of the tail was 36"



Can you figure out how long it was?

Thanks for all your help George. The Lord richly bless you & your family.

Love,
Paddy

Dear George,

I would like to talk to you.
Mid morning is a good time to call.

P.

Roddy L. Lewis
P.O. Box 276
Paia, Hi 96779-0276

Tel. 579-0521

4/3/93
Sat.
Call back evening
Telecon interview

Add

Board sailor's ascent hasn't been a breeze

Lewis battles memories of shark attack

By Dayton Morinaga
Advertiser Staff Writer

FOR RODDY LEWIS, the fear is real. He's an avid water man. He's afraid of sharks.

"Every time I go into the water, I think about it," said Lewis.

Which means he thinks about it almost every day. Lewis is a professional windsurfer who won the World Production Board Speed Championship off the Canary Islands last month.

When not traveling around the world to enter events, he practices near his home on the North Shore of Maui.

It was there, three years ago, that Lewis' worst fear became a reality. He was attacked by a shark.

"We were paddling across this bay and we came to a particular spot where a stream was running through," he said. "I had this premonition that something was coming up, but I didn't want to scare my friend. About five seconds later, the

shark grabbed my leg."

The shark — believed to be a 14-foot tiger shark — clamped on Lewis' left calf and tried to pull him down. Lewis said he held on to his surfboard, and had the

presence of mind to throw "a left hook" to the shark's eye.

Lewis paddled himself to the beach and then used his leash as a tourniquet to stop the bleeding. Other surfers on the beach assisted in calling 911 and eventually, a helicopter took him to Maui Memorial Hospital.

Lewis' leg — and life — was saved, although his left calf remains disfigured.

"When I go sailing under hard conditions, it gets sore at night," he said. "But I'll take that. I thank God I still have my leg and am still on this planet."

Only two months after the attack, Lewis decided to challenge his fear. With his leg still not fully healed, he went out on a big surfboard and



Lewis: Glad to be alive

paddled around for two hours.

"It was probably the most difficult thing I ever had to do," he said. "There was so much doubt in my mind. But I knew if I could do it mentally, the physical part would come easy."

For sure, it's been successful. Last year, Lewis set a world record by windsurfing 44.51 knots per hour over a 500-meter course. Last month, he defended his world title by defeating over 70 board sailors.

In speed windsurfing, competitors race across relatively flat water for 500 meters. The fastest wins. In the world championships, all the competitors had to use approved, manufactured boards and sails.

"Because we were all using production boards, a lot of it came down to fine tuning and gaining that little edge here or there," Lewis said.

Now, Lewis feels like his winning edge comes mentally.

"I had to learn to walk all over again," he said. "Then I had to learn to trot, then run. It was a long road. After all that, I realized some of the other stuff in life isn't that hard."

Sharks were feeding at

Surfer didn't know dead cow, pig were in

By Edwin Tanji

Advertiser Maui County Bureau

WAILUKU, Maui — A man whose legs were mangled by a shark Sunday afternoon was surfing unknowingly in an area where sharks had been feeding recently, his friend said yesterday.

"I guess we were full-on prime targets," said John Gangini, a Makawao man who had been surfing with Roddy Lewis, 35, of Kuau.

Lewis, a carpenter, professional speed board sailor and diver, was attacked by what is believed to be a 12-foot tiger shark. The shark struck both of his legs as they hung off his surfboard and gripped his left

calf while he punched it to knock it away, Gangini said.

The attack occurred sometime after 3 p.m. on the east side of Wailua Bay, near where the East and West Wailua Iki streams flow into the ocean. Gangini said he learned after the attack that there had been a dead cow and a dead pig in the streams.

Gangini said he and Lewis — who grew up on Oahu — had been surfing in the larger section of the bay, but were joined by a number of young surfers and the pair went to check the waves off Wailua Iki.

Lewis was on the outside when he heard a yell and saw Lewis striking at the shark hanging onto his leg, Gangini

said.

He said the two of them were not warned about the danger of sharks by several men who stayed on shore while he and Lewis went into the water.

The state Shark Task Force is reviewing the attack on Lewis, but two Hawaiian cultural leaders said yesterday they are recommending against any attempts to hunt for the shark at Wailua Bay.

Keanae-Wailua residents who live and dive in the area said there were prime conditions for sharks in the bay, said Charles Maxwell, who quit the Shark Task Force in protest over shark-hunting efforts on Oahu.

"There were dead animals washing down the stream, it

Maui attack site

streams leading to Wailua Bay

was murky water and late afternoon. They invited a shark attack," Maxwell said.

He and Parley Kanakaole, a Hana cultural specialist and teacher, said the state Shark Task Force should not move to catch the shark that attacked Lewis.

"You know there are sharks there," Kanakaole said. "The local surfers sitting on the beach know it. That's why they were sitting on the beach and not in the water."

"The problem is when you have guys who are surfing in areas they are not familiar with."

Gangini said he understands and respects the feelings of Hawaiians, but still thinks some-

thing should be done about the shark that attacked Lewis.

"It's the first shark I've ever seen in the water in 18 years of surfing in Hawaii," he said.

He said he would not try to guess what Lewis thinks. He said Lewis, who has declined to talk to reporters, "is a quiet guy" who doesn't like to talk about himself.

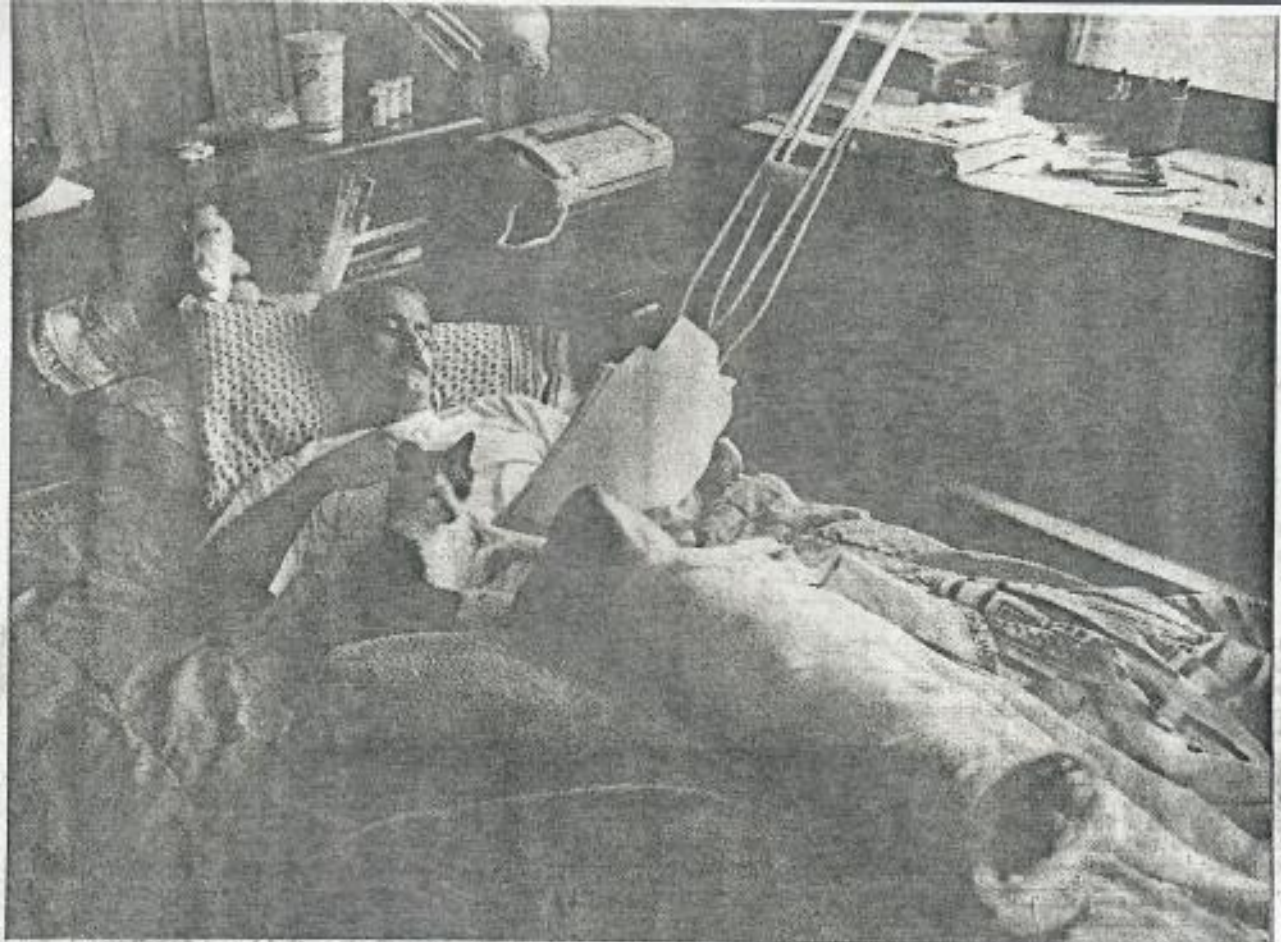
Shark Task Force Chairman William Paty said he will consult with other Task Force members, but "my offhand inclination is, we'll hold off."

He said he based his inclination on the conditions at Wailua Bay and the feelings of Hawaiian residents of the area who say there is no need to hunt for the shark.

Maui shark attack



"THE MAUI NEWS"
THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1993 PG. A-1, A-12



The Maui News / MATTHEW THAYER photo

Roddy Lewis scans a report on shark attacks in Hawaii while lying in bed at his Kua'u studio Wednesday morning. Lewis is still re-

cuperating after being attacked by a tiger shark March 14 in Waialiki Bay.

Surfer saw a chance, took it

Recovering victim of shark recounts attack

By LAUREL MURPHY
Staff Writer

KUAU — There was a moment 17 days ago when surfer Roddy Lewis felt totally abandoned to the will of God. Out there in paradise, afloat on his surfboard in the secret beauty of Waialiki Bay, a tiger shark surfaced without warning and clamped onto his right leg.

As the 10- to 12-foot shark shook him, trying to pull him under, sawing his leg to the bone, Lewis spotted his surfing companion veering away in shock. As the shark hunched its awful back out of the water to better its grip, words from the Bible floated through Lewis' mind: "I will never leave you, nor forsake you."

"That gave me strength," he said. Strength to seize what he says was a God-given "window of opportunity" to hit the shark on the



Photos taken at Maui Memorial Hospital shows Roddy Lewis' leg after five hours of surgery. "This is nothing compared to what his leg looked

like on the beach," said Bobo Pahukoa, who witnessed the shark attack.

side of the head — perhaps near the eye — with everything he had, driving it away. Then, looking back to see if his foot was still there, cheered to discover that it was, Lewis caught a wave to shore, gushing blood.

And lived to tell the tale.

Which he did Wednesday morning at his studio in Kua'u, surrounded by some of the new friends who helped him survive the late afternoon March 14 attack near Keane.

They lauded his cool in the crisis and how he didn't flinch with the pain. They talked about how he

made a tourniquet out of his own board leash. How they huddled together and prayed on the rocky little beach while waiting an hour and a half for a medical helicopter to

See VICTIM on the last page of this section

Victim of shark attack says he saw a chance and took it

Continued from Page A1

come. How they talked about what it must be like to his war-wounded and forsaken in some faraway land.

It was a situation, in a way, where they all showed what they were made of. "Every step of the way was a miracle in motion," Lewis said. And what they were made of was good.

"Papaya John" McCollum of Paia, 46, who was surfing nearby and saw the shark strike. McCollum raced over the headland to Waialua Bay to get help. "Every step was a prayer," he said.

Bobo Palukoa, 24, a Keenae construction worker, who jumped in his truck to make the 911 call when the breathless McCollum appeared at the bay. He then dashed through the

waves breaking over sea caves to bring Lewis a surfing bag for warmth and news that help was on the way.

Brian Murphy, 47, a Keenae farmer, who had been surfing with McCollum and held Lewis during the long wait. A week later, with Waialua fisherman Douglas Canamase, he caught a 10- to 12-foot tiger shark he believes was the same. (A fragment of a shark tooth embedded in Lewis' leg fits a tooth in the dead shark's jaw, Murphy said.)

But let Lewis, 35, a professional windsurfing speed sailor who grew up on Oahu, tell the story. He is a tall, blond man, quiet and scallfal, with deep blue eyes and a strong chin, the kind of person who chooses his words carefully before he speaks.

The ordeal began, Lewis said, when he and his surfing buddy, John Gangini of Makawao, decided to paddle around the headland to the adjacent bay to get away from some of the aggressive, young surfers at Waialua Bay. It was a place he'd never been before.

"The bay opened up, the scenery, the vegetation, was something out of a picture book," he said. "I looked into this bay, and I thought, 'This looks like paradise.' ... Shortly after that the water became murky. I saw sticks and things floating in it. You couldn't see but 5 feet down. I remember thinking, 'This is perfect water for sharks.'"

"No longer than five to ten seconds after that the thing bit my back

leg. In full stroke, this thing bit. I felt the pain and power and impact and what it was all in one brief instant. You know that's what it has to be, but you don't want to think that's what it is. I turned to the beach and I saw my leg in this shark's mouth.

"All of a sudden, the thing jerked me out and down. I tried to hold onto my surfboard. When it couldn't pull me completely underwater, its back bejged out of the water. I saw it clamp onto my leg and try to tear off a piece. I saw the dorsal fin sticking up. I saw the head grinding into my leg. His whole back was wanting to take my leg off ...

"His head was a little underwater. I knew I had one chance. With everything I had I hit him on the side of

the head. It was enough to make him let go. Every stroke back in, I know the thing was down there. I knew he could be waiting to grab me again."

For a week, Lewis thought he might lose his leg. He praises his surgeon, Dr. George Zakauhi, who stitched together Lewis' right calf, which the shark had flensed open to the bone from knee to ankle.

Now, his medical prognosis is good. Lewis is planning to surf Waialua again with McCollum and Murphy when he's fully recovered.

"Got to," he said. He thinks the state should mount a shark control program so no one else gets hurt. "How long do you want to wait? How long do you want to see people eaten before you take some

kind of control measure?" he asked.

Lewis cited shark attack statistics from a December 1992 National Marine Fisheries Service report showing a steady rise in attacks from 14 in 1990-91 when a statewide control program was begun, to 24 between 1980-89, and 15, including his, since 1990.

He fell silent and lowered his head, a characteristic gesture these days. "If it had to be someone, it was fortunate it was me," he said. "I just view getting through it as God's grace."

Roddy Lewis has no medical insurance, and a fund has been set up to help pay his medical bills. To contribute, write to: Friends of Roddy Lewis, care of Island Hope church, P.O. Box 670, Paia 96779.

Surfer criticizes state on shark attack

Associated Press

KUAU, Maui — Surfer Roddy Lewis says the state should have gone after the tiger shark that chewed open his leg in Wailua Bay March 14.

"I feel how long do you want to wait?" he said. "How many people do you want to see get eaten before you decide to take some sort of a controlled measure?"

"It was like the worst fears. You know that's what it had to

be but you don't want to believe that's what it is," said Lewis, 35, of Kuau, who survived the attack by punching at the shark as it tore at his leg.

The shark released its grip and Lewis paddled to safety.

Lewis, a carpenter, professional speed boardsailor and diver, had to undergo surgery at Maui Memorial Hospital for severe leg lacerations.

The state Shark Task Force decided not to hunt for the

shark, saying the area is known to be frequented by sharks, and that the attack wasn't surprising because of murky water conditions.

As it turned out, Douglas Camanese of Wailua and a neighbor, Brian Murphy, decided to catch the shark themselves.

Camanese and Murphy set out a line about a week after the attack and caught a 10-foot tiger shark they believe was the one that bit Lewis.

A4 4/6/93 = TAA

Shark that bit surfer believed caught

By LAUREL MURPHY
Staff Writer

WAILUA — Wailua fisherman Douglas Camanse caught a 10-foot tiger shark in 8 feet of water in Wailuaiki Bay on Monday that he believes is the man-eater that bit surfer Roddy Lewis two Sundays ago.

The state's Shark Task Force decided against a shark hunt after the incident, on the advice of task force member Parley Kanakaole and the Hana kupuna he consulted.

But theirs was not the only opinion in the matter. Other local people, including Camanse's neighbor, Brian Murphy, who was standing on the beach and saw the splash when Lewis got bit, wanted something to be done.

According to Camanse, Murphy, who began visiting Lewis in the hospital, "was feeling all hurt because no one wanted to do it." He went to Camanse and said, "Let's do it secretly. Let's say nothing to anybody and go get the shark."

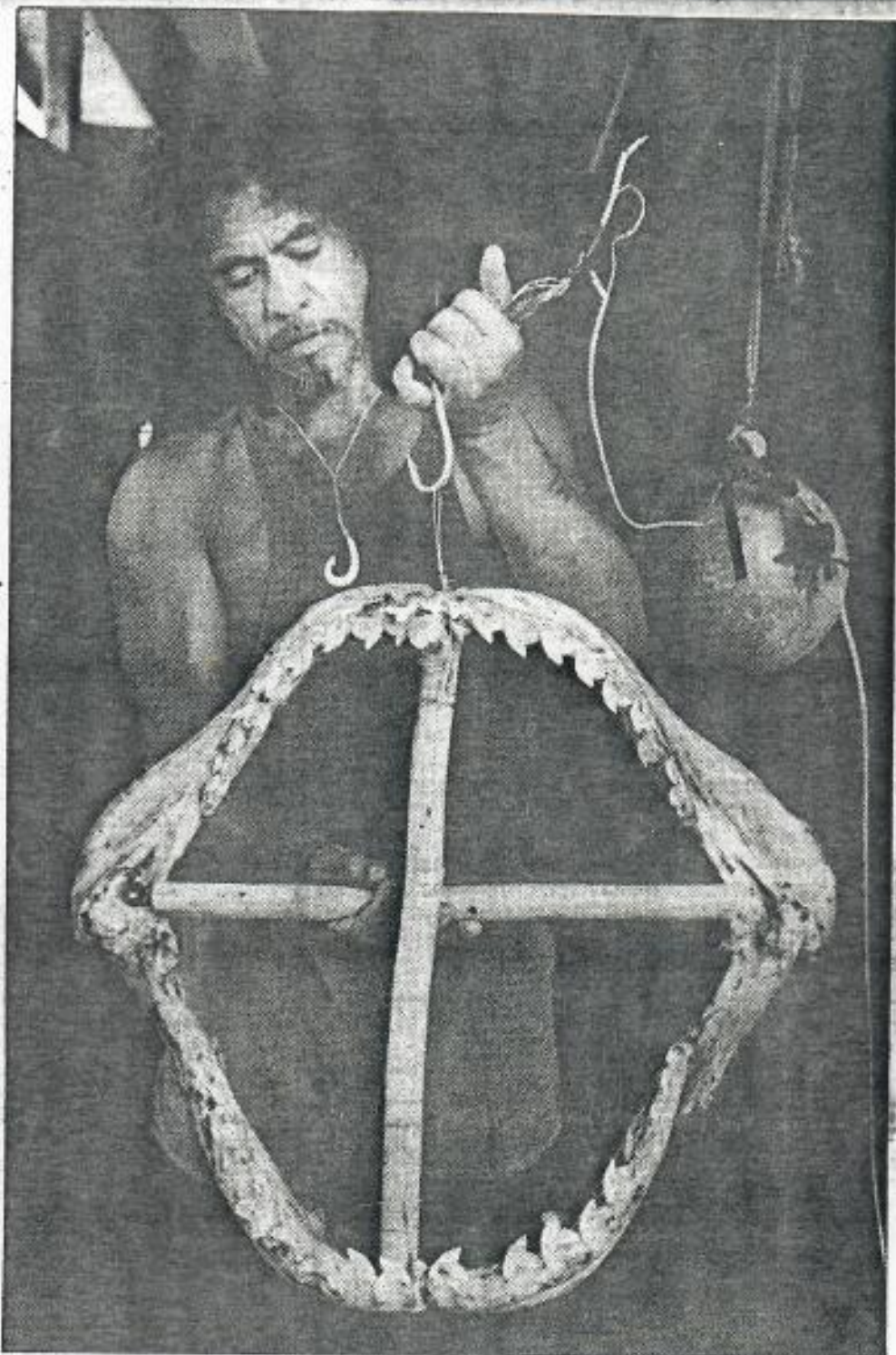
Camanse agreed.

He is a wild-looking man of 50, strong, with long, black hair and a shark tattoo on his shoulder. But his voice was gentle and soft as he described his decision to act against the belief of many older Hawaiians that large sharks close-to shore are only responding to an imbalance in the ecological system that is depriving them of food and should be left alone.

"I'm Hawaiian," he said. "Everything I do is with feeling. If the feeling was wrong, I wouldn't do. But too much kids was swimming there. If I did something wrong, it will come back to me."

Saturday morning, Camanse and Murphy went down to the bay with a line, two hooks, a foot-wide slab of cow's liver and a couple of floats. Camanse tied the line to a guava stick on shore, and Murphy swam out 40 feet and anchored the rig 40 yards away from

See SHARK
on the last page of this section



The Maui News / EUGENE TANNER photo

Douglas Camanse of Wailua holds the jaws of a 10-foot tiger shark that he believes attacked surfer Roddy Lewis, 35, of Kuau, on March 14 at Wailuaiki Bay. The jaws, fully opened, have a 22-inch bite. Camanse used a piece of cow liver as bait to catch the shark in Wailuaiki Bay last weekend.

"The Maui News" Wednesday, March 24, 1993, A-1, A-12

Community Work Day aims to end littering

By JILL ENGLEADOW
Staff Writer

KAHULUI — Don't laugh when they say they intend to bring about "the end of litter in Hawaii by 1997."

litter and a "photometric index," which uses photos overlaid by grids to document how much litter is in an area at a certain time.

The index gives clues on how to attack the littering problem and provides a baseline that will help show how effective new pro-

Break springs thousands on nation's beaches

By ALICE KAHN
San Francisco Chronicle

Spring break, which comes in like a Porsche and often goes out like a Pinto, is like totally hoo. A con of beach s

By I
The
Ni
fied
Cent
town
to th
gator
M
custo
and
tor s
this l
have
Th
of an
one
for t
injur
twint
Eg
Abou
coun
He
noon
burgl
array
dictir
the ir
Im
lieve
Marc
who
the t
towe
Ar
in co
certa
"1
age,
narr
In
Alex
arres
said
night

ing carry out the bombing: Mohammed Salameh of Jersey City, N.J., who rented the van; and Nidal Ayyad of Maplewood, N.J., a chemical engineer with know-how in mixing explosives.

Also, Ibrahim Elgabrowni of New York was charged with obstruction for allegedly scuffling with federal agents who searched his apartment as part of the investigation.

Shark that bit surfer believed caught near Wailua

Continued from Page A1

where Lewis was bitten March 14 (and survived by punching the shark.)

"Before he did it, he said, 'Doug, to tell you the truth, I'm afraid,'" Camanase quoted Murphy (who could not be reached for comment) as saying. "I said, 'If our intention is good, it will be OK.'"

Monday morning, Camanase said, the two went down to the bay to change the bait. "We saw our lines all slack. We thought maybe people

broke it. But the thing was already beached."

They found the 10-foot shark, greenish, with a square jaw and side stripes, lying on the beach tangled in broken line.

They cut the shark up, and took the tail to Lewis, who is in stable condition at Maui Memorial Hospital. Camanase said Lewis gave Murphy a piece of shark tooth that was embedded in his leg to match with a broken tooth in the shark's upper

jaw.

Why does he think the shark he caught might be the same one? "I don't know. I kind of get the feeling. He was right there."

Camanase's voice dropped to a whisper at the thought of catching a shark that large in 8 feet of water so close to shore. "He don't belong there," he said. "People swim there all the time. After we brought the shark out, the beach felt good again."

all have ties to Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, a radical Muslim cleric whose name has surfaced repeatedly in the investigation. The first two worshipped at a New Jersey mosque where Abdel-Rahman has preached. The sheik, asked last week about news reports that Abouhalima had been his driver, responded only that he had never owned a car.

Meanwhile Tuesday, Lt. Walter Boser, commander of the Police De-

partment, said he and other officers were searching the rubble had not been able to find a detonator and that there may not have been one.

"It's possible that something as simple as a lighted fuse was used to set this thing off," he said.

The key piece of evidence so far — a piece of axle with part of a vehicle's identification number — was found two days after the bombing. It was traced to a van rented by Salameh.

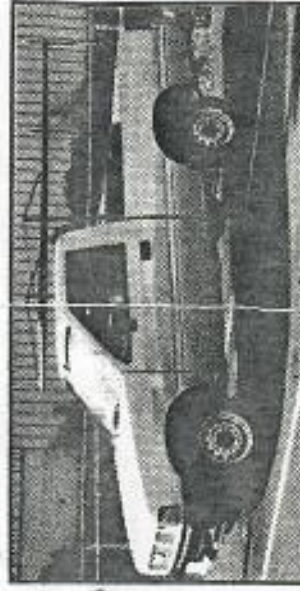
'92 To
Lic. #MYU
air condit
AM/FM cas

'88 Dooc
Lic. #MYU
AM/FM cas
power win

'91 Nis
Lic. #MJFC
5 spd, air
AM/FM cas

'85 Old
Lic. #MXV
Auto, air
AM/FM cas

'89 Dodge Ram 50 Sport
Lic. #MTD742
Automatic
air conditioning.
Only \$6,995



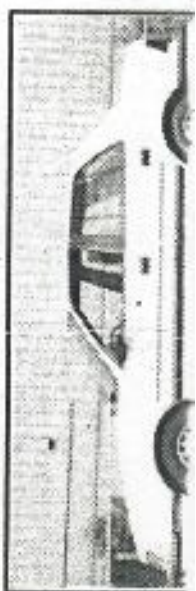
'90 Isuzu Pickup
Lic. #88TFR.
Rack, tool box,
low mileage.
Only \$5,495



'87 Pontiac Gran Am
Lic. #MTV0986.
Auto., air,
power windows and locks.
Only \$3,995



'89 Dodge Dakota Sport
Lic. #MWE068.
5 spd, V6, air
AM/FM cassette.
Only \$6,495



OBITUARIES

Genaro Bolosan, 92

Genaro Bolosan, 92, of Kihai, died March 20, 1993, at Maui Memorial Hospital.

A wake will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday at Borthwick Mortuary/Norman's chapel. Visitation continues Saturday at 8 a.m. at the mortuary, with a service at 9 a.m. Burial will follow at 9:30 a.m. at Maui Memorial Park.

Mr. Bolosan was born Sept. 19, 1900, in the Philippines.

He is survived by a sister, Marcelina Galapon, and a son, Santiago, both of Kihai, and nine grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Nemecio Guerrero, 92

Nemecio Guntang Guerrero, 92, of Kahului, died March 22, 1993, at Maui Memorial Hospital.

Friends may call at 8:30 a.m. Thursday at Christ The King Church, with a Mass at 10 a.m. Burial will follow at 11:30 a.m. at Maui Memorial Park. The family requests casual attire and that no flowers be offered. Borthwick Mortuary/Norman's is assisting with the arrangements.

pinas. He was a retired seed cutter for Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co.

Mr. Guerrero is survived by his wife, Lorenza; three sons, Jose and Mariano, both of Kahului, and Liborio of Lahaina; three brothers, George of Kahului, and Marcelo and Tony, both of Honolulu; and 14 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

George Ouchi, 65

George Takeshi Ouchi, 65, of Lahaina, died March 22, 1993, at his residence.

A funeral over ashes will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church in Lahaina. The family requests casual attire. Nakamura Mortuary is assisting with the arrangements.

Mr. Ouchi was born Jan. 7, 1928, in Honolulu, Oahu. He and his wife owned DeAnko Jewelry in both the Lahaina and Kaanapali areas from 1965 until he retired in 1984.

Mr. Ouchi is survived by his wife, Stephanie "Stephie"; two sons, Kip and Kain, both of Lahaina; a daughter, Kimmie of Lahaina; two brothers, Ronald of Honolulu and Richard of Torrance, Calif.; and three sisters, Doris Potts of Denver, Colo., and Florence Udo and

Thank-you Letters

Maui News
5-18-93

About a month and a half ago, while paddling into beautiful Wailu-aiki Bay, a large tiger shark nearly took my limb, and nearly my life.

I am deeply grateful to the many who aided my survival and recovery, and to the many friends and strangers who have been a great source of encouragement to me.

Papaya John, who upon seeing the severity of my wound sprinted the rugged ridge, counting every second crucial and every step a prayer; Brian, whose compassion and cool was a great comfort amid a grisly situation; John G., who kept me from slipping into unconsciousness; Marty, who worked the tourniquet and whose words of encouragement kept me hanging on; Jerry, who refreshed me even more than the water he brought with his prayer; Alfredo, who donated his coat and hat to a bloodied, shivering surfer he didn't know; Don, who skillfully maneuvered that chopper onto the rocky remote beach amid a collective cheer (it was a short but sweet ride, Don); the crew with him; the kind doctor at the scene (I don't remember her name) — these are just a few of those without whose help I would not be here today.

From the beach, I was taken to Maui Memorial Hospital with a badly mangled leg and severe anemia. I had to sign a form giving them authorization to amputate my leg if necessary. I had done all I could to free myself from the tiger's jaws and to make it back to the beach alive. Everyone else did what they could to get me to the hospital. Now it was up to them.

Space would fail me to list all the doctors, nurses, anesthesiologists, technicians and staff who were so great to me, but specifically I'd like to thank the ER and the OR nurses and doctors, and the third-floor "angels" who work as nurses. Special thanks to Dr. George Zakaib (the shark doc) for putting that mangled mess back together again with great care, and Drs. Ben Massenburg and John Mills, who on their own time and without remuneration assisted Dr. Zakaib.

Friends new and old as well as complete strangers in the community have poured out their support for me due in large part to The Maui News' coverage of an issue of concern to most all who enjoy the beautiful waters of Hawaii. Thanks need in particular to go to Laurel Murphy for her sensitivity and concern in her reporting. Also to George Balazs for the mountain of shark statistics he has sent me.

Last but not least, I'm very grateful to the Hawaiian community for their expression of support and sympathy. Special thanks to the beautiful people of Keanae, among whom are Bobo, who never having met me considered me his "friend" when calling 911, and risking serious injury to himself, ran barefoot around the jagged coastline bringing a board and first word that help was on its way; and Douglas, for his courage in acting upon what he felt was the right thing to do in his own heart.

To the multitude of unmentioned (but not unappreciated) people out there who showered me with your aloha and prayers, I pray the Lord's richest blessings upon each one of your lives.

God bless you all!

Roddy Lewis
Kauai

Should state

Disagreement still prevails

By Jim Borg

Special to The Advertiser

ON Sunday, March 14, in a bay near Waialua, Maui, Roddy Lewis, 35, was surfing with two friends, John Gangini and Jerry Wilson. A Honolulu native and 1975 graduate of Kailua High School, Lewis lived in Kuau, Maui, working as a carpenter and competing in professional wind surfing races.

It was past 3 p.m. and the break was crowded with young, gung-ho surfers. After about a half hour, Wilson called it quits. Lewis and Gangini opted to check out a smaller bay around the headland.

"We got to this particular kind of debris-filled spot in the bay where there was little sticks and twigs and leaves floating around, and as I was paddling through that section I was thinking that this is a prime spot for sharks to hang out," Lewis recalled.

At the same time, he took comfort in the speed of the board.

"Right in the middle of this one section, feeling like I was paddling as hard as I could, almost like I was invincible, I felt this incredible impact and pain," said Lewis. Something had his right calf.

"I felt something go right through my meat, right into the bone, and apparently I let out a scream," he said. "I don't remember, because I couldn't hear myself scream.

"I looked over my shoulder and saw the white underside of the shark with my leg in its mouth . . . I clung to the board with all my might and knew if I let go I was completely down in the murky water and it was going to finish me off."

Apparently frustrated by the buoyancy of the board, the shark tried a different approach.

"The thing arched its back, kind of like a submarine coming out of the water — easily over three feet out of the water — and as it was arching its back it was getting a better purchase on my leg, and started violently shaking its

hunt tiger sharks?

SUNDAY, Aug. 29, 1993
The Honolulu Advertiser

C:1



head side to side trying to tear my leg off."

Until then, Lewis had been outstretched, with the shark pulling his leg away from him. Now it pushed in close to Lewis.

"I was staring at the head of this thing, right in my lap, sawing my leg through, a couple seconds away from tearing off my leg, and with all my might and fury somehow I drilled the thing on the side of the head with everything I had." The blow with his left fist was so hard that it ripped one of his tendons.

And then the shark was gone.

"I ran the board up onto the boulder beach and put my good foot down and put my mangled leg down and as that leg went down onto the rocky boulders it was a red stream of blood pouring back into the water."

After extensive surgery, the leg was saved. From his ankle bone, doctors removed the serrated tooth of a tiger shark.

Much to the dismay of the Maui surfing community, State Shark Task Force Chairman Bill Paty announced that the task force would not go after the shark.

"We are concerned about the safety of surfers," he said. "But those waters are known by local residents to be frequented by sharks. Unless there is considerable community support for such action, we're not going to fish

that area."

Lewis was angry.

"The people who are anti-shark hunt don't seem to be the people who are in the water all the time," he complained. "They don't make their livelihood by fishing and diving. How many people do you want to see get eaten before you decide to take some sort of control measure?"

■ ■ ■

On both sides of the shark-hunting issue, many people were frustrated and confused by the state's actions in the 17 months after the fatal attack on Martha Morrell of Olowalu, Maui, in November 1991.

Shark-catching expeditions had followed that attack, but not the attack on Lewis at Wailua, Maui. How come?

The difference was that a representative of the Hawaiian community had approved the first, but others had not approved the second. This was not science. It wasn't even democracy. But it was quintessential Hawaii.

The central problem still was that no one knew for sure — and scientists couldn't agree — whether shark-catching was a good thing, a bad thing, effective or futile. In the absence of conclusive scientific information, the task force — dominated by public servants — tended to react with steps measured to comfort

the public. And different segments of the public had different perceptions and fears.

University of Hawaii graduate students Chris Lowe and Brad Wetherbee believed shark hunts provided merely a "psychological Band-Aid."

Steve Kaiser of Sea Life Park agreed. When he fished on his own and not for the task force, Kaiser tagged and freed even very large tigers.

"I don't believe we're going to learn anything unless we get some tags out," he said. "If everybody who came down with cancer we took out in the back and popped, the number of people dying of cancer would drop, but we would never find a cure for cancer."

Copyright (c) 1993 by Mutual Publishing.

Jim Borg is a former Advertiser reporter and author of the new book "Tigers of the Sea: Hawaii's Deadly Sharks." This article is an edited excerpt from the book, which examines tiger sharks from the perspectives of public safety, science, the environment and Hawaiian culture. Since the fatal attack on Martha Morrell, tiger sharks have been a subject of increasing public concern in Hawaii.

HEAVY WATER

AN INTERVIEW WITH JON MOZO,

By Bernie Baker

When Jonathan Mozo of Laie became the latest victim of an Oahu shark attack, this time off Goat Island reef, the word went out internationally through the news wire services and CNN. For Jon, a student at BYUH and father to his seven month son Makana, there's no comfort or feeling of celebrity from the notoriety.

The tops of both feet were literally shredded when he felt the shark's jaw clamping down on his ankles and instantly (and instinctively) yanked them out. The teeth ripped through the flesh, nerves and tendons along the tops and sides, only leaving the bottom pads untouched.

Surfers Jeff Johnston, Ned McMann, Chris Gardiner and Jon's friend Nathan Nakasone (who was in the water with Jon and initially felt the shark "bump" him first) got Jon first to Kahuku Hospital, only minutes away, and then later that day he was transferred to Queens for further surgery. He's back home in Laie now with both feet slowly healing through the swelling and stitches. He won't be walking for weeks at this point, and

without adequate medical coverage, life is a financial nightmare to be dealt with for the 21-year-old part time photographer/surfer and his wife Niki.

Jon had ridden an inside wave at Goats and was paddling back out through the channel, duck diving through a couple of waves and was working his way with his bodyboarding friend Nathan to the outside lineup. For them and the other surfers there, it was a past dawn patrol surf that Jon had done countless times before. For the shark, it was obviously still morning feeding time and Jon's feet could have represented small fish, but we'll never really know. What we do know is that Jon still has both feet attached to his ankles, he will walk again and hopefully the worst of it is that he may not have any feeling in the three smallest toes on each foot. And he's without medical insurance.

We at *H3O* asked Jon if he felt like expressing any thoughts on his experience with our readers. He's a humble, gracious person and was happy to accommodate our wish. The following was written by him only days after he had left the hospital for his long healing process.

If there is one thing I could say to other watermen/women it would be to maintain a constant respect and a degree of fear for the ocean. In the great ocean, we are a guest in an environment that our body must adapt to. Obviously, we are not sea creatures, we have legs that are designed for land and we constantly need air to breathe.

In addition, I would like to add that when we enter the ocean, we take risks against things like drownings or shark attacks. When we step into a car or airplane we take risks against things like head-on collision or malfunctioning tail flaps or landing gears. Taking risks is a part of life. It is how we progress."

-Jonathan W. Mozo
June 11, 1993

EXCLUSIVE:

SURVIVOR OF GOAT ISLAND SHARK ATTACK!



Photo: Ryan Bell



June/July 93 . Vol 5 no. 6

HAWAII

Saturday, June 12, 1993

Star-Bulletin

■ Armed r

■ City mig

■ Few res



By Steve Atkins, Coast Guard

Surfer James Garland points to pilings where he avoided a shark, which circled the area before leaving.

Sharks hooked at site of attack on Laie man

6/12/93 A3 HSB

□ The officials say the area near Kahuku will be reopened

By Lilo Fujimoto

Star-Bulletin

A hunt for the shark that attacked a surfer off Malaekahana State Park ended yesterday after the state Shark Task Force hooked five sharks, including 13½- and 10-foot tigers.

Signs warning people to stay out of the water at the beach near Kahuku probably will be removed today, said John Naughton, a fishery biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service and Shark Task Force member.

"We accomplished our objective," Naughton said. "From the description the victim gave us, it sounds like a very good chance that one of these was the animal involved.

"Our recommendation is to stop fishing and open the beach. But, again, there's no guarantee. People just have to realize when they are surfing and diving and entering the ocean, they take a calculated risk."

The task force set lines Thursday night outside the surf break near Goat Island where Jonathan Mozo, 22, of Laie was attacked Thursday morning while surfing with a friend. Mozo was treated at Queen's Hospital emergency room for cuts to his feet and released Thursday.

The sharks hooked by the task force yesterday included an 8-foot

Shark sighted by surfer near Sand Island

Star-Bulletin staff

A shark sighting near Sand Island scared a surfer out of the water yesterday.

James Garland, 24, a Coast Guard reservist, said he was paddling in and was about 100 yards from shore when he saw a 10- to 12-foot-long shark.

"It was a pretty amazing experience. I'm kind of happy I'm still here."

Garland said he climbed onto a nearby jetty where he spent "a good five minutes watching the shark and 15 minutes trying to get the energy to jump into the water."

Garland said he got back into the water after a helicopter crew surveyed the area and signaled a thumb's up.

Garland said he has surfed in the area for three years and this is the first shark he has seen there.

Galapagos, which was tagged and released because it is not considered dangerous, and two smaller sandbar sharks, Naughton said.

He said the two tiger sharks — a 13½-foot male and 10-foot female — were hooked when they ate the sandbars.

"It was kind of fish eating fish eating fish," he said.

Because of rough waters in the 40- to 50-foot deep spot where the sharks were hooked, four task force members aboard a 26-foot fishing vessel brought the tiger sharks into Malaekahana Bay, where they were examined and dissected, Naughton said.

The 13½-foot shark weighed about 1,500 pounds, he said. The sharks' internal organs were saved for scientific study, along with the animals' stomach contents, Naughton said. A stingray was in one shark's stomach; the

remains of reef fish, an octopus and puffer in the other's.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs received the sharks' teeth and skin, which will be used to make pahu or drums.

In the past year, 42 tiger sharks have been caught in waters off Oahu by the task force and independent fishermen, Naughton said.

The task force was formed to respond to an increase in shark attacks and sightings of sharks in Hawaiian waters in recent years.

"We feel we have made a pretty good dent in the population around Oahu," Naughton said.

The task force has supported limited fishing for sharks by setting lines in an area immediately after an attack because sharks often return to the same area to feed at night, Naughton said.

6/11/93 A1 HSB

“
I looked
back and
saw a huge
shark ...
I could see
all of his
teeth and
straight
down his
throat.
”

Jonathan Mozo
Resting at his Laie
home after shark
attack yesterday



Shark was 'just hunting'

□ The victim says
his screams probably
scared the fish away

By Harold Morse
Star-Bulletin

Jonathan Mozo let out blood-curdling screams when a shark attacked him off Malaekahana State Park yesterday, screams that may have saved his life.

"I'm thinking that probably scared the shark off," he said at his Laie home last night.

Mozo, 22, was surfing at 7:10 a.m. near Goat Island with friend Ryan Bell.

"We were out there only about 20 minutes. I felt a big clamping on my leg, like on my ankle (both ankles). It took me by surprise. So I jerked my legs

See **ATTACK**, Page A-6

4/1/93

Inside

■ Australia in panic
about two deadly
shark attacks.
Page A-9

By Anthony Bolante, Star-Bulletin

ATTACK: Shark was 'just hunting,' 22-year-old says

Continued from Page A-1

back. I looked back and saw a huge shark fully out of the water, and I could see all of him, and he had his mouth wide open. I could see all of his teeth and straight down his throat. He could have set my whole body in his mouth. I'm a waist 30 (inches)."

Mozo doesn't know the shark's length, but he's sure it was more than 6 feet.

"I saw him only a couple seconds. I just knew he was big and had his mouth open. I paddled away from him as fast as I could."

Mozo doesn't know if the shark followed him. "I don't know because I never looked back."

Mozo was maybe 500 feet offshore, "a good 10 to 15 minute paddle." Although Mozo felt sharp pain when the bite occurred, he was not really hurting later, he said.

"I was really shook up mentally, but I didn't have too much physical pain. I knew he got my feet. I feel really lucky."

The shark had a dorsal fin in the middle of its back, Mozo remembered. "He was really light in color, like a whitish-gray. He definitely was not brown. It was not a hammerhead."

Mozo is not convinced it was a tiger shark. "I know it was a shark," he said.

He thinks the shark let go when he yanked his legs up.

"I felt it was just tearing against something really hard, like bone. I think he let go.

It all happened so fast. I just yanked my legs and when I looked back, he had his mouth open.

"He was still advancing on me and he had his mouth wide open. It looked like he was going to bite me again. He was right on my feet. I could have reached down and touched his nose. After it happened, I was just really yelling. That probably lasted for a half a minute."

Yesterday's attack wasn't Mozo's first encounter with a shark.

He said that about six years ago, while he was a Navy dependent in the Philippines, a shark came right at him.

He has surfed for the past four years in the waters where he was attacked yesterday. "I surf all the time there. I've been surfing for almost 12 years."

Mozo said despite yesterday's attack, he isn't sure hunting sharks is the answer to keeping waters safe for humans.

"That's a really touchy issue, and I don't really know if I want to comment. I will say that any time any of us, humans, go out into the ocean, we're the guest out there.

"That's their domain. That's their territory, and we're just a guest out there, so I don't blame the shark. The shark doesn't know any better. He's just hunting. That's all he knows."

He doesn't plan to surf again in the near future. "Physically, I can't. I can't go surfing, but it doesn't mean I'm going to stop surfing. It's just like getting in a bad car accident. It doesn't mean you're not going to ride in a car any more."

Mozo's surfing buddy may also have had a close call yesterday.

"My friend who was about 30 feet away felt something bump him (almost immedi-



By Anthony Bolante, Star-Bulletin

Jonathan Mozo plays with his 1-year-old son, Makana, at his Laie home after yesterday's shark attack. *Ryan*

ately before). He felt something, and it was just a couple seconds later he went under a wave and he came up and he heard me screaming," Bell never saw the shark, Mozo said. The shark came from between the shore and the break, the shallow part, he said. "He was coming off the land. He didn't come out of deep water."

After the attack, Mozo went to Kahuku Hospital, then to Queen's Hospital. He didn't have surgery, said Lolly Winston, Queen's spokeswoman.

He was treated in the emergency room,

where his cuts were cleaned and sutured and his feet splinted, she said. "He had lacerations to both feet and a partially cut tendon in his right foot, but he's in satisfactory condition."

Mozo is a student at Brigham Young University-Hawaii and will be a junior in business management this fall.

The state's Shark Task Force hoped to catch the shark that attacked Mozo, setting baited hooks last night. Nothing had been caught as of 8:15 this morning, but the hunt was continuing.

"We're probably going to be having all kinds of sightings," said Captain Jim Howe, of the city's water safety division. "And most of them will be right. There's always more awareness of sharks after something like this, it always happens. The sharks were there all along, but weren't doing anything to get noticed. That will still be the case, it's just that people will be looking for them."

Earlier this week, surfers reported sighting a large shark in waters off Ala Moana Beach Park.

The last reported shark attack here was March 14 off Maui where Roddy Lewis, 35, was hit while surfing at Wailua.

The first confirmed fatal shark attack here in more than 30 years took place off Maui on Nov. 26, 1991; Martha Morrell was killed in waters near her Olowalu home.

On Feb. 19, 1992, Bryan Adona, 29, of Ewa Beach, disappeared while body-board surfing at Leftovers on Oahu's North Shore. His board with a large chunk bitten out was later recovered.

On Nov. 5, 1992, Aaron Romento, 18, bled to death after he was bitten by a shark while body-board surfing off Keeau Beach along the Waianae Coast.

Roddy
Lewis

P.O. Box 276
PAIA, Maui
96779

1/17/95

Dear George + Linda,

First of all I hope all is going well with you + you've been on my mind as I wanted to send you a Christmas card with best wishes for the season + this New Year. Though my writing habits are poor, I'll never forget your kindness, support + understanding towards me. You guys are beautiful.

My dad + Uncle sent me articles of the diver who recently was killed off the Channel Islands. Don't know whether you saw the California articles or not, but probably not the Arizona A.P. article. Not much detail on the injuries, but interesting his was the right leg too, with puncture wounds on the left, same as me. Probably got his femoral artery, like Aaron Remond's. Right leg also. Speaking of

Kenet Kathleen
articles

- Bookstore Walden
- Library Honolulu
St. Book Shop

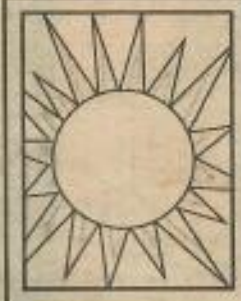
Right legs, a dear friend of mine was doing his internship at Castle when they brought the body of Billy Weaver in - said the shark made $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep grooves ^{down} the 6" length of exposed femur bone. And while on the subject, I only heard about the girl on Kauai - do you know how she's doing, what happened, extent of injuries or have any articles on her attack? IF so, I'd be interested to know how she's doing.

A friend of mine said he saw a baby turtle off Spreckelsville with a deep gash in its shell, apparently from a sailboard fin. I guess their shells get harder as they age, cause I've heard of guys breaking their fins off on the bigger ones. I see them almost everytime out sailing on the North Shore (yet to hit one - must be tourists), seldom or never in Kihai.

Also, I'm looking for some good pics. of tigers, jaws & particularly their stripe markings for some design ideas. Have you any pictures I could buy or know of someone? I thought of John Naughton, but I have no rapport with him. Any help on this would be greatly appreciated. How's life going with you? Can I help with anything? Thanks again for everything. God Bless you both!

ALOHA!

Weather details, Pg. A4



TODAY'S WEATHER:
Mostly sunny with
high in the upper 80s
trades 10 to 20 mph

News summary
Page A2

Sports:

**Aloha
Games
coverage**

— Page D1



Sports:

**Bulls take
charge for
2-0 lead**

— Page D1



The Honolulu Adv

Final Edition

A Gannett Newspaper

At 6/10/93 The Hawaiian Advertiser



Photo by Warren Bolster

A 13-foot tiger shark that was caught offshore is beached at Malaekahana Beach Park yesterday morning.

2 sharks take Goat Island bait: hammerhead spooks Waikiki

By Greg Wiles
Advertiser Staff Writer

Two tiger sharks thought capable of Thursday's attack on a Laie surfer were caught yesterday near Goat Island, where the attack occurred. Also yesterday:

■ A Kailua fisherman reported catching three tiger sharks — two 14-footers and a 10½-footer — about one-half mile off of Lanikai Beach. Scott Moncrief, 24, said he and two friends caught the sharks while trying to make the area waters safer for local divers.

■ A Coast Guard petty officer reported being chased to shore by a large shark off Sand Island.

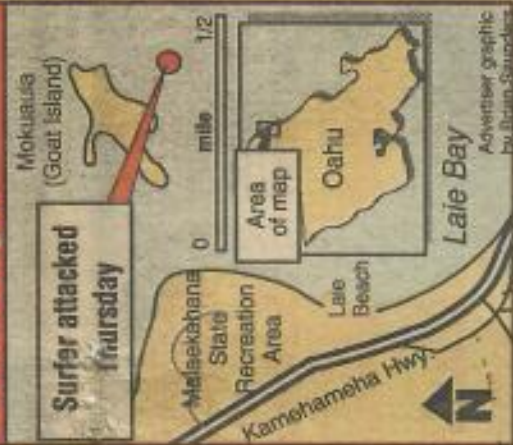
■ In Waikiki, paranoia over recent shark sightings resulted in swimmers coming out of the water when a baby hammerhead shark swam close to the beach in front of the Hale Koa Hotel.

Two tiger sharks — one 13 feet and another 10 feet in length — off Goat Island were brought ashore by members of the state Shark Task Force at Malaekahana State Park after hitting two of a dozen hooks set the night before. The line was set several hundred yards out from where Jon Mozo was attacked Thursday morning while he surfed "Goats," a reef on the Laie-side of Goat Island.

Mozo escaped the brief but frightening attack with numerous lacerations to his feet.

Steve Kaiser, a Shark Task Force member, said both of the fish were nearly dead when they were pulled from nearly 60 feet of water where the ah-laden hooks were set. The

Shark caught



sharks were killed and data was collected on the catch, including stomach contents.

Mozo was not at the beach to see the sharks but saw pictures taken by his brother Allen. Mozo said the sharks had the same white bellies, gray tops, teeth and fins as the one that attacked him.

"It was similar to the one that got me," Mozo said. "I can't be certain if that was the one that got me or not."

Bill Paty, Shark Task Force chairman, said the sharks were of sufficient size to have undertaken the attack on Mozo and that no further shark fishing would occur in the area. Belly skin and teeth from the shark will be given to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, he said.

INSIDE:

■ It's just a matter of time before sharks attack off Waikiki, surfers say Page A2

Also yesterday Coast Guard Petty Officer James Garland reported a close encounter with a 10- to 12-foot shark as he finished surfing a reef at the ewa end of Sand Island. Garland said he was paddling about 1:30 p.m. when he saw a "large black object" swimming below him to his right.

"It was just an incredible sight," Garland said. "I had about a five- to eight-yard paddle to it (a concrete slab on the inside of the reef) and I was just praying."

He stood on the slab and watched as the shark circled and headed through a channel into Keekihi Lagoon before exiting.

A beachgoer standing across the channel from Garland on Sand Island telephoned the Fire Department's rescue team. Garland said he quickly paddled across to Sand Island after the rescue helicopter made a pass to check the area.

A sighting of a much different nature occurred in Waikiki about 11:15 a.m. yesterday when swimmers were spooked by a small hammerhead shark swimming about 10 feet off the beach.

Beachgoers said the shark was 1 to 2½ feet long. Robert Carvalho, Hale Koa Hotel recreation supervisor, said people were warned to stay out of the water and the shark eventually swam away.

the ambush la
23 Pakistani
notice to othe
United Nations
their violence.
The attack,
United States,
ing up four we
warehouses be

...LAUNCH, THE MISSILE WAS SHOT TO TOKYO, but
Such a missile could not reach Tokyo, but
its range would encompass Niigata on the
Sea of Japan, Nagoya, Osaka and all of
Honshu Island south and southwest of Osa-
ka, and both Shikoku and Kyushu Islands.

Even though the missile, dubbed "Ror-
dong No. 1," traveled only half of its
range, the senior official said the test
showed that its development had been
completed and that the North Koreans

South shore shark attack likely?

With sightings on rise, some say it's 'just a matter of time'

By Greg Wiles
Advertiser Staff Writer

There has been an increase in shark sightings in the past two years on Oahu's south shore, and it's just a matter of time before an attack occurs near Waikiki, surfers say.

"There's always been sharks there," said Mark Liddell, owner of Island Emergency Surfboards. "But now they're coming in right next to the surfers."

Liddell said he has surfed a spot called Kaiser's in front of the Hilton Hawaiian Village for 24 years and occasionally had seen sharks swim by the break. But in the past two years the sharks have been more aggressive, he said.

"Some of them get really close," Liddell said. "It's scary now to surf in the late evening."

Most surfers have seen sharks, especially in May and June when east winds bring food closer to shore, said Reid

Inouye, producer of Surf Trac, a cable surf television show. But the number of near-shore sightings and uncomfortable encounters has grown, he said.

"On the south shore I'd say it's just a matter of time before somebody is attacked," Inouye said. "They're (sharks) getting tamer; they're not afraid."

On Thursday three hammerhead sharks were spotted in waters off Ala Moana Beach Park, two more at the Ala Moana Bowl's surf spot, and another off Fort DeRussy Beach Park.

George Downing, a longtime Waikiki surfer, said he believes part of the problem may be feedings conducted by tour operations taking visitors out to see fish. Downing said operators chum the water with dog food to get fish to congregate.

"That's great if you can just deal with the fish, but predators appear," he said. "That should be stopped immediately."

Liddell acknowledged sharks have populated waters near popular south shore surf spots for years without attacks oc-

curing, but he still feels the state should do something because of the increased activity.

Liddell said surfers have yet to mount a campaign to take their concerns to the state and said that may be difficult because it may offend some Hawaiians. Within traditional Hawaiian culture there is a belief that some sharks are *aumakua*, or family gods, and should be respected, not killed.

Even Jon Mozo, a surfer attacked near Laie Thursday, is ambivalent about conducting a shark eradication program. "I wouldn't want to be the one making the decision," Mozo said.

"Either way someone is going to be offended. You're not going to be able to please everybody."

State Shark Task Force chairman Bill Paty said there are no plans for a shark hunt at this time on the south shore. He said the state will continue to step up its monitoring efforts.

LIFE IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS:

OR,

THE HEART OF THE PACIFIC,

AS IT WAS AND IS.

BY REV. HENRY T. CHEEVER,

AUTHOR OF "THE BEARD WORLD OF THE PACIFIC," "THE WHALE AND HIS CAPTORS," ETC.

WITH ENGRAVINGS.

Electricity makes men wise; poetry, witty; the mathematics, subtle; natural philosophy, grave; Logic and rhetoric, able to reason; 777309 and travels to ascertain and illustrate.

From Bacon.

NEW YORK:

PUBLISHED BY A. S. BARNES & CO.,

NO. 51 JOHN-STREET.

CINCINNATI—H. W. DERBY & CO.

1871.

326

DO 623 .C51 c.4 355p.

LIFE IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

CHAPTER I.

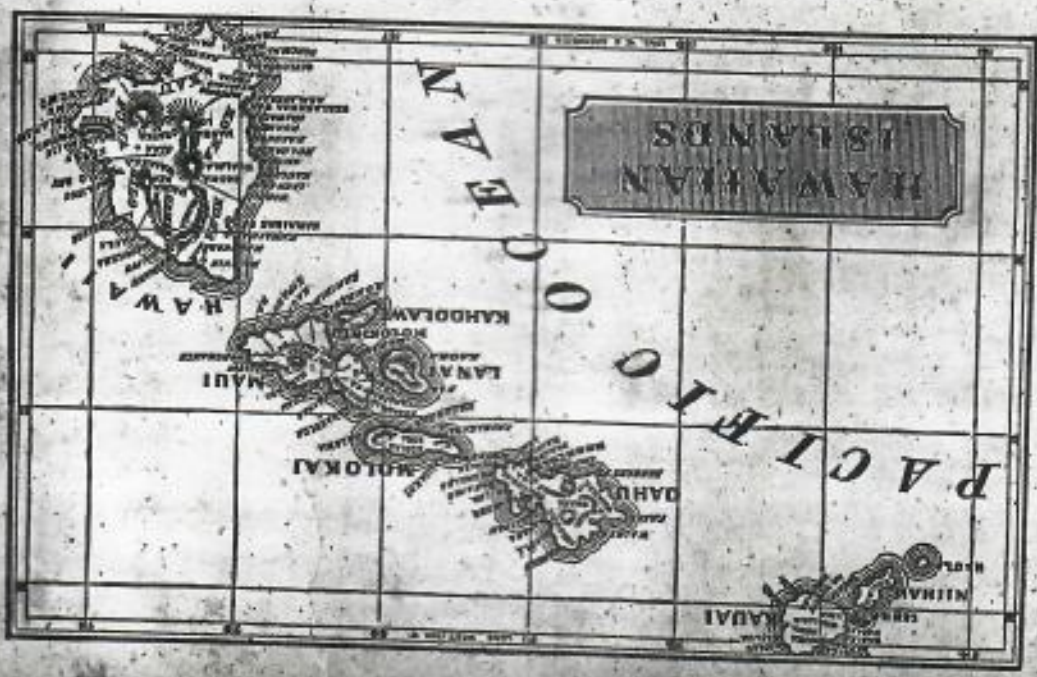
LOCAL TRADITIONS OF CAPTAIN COOKE, AND GLIMPSES OF OLD PAGANISM IN THE HEART OF THE PACIFIC.

Girosos through Magellan's Straits,
Where two oceans open their gates,
New th' immense Pacific smiles
Round ten thousand sunny isles,

A notable wonder—Curious fancies of the Natives respecting the first ship.—They were
brought to the Cooks.—They recognize their god Lono.—They pay divine worship to
Captain Cook.—They grow familiar with the Ratons.—They smart under indignities
and excursions.—The bent bow name.—They are undisturbed.—The discomfitment—His
grossness.—He is not a god.—The fight.—The fall.—The retreat.—The burning of the
navigator's body.—The exploits of Phillips.—The narrative of Ledyard.—The revenge
—The provisions.—We stand where Cook fell.—We visit the spot where his body
was buried.—Monumental inscription.—Mutual reflections upon his end.—Fornas of
the old Midway.—Fagan notices respecting the seal.—The realms of Wakea and Hinu.
—Providence and Grace in the heart of the Pacific.

Jan 19 1776

Thirteen and thirty years ago there appeared in
the serene waters of a far island in the Pacific a notable
wonder, which has been succeeded by a greater wonder
still. Two ships, (significantly called the Resolution and
Discovery, cast anchor in an unknown bay, called by
its aborigines Kasarua, or Ksalakekna. They were
commanded by an intrepid navigator, of the most in-
trepid and daring race that has ever ploughed the seas.
Their prows had ventured into strange oceans, and had
broken the primeval stillness of bays and roadsteads



into ink, and the cold of a winter's day at the poles applied, and every part had become instantaneously congealed in the position where it was just then whirling, tossing, foaming, and tumbling, while millions of flint-like particles, shivered from the mass by the suddenness and intensity of the operation, lay scattered about, it might perhaps present an aspect like that of this old current from a volcano.

In attempting to account for it, it seems sometimes as if a new eruption of intensely heated lava had forced and eaten its way under a tract of solidified matter, and at length, by the expansive force of rarefied gases, and steam, and the vast pressure at its fountain, had suddenly burst, and upheaved into a million fragments the great superincumbent mass. Then let there follow an indefinite period of earthquake topplings and convulsions, and there might be produced the phenomena exhibited.

Straight over such a tract, crime itself, under the energetic management of Hoopili, has built a commodious road from Honolulu to Kaupo. Like the old man in "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner," we almost "blessed it unawares," as our mules safely trotted or cantered by moonlight over the path it had made. The imaginary bridge that Sin and Death built over Chaos for Satan,—

Over the foaming deep high-arched, a bridge
Of length prodigious, broad as the gate,
Deep as the roots of hell,—

is not to be compared to this real one which Sin has wrought on Maui.

It is made by running two parallel walls about twenty feet apart, then partially macadamizing the space between, and covering it with grass or stubble. For fifteen or twenty miles it runs almost like a railroad, only turning a little now and then to avoid some gigantic boulder, or forced into a zigzag to get over some precipitous ravine, which it would seem as if an impetuous after-stream of devouring fire from the mountain had ploughed and eaten through, till it reached the sea.

We arrived at half past twelve the first night at a village where we thought to have stayed until day; but the *kamairias* (inhabitants) were all away, and so we had to lay down as we were, supperless, (our man with food having fallen behind,) upon the round-stone floor of the meeting-house. Hard as it was, it would have been a grateful resting-place, but for the warfare of merciless fleas, (*ukulele*.) who, when they found what we were, and what a royal supper they might make on the blood of two *kaoles*, set to so fiercely, that, after many vain struggles, we were forced to enter a *noho contendeve*, and leave the honors of the field to our insatiate foes.

✕ We decamped about three, and rode on to Nua, in Kaupo, where they hospitably entertained and *lowilo-wiled* us, and I drowned several flying detachments of the *ukulele* tribe, by a bath in the sea. γ

We saw there the high-chief Kealiahouni, of Kauai,

one of the former husbands of the imperious Queen Kaahumānu, of whom Stewart writes, as far back as 1823, that "he has a handsome face, and, in the classic drapery of a yellow satin *mālo*, and purple satin *kīhēi*, he presents as perfect a model of manly beauty as ever challenged the efforts of pencil or chisel."

Twenty-one years have not altered his fine proportions, nor bent his noble, athletic form, although the classic *mālo* and *kīhēi* have given place to European jacket and trowsers. He was there from the Island of Kauai, to oversee the repair of a schooner of his, which, in the drunkenness of all her company, was not long since run upon the rocks. ✕

Our last stage for the day was to the chief village of Kaupo, as far as mules could go, where we supped and dined all under one, at the house of the teacher, on a boiled chicken. A little rain, after the setting in of evening, made a beautiful lunar rainbow up among the picturesque hills and mountains, so bright as to show its parhelion, or mock-rainbow.

The *kamānānas* of this place seemed much unused to foreigners. Several of the women were abroad with nothing but a narrow native *pa'u* around the waist. The children of the school, upward of a hundred, were interesting, as they always are. Some of the little barbarians set up a *hula* for my amusement towards evening, which was the first time I had ever seen a native dance. It consisted merely of successive jumps with both feet at once, to a regular harsh sound from

the lungs, and occasional slapping or drumming of the hands upon the bare breasts and sides, together with distortions of the countenance and gesticulations with the arms.

At early dawn of the next day, the fierce trade, which always blows at Kaupo, having somewhat abated, we started to go round a range of high *pa'āis* (precipices) by a little canoe. She took a wave, on first launching, from stem to stern, that completely drenched my limbs, and was ever after receiving water over the sides, that kept one of us constantly bailing. It was only about fifteen feet long, and fifteen or sixteen inches deep, and barely wide enough for a man to sit in.

We had seen a man on shore, before leaving, whose foot had recently been bitten short off a little above the ankle by a shark at that place; and the idea of being capsized there was by no means a comfortable one. But through the good care of our God, we passed safely around the *pa'āis*, and, by careful watching on the part of the people where we landed, and of our three paddlers in the canoe, we seized a time between the waves, and were paddled and drawn up high and dry.

Having to climb a precipice, limbered per force our nether limbs, which were somewhat stiffened after a two hours' immersion in brine. A ride of six or seven miles on horseback, after getting on dry apparel, brought us safely to Hana, the former home of my missionary travelling companion, Mr. Rice, where the

185

quiet rural beauty, freedom from dust, and grateful verdure, invite to meditation and repose.

How appropriate and expressive is that Hymn of Nature by Peabody, written, perhaps, in circumstances like those in which we are now surveying the beauties of Creation in the Heart of the Pacific!

God of the fair and open sky!

How gloriously above us springs

The tinted dews, of heavenly blue,

Suspended on the rainbow's rings!

Each brilliant star, that sparkles through,

In evening's purple radiance, gives

The beauty of its praise to thee!

God of the world! the hour must come,

And Nature's self to dust return;

Her crumbling altars must decay;

But still her grand and lovely scenes

Have made man's warmest praises flow;

AND HEARTS GROW HOLIER AS THEY TRACE

THE BEAUTY OF THE WORLD BELOW.

The mission history and statistics of this Station of Hana may be given in a few words. It was first taken in 1838, by Messrs. Ives and Conde, with their wives. They labored under the disadvantage which the first occupants at rainy stations have always incurred, of having to live for several years in native grass houses; by which, together with severe missionary labor in schools, the health of Mrs. Ives was so broken, that they were compelled to remove to the dry Station of Kealakekua, on Hawaii.

Their first houses, also, were consumed by fire, with a great part of their furniture and goods. Two, common stone dwelling-houses are now erected, and ten or twelve acres of excellent land given by government, are nearly inclosed.

To those who love to be out of the world, and who have health and heart to devote themselves to missionary work, the location presents many attractions. And for those who would like to visit there, a man need not be the son of a prophet to predict a cordial reception, pleasant society, and hospitable fare.

Mr. Rice, who was located here in 1841, to have charge of the schools, and who has himself taught an interesting school of boys, is removed to Punahou, to be devoted there to the children of the mission. He had built a fine house, which he has never occupied, and was just getting ready to labor with advantage. Rev. Mr. Whittlesey and wife have auspiciously entered into his labors; and, with a new teacher, a new religious interest has been awakened among the people.

Mr. Conde is pastor of the native church, which numbers five hundred members, having been organized in 1838 with fourteen. The walls of a new stone meeting-house are commenced, which is to be one hundred and fifteen feet long, and forty-eight wide. Many of the stones are from an old *Aeiau*. It is to be built by the people and pastor, and by contributions from other churches. The population of Mr. Conde's diocese (which from extreme end to end is sixty miles) is

Mr. George Balaz
Southwest Fisheries Center
Honolulu Laboratory

Jonah N. Tanaka
Kilohana School
Star Route 170
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

Dear Mr. George Balazs,

Thanks for all the information on sharks. It will really help me on my report. My number is 558-8396. Pahu and I are really looking forward to talk with you.

My teacher read some of the information you sent. Ms. Newberry was amazed and my class mates were too.

Sincerely,
Jonah T.

Jonah N. Tanaka

Received
3/5/93

Kilohana Elementary, School
Star Route 170
Kaunakakai HI, 96748

Honolulu Laboratory
Southwest Fisheries Science Center
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu, HI
96822-2396

Dear Mr. Balazs,

My name is Jonah Tanaka. I'm a student at Kilohana School. I'm a sixth grader and researching on tiger sharks. I have a copy of Mr. Suzumoto's book that I am reading. I would like any information on shark attacks in Hawai'i. Do you think the problem is getting worse?. What do you think should be done?.

A couple months ago my brother, Pahu, went fishing with my dad and got wacked by a eight foot tiger. My brother had a fish bag when a tiger started to dash back and forth. Then it took the bag from my brother and wacked him on his leg. He has two big bruises on his leg. They were about 50 yards away from shore, in a sand bar, and waist deep. This was at the east end of Molokai past Puko'o.

Bruse & abrasion

Date - December 28, 92
site = Honomuni
Time of day = Right morning
Which leg? Right
What did it do after?
seen

Sincerely and Thank you,

Jonah N. Tanaka

558-8396

diameter of coffee cup.
Tel. interview
4/3/93

Nothing New Under Sun — or Water

Hawaii Has Had Shark Attacks as Long as Surfers Have Braved the Waves

Shark attacks are nothing new in Hawaii. Tiger sharks have been tangling with wave riders for as long as anyone can recall.

George Balazs, a National Marine Fisheries Service biologist and sea turtle expert, using several sources, has compiled a list of more than 100 attacks—most of them on surfers—dating to 1779, when a young male was gashed on the buttocks after being pursued while surfing. He later suffered "great pain" and died.

In 1828, "A man out riding surf [off Maui] was killed by a shark which bit off his limbs and left his body floating." The attack was reportedly witnessed by several Hawaiian chiefs.

In 1904, partial remains of a swimmer who had disappeared off Diamond Head were found inside a "monstrous shark." The body "was complete from the waist down with the exception of one leg."

Also found in the stomach were ducks, tin cans and

wood.

In 1931, a Lt. Williamson had harpooned a 10-foot tiger shark off Pearl Harbor, and while he was using a gaff to bring it aboard, the shark bit off the tips of his fingers and chewed the two-inch oak pole of the gaff in half. In the shark's stomach were "the hind leg of a mule, two bathing suits nearly digested, a soldier's belt buckle, a pint of buttons, two horse shoes, the corner of a wooden soap box, an anchor chain, two small anchors and assorted bolts, nails and copper fittings."

In 1960, Harold Riley was swept to sea while net fishing off Maile Point, Oahu. A 20-foot shark was observed attacking the victim.

In 1976, Danson Nakima apparently passed out while diving for coral at 180 feet. About 30 large sharks were observed attacking the victim.

In 1980, Mark Skidgel was lying on his bodyboard off Lahaina, Maui, when a 14-foot tiger shark bit him on the left

side of his body. The wound required 52 stitches.

The list goes on. And chances are, it will continue to grow. The average is up to about four attacks a year, due more to an increase in the human population than to an increase in sharks, some experts say.

But it is an alarming statistic nonetheless for those who paddle out to the offshore reefs on almost a daily basis.

Also alarming, some might think, is a recent increase in green sea turtles around the Hawaiian islands. The turtles, which feed on algae in and slightly beyond the surf zone, were protected as a federally "threatened" species in 1976.

"It may be that [the sharks] are learning now, with more turtles here, to concentrate their feeding on turtles, which would put them into close proximity to surfers," said John Naughton, a NMFS biologist based in Honolulu.

"I can't say that is the case, but in the 1960s there was roughly a 20% occurrence of

turtles in the stomach contents [of tiger sharks], and now we're seeing a 42% occurrence, which would make sense because turtles are more abundant than they were in the '60s."

Surfers have voiced a concern that tiger sharks might be mistaking them for turtles, which would help explain the rash of attacks—three confirmed—and sightings last winter at the North Shore.

Balazs discounted that theory, claiming there is "no credible evidence" to support it. But there is no disputing that turtles often swim near the surface, and tiger sharks often attack floating objects.

Said Naughton: "I don't think they mistake people for turtles. I think they just happen to be in there looking for turtles and they see something moving up there and they just whack it. They don't care what it is. They'll eat *anything*."

—PETE THOMAS

LABORATORY OF MARINE ZOOLOGY
FACULTY OF FISHERIES, HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY
Minato-machi, Hakodate
Hokkaido 041
Japan

Tel. 138-41-0131, ext. 247
Fax. 138-43-5015

Dr. George H. Balazs
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southwest Fisheries Science Center
Honolulu Laboratory
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396
U. S. A.

June 26, 1992

Dear Dr. Balazs,

I am very sorry for not writing you soon. Since beginning of March, we had many catch reports of white shark all over Japan. It seems that Japanese Archipelago is covered with JAWS panic, especially around Shikoku Island. So I couldn't have time to write back to you sooner.

Well, there happened one fatal shark attack this year. On March 8, a helmet diver was attacked by a large shark at Matsuyama on Shikoku Island and only his diving suit was recovered. The diving suit was examined by the coast guards, but no specialist was included in the examination. Therefore, they couldn't specify the species, and finally the killer whale became one of the suspects. Therefore, I decided to examine the suit again, and found a small piece of tooth fragment from one of the slit and many scratches and bites made by serrated teeth. After examining these facts, I concluded the suspect is a white shark. In fact, there are several catch records of white sharks just after this accident in the nearby waters. Therefore, nobody doubts the suspect is a white shark. Immediately after the shark attack, the local fishermen or fisheries cooperative association began to hunt the suspected shark using a few kinds of fishing gears for one month or more, but they couldn't catch any. Professional divers for shell fishes and in the harbor construction all stopped working to avoid further attack. Shell divers wanted to have a cage to go in, but I don't know they actually used it or not. Harbor workers began to use shark nets from sometime after the attack. Second shark attack on humans has not occurred since, but a wooden boat was attacked by a white shark recently. Nine or ten white sharks were caught in these three months chiefly by set net in the waters all around Japan. We are going to have summer swimming season, and shark nets are being used in some beaches.

Anyway, I will make a short report about this fatal shark attack in some journal.

I hope I answered all the question you asked me.

Sincerely yours,

Kazuhiro Nakaya



No further sightings after Kohala shark caught

WEST HAWAII
TODAY

18 JUNE 93

By DAN BREEDEN
West Hawaii Today

The Big Island has been spared most of the shark paranoia sweeping the rest of the state but beachgoers here are keeping a lookout for telltale fins tracking through the water and have made several reports of too-close encounters with the toothy fish.

And while they admit the need to remove dangerous sharks, state officials are concerned the vigilance may turn to vigilantism and a call for widespread shark eradication.

The prime target so far has been the tiger shark, a fish that can grow to 18 feet and has been blamed for several attacks of humans on Hawaii beaches in recent years.

Hawaii Island has been spared any attacks but is not immune from sightings — several of which resulted in a large tiger being hunted and caught in South Kohala.

The shark was reportedly seen over several weeks, nearshore and ranging from Puako to Anaeohomalu Bay, said John Naughton, National Marine Fisheries Service environmental coordinator, said.

"It was readily identifiable from scars on the dorsal fin," Naughton said.

One woman kayaker said the shark swam alongside her in only a few feet of water. The encounter reportedly took place at Waiulua Bay, about halfway between the Hyatt and Mauna Lani resorts.

Mauna Lani Resort officials then contacted the state Shark Task Force for advice, Naughton said. The animal was considered potentially very dangerous and the resort was advised to catch it.

"They can do a heck of a lot of damage in a short time," he said of tiger sharks.

Naughton said the task force recommends catching large sharks when they are persistently sighted, especially during the daytime. Any type of attack on humans is also cause for quick action, he said.

"We've really got to do some fishing, especially after an attack," he said.

The search for the large tiger shark resulted in several smaller tigers being caught, Naughton said. The task force usually tags and releases any shark under 8 feet long but the Big Island hunters were not equipped to do so, he said.

See TASK FORCE:
Page 4A

...Task force snags several tiger sharks

From Page 1A

The target shark turned out to be a female 14 feet 2 inches long, weighing about 1,400 pounds. The fish was also pregnant and carrying 55 pups.

Naughton said the decision to catch the shark was not an easy one and has been hotly debated by the public. Views range from people who would like to see the sharks just left alone to those that want another shark eradication like one in the early 1970s where thousands of sharks were reportedly caught.

"It's a real no-win situation," Naughton said.

And it's also a situation which is unlikely to resolve itself soon.

Naughton said the shark population is probably now reaching its maximum level, at least partly because of a lack of fishing. An increase in the number of people

recreating in the ocean, combined with the rising number of sharks, is creating some conflicts, he said.

"The nearshore population is of course mushrooming," he said of the sharks.

Charles Nahale, state Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement officer, said there have been several shark reportings made in North Kona this year but none resulted in hunts.

Possibly the most dramatic sighting was a paddler in Kailua Bay who reported being approached by a shark that was longer than his 12-foot kayak.

When the shark started nudging the kayak, the man realized he might be in trouble and climbed aboard a passing charter boat which offered assistance, Nahale said. The man described the shark as a gray reef shark but it might

have been another species since gray's reportedly only grow to about 7 feet long.

Most of Kona's shark reports come from the Pine Trees area, south of Keahole Point.

About five bodyboarders reported several sharks following them at the Pine Trees surfing area and said they were forced to leave the water. The encounter supposedly took place in March.

A pair of spearfishermen also said an unidentified species of shark followed them as they swam in the area but did not approach.

Naughton said the Shark Task Force is considering expanding operations to islands other than Oahu but for now is available to offer advice to other agencies. He said the task force is too busy handling shark reports on Oahu.

"Our hands are just full with the sharks here on Oahu," he said.

Monday, February 3, 1992 □ A-15

Shark 'experts' should get their feet wet sometimes

Regarding the article on shark fishing in the Jan. 20 issue, the self-anointed, so-called "experts" quoted, John Naughton and Brad Wetherbee, should climb down from their ivory towers and get into the water.

Anyone who has logged significant water time in Hawaii will confirm that sharks are seen by all of us, especially at Point Panic and anywhere from Pearl Harbor to Makaha, on a regular basis (2-3 times a week).

The number of attacks has been grossly underreported for obvious reasons. When I was a lifeguard at Kaimana Beach (Waikiki) there was a 8-10 foot tiger shark that frequented the area at the mouth of the channel near the windsock. If their population is increasing, as it seems to be, there will inevitably be a fatal attack in town unless something is done to control their numbers.

Contrary to the "substantial feeling" among the bleeding heart academics and their fellow nature-freaks that sharks "balance things out" in the ecological chain there is absolutely zero empirical data to support this ridiculous assumption. A shark hunt may not be the answer, but head-in-the-sand philosophizing by ignorant academics is certainly not helpful.

Chuck Staten

Ala Moana catch: just sandbar shark

Hunters get two tigers off Kailua

By Galatea Maman
Advertiser Staff Writer

While the state Shark Task Force hauled in a 5½-foot sandbar shark off Ala Moana yesterday, a trio of private shark hunters caught two tiger sharks — 11½ and 6 feet long — in Kailua Bay.

The two tiger sharks were brought in by Scott Moncrief and Ryan and Brady Churchill.

Moncrief said he fishes for big sharks on the Windward coast "on a sporadic basis." He was among a group that caught two other tiger sharks June 11 off Lanikai.

Meanwhile, the state task force set out hooks Monday night off Ala Moana because of a rash of recent reports of shark sightings there and nearby Waikiki.

"We found no evidence of tigers," said task force chairman Bill Paty. "And considering that shark sighting reports from the area have dropped off considerably, we feel no further fishing effort is warranted at this time."

The task force crew set 12 hooks baited with fresh aku Monday night. The line stretched from Kewalo Basin to the Ala Wai Boat Harbor. It was the state group's first effort to catch sharks off the South Shore since an attempt in December.

"There was sufficient bait to attract any tigers in the area," said Randy Honebrink, aquatic resources education coordinator for the state. "We could set other nights and get the same results."



More sharks caught

Task force member John Naughton said, "In a problem area like Waianae, we usually hook two to four tigers in the same set, so we consider this set a success."

"It supports our contention that there are no problems in the Waikiki area," said Naughton, who works for the National Marine Fisheries Service. "Another big indication is that the sandbar shark was not mauled. Unfortunately, it was dead or we would have tagged and released it."

Sandbar sharks are generally not considered a threat to humans. Their usual diet is reef fish and crustaceans. Tiger sharks have been

See Sharks, Page A2



Photo by Warren Bolster
A 11½-foot shark caught in Kailua Bay yesterday is hauled toward a Boston whaler before being towed to shore.

Sharks: Ala Moana sandbar; Kailua tigers

FROM PAGE ONE

blamed for a rash of attacks in Island waters the past year and half in which several people were killed or injured.

In Kailua, Moncrief said the larger shark gave him and his companions "quite a scare, bouncing our boat up and down." They caught it from a 17-foot Boston Whaler.

The men used a 1,200-foot line carrying six baited hooks. It had been set Sunday about a mile offshore in Kailua Bay near Mokolea Rock.

Moncrief and the Churchills are not affiliated with the state Shark Task Force, but compile data about stomach contents and size of the sharks they catch, then call it in to the task force, he said.

Moncrief, 24, a student, said they do a lot of fishing and have had their equipment damaged by sharks. He also said he and his friends dive at night, and "didn't want to fall prey to a big one."

Moncrief said he and his father, marine biologist Robert Moncrief, have caught about 15 tiger sharks in Kailua over the last six months. He said most were 10 to 15 feet long.

"It's not a random, indiscriminate killing," he said. "We utilize every part of these creatures."

He said he gives the bellies to hula schools for drums; sells the liver, fins and meat for food; and has even had a local doctor purchase a liver for multiple sclerosis research. He mounts the jaws.

"We're not insensitive to the concerns of members of the Hawaiian community," he said. "But tiger sharks were fished by Hawaiians in ancient times; they were not *kapu* (protected by religion)."

He said he has been holding back hunting for tiger sharks near Honolulu.

"We didn't want to pre-empt the task force in its efforts," he said. "But eventually we will try to fish for sharks on townside."

Honebrink said, "I don't think it's a

good idea really to just go out and get rid of the bigger ones. The large (shark) usually keep the population of the small ones in control."

He said research should be starting in the next few weeks to learn if tiger sharks are territorial or not.

"Once we learn more, and that's the crucial thing, then maybe we can figure out how best we can control them," Honebrink said. "But the task force is not in favor of large-scale control programs."

Between June 9 and 18, the state received over 30 calls reporting shark sightings in the Waikiki area. Honebrink said the "outrageous number of calls" may have been due to people's heightened awareness of sharks after a June 10 attack off Malaekahana near Kahuku.

Since June 19, not one call has come, and none of those earlier sightings were confirmed as tigers, he said.

He said the state will continue to patrol the waters off Waikiki and Ala Moana by helicopter at least twice a day.

Sharks: Rash of sightings

FROM PAGE ONE

have been six documented shark attacks in Hawaii, two of them fatal. In addition, Oahu resident Bryan Adona disappeared while bodyboarding off the North Shore; his board was later found with a bite-like chunk taken out of it.

Naughton said tiger sharks have been involved in about 95 percent of the recent attacks and "serious" close encounters.

"The tiger shark is the only animal that consistently eats large prey," Naughton said. "They're designed to bite and tear off chunks of large animals."

The exact date of the hunt will be determined after the



Honebrink

sharks around Oahu?

The state has received complaints that some dive-tour companies are feeding fish to put on a better show for their customers, a practice which also may be attracting sharks.

Accordingly, the task force is asking dive-tour operators to stop feeding fish in areas close to surfing sites.

But some dive-tour operators said they do not feed fish, nor do they encourage their clients to do so.

"I feel you screw everything up when you start feeding fish unnatural food," said Chuck Shumack, owner of Hawaii Sea Adventures.

Gary Jones, owner of South Pacific Scuba, said he, too, does not condone the practice of fish feeding.

"We think fish feeding alters the behavior of fish," Jones said. "They get to be pests."

Shumack and Jones also scoff at the notion that the practice is attracting more sharks to near-shore waters.

"If fish feeding is going to attract sharks, then why are there no shark attacks at Hanauma Bay?" Jones said. "Fish feeding has been going on for

'They're designed to bite and tear off chunks of large animals.'

— John Naughton
Marine Fisheries Service

a long time. Fish feeding has nothing to do with shark sightings."

If sharks are cruising closer to shore, Jones said, it could be because Hawaiian waters are being "fished out." Or, he added, it could be due to the increase in green sea turtle populations.

George Balazs, a marine turtle researcher with the National Marine Fisheries Service, takes issue with Jones' latter theory.

He said while there are more turtles than there were 15 years ago, the increase is not as great as many seem to believe.

And, Balazs said, some people have the mistaken impression that turtles are the overwhelming, if not exclusive, food item in a tiger shark's diet.

"That's simply not the case," he said. "It is a biological fact that tiger sharks eat a wide variety of prey, more so than any other species of sharks."

Balazs also said there is no credible information to support the theory that sharks attack surfers because they resemble turtles.

"The fact is that tiger sharks don't have to 'mistake' anything floating at the surface in order to strike, bite or eat it. Taking things at the surface is a natural part of the tiger shark's known feeding strategy," he said.

Naughton, who has been studying sharks for about 30 years, believes the increase in shark attacks and sightings is the result of a rise in the shark population in the last 20 years and an increase in the number of people in the water.

"We have not had an active near-shore fishing operation for the Hawaiian Islands since the mid-70s," he said. "What you've got is an obvious in-

due to public fear

Most common near-shore sharks

Here are descriptions of several species of sharks that you may see in Isle waters close to shore.



SANDBAR SHARK

ID: Large erect dorsal fin set forward; sloping forehead. **Length:** Up to 5-6 feet. **Eats:** Reef fishes and crustaceans. **Habitat:** Shoreline, harbors and bays.



TIGER SHARK

ID: Short vertical bars on side, fading with age to tan or dark grey; broad, blunt snout. **Length:** Up to 18 feet or more; ave. 12-13 feet. **Eats:** Wide variety of marine animals, carrion. **Habitat:** Deep coastal waters during daylight, near-shore waters at night.



GRAY REEF SHARK

ID: Pelvic and posterior fins have dark margins; second dorsal and anal fins dark; pectoral fin tips dark. **Length:** Up to 7 feet; ave. 3-5 feet. **Eats:** Bony fish, occasionally mollusks and crustaceans. **Habitat:** Deeper waters on outer edge of the reef.



SCALLOPED HAMMERHEAD SHARK

ID: Front margin of head has four shallow lobes. **Length:** Up to 12-13 feet with some reaching 15 feet; ave. 5-7 feet. **Eats:** Reef fishes, sharks and rays, mollusks and crustaceans. **Habitat:** Found in-shore and far at sea; more common in shallow waters during spring and summer.

Source: Florida Division of Aquatic Resources

crease of the animals in the near-shore waters because nobody is fishing them."

And when you have more

sharks and humans sharing the ocean, Naughton said, you are bound to have more "shark-human encounters."

Tiger shark hooked off Big Island resort

A3 6/2/93 HSB

□ The Mauna Lani consulted with the state's Shark Task Force on the catch

By Rod Thompson

Big Island correspondent

MAUNA LANI RESORT, Hawaii — The South Kohala coast is a bit safer these days with the catch last week of a 14-foot female tiger shark in the waters off Mauna Lani Resort.

The shark was first seen swimming offshore about two weeks ago, said Mauna Lani spokesman Gordon Chapman. As sightings continued, the resort consulted with the state Shark Task Force, which said it would probably be wise to catch the shark.

The resort set out a line attached to a buoy and bagged the fish on Thursday, he said. It weighed in at 1,400 pounds. Nicks or bites out of the tail showed it was the same shark sighted a week before, he said.

Sea Life Park shark expert Steve Kaiser, notified of the catch yesterday, lamented a lost opportunity to study the female shark. Kaiser, also a member of the state Shark Task Force, has been trying without success to hook a female tiger off Oahu and would have welcomed the rare chance to examine the blood and ovaries of this one.

The meat went to hotel employees, the skin to a hotel employee's father who makes Hawaiian drums. The shark was carrying 54 pups, about 4-6 weeks away from birth and all too young to live on their own. Some of the dead pups will be studied at the Waikiki Aquarium, Chapman said.

The resort consulted the Shark Task Force because it is aware that some people consider sharks to be their aumakua, or family gods, Chapman said.

"We know the sensitivity of the issues."

But with four hotels in the immediate area, it was considered a safety hazard.

"It was a big shark and we're happy we could catch it," he said.



By Dean Sensul, Star-Bulletin

Sharks like this were caught off Oahu and the Big Island last week.

Sea Life Park snags young one for tank

By Harold Morse

Star-Bulletin

Sea Life Park has a 4-foot tiger shark, caught with hook and line off Windward Oahu, in its tanks.

Steve Kaiser, park curator of fishes, said the shark was caught Friday. "It just started eating today, so it looks like a keeper." Kaiser said he thinks the shark is no more than a year old.

A female tiger shark caught earlier this year was released because it failed to do well in captivity. That shark was over 5 feet long and was caught with a hook and line off Waipahoehoe Feb. 13. It was set free after three days at the park.

Sea Life Park has been tagging and releasing sharks "so we can determine whether they're terri-

torial or moving all over the place," Kaiser said.

"We've got about 25 tags out. We really need to get 300 tags out."

He said tiger sharks in captivity are rare.

"There's no (other) tigers in captivity right now in the U.S.," Kaiser said. "There was one being kept for a while in Australia. This is certainly the smallest one that I have ever seen. If it's young enough, it adapts just that much easier in captivity."

It's too early to tell whether the shark will thrive, Kaiser said. "We have to give it just about a full week."

Marine biologists hope to study the shark's habits, diet, blood chemistry and growth rate.

“It just started eating today, so it looks like a keeper.”

”

Steve Kaiser

Curator of fishes, Sea Life Park

-Harold Morse



WARREN BOLSTER / For The Times

Surfer Rick Gruzinsky was lucky to get out of the water off Oahu when a tiger shark took a bite out of his board last October. Others haven't been so fortunate.



WARREN BOLSTER / For The Times

As of last Thursday, a task force has killed 10 tiger sharks, and free-lance hunters have killed at least 22. Some native Hawaiians oppose the killings.

With a Recent Series of Shark
Attacks, Surfers and Bodyboarders
in Hawaii Are Headed Into ...

The Eye of the Tiger

LATimes 2/8/93

By PETE THOMAS
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Rick Gruzinsky began his day as many other residents of the Hawaiian island of Oahu do—by paddling a surfboard into the waves that form perfectly over the reefs of the North Shore.

But what would happen to Gruzinsky on the morning of Oct. 22, 1992, would not only stay with him the rest of his life, it would mark the beginning of a series of events that have left many wondering about what appears to be a very dangerous trend.

Gruzinsky, 26, a construction worker from east Honolulu, had paddled out at Laniakea, a surf spot between Haliwa and Waimea bays. The surf was small, about two feet, and two others had gotten out moments before.

Gruzinsky was alone.

It was about 7:30 a.m., the sun shining and light trade winds blowing. Gruzinsky had ridden two waves before paddling out a third time. As he lay on his board about 150 yards from the beach, there was a long period between swells. A large green sea turtle swam past, but he thought

Please see SHARKS, C11

SHARKS

Continued from C1
nothing of it.

Then the water beneath Gruzinsky started to move. He thought he had drifted over a reef, a shallow coral head.

"Then I saw some colors and swirls under me and I thought 'Oh my God, that turtle's under me, what's that thing doing?'" Gruzinsky recalled recently from his home.

It was no turtle, but a 14-foot tiger shark, one of the most dangerous fish in the sea.

In one motion the shark used its head to lift Gruzinsky's board, with Gruzinsky on it, up and out of the water, flipping it and grabbing the front rail in its mouth.

Gruzinsky held onto the back of the board and cradled it with his arms and legs.

"And then it latched on," Gruzinsky said. "I remember it trying to get a good bite . . . it was trying to adjust its bite."

Gruzinsky held on while the shark shook its head. "The board was kind of like a lever between us," Gruzinsky said. "All I could think about was getting pulled under, because I didn't know where the body of the shark was. My main concern was to stay above water."

The shark shook again. There was a loud snap and Gruzinsky held onto what remained of the board. The shark had bitten off a chunk of fiberglass and foam the size of half a manhole cover.

"I remember distinctly seeing the eye just below the water level and the big round snout," Gruzinsky said. "The shark was trying to swallow the piece and I remember looking into its mouth. It looked like it was trying to spit the piece out, but the piece got stuck in its mouth because I remember seeing the edges getting caught in the soft white part of the mouth and it had already passed its jaw."

Then the shark sank slowly out of sight.

Gruzinsky climbed onto the board, but it was upside down, a chink missing from its rail. Gruzinsky tried to paddle toward shore, but there was a brief tug, perhaps from the body or tail of the shark catching the board as it swam beneath him.

Gruzinsky tried not to slide from the unwaxed bottom of the board, paddling precariously for what seemed an eternity. No waves rolled in to help him along.

"It just took forever to get in," he said.

But he made it, with only a few scrapes from either the fins of the board or the exposed fiberglass where the shark had taken its bite. Gruzinsky couldn't remember. A crowd gathered to greet him on the beach. A tour bus stopped and soon everyone knew the story of Rick Gruzinsky.

And it appears to be a story that won't go away, happening time and again not only in Gruzinsky's mind, but to other surfers.

Two weeks to the day after his attack, Gruzinsky was ready to give surfing another try. But on the morning of Nov. 5, off Keaau Beach on Oahu's west shore, body-boarder Aaron Romento, an 18-year-old, was bitten on the leg and bled to death within minutes.

Gruzinsky eventually made it back into the water, having surfed one or two days before paddling out again at Joko's on the afternoon of Dec. 23. It was on this day, while in the water, that Gruzinsky said he experienced a "weird" feeling inside.

"And sure enough," he said, "I got home later that evening and somebody called me and said, 'Did you hear?' And it was the same board-bite and everything."

Gruzinsky was referring to surfer Gary Chun, who while out with about 20 other surfers at Chun's Reef (not named after the surfer) had a chunk bitten taken from his board by a 12-foot tiger shark while he was sitting up after paddling out.

Chun's Reef is located across the channel from Joko's.

"It just put me back to zero again," Gruzinsky said. "I was already over it almost, and then it's like 'Oh, man.'"

Oh, man indeed.

A third confirmed attack in so short a period of time was too many.

Surfers and swimmers demanded that something be done to eliminate this threat to life and limb. The North Shore had become notorious for more than large surf. Off the coast was a demon sea.

"It's a pretty fearful situation," said Craig Sugihara, 46, owner of Town & Country Surf Shop in Pearl City, near Honolulu. "Parents don't want their children to enter the ocean."

They haven't had a shark scare like this in Oahu since the Billy Weaver incident in 1958.

After Weaver, a 15-year-old, was killed during a tiger shark attack witnessed by several people, shark hunters went on a rampage, killing 697 sharks (only 87 of which were the dangerous tiger sharks) around Oahu.

After the recent incidents, the

Hawaiian Islands



GEORGE CAREY / Los Angeles Times

state of Hawaii enacted a law to have the state Department of Land and Natural Resources conduct "a shark population control program with input from the Hawaiian community."

A shark task force had already been organized after bodyboarder Bryan Adona disappeared in February of 1992 at Leftovers, a surf spot near Waimea Bay. His board was found the next day with teeth marks made by what was believed to be a large tiger shark. A few months before that, Martha Morrell was attacked and killed by a 12-foot tiger shark while swimming about 100 yards from shore in front of her house on the island of Maui.

"Something unusual has been going on lately," Bill Paty, chairman of the task force, said in a newsletter distributed among its members. "But we have no idea whether these incidents are a statistical fluke or evidence of a disturbing trend."

The state doesn't want to take any chances. Though the task force is operating on what it calls a three-pronged approach to the problem—hunting, education and research—it is the first "prong" that is getting all the publicity.

After the Gruzinsky incident, the task force set a cable with 12 hooks and floaters on the hooks, and caught five or six large tiger sharks and saw several more. After Romento was killed, the group made another set and caught three more large tiger sharks.

As of last Thursday, the task force, since the attack on Gruzinsky, had killed 10 tiger sharks, most of which were more than 10 feet long, and free-lance hunters had killed at least another 22. Heavy surf in recent days has hampered the hunting effort.

Warren Bolster, 45, a well-known surfing photographer, said the task force isn't even scratching the surface of the problem. Bolster said that during a recent helicopter ride over the area from Honolulu to the North Shore he saw several large tiger sharks, including one group of sharks feeding in a pack on a school of fish.

"We're not talking Jaws I, II or III here," Bolster said. "We've got a real live drama unfolding."

Linda McCrerey, a spokeswoman for the task force, said that hunting of large tiger sharks continues to be a primary goal. "But we don't want to hunt too many because some Hawaiians, some animal rights activists and even a couple of scientists are not in favor of hunting large tiger sharks," she said.

A few native Hawaiians insist that shark hunters are violating a sacred right. For some Hawaiians, the tiger shark patrolling their village represents *Aumakua*, which means "family or personal God."

One free-lance hunter reportedly received threats on his telephone answering machine, which he considered genuine enough to reel in his lines and call it quits.

But the majority of Hawaiians,

many of them surfers, are in favor of limited hunting to help solve the problem, according to McCrerey.

But almost everyone wants to know why so many tiger sharks have come to the North Shore to begin with.

Local fishermen believe that long-line and gill-net fishermen over the years have decimated the offshore fishery to the point where sharks aren't able to find enough to eat and therefore come into the shallow water to prey upon whatever they might find there.

John Naughton, a marine biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service who is based in Honolulu, argued that tiger sharks are a near-shore species to begin with and don't even feed on the tuna and billfish targeted by the long-liners and gill-netters.

"It's an inshore shark that during the day stays down off the deeper slopes," Naughton said. "And it comes up into the shallows at night to feed, where they are much more successful capturing slow-moving reef fish."

Surfers claim that the sea turtle population has exploded since the animals were protected about 10 years ago. Since the sea turtle is a favorite food of the tiger shark, and because it prefers the near-shore reef waters, it would follow that tiger sharks would be attracted to such areas.

"I mean, I love sea turtles," Gruzinsky said. "But I tell you, if they're going to bring sharks in . . . I don't love them that much."

Dr. George Balazs, a NMFS biologist and expert on sea turtles, acknowledged that the animals have rebounded, but said that removing them from the protected list would lead to their eventual extinction.

Still, Balazs told a reporter: "This issue is not going to go away in the near future. If you're covering this type of thing, then you are going to be writing more stories somewhere down the line."

Meanwhile, the state is trying to keep the situation under control.

The Oahu Mayor's office is steering inquiries to the DNLR, which says that none of the attacks have been on tourists and that sharks tend to stay away from the more crowded beaches. The Hawaii Visitor's Bureau says there have been no inquiries from mainland travel agents or cancellations because of the recent attacks.

Chris Lowe, of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, said that sharks probably do not consider humans a food source. "If tigers considered people a food source," he said, "they'd be attracted to areas of human use, like Waikiki.

But evidence suggests tigers mostly avoid groups of people.

"Besides, attacks are very rare . . . when they do occur, the shark usually takes a single bite. It almost seems as though the shark realizes it has made a mistake."

The last three incidents were single-bite attacks.

A theory that most observers tend to agree on is that numbers of tiger sharks has increased steadily in the last 20 years.

"Unfortunately in Hawaii we haven't developed a market for sharks so there's no commercial fishery," said Naughton, 50, a life-long Oahu resident. "And they're considered really a poor man's sports fish. Nobody wants to catch them when we've got huge marlin and yellowfin [tuna]."

"Between 1953 and 1975 we had a series of shark-control programs and the last one ended in 1976 and that was a very small one, so we know that tiger sharks have had a chance to build up to maximum levels."

Nobody seems to know why the sharks seemed to have congregated along the North Shore, but McCrerey said that part of the task force's operation includes the tagging and releasing of the smaller tiger sharks caught to learn more about their habits.

Meanwhile, the shark watch continues.

"Everybody's watching out for sharks," said Waianae Water Safety Lt. Brian Keaulana. "The ocean is [the sharks'] environment, and we can't treat it like a swimming pool. You take a chance when you go out. It's not a big chance, but at least people are more aware of it now. They're not taking the ocean for granted anymore."

The task force is advising surfers to avoid going in the water alone, or at dusk, dark or dawn; to avoid murky water, or surfing near streams, river mouths and drain outlets because they carry dead animals and other possible food products on which the sharks might feed.

Meanwhile, the task force hot line, for those who want to report tiger shark sightings, is down to one call every three days or so. Young surfers are still being prevented from entering the water by their parents and the older ones seem to be using more caution.

As for Gruzinsky, he has been surfing six or seven times since the morning last October, but said he hasn't gotten over what happened.

"Surfing's definitely not what it used to be for me," he said.

Date: Mon, 3 Jul 1995 08:01:53 -1000
From: Marc Rice <mrice@hpa.edu>
To: "George H. Balazs" <gbalazs@honlab.nmfs.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Happy 4th.

George,

Hope the tagging went well and you enjoyed the stay at the Mauna Lani. I am enclosing a little mail message that I got last night about a shark attack in CA. Thought you might be interested in looking at it. Strange to have diver attacked at 40'.

All goes well here. I have a marine biology group to teach for the next couple of weeks so I will be teaching several days a week.

Let me know when you have time to do another trip. We dove Puako (north end) yesterday and saw several untagged turtles there. I don't think that we get that far north very often. Maybe next time we can start there...

Shark Attack:

>The following is forwarded from Henry Mollet, whose email address is
>in a period of transition. Replies probably should be send directly
>to Henry at HMOLLET@MBAYAQ.ORG

>=====

>
>"Shark Attacks Diver" by Charles Davis, Monterey County Herald, Monterey, CA
>1 July '95

>
> A Watsonville diver survived an attack by a great white shark yesterday
>afternoon in Whaler's Cove at Point Lobos.
> Marco Flagg, 31, was bitten on his right shoulder, thigh and torso. He was
>able to surface and summon his companions who notified park rangers.
> "He's an incredibly lucky guy," said Ranger Jerry Loomis. "Incredibly
>brave,
>too."

> Last night, Flagg was in fair condition at Community Hospital of the
>Monterey
>Peninsula.

> Administrative supervisor Marlyn Johnson said the diver had suffered
>numerous
>puncture wounds, but that his vital signs were satisfactory.

> According to Flagg's companion, Steve LeCompte of Santa Cruz, they had been
>diving in placid waters about 150 yards offshore.

> "We saw seals around," he said. "That's usually an indication that things
>are OK."

> LeCompte said Flagg had been riding a small electric scooter about 40 feet
>underwater when he apparently noticed the shark.

> "We think it was an investigation," LeCompte said. "When these things
>are in
>a hunting mode, they ambush."

> "That's very unusual," Loomis said of the diver's face-to-face
>encounter with
>the feared predator, noting that divers seldom see a great white shark
>before it
>strikes. "I've been here since 1980 and this is the first time that's
>happened.

>He was certain it was a white and so am I," Loomis added.

> LeCompte said they entered the water about 5:20 p.m. and had been diving for
>about 10 minutes when the attack occurred.

> "He showed remarkable sense about what was going on. After he was bitten he
>got to the boat, climbed in and gunned the motor as a signal. He was very calm

>about the whole thing," LeCompte said.

> Another companion, a Santa Cruz woman who declined to give her name,
>said she

>also saw the shark. "It was like a freight train going by underneath me," she
>said.

> She said she climbed to the top of an underwater pinnacle and huddled there
>in fear until she felt it was reasonably safe to swim to the boat. "It was
>sham! and I was out of there and into that boat!" she said.

> LeCompte said he and his friends frequently dive Whaler's Cove. "I'm here
>almost every week," he said, "Marco not quite as often."

> He said Flagg is an inventor who has developed underwater sonar systems.
>"He's an experienced diver," LeCompte said. "That's undoubtedly what got him
>through this."

> The general area of Point Lobos has seen several shark attacks on divers in
>recent years. In 1986, a Los Altos man suffered severe wounds in an encounter
>off Monastery Beach that required more than 600 stitches. Four years later, in
>the same vicinity, a Santa Paula woman was bitten on the leg. Both
>attacks were

>blamed on great whites. Both divers survived.

> In 1981, a surfer died after being bitten almost in half as he paddled his
>board outside breakers off Moss Beach in Pebble Beach.

> Last night, LeCompte praised his dive buddy. "He was amazingly cool," he
>said. "Luckily, he wasn't hurt too badly. He'll have a few weeks out of the
>water."

~~aloha, Marc~~

41 bears die under '2 strikes, you're out' policy

Scripps Howard News Service

DENVER — It cost 41 bears their lives for being two-time nuisances in Colorado last year.

The Colorado Division of Wildlife's new procedure for handling nuisance bears included trapping and moving offenders only once. If trapped a second time, the bear was shot.

"I am pleased with the first year," said Tom Beck, the agency's bear expert. "I think we were especially successful in educating people how they can keep their yards clean so they don't attract bears."

Beck said in years past, when a bear raided garbage cans, hummingbird feeders, beehives, orchards or livestock, the owner simply called a local wildlife officer and demanded the bear be removed — which it usually was.

But Beck and other wildlife

biologists started questioning whether relocating bears solved the problem or simply shifted it.

Before the question could be researched, however, a bill was introduced last year in the Colorado Legislature that would have prohibited the transfer or release of any wildlife in the state.

Feeling that the bill, which later died in committee, would limit their options, wildlife officials established a standard bear policy, which became known as the "two strikes, you're out" directive.

"When district wildlife managers were called, they explained the two-strikes policy and most people started asking what they could do to help rather than demand the bear be trapped, relocated and given one strike," Beck said.

But the question of relocation

still wasn't addressed, so Beck is starting a three-year study in Colorado to put a radio collar on every bear captured and relocated to find out where the bear goes and what it does.

"We hope to collar up to 100 bears next summer," Beck said.

Trapped bears receive ear tags so wildlife managers can see they've been handled before.

Recaptures show about one-fourth of the trapped bears get in trouble a second time.

"But what happens to the other 75 percent?" Beck asks. "Do they force a resident bear out? Do they kill it? Do they take over the area and force the resident bear out?"

The radio collars won't answer all the questions, he said, "but if we go flying over the area at least once a week, keeping track of their movements, we should have some answers."

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER 12/10/94 (Calif.)



Great whites off state coast protected species

NATURE: The sharks generally avoid humans because they aren't a natural food source.

By **GARY ROBBINS**
The Orange County Register

The deadly attack by a great white shark Friday off the Channel Islands was a rare event that obscures the fact that the species required protection in California so it wouldn't be wiped out by humans, say marine biologists and divers.

The attack on James D. Robinson, 40, a commercial diver, occurred near San Miguel Island, about 120 miles northwest of Huntington Beach.

It was the fourth time since the early 1950s that a great white attacked a human off San Miguel, said Gary Davis, a federal marine biologist in Ventura. It was the 75th great white attack off California since 1926.

"Great whites try to avoid humans because we're not a natural food source, and divers make a lot of noise," says Bill MacDonald, an underwater filmmaker from Seal Beach. "There have been camera crews that tried for weeks to bait great whites off Southern California, and came away with nothing."

Filmmakers typically try to find great whites off San Miguel because sharks go there to feed on the seals and sea lions that visit the island to breed and give

MORE INFORMATION

Some recommended reading:

- ▶ "Great White Shark," a book by John McCosker.
- ▶ "Shark: A Photographer's Story," a book by Jeremy Stafford-Deitsch.
- ▶ "Undersea Adventure" by Knowledge Adventure (CD-Rom for children).

birth at large rookeries.

Scientists aren't sure how many great whites exist off California. But some researchers say it is as few as 1,500. This year, the state placed a moratorium on killing great whites until 1999.

The species was given protection because it helps keep the ecosystem in balance by feeding on sick and injured marine mammals. Scientists also are studying why sharks seem to be immune to most forms of cancer.

Among those interested in sharks is Milton Shedd of Newport Beach, who helped found Sea World in San Diego. He got a rare close-up of the species Oct. 18 when his boat got within 10 feet of a great white feeding on an elephant seal midway between Newport Beach and Santa Catalina Island.

"Never seen anything like it in all the years I've been on the water," Shedd said.

Orange County Register

12/10/94

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER
(Calif.) 12/10/94

Shark attacks, kills diver

ATTACK: Fishing boat crew tries to resuscitate the man after his leg was gashed and he stopped breathing.

The Associated Press

SANTA BARBARA — A diver searching for sea urchins near the Channel Islands was killed Friday by what was believed to be a great white shark.

James D. Robinson, 40, of Santa Barbara died shortly after he was flown to Goleta Valley Community Hospital

at 11:10 a.m., spokeswoman Pat Hoffman said.

Robinson was attacked while diving from a boat near San Miguel Island, part of the Channel Islands chain about 40 miles west of

ROBINSON: He dived for sea urchins.

Santa Barbara, said Coast Guard Petty Officer Dennis Hall.

"The (boat) crew said it was a great white shark. Whatever did attack him was pretty serious," Hall said.

Juan Hernandez, a marine biologist with the California Department of Fish and Game, said female great whites give birth this time of year off the Channel Islands.

"It's probably the only shark that would attack off that coast," Hernandez said.

The two crew members aboard the 34-foot Florentia Marie fishing boat began performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation after Robinson, whose right leg was gashed, stopped breathing, Hall said.

A Coast Guard helicopter was dispatched at 9:45 a.m., picked up Robinson from the fishing boat and took him to the mainland hospital.

The diver was searching for sea urchins, spiny, ball-shaped scavengers which are delicacies in the Far East, Hall said.

Such attacks by great whites, which can measure up to 25 feet long, are rare in Southern California coastal waters.

In January 1989, a couple kayaking off Malibu were believed killed by a shark, apparently a great white. Sailors found the body of Tamara McCallister, 24, floating six miles off Channel Islands Harbor. The body of Roy Jeffrey Stoddard, 24, was never found.

Before that, only six fatal shark attacks were reported between 1926 and 1984 and five of those deaths were blamed on great white sharks.

It is currently illegal to kill great white sharks in California waters. Lawmakers placed a moratorium on such killings until 1999 because scientists believe there may be fewer than 1,500 great whites left on the California coast.

GLOBAL

The Honolulu Advertiser

A10

Saturday, December 10, 1994

Great white kills California diver

Los Angeles Times

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — A shark, apparently a great white, killed a commercial diver in the waters off San Miguel Island yesterday — the state's first confirmed death from a shark attack in nearly six years.

Santa Barbara resident James Robinson, 42, was treading water on the ocean's surface near his boat when the shark swooped in for a swift attack.

Robinson had just finished a routine dive to scout for sea urchins. His two crew members were putting away the equipment when they heard Robinson scream — and whirled around to see him drifting unconscious in a gush of blood.

"His right leg was nearly severed, and his left leg had puncture wounds on it," said Francis Oliver, a diver who came to Robinson's aid after hearing his crewmates' distress call. "It was pretty gruesome."

A veteran diver, Robinson was attacked just off the coast of San Miguel Island, about 40 miles west of Santa Barbara.

Neither of the crew members saw the attack. But Coast Guard officials said they believe Robinson was targeted by a great white shark, a keen-eyed predator that can grow up to 20 feet long.

"They say it's like a bullet . . . you never see the one that hit you," said urchin diver Jeffery Gunning. "I just hope it went quick for Jimmy."



GLOBAL

The Honolulu Advertiser •

• World.....A4
• Nation.....A11

A10

Monday, October 31, 1994

News Editor: John Strobel, 525-8058

Pacific Briefs

Spearfisherman killed by shark in Fiji

SUVA, Fiji — A Fijian diver has been killed by a shark off an island where locals honor sharks as gods.

Police said Josevata Sukuna, 28, was attacked while spearfishing with friends Saturday near Matelivillage on Tavenui island.

Dakuwaqa, the shark god is believed to be the ancestor of Tavenui chiefs, who occasionally stage ceremonies to attract sharks inshore.

Police said today that the man's body, with injuries to his left arm and torso, was recovered by his companions.

Sukuna died close to where a 33-year-old New Zealand tourist, Stephen Davies, was attacked by a shark in October 1992. Davies died to death after being bitten while snorkeling with his wife in waist-deep water at Matel.

BOOKS

The master of the thriller is back with

By Craig Wilson
Gannett News Service

Peter Benchley, happy as a clam, is lunching on fried oysters at the Sansom Street Oyster House in Philadelphia. A man approaches his table.

"Excuse me," he says. "But aren't you an actor?"

"No, sorry," says Benchley.

"I'm sorry, but you look so familiar."

Benchley says it happens often. People can't quite place him. He loves to tell about the time someone approached him and said, "Weren't you Peter Benchley once?"

Indeed he was. Still is.

Son of novelist Nathaniel Benchley, grandson of Algonquin Round Table humorist Robert Benchley, and author of the mega-thriller "Jaws," Peter Benchley, at 54, is back with a new drama from the deep, "White Shark" (Random House, \$23). On the 20th anniversary of "Jaws," Benchley is jumping back in the water.

"Even if I became pope, cured cancer and won a Nobel Prize, the music at my funeral would still be John Williams' score from Jaws," says Benchley. "There's not much I can do about it."

Not that Benchley is really complaining. "Jaws" made him a wealthy man, and the master of underwater thrillers.

"Jaws touched a real deep nerve in people," he admits. And Williams' music sent out its own share of shivers.

Benchley's newest page-turner revolves around a mysterious something that's disrupting life under the sea. Benchley refers to it as "It." Bodies start washing up on shore. Blood fills the sea. A hand here. A leg there. It is quintessential Benchley.

Benchley is a master at writing page-turners. Even the New York Times has called his pacing "irresistible."

"If you write for yourself, and keep yourself interested, you create it filled with unknowns and what ifs," he says. "I have a strong narrative head. I'm very impatient with stories that don't go anywhere."

"White Shark's" main character is



Simon Chase, a marine biologist who loves the sea and the misunderstood sharks that swim in it. Benchley admits there are similarities with his own life.

"Every one of these characters is more or less me," he says. "A middle-age reprobate gets in trouble beyond his depth."

Get Benchley going on sharks, and he soon puts down his fork and forgets about the plate of cherrystone clams before him. He is very protective of the species that made him famous. But he also understands their intrigue.

"It's a safe danger. It's why kids love them. They're fun to watch and fun to learn about. It's not a fear one needs to worry about.

"For every shark attack on a human, there are 4.5 million sharks killed by man," he says. It seems his life is spent educating the public to the fact that a shark will not attack a human unless it's confused. "Every shark attack is an accident."

Unfortunately, admits Benchley, a human sitting on a surfboard looks exactly like a sea lion to a hungry shark swimming below, and sea lions are sharks' favorite meal.

underwater 'Shark'

Peter Benchley at a glance:

■ **Home:** Princeton, N.J., complete with a pool with a shark painted on the bottom.

■ **Family:** Wife, Wendy. Three children: Tracy, 27; Clay, 25; Christopher, 7.

■ **His novels:** *Jaws*, 1974; *The Deep*, 1976; *The Island*, 1979; *Q Clearance*, 1986; *Rummies*, 1989; *Beast*, 1991.

■ **Writing habits:** Every morning from 8 until 1, "unless some producer pays for me to go someplace exotic."

■ **Favorite author:** Canadian novelist Robertson Davies. "As fast as he writes, I read."

■ **About reviews:** Family friend John Steinbeck told him never to read reviews of his books. "The pain of the bad ones is far worse than the pleasure of the good ones." Benchley followed the advice, except once, when he read a devastating New York Times review of his novel, *The Deep*. "I can still quote from it," says Benchley.

"What are they going to do after they've ripped your leg off by mistake?" asks Benchley. "Say I'm sorry?"

Even though Benchley's books are great beach reading, he says they also serve another purpose. They are filled with facts about sea life.

"My hope is I'll give you a good time," says Benchley, "but I'm going to force you to learn something too . . . It doesn't bother me if you want to call it a good beach read, but if I heard from a scientist that I've made a mistake in there, that would bother me."

Will "White Shark," like "Jaws," make the silver screen?

Maybe. The book has been optioned, and Benchley has already written and rewritten the screenplay. "But you never know what Hollywood is going to do," he says. "Never."

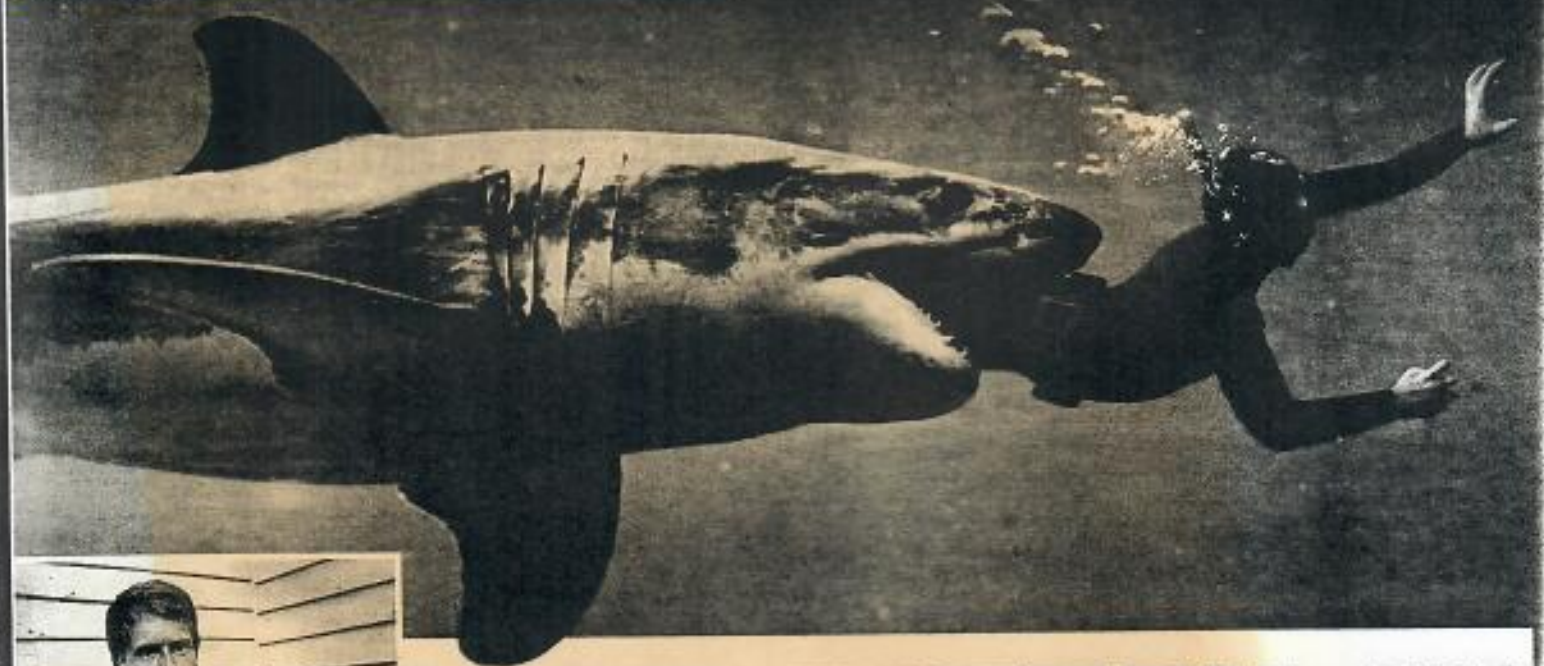
WEEKLY WORLD

NEWS

September 7, 1993

85¢/95¢ CANADA

**Terrifying underwater photo
taken at moment of attack!**



MAN BITTEN IN HALF BY SHARK

**California diver has
bloody encounter with
3,000-lb. Great White!**

— & LIVES!



36

A GREAT WHITE SHARK



WHEELCHAIR-BOUND Roger Stinson miraculously survived the attack by a Great White shark that chopped him in half.

A Great White shark bit Roger Stinson in half while he was snorkeling in the Bahamas — and he miraculously lived to tell about it!

"God was looking over me, that's for sure," said the 28-year-old auto mechanic from San Jose, Calif. "I lost half my body. I'll never walk again.

"But I've got my hands and my heart. I've got my brain and my life.

"And after all I've been through and all I've lost, I'll take anything I can get."

Stinson's mind-numbing ordeal began when he and good friend Richard Dyers left Freeport for a day of snorkeling about a half mile east of Grand Bahama Island on the morning of June 13. The men an-

By JOHN KANTNER
Special correspondent

chored their boat around 9 a.m. Then they jumped into the water and began to photograph marine life.

Stinson says they had been in the water about 15 minutes when Dyers spotted the shark — estimated to be 22 feet long and weighing 3,000 pounds — about 25 yards to their left.

"Richard saw it before I did

and started waving his hands and pointing for me to look," said Stinson. "When I saw the shark my heart skipped a few beats. But I didn't panic because sharks usually don't bother divers unless there is blood in the water or you do something to provoke them.

"But this shark was different — and a split second later I knew it. He was bearing down on me like all got out and all I could think was, 'Oh God — he's coming for me!'

"I instinctively dropped my camera and swam for the boat

... and I'm still

BIT ME IN HALF

NEWS
EXCLUSIVE!



HORRIFYING underwater photo of shark attack was taken by Roger's diving partner Richard Dyers.

alive to talk about it!

as fast as I could. I had my back to the shark and had no way of knowing if he had changed direction or was still coming after me.

"Suddenly I felt a tingling in my back, and then a little tug. I'm not sure what happened next. I remember that I somehow got turned around in the water — all I all I could see was blood."

Dyers watched the horrifying attack unfold from a distance of about 15 feet. He said he instinctively took a picture as the shark swallowed Stinson up to the small of his back "because I knew I had to do something —

and there was nothing else I could do."

Dyers said the shark looked as if it were going to swallow his buddy whole. But Stinson miraculously managed to twist around and surge forward before the monster chomped down — taking off both legs and most of his buttocks.

"The shark swam away as fast as it had attacked," Dyers continued. "And there was so much blood in the water that I could hardly see."

"But I managed to get to Roger and pull him back to the

boat. He was barely conscious when I got what was left of him aboard, and he was bleeding so badly that I knew he couldn't hang on much longer.

"So I used nylon ropes to put a tourniquet on what was left of his body and blasted back to port."

Dyers said he radioed ahead for an ambulance, which was waiting when the men arrived. Stinson received massive transfusions of blood and underwent emergency surgery to close his wounds, which left him in critical condition for days. He still faces

several operations to repair all the damage, but he's grateful to be alive.

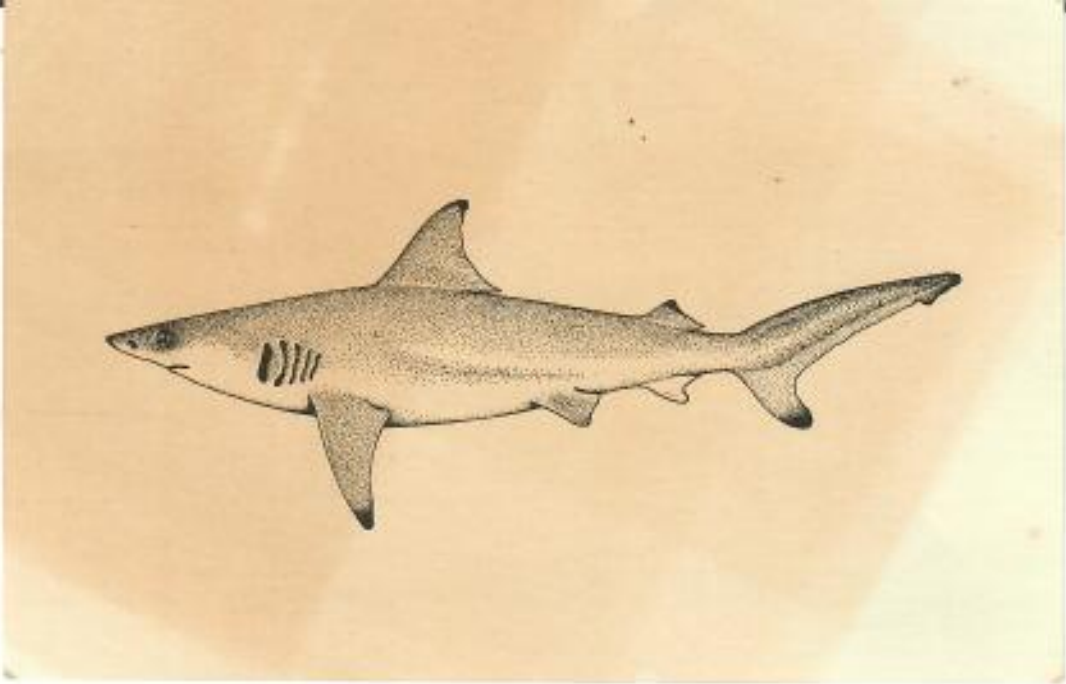
"The doctors call me 'miracle man,'" said Stinson, who is now recuperating at home. "They also say that I can thank Richard for saving my life."

"If he hadn't gotten me to the boat, if he hadn't had the presence of mind to stem the bleeding, I would have died right there in the water."

"I thank God for Richard — and my life — every day," he continued, adding: "One day I'll snorkel again."



DIVING PARTNER Richard Dyers' quick thinking saved his friend Roger from bleeding to death.



Blacktip shark (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) © The Sharks of North American Waters by José I. Castro.

1983

Why sharks cannot tell surfers from seals

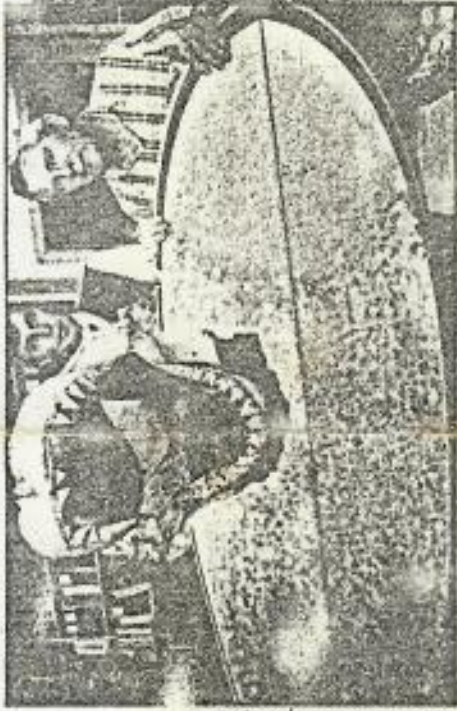
JOHN McCosker, the director of San Francisco's Steinhart Aquarium, has some advice for surfboard riders: don't surf near seal rookeries. The reason? Sharks. McCosker, an expert on the great white shark, believes that, when it comes to mealtime, the great white cannot tell the difference between its usual prey—seals and sea lions—and a surfer.

McCosker and an underwater photographer, Al Giddings, have taken a series of photographs (see right) showing the similarity in shape and size of seals and surfboard riders, when seen from a few metres below the surface. A hungry great white shark would have the same view.

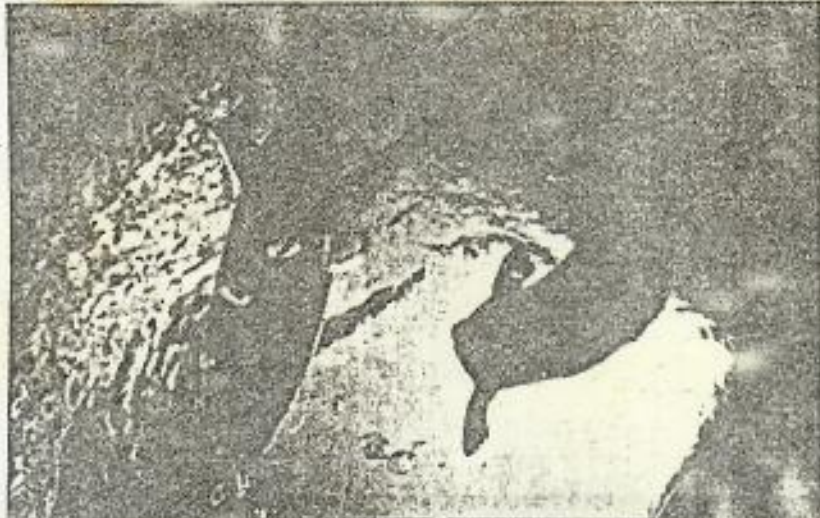
This is not mere theory. McCosker's evidence includes the remains of a surfboard whose rider was killed when taken by a great white shark off Monterey, California. The same marks appear on the torso of a dead seal lion. The photos illustrate one of McCosker's main points—seals and humans are seized in much the same way. The shark attacks from beneath and behind, and often heads for the midriff of the seal. The board rider, whose board is shown in the photograph, was attacked at about the same spot.

McCosker says the danger to surfers has arisen because of a radical change in surfboard design. Once boards were long and cigar-shaped. The limbs of the rider were kept out of sight. But most recently-made boards are about one metre shorter. When a surfer is resting on the board with hands and legs flapping, the board looks, from below, like a seal.

Since 1972, about the time the shorter boards became popular, there have been 13



California Academy of Science



Surfboards and seals: a shark's eye view and (left) after the kill

attacks on riders by sharks in the waters of California and Oregon. There were no attacks on riders reported before 1972.

Southern California has far more surfboard riders than northern California and Oregon, yet no attacks have occurred in the south. Instead, the attacks have been further north, where surfers frequent the same waters as seals, near rocky headlands and rookeries. McCosker expects the

problems to get worse, because the great white shark population off California is increasing.

So what's to be done? McCosker is against culling the shark population, which has grown because of the dramatic comeback of elephant seals. The sharks are needed, he says, to control naturally the marine mammal population. "Ecological havoc" would be the alternative. □

Photos of sharks killing boat people to be used in anti-emigration drive

United Press International

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — A videotape of photographs showing sharks killing boat people will be broadcast to discourage illegal emigration by Dominicans, civil defense director Eugenio Cabral said yesterday.

A 40-foot boat carrying about 160 Dominicans trying to sail to Puerto Rico across the treacherous Mona Passage caught fire and capsized Tuesday in the Atlantic. More than 100 people are missing and feared dead, many killed in attacks by sharks, authorities said.

Cabral said he and Luis Rolon, civil defense director for San Juan, Puerto Rico, took five color photographs of the attacks by 40 to 50 sharks from a small airplane some 175 feet above the water.

"These are chapters that escaped Dante in his 'Inferno,' one of the most macabre and repugnant things that I have seen," Cabral said.

The overcrowded vessel left Nagua, 60 miles north of the capital on the Atlantic coast, early Tuesday. The boat caught fire when its motor exploded and capsized in the tumult of attempts to douse the flames, throwing panicked passengers into the choppy water, Cabral said.

"Tens of people, many of them alive and screaming, were begging for help, swimming, be-



ing devoured by an enormous shoal of sharks," said Cabral, who viewed the scene off the northeast coast of the Dominican Republic from a civil defense airplane.

Five civil defense boats and several fishing boats resumed a search for survivors at daybreak yesterday, he said. A Coast Guard spokesman said the U.S. Coast Guard sent an HH-65 helicopter from its base in Aguadilla in western Puerto Rico to aid in the search.

Seven bodies have been recovered, Rolon said, adding that

18 women and four men were in hospitals suffering from cuts, bruises, shock and second- and third-degree burns.

"We doubt that there are any more survivors," said Rolon, who was in the Dominican Republic to help with rescue operations in the wake of Hurricane Emily.

Asked where the missing might be, he told a reporter, "You have to ask the sharks, my friend."

Authorities said two unidenti-

See Pictures, Page A-4

Pictures of shark attack to be used to discourage emigration

From Page One

fied men had been arrested for alleged involvement in the ill-fated voyage.

Rolon said a female survivor interviewed by a radio station said the vessel's captain was intoxicated at the time of the inci-

dent, and gas cans aboard the boat spilled at the time of the explosion, spreading the flames.

From 40 to 50 sharks weighing from 600 to 800 pounds attacked the survivors as they tumbled to the wreckage or floated in the water after the current pulled them some 20 miles offshore.

Rescuers in helicopters and

fishermen in small boats pulled some of the survivors from the blood-red waters in the midst of the shark attack, Cabral said.

Most illegal Dominican emigrants try to enter the United States in order to escape poverty in their Caribbean homeland, often by small boats sailing to Puerto Rico.

Up to 1,500 Dominicans per

month enter Puerto Rico illegally, according to the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Duplicates of the photographs and video will be sent to Puerto Rico, Rolon said. "We have these as a record of a delicate situation, a sad situation," he said.

George -
For your files
(Rob just bought a wetsuit
so he can surf in Calif to Oregon
that strikes deep in a father's heart!)
Best regards to the family
Hughes 8/31/87

To George
Hughes

SAN FRANCISCO

★★★★ Sunday, August 16, 1987 B-5

Surfer escapes shark by riding wave ashore

EXAMINER STAFF REPORT

A Santa Cruz man was attacked by a great white shark Saturday morning but managed to escape from the beast by riding to shore on his damaged surfboard, police reported.

Craig Edward Rogers, 40, was surfing off Tunis Beach about 30 miles south of San Francisco when the shark bit a gaping 19-inch chunk out of his surfboard, according to San Mateo County sheriff's Sgt. Lou Zirelli.

Rogers was sitting on his board at about 7:30 a.m., his legs dangling in the water, Zirelli said, when "he saw this big head biting his surfboard and saw the

eye looking up at him. If he would have been laying on the board it could have killed him."

Zirelli said Rogers was cut on the hand as he fought to escape the shark, and rode a wave to shore before the shark could attack again. Rogers was given six stitches in his hand at a Santa Cruz hospital and released.

A sheriff's report said Rogers' surf board had been "trashed."

State park rangers advised beachgoers to stay out of the water along a 15-mile stretch from Pescadero to Kelly Avenue Beach in Half Moon Bay.

Zirelli said deputies believed the shark was a great white because of the size of the bite and the description given by Rogers.

21 years after attack

Sharks still dominate life

10-22-84
A3
ADVERTISER

By Barbara Hastings

Advertiser Science Writer

It was just about 21 years ago that Rodney Fox became a public figure. He didn't do it by winning public office, writing a bestseller or trying to assassinate somebody.

He achieved public figure status by having his chest chomped upon, ribs crushed, intestines pulled out and shoulder blade perforated (to mention just a few horrors) by a great white shark — living to tell about it.

Had the same ghastly damage been done to this Australian by some other means — say an auto accident or even a bear attack — Rodney Fox could have maintained his privacy, recuperated in peace and gone on with life.

But as researchers will tell you, the word shark is the most feared in the English language, and the great white is the epitome of the shark family — the most gruesomely fascinating to the general public.

"A shark-attack victim is not a private person anymore," he said.

And so, Rodney Fox has been accosted on the street, his shirt lifted for a view of the scars, interviewed extensively and has been involved, he estimates, in 99 percent of all the films, documentary and feature that have been done on sharks.

It's not the life he would have picked. "I wouldn't be pursuing the bloody shark," the 43-year-old Fox said in a recent interview in Honolulu, where he was meeting with Waikiki Aquarium Director Leighton Taylor. The shark which attacked him chose Fox's future for him.

After being one of the only, perhaps the only, human being to survive a chest attack by a great white, Fox turned first into a sharkophobe — hunting them with a definite edge of revenge — and then into a sharkophile with a thirst for knowledge about the beast.

"The more we learn, the more we get rid of this fascination and fear thing," Fox said.

He tries to keep in touch with researchers, like Taylor at the aquarium, who study the shark "to get some clues on shark behavior."

Fox organized the first expedition and built the cages for the first film of the great white shark — all the films on this shark have been done in south Australia, he said.

Within the past few weeks, there have been two attacks by great whites off northern California, and Fox blames this on the preservation of seals. Seals are great white food; the seal protection has greatly increased the numbers of seals off California, drawing the sharks.

Both those attacks were on snorkling abalone divers, Fox said, and it's abalone divers in south Australia that he's trying to aid with his shark



Rodney Fox

Advertiser photo by Carl Viti

"Wasn't very comfortable"

work — building mobile cages and putting together the jigsaw of data on shark behavior.

South Australia and northern California are just about the same, Fox explained, about equidistant from the equator. The water temperatures are about the same, the abalone are rich in both places, there are seals around — and great white sharks.

Fox believes the sharks' job in the oceans may have been to cull and clean up. Like the wolves of the arctic, who would cull out the diseased, maimed or old caribou, the sharks' role may be similar in the ocean.

But the question is raised: Are they any longer necessary? Humans cull the caribou and the oceans now.

"And the white shark's teeth are real collector's items," said Fox. "Americans, of all people, will pay enormous sums of money for them" — \$2,000 to \$6,000 for a single great white's jaw.

"We'll put sharks in the same position as lions and tigers," he added, in aquarium zoos, but on a larger scale — perhaps a whole bay will be cordoned off as a preserve — because the great white needs so much space. So far, though, no great white has survived captivity.

"But at the moment, I would like to know why sharks attack man," said Fox. He's narrowed it down to two things: They seem to be motivated by feeding and by territory protection.

For example, in 6,000 hours of diving for abalone in the south Australia area, Fox has sighted only three great white sharks "and they did a big circle around me. I jumped in the boat and went home and got drunk, actually."

But in the same waters, with filming expeditions actively looking for the sharks, he's seen 300 to 400 of them, "up to six or seven at a time," he said. "The total difference is the fish blood and fish juice in the water," that the crews

of victim

put there to attack the sharks.

The day Fox was attacked by the great white in 1963, he was in a spearfishing competition — defending his Australian spearfishing championship.


That day, from all the spearfishers in the ocean, the water was filled with fish blood and juice — and “that changes sharks’ behavior from normal into a feeding one.”

When in a feeding frenzy “they’ll bite the bottom off of a boat,” said Fox.

One question leaps to mind when talking with the personable Fox. Why, oh why, did he ever go back into the water?

Within three months of his attack, despite the fact that it would be another nine months before he had full muscle use back, Fox was diving again. “Because everyone assumed I wouldn’t,” his eyes still light up at this, “it became a desire.”

“I might add I wasn’t very comfortable.”



**THE SONY BETAMAX[®]
SYSTEM CAN GO
PLACES YOU WON'T.**

Chances are you may never find yourself face to face with a Great White. But if you are one to take chances, we've got a



portable video system that has the courage to go along with you.

The Sony Betamax Portable System.

For example, with a Betamax Marine Pack, you can explore a whole new world of breathtaking underwater adventure.

Or strap on the Betamax Action Pack and take great action shots while you're skiing down the side of a mountain 10,000 feet up.

And, of course, taking in all the action with you is the Sony Trinitron[®] Color Camera, with superior color reproduction and

low-light sensitivity.

Add to that accessories like telephoto and wide-angle conversion lenses, filters, carrying cases, and a camera raincoat, and you can even take great shots when conditions aren't so hot.

So, as you can see, with the Sony Betamax Portable System, there's a whole world of excitement waiting for you.

And that's

no fish story. **SONY.**

© 1983 Sony Corporation of America. Sony, Betamax and Trinitron are registered trademarks of Sony Corporation.

**BETAMAX.
THE SONY OF VCR'S.**



GREAT WHITE—A 3,300-pound great white shark harpooned 25 miles off Mystic, Conn., is hauled onto the dock at Mystic early Saturday as a crowd gathers to watch. —AP Photo.

After 10-Hour Battle *Big White*

MYSTIC, Conn. (AP) — Peter Benchley, whose best-selling novel "Jaws" sparked three summertime thriller films, wasn't too happy with the ending of a real-life shark story that resulted in a Coast Guard alert off Long Island Sound.

A 16½-foot great white shark, believed to be one of the largest of its kind ever caught off the North Atlantic coast, was harpooned and then killed with two shotgun blasts after a 10-hour battle with two charter boat captains.

The veteran shark fishermen — Ernie Celotto, 48, and Greg DuBrule, 32, said they found the big fish feeding on a dead finback whale about 10 miles southeast of Block Island, R.I., which is 25 miles southeast of Mystic.

For the two fishermen the ordeal bordered on a "religious experience."

tle with Fishermen

e Shark Killed Off Conn.

"It's like being one of Christ's disciples. Many are called but few are chosen," said DuBrule on Saturday. "Every time you go offshore you're looking for a great white. We've never caught anything to this magnitude."

THE COAST GUARD issued a warning for eastern Long Island Sound, telling mariners "to transit the area with extreme caution. All divers are advised that the whale carcass may be a feeding ground for sharks."

Two boats were hit by sharks before the warning was broadcast Saturday morning, and it remained in effect yesterday.

Benchley said he feared publicity would encourage other fishermen to snare more great whites that may be devouring the same whale's carcass. He said he was trying to convince the Coast Guard to tow the 40-foot carcass

out to sea to save other sharks.

Benchley left his summer home in Stonington, Conn., Saturday to join scores of onlookers who watched the carcass of the 3,300-pound shark being towed to Mystic Seaport Marine Aquarium.

But while a crowd of spectators cheered, "That's them! Here comes the shark," Benchley wasn't smiling.

"The main problem with this is people are killing these animals wantonly as if it is sport, and there is no sport in harpooning a fish," he said.

DuBrule, skipper of the Sea-weed Too out of Noank in southeastern Connecticut, and Celotto had stationed their boats Friday near the dead whale that was apparently wounded by a ship's propeller before being attacked by sharks.

After DuBrule sank the first harpoon, at one point "the fish

came out of the water and it was clear it was after Greg's boat," said Celotto, skipper of the 32-foot charter boat Reelin.

CELOTTO SAID many people "have seen 'Jaws,' they've seen whale and shark films, but nothing can compare to the reality of being there, face to face."

Benchley, however, noted that the great white shark generally stays far off the coast and rarely attacks humans.

"I try to make as many people as possible aware that this kind of wanton slaughter is madness. It's like going out and shooting dogs," he said.

In Rhode Island, a warning that sharks might congregate around a floating dead whale remained in effect today as the carcass drifted closer to shore, but the Coast Guard said it did not appear to be a great danger.

'Jaws'-size shark could appear in Cal., expert says

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Shark attacks on people along the California coast are likely to increase, an expert says, and some of the great white sharks in the area could be as large as the one in the film "Jaws."

"We can expect more attacks because of an increase in the shark population," said John McCosker, director of the Steinhart Aquarium in San Francisco. "In the last decade we've seen a colossal increase (in attacks) in California and Oregon, and one can only assume it will continue."

The latest attack apparently occurred Wednesday, when a shark estimated to be 21 feet long killed 24-year-old surfer Lewis Boren near Monterey. That shark would be as large as any ever caught. But, said McCosker, "However big it is, I am confident there are larger ones out there. . . . I am suggesting that the size of the shark in 'Jaws' — approximately 30 feet — is not so large that there might not be one swimming in the ocean."

DESPITE THE FEAR of the toothy sea creatures, "there's a lots more chance of drowning than of being attacked by a shark," said Leonard Compagno of the Tiburon Center for Environmental Studies.

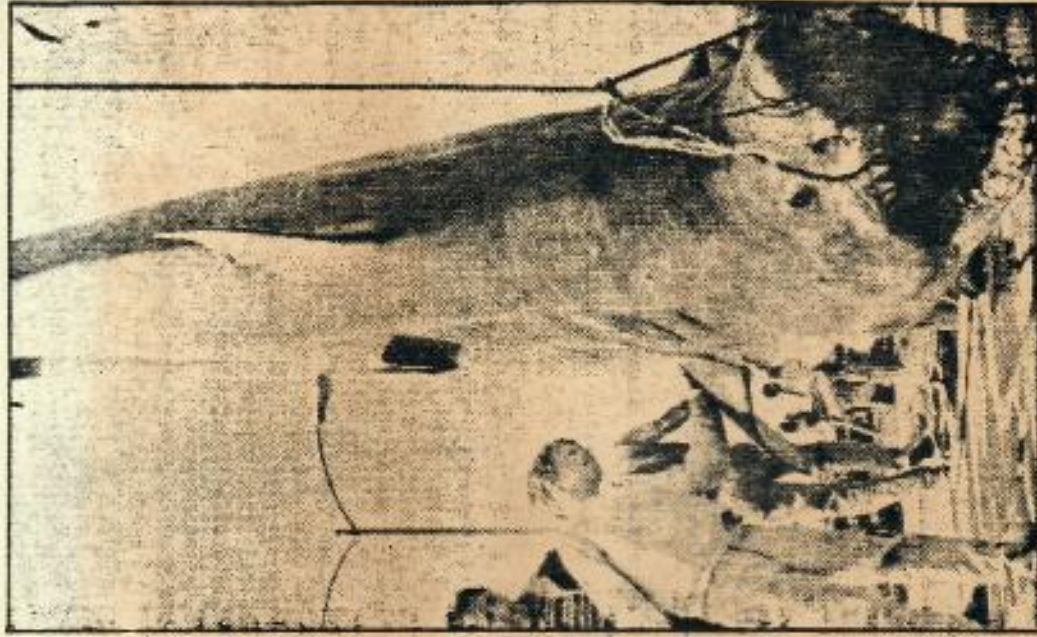
There were only 22 reported shark attacks on human beings along the California and Oregon coasts during the 1970s. That compares with 11 in the 1960s and 13 in the 1950s.

Thirty of those attacks have been against divers, 11 against swimmers and nine against surfers. Only five were fatal.

"We don't know whether there are 20, 220 or 2,000 white sharks off the coast," McCosker said. And Compagno said it is hard to prove that the shark population is increasing because there is no comparable data from the past.

Experts say that no place in the world is more prone to shark attacks than a 125-mile stretch of coastline centering on San Francisco, stretching from Sausalito Bay in Marin County south to Monterey.

McCosker said he thinks the seeming increase in sharks and attacks is tied to the resurgent population of sea otters, seals, sea lions and sea elephants, which are protected by the Marine Mammals Protection Act of 1972.



THIS 2,500-pound great white shark was caught off Oxnard in 1971. At that time, no great white had been reported that far north.

plus
point



L.A. EXAMINER **TEXAS MINNOWS** AP photo JUNE 5, 1977.

Constable John Haynes stands guard over bodies of sharks caught near an oil platform off the Texas coast. Thousands of sharks have converged off Texas beaches. Marine biologists have been baffled by the influx of sharks.



FROM EAST CHINA SEA—Japanese fishermen display a 3,938-pound great white shark they caught in the East China Sea off Okinawa. Measuring nearly 17 feet long, it was the largest shark ever caught in Okinawan waters, aquarium officials said. —AP Photo.

the nation

evacuations continue

Sharks guard Doria's safe

MONTAUK, N.Y. — The salvage ship Sea Level II came home to port yesterday with potential treasure from the sunken liner Andrea Doria and eerie tales of a desolate "Grand Hotel" beneath the waves, filled with darkness, memories and the ghosts of elegant men and women.

"No, sir, I have no plan ever to return to the ship," said Peter Gimbel, department store heir and expedition leader as the triumphant crew sailed home from the month-long deep-sea adventure.

Some of the divers called the Andrea Doria a death trap and said they were glad to be finished probing inside its murky interior, filled with fishing nets that threatened to entangle their air lines.

The voyagers returned with an unopened two-ton Bank of Rome safe — believed to contain jewels and cash worth up to \$4 million — that went down with the liner when it collided with the passenger ship Stockholm 25 years ago, 50 miles off the Massa-

chusetts coast. Fifty people were killed in the July 25, 1956, collision.

The safe, which was removed by police escort, was transported to the New York Aquarium at Coney Island, where it will rest in a shark tank until it is opened on live television.

The safe has been kept immersed in seawater to prevent dry air seeping in and possibly destroying any of its contents.

Gimbel, 53, spoke with reporters through a ship intercom located above the decompression chamber where he and four other divers were sweating out their return to sea level atmospheric pressure.

The salvage was conducted at a depth of 230 feet.

U.S. Customs officials required Gimbel's representatives to post a \$2 million bond to cover the safe and other items recovered from the Andrea Doria, including dishes, a glass door and religious objects from the ship's chapel.



UPI/PHOV
These U.S. coins were found when the un-
locked compartment under the safe was
emptied.



Associated Press

Shark hunter David Fisse, right, talks to reporters after being pulled from ocean at Monterey.

Diver Suffers Hypothermia

First Search for White Shark Thwarted

MONTEREY, Calif. (UPI)—A scuba diver who hopes to catch the great white shark that killed a surfer off Monterey suffered leg cramps on his first dive Monday and had to be pulled from the chilling water.

David Fisse, 37, declined to wear a wetsuit for the dive—standard equipment in Monterey Bay's 50-degree waters—and suffered hypothermia.

"He's nuts," said Cliff Wellborn, owner of a fishing boat chartered by cameramen that took Fisse to shore.

Once back in his 18-foot aluminum skiff, the boat engine would not start, apparently because of battery trouble. The boat was not carrying oars.

Brought to Shore

Because of hypothermia, Fisse was suffering from leg cramps and could not move. He was taken aboard a chartered vessel watching from nearby and taken to shore less than two hours after he set out from the beach.

Fisse soon recovered and declined to be taken to a hospital. He said he would try again Tuesday.

Wellborn said the adventure was "stupid to begin with but let's hope Fisse learns."

Fisse of San Bruno said he is a gold prospector with scuba diving experience in Southern California. He was accompanied in his skiff by Dana Burkland, 20, of Cupertino, a volunteer who showed up soon after he heard of Fisse's expedition.

Shark Bait Plan

The plan was to lay bait for the shark in the area of an undersea trench three-quarters of a mile off-shore.

Fisse hoped to swim under the shark, which could be as long as 23 feet, and fire "a bang stick," a short

pole with a .38-caliber bullet on the end, at the shark's spinal area in an attempt to incapacitate it. The plan was to then tow the shark alive to shore and sell it to the highest bidder.

The shark hunters were equipped with .45-caliber pistols and high-powered rifles, in addition to the bang stick, and accompanied by Fisse's hunting dog, Tasha.

Sharks are believed to favor the area because of an abundance of their natural prey—elephant seals and sea otters.

Friday, January 1, 1982 / Part 1 17

Los Angeles Times

Shark Adventurer Held in Psychiatric Ward

MONTEREY, Calif. (UPI)—The hunter of Monterey Bay's great white shark, held in a psychiatric ward Thursday, made telephone calls denouncing "spies" sabotaging his mission.

David Fisse, 37, scuba diver and onetime gold prospector, came to Monterey last week in hope of catching the large shark that is believed to have killed a surfer Dec. 19.

Fisse, equipped with numerous firearms, talked about stunning the shark with a .38 caliber bullet to the spine and trapping it in a steel cage so he could sell it to the highest bidder.

But his first underwater survey ended when Fisse, clad only in shorts, was pulled Monday from the chilling bay suffering hypothermia.

Subsequently, the engine on his 18-foot aluminum boat conked out and Fisse got into shouting matches with the Coast Guard because his boat lacked proper registration and because the Coast Guard would not provide flares and other equipment.

Fisse was arrested Wednesday night in a parking lot near a pier where he had scheduled a news conference. Monterey police Sgt. Ken Brown said Fisse was screaming and behaving "very irrationally."

"He suddenly lunged at the other officer and after a scuffle, I put him in an armlock and he was handcuffed," Brown said.

Brown said police went to the scene because of an anonymous call that Fisse was carrying a loaded shotgun and pistol.

Fisse was placed in the psychiatric ward of Natividad Medical Center in Salinas for 72 hours of observation.

The Sunday Star-Bulletin & Advertiser Mon. July, August 15, 1982 A-31

Dolphin shields surfer, 11, from sharks

United Press International

PERTH, Australia — A dolphin protected an 11-year-old boy in shark-infested waters off the Cocos Islands for four hours last week after the young surfer was swept out to sea, the boy's father said.

The boy, Nick Christides, said after his rescue that the dolphin never left his side during his ordeal in waters off the islands, 800 miles southwest of Singapore in the Indian Ocean.

He had been surfing with friends in the

Cocos Island Lagoon when a wave tossed him off his board, his father Tony told the West Australian News by radio telephone Friday.

The strong current dragged him out and boats from the island couldn't find him in the rough seas.

"Nick may never have survived if the dolphin had not stayed with him. He was very, very lucky. We were sure we would never see him alive again," said Christides, who lives on the island.

The Washington Times

MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 1982

Dolphin protects boy from sharks

PERTH, Australia — A dolphin protected an 11-year-old boy in shark-infested waters for four hours after the youth was swept out to sea while surfing off remote Cocos Island in the Indian Ocean, a Perth newspaper reported.

The boy, Nick Christides, said after his rescue that the dolphin had never left his side during his ordeal. Cocos islanders insisted no shark would have approached the boy while the dolphin was near, the paper said. The report did not say how the dolphin joined the youth. He had been surfing when a wave knocked him off his board and pulled him out to sea. Nick was rescued after being spotted by the crew of a U.S. Orion search plane, the report said.

A Real Big Catch

11/93 LA Times



LORI SHREPLER / Los Angeles Times

Biologists from the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History examine a great white shark that was snared Monday in a net

intended for swordfish. The 17-foot shark was caught off Santa Barbara Island and had an adult sea lion in its mouth, biologists said.

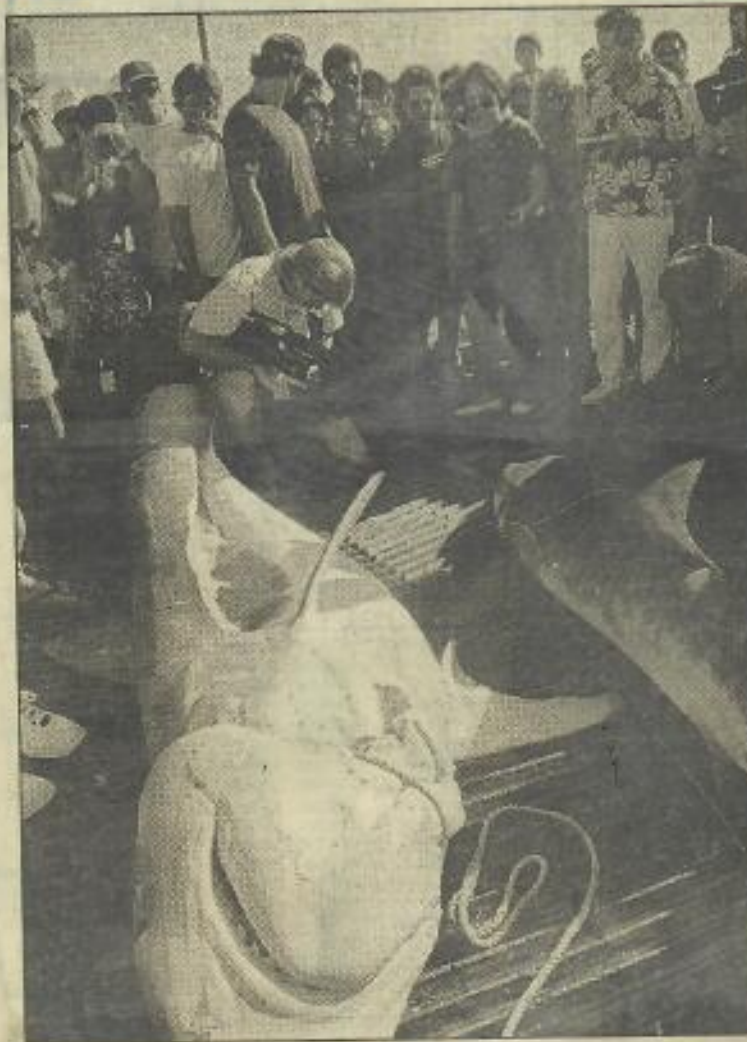
Honolulu Star-

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1992

THE PULSE OF PARADISE

Viola Ramaila, Ryan Romento's mother, points at the smaller of two tiger sharks caught last night off Keaau Beach Park. Standing beside Ramaila at Waianae Boat Harbor this morning is her mother-in-law, Jannie Ramaila.

By Terry Lake,
Star-Bulletin



Four tiger task force

□ The state hopes to get the one responsible for the fatal Keaau attack

By Mary Adamski
and Tino Ramirez
Star-Bulletin

Shark hunters today are trying to catch a large tiger shark they spotted circling their boat as they hauled in four other tiger sharks, including an 11-footer and 13-footer, in the search for the shark that killed a surfer yesterday off the Leeward Coast.

They set 12 hooks baited with ahi last night at a depth of about 40 feet directly off the site of the attack, and this morning set out a single hook and line using the head of one of last night's catch as bait.

The victim, Aaron Romento, 18, of Pearl City was bitten in the thigh while waiting for his last bodyboarding ride of the day about 20 yards off Keaau Beach Park just before 10 a.m. He paddled to shore but died of massive bleeding.

Inside:

■ Waianae ocean users say it's time to rethink the rights of sharks.
Page A-9

BOWL 'BOWS

owl trip for two

Page D-1

Bulletin

35 CENTS

sharks hooked; stalks another

Romentos' mother, Viola Ramaila, was at the Waianae Boat Harbor when the two largest sharks were brought in. As she watched them hauled up a boat ramp, she said she felt anger and hate.

"I can't believe this is happening," said Ramaila. "But I'm glad the sharks were caught. We lost Aaron, but for the sake of others, I'm glad. I hope they don't have to experience this."

Bill Paty, director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, said the shark hunters today spotted another large tiger shark circling their boat while they were pulling in last night's catch, including an 11-foot male and a 13-foot female. The two other sharks were small ones and only their heads were left on the hooks, Paty said. The large sharks will be dissected to try to determine whether one of them was responsible for the attack.

"There's another big rascal swimming free out here, at least 13 feet long," Paty said. Paty admitted that the tiger shark population can never be eradicated, but because the animals take a long time to grow, the larger fish can be reduced to the point that the potential for attacks will be minimized.

The shark hunters may return to the bait site later today to check their catch.

Whether the shark hunt will continue depends on the feelings of the Waianae community, Paty said. "It's their coastline, and they're sensitive to the situation," he said.

Meanwhile, surf along the Waianae coast is increasing with a large west swell, and Paty expects problems keeping surfers out of the water. None were out at the attack site today, but many were out at Makaha.

"We can only strongly advise they stay out but not legally prevent them," Paty said.

From the descriptions of sightings in the area of yesterday's attack, John Naughton of the Shark Task Force said he is "95 percent sure that it was a tiger shark."

"They appear to have a home range," he said, "so the idea is to go out as soon as possible and set gear immediately off the site. If you fish the area of the attack, chances are good that you will catch it."

"I'm afraid after this attack, there will be pressure to mount a large-scale control program. I would recommend against

See SHARK, Page A-9

FROM PAGE ONE . . .

SHARK: State plans hot line for sightings

Continued from Page A-1

that," said Naughton, a biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

An increase in the number of encounters has already led the Shark Task Force to discuss the possibility of some controlled hunting off popular surfing sites or locations of frequent shark sightings, Naughton said.

It was just two weeks ago that the task force made a similar hunting effort.

Fishermen set lines off Laniakea on the North Shore after a tiger shark took a large bite out of a surfer's board. Three tiger sharks were caught in the one-night effort.

People who have had a brush with a shark or have consistently seen large creatures in certain locations will soon have a central hot line where they can make reports. The Shark Task Force is about to offer that service, Naughton said. It will be a data-gathering tool which may aid in the decision to cull creatures from specific locations.

"There is no evidence that one shark will go out and attack (a human) again," said Christopher Lowe, who has undertaken research in shark biology in working for a doctorate at the University of Hawaii. "There is no scientific evidence to support that there is a pattern of attacks, that there might be a 'rogue shark.'"

"Ecologically, a selective hunting is better than a full-scale control program.

"It is hard to argue with logic because there is a fatality involved — you're dealing with human emotions."

Lowe said scientists have looked for patterns in Florida, where 15 to 20 shark attacks are reported each year. "They have decreased the population, but they still have attacks, which tends to show that they are random events."

Lowe said Florida, even with the possible effect of bad publicity on its tourist-based economy, "has never, even considered massive shark control."

There is a spiritual consideration about sharks in Hawaii that Florida doesn't share, and it was reflected in the presence of Hawaiian community leader Frenchy DeSoto aboard the fishing boat last night.

Sharks have been the aumakua or guardian spirit of some Hawaiian families for centuries. Sensitiv-

ity about potential shark slaughter set off a furor in the Hawaiian community on Maui last year. Some worries were about how the hunting was done at the site off Olowalu, where Martha Morrell was killed by a shark Nov. 26.

"Our aumakua take care of us. But when there is a predator, if it injures someone, it must be gotten rid of," DeSoto said.

She said the fishing crew and members of the Hawaiian community prayed together before the fishing boat left to set the lines last night.

"The protocol is important," DeSoto said. "We consulted with Hawaiian kupunas (elders) in Waianae and the Edith Kanakaole Foundation . . . we collectively discussed how to proceed with knowledge and spirituality."

"There is also this community's deep pain of aloha and sorrow for what happened to (Romento's) family. We all are praying because we can imagine what kind of pain they have," DeSoto said. "We send them our aloha."

Romento's mother arrived at Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center yesterday after her son's body was brought there by ambulance. She said accepting her son's death has been easier because the family has his body. "This way I can put him to rest."

Ramalla and friends yesterday

later went to Keauu Beach Park to talk with lifeguards and other witnesses. She was upset that no warning signs had been posted at the park.

"They should let people know what is in the water, regardless of tourists."

She also said more should have been done after last month's attack on the North Shore. "They should have done something. It's a problem and it's out of control. It's happening too often."

"Some of us were saying that if it happened to a tourist, there would be eradication," said Reil Sunn, world-famous woman surfer. "Since it happened to a local kid, there won't be. I think there should be eradication where there are repeat offenders. Not go out and kill everything, but hunt in an area where there are a lot of people to protect."

Sunn, also a Leeward coast lifeguard, said she has seen more sharks in the past two years than ever before. She dives for fish, often going far offshore alone.

"A sign that the surfers know there's danger is when you pass Mail Point on a perfect day and no one is in the water."

"Surfers don't want to be the first one in the water anymore."

Star-Bulletin reporters Peter Wagner and Tim Ryan contributed to this report.

Shark attacks

Attacks in Hawaii waters since 1991:

- **April 3, 1991:** 34-year-old man bit on leg while sitting on surfboard off Oneula Beach, Ewa
- **May 26, 1991:** Scott Betz, 24, of North Shore, bit on leg surfing Māli Point
- **Nov. 26, 1991:** Marti Morrell, 34, of Olowalu, Maui, fatally attacked swimming off oceanfront home
- **Feb. 19, 1992:** Bryan Adona, 29, disappeared off North Shore; bodyboard found with shark bite.
- **March 28, 1992:** Jude Chamberlain, 37, of Hanalei, Kauai, minor cuts to foot off Haena, Kauai
- **Oct. 22, 1992:** Rick Gruzinsky, 26, of Hawaii Kai, minor cuts from his damaged surfboard after shark attacked board Laniakea, North Shore
- **Nov. 5, 1992:** Aaron Romento, 18, of Pearl City, fatally mauled bodyboarding, Keaau Beach Park, Leeward Oahu

Death stirs new stance on sharks

By Peter Wagner

Star-Bulletin

Even the best of watermen on Waianae's sandy coast say it's time to rethink the rights of sharks.

"Sharks in the area have been getting really aggressive lately,"



Brian Keaulana

said city lifeguard Mel Puu, a 43-year-old surfer. "I don't know why it's happening but it should raise concern."

Brian Keaulana, head lifeguard in the Waianae area, wouldn't comment directly on the matter.

The rights of sharks vs. people is a sensitive one among Hawaiians, environmentalists and others alarmed by increasing shark sightings and attacks in recent years.

"They're out there," he said. "It's their environment."

Like others who grew up in the area, Puu feels a close tie to the ocean and its creatures. But yesterday's fatal attack in the clear, inviting water just 50 feet off Keaau Beach left him searching his feelings.

"I just feel sorry for the family, and for the kid whose life got taken away," he said.

Robert Quartero was among those who later turned up to ponder the tragedy at the scene — an idyllic crescent of sand often crowded with beach-goers on weekends.

"Sharks are like everything else, they have a right to live," said the 24-year-old Māli resident.

"But when they're interfering with people, it's either us or them," he added.

Quartero feels dangerous sharks should somehow be kept away from highly used recreational beaches, but left alone in the deep blue sea.

"We have to do something about this," he said. "It's getting out of hand."

Ryan Gabato of Ewa Beach was fishing from a rocky ledge not far from the beach several hours after the attack.

Gabato said sharks are important as predators in the ocean.

But a limited bounty program aimed at the largest man-eaters might ease concerns, he said.

New Catholic schools agenda —

Weather details, A4



TODAY'S OUTLOOK:
Mostly sunny;
high in mid 80s

NEWS SUMMARY
ON PAGE A2

SPORTS:



**Kahuku,
Roosevelt
advance**

—Page D1

TGIF:

**Weekend:
film, fun,
festivities**

—Page C1



LIVING:

**Fischer
\$3.5 million
richer**

—Page C

The Honolulu Advertiser

Aloha! Friday, Nov. 6, 1992

Final Edition

It should have been s shark killed body-bo



Captain Tom Yoho, left, readies his boat, the Kahanuola, to set sail and set 14 hooks baited with 15- to 20-pound tuna off Keauu to catch sharks in the area of yesterday's attack.

Advertiser photo by T. Umeda

SHOULDER'S S...

safe — but ardor anyway

By Jon Yoshishige
and Bunky Bakutis
Advertiser Staff Writers

The shark attack off Keaau Beach that killed an 18-year-old body-boarder yesterday shouldn't have happened at that place and time, under those circumstances, experts said.

Aaron Romento of Pacific Palisades was body-boarding with friends in five feet of clear water 10 yards from the shore of the Leeward Oahu beach park when he was attacked by a large shark at mid-morning.



"That's the safest conditions you can get," lifeguard Dennis Gouveia said as he surveyed the waters off a sandy portion of Keaau Beach Park, where Romento was attacked about 9:30 a.m.

"You wouldn't think it would happen on a day like this," he said.

George Balazs, a biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service, agreed.

"Certainly the books that tell you of shark attacks advise against swimming in the early morning (and) against swimming alone," said Balazs, who has been documenting Hawaii shark attacks for 15 years.

"It doesn't sound like these kids were breaking any of those rules," he said.

It's commonly believed sharks are

See Shark attack, Page A2



Shark victim treasured his time in the sea

By **Kris M. Tanahara**
Advertiser Staff Writer

Aaron Romento was a hard-working 18-year-old who loved two things: the ocean and body-boarding.

His grandfather, Walter Schumacher of Pacific Palisades, said Aaron would spend his days off from work body-boarding with friends.

"That was his love," Schumacher said last night. "He loved the sea. He loved to Boogie Board."

That's what Aaron was doing with friends at Keanu Beach Park in Waiararua yesterday morning when he was fatally injured by a shark.

The grandfather said Aaron went body-boarding everywhere.

"We always warned him (to be careful), but he always said, 'I take care,'" said Schumacher, who helped Romento's mother, Viola Ramalla, raise Aaron and his 13-year-old half brother and 3-year-old half sister. Aaron's parents are divorced. His father, Larry Romento, lives in Oregon.

Schumacher said Aaron talked of "near-misses" with sharks, but was never worried that he might someday be attacked.

"So, it was probably the hand of fate" that took his life yesterday, said Schumacher.

Romento quit Pearl City High School in January to take a full-time job, school officials said.

Aaron turned 18 in September and had

just received his new driver's license in the mail, his grandfather said.

Romento was initially hired as a lot attendant at Thrifty Car Rental in Waikiki and worked his way up to van driver for Thrifty's Honolulu Airport operation, said Gabriel Chiapa, night supervisor there.

Chiapa described Romento as hard-working and dependable.

"He was always on time . . . and always came in when we needed extra help," Chiapa said last night. "Everyone liked him."

Schumacher said of his grandson: "He was very kind and cooperative. He never drank. He was very obedient. We were so proud of him."

"Everyone is so upset. We love him and miss him. And it hurts so much."

Shark

FROM PAGE ONE

more likely to attack in the early morning or late evening and in murky water, when they can mistake humans for their normal food.

Turtles - a favorite food of tiger sharks - were reportedly in the area before the attack, causing some beachgoers to speculate that the shark mistook Romento on his board for a turtle.

Balazs said a shark should have been able to distinguish between a person on a body-board and a turtle in clear water.

"(But) sharks feed on a variety of items, by no means simply and solely on turtles," he said.

And while it wasn't known what kind of shark killed Romento, tiger sharks often feed on almost anything they find on the surface, Balazs said.

Lifeguards and surfers who frequent "Keaau," as the surf spot a mile past Makaha Beach is called, said the water Romento and the other boys were in is barely five feet deep.

Keaau Beach Park is popular with young surfers, some as young as 10 - and with 2- to 3-foot swells yesterday, it was the perfect morning for the two pairs of friends who splashed into the surf at about 9:20 a.m.

Keoni Watson, 20, a professional surfer from Makaha who has surfed in the area for nearly 10 years, said he had never come close to a shark and can't remember seeing any in the Keaau area before.

"My girlfriend and I were standing knee-high in the water ready to go surf in the small waves when we noticed there was splashing amongst the body-boarders," Watson said. "The splashing got violent and then all of the people who were still on their body-boards began paddling to shore."

According to Watson, one of Romento's friends said he saw the shark pass underneath him while he was trying to catch a wave and then it struck Romento, who was sitting on his board waiting for a wave.

Romento was knocked off his board and his friend first tried to get away, then went back to help bring Romento to shore, Watson said.

"There was blood in the water everywhere," he said. "The shark attacked and then withdrew, disappeared, just vanished, and we didn't see it again."

Romento was bitten once on his right leg, losing flesh and some bone from just above the knee to above his ankle, but almost made it to shore before collapsing.

Watson and a 17-year-old boy who had been fishing nearby with his family rushed to Romento's aid and helped carry him up the sandy beach.

They elevated his leg and applied a tourniquet, "but it looked like he had lost so much blood in the water that he was going into shock," Watson said.

Pua Mokuau, the first lifeguard on the scene, was in her guard tower at Makaha when she heard the shark attack report on the emergency radio.

She threw her emergency

attack: It should have been safe



A lifeguard patrols the coast on a Waverunner to tell divers and surfers of the fatal shark attack. Advertiser photo by T. Umada

medical kit and oxygen unit in to the back of her car and drove to Keaau.

"I bent over the victim and he looked right at me as if to say, 'All right, someone is here to help,'" Mokuau said. "At this point, I checked his pulse and there was nothing, but his eyes were open."

"I started CPR immediately, (but after) one cycle, there was still no pulse," she said.

"I kept saying, 'Come on, bruddah, come on, bruddah.' But he appeared to be already in shock and was turning more white."

Halfway through the next CPR cycle, lifeguard Lt. Brian Keaulana arrived.

"As soon as I got there, most everything was done," Keaulana said. "The blood was stopped; CPR was being administered and it seemed that the victim had started to get a little color back."

The lifeguards began two-person CPR, with Keaulana operating the oxygen mask and Mokuau continuing the compressions. They kept it up until an ambulance arrived a few minutes later.

Romento was taken to the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center, where he was pronounced dead on arrival at 10:10 a.m.

Doctors tried to revive him, but could not find a pulse, said emergency room director Dr. Robert Bonham.

"We just never got a heart beat going again," he said.

The 12-inch gash behind Romento's right knee severed a major artery, causing massive bleeding, he said.

"There's no question, he bled out before anyone could get to him," said Bonham, adding that the tourniquet applied to Romento's leg on the beach was "the best thing that could've been done."

Mokuau, 40, a friendly, motherly woman who often volunteers for youth surfing activities, cried as she recounted the failed attempt to save Romento.

"The saddest part is you always think there is more you

Recent shark attacks in Hawaii

■ **Oct. 22, Laniakea, Oahu:** Surfer Rick Gruzinsky, 26, is waiting for a wave when a 14-foot tiger shark attacks his board about 7:45 a.m. The shark takes a 16-inch bite out of the board, but Gruzinsky escapes unhurt. State hunters haul in a trio of big tiger sharks the next day. The teeth on the largest one match the bite mark.

■ **March 28, Haena, Kauai:** Surfer Jude Chamberlin, 37, escapes with cuts on her foot after an 8-foot shark attacks her at 6:30 a.m.

■ **Feb. 19, "Leftovers," Oahu:** Bryan Adona, 29, an Aloha Airlines mechanic, disappears while bodyboarding at twilight. His board is found the next morning at Waimea Bay, missing a chunk consistent with the bite of a large tiger shark.

■ **Nov. 26, 1991, Olowalu, Maui:** Martha "Marti" Morrell, is killed by a shark while swimming 100 yards from her beachfront home at 9 a.m. National Marine Fisheries Service biologist George Balazs said the attack was the 88th documented in Hawaii since 1779, and the first confirmed death by shark attack since 1958, when 15-year-old Billy Weaver was fatally bitten off Lanikai.

■ **May 26, 1991, Maui, Oahu:** Surfer Scott Betz, 24, is bitten on the right leg at 4:45 p.m. after seeing an 8-foot tiger shark nearby. He suffers puncture wounds, is treated and released.

■ **April 3, 1991, Oneula Beach, Ewa, Oahu:** A 34-year-old surfer was sitting on his board when he is bitten on the leg by a shark 6-to-10 feet long.

■ **Feb. 18, 1990, Makapuu, Oahu:** Shark-mutilated remains of fisherman Roy T. Tanaka, 47, are found. He disappeared after a Marine Corps recreation dive boat carrying him and four other men capsized off Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station.

■ **Oct. 14, 1989, Kahe Point, Oahu:** Ray Mehl, 32, disappears while scuba diving with friends. Searchers find a headless body in the area the next day, but a 12- to 15-foot tiger shark devours it before it can be recovered.

can do," she said.

Lifeguards immediately closed beaches from Makaha to Makua and patrolled the coast on a Yamaha Waverunner to tell divers and surfers in the water of the fatal shark attack.

A state Marine Patrol boat and state Department of Land and Natural Resources enforcement officers assisted.

The DLNR's Shark Task Force ordered a hunt for the killer shark, and the crew of the Kahanuola set 14 hooks baited with 15- to 20-pound tuna off Keaau at sunset yesterday.

The hooks dangle from a main line floating along a ledge where the bottom drops off from about 35 feet to 75 to 100 feet, said boat captain Tom Yo-ho.

On board was shark hunter

Steve Kaiser, who caught three large tiger sharks off Laniakea two weeks ago after a shark bit off a huge chunk of a surfboard.

The surfer, Rick Gruzinsky, was not injured in that 7:50 a.m. attack.

Kaiser also caught a 13-foot tiger shark off Olowalu, Maui, two weeks after a shark killed Martha Morrell, 41, there last Nov. 26.

Also on board the Kahanuola were lifeguard Keaulana, his father, famed surfer Buffalo Keaulana; and Office of Hawaiian Affairs trustee A. Frenchy DeSoto, representing the Hawaiian community.

The hooks were to be checked at daybreak today.

Advertiser Staff Writer Kris Tanahara contributed to this report.