

ACTIVITY: Diving for abalone
CASE: [GSAF 1974.01.09](#)
DATE: Wednesday January 9, 1974
LOCATION: The attack took place at Streaky Bay, 730 kilometres northeast of Adelaide, in South Australia.

NAME: Terry Manuel
DESCRIPTION: He was a 26-year-old male, married with one child.
BOAT: Unknown

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: It was a cool Autumn day.
MOON PHASE: Full Moon, January 8, 1974
SEA CONDITIONS: The water was cold and dark.
TIME: Afternoon

NARRATIVE: Terry Manuel had been down for 30 minutes and, his bag full of abalone, he was ascending to the surface. He didn't see the shark beneath him or when it suddenly changed direction and charged. The shark struck him with such force that it lifted him entirely out of the water. Then the shark took him below the surface. His mate, John Talbot, witnessed the attack and pulled Terry by his air hose until he was alongside the boat. Then he got hold of Terry's arms and hauled him into the boat. Terry died moments later. Manuel's death so frightened the 60 commercial abalone divers who were working the coast of South Australia in 1974 that most stopped diving and didn't return to work for more than six months.

INJURY: Fatal. The diver's right leg was severed by the shark.

SPECIES INVOLVED: A white shark, *Carcharodon carcharias*, 10 to 15 feet in length.

SOURCES: Bennington Banner (Vermont), Thursday, January 10, 1974; Alan Sharpe, page 124; Howard Hall, <http://www.howardhall.com/stories/whitey.html>



Shark fatally attacks Australian shell diver

ADELAIDE, Australia (UPI) — A 10-foot white shark ripped off Terrence Manuel's right leg Wednesday as he was diving for abalone off the west coast of South Australia. He died shortly afterward.

Manuel, 26, was diving for the shellfish in 30 feet of water 150 yards offshore when the shark appeared, his companion John Talbot said.

The shark, believed to be a White Pointer, tore Manuel's leg off as Talbot struggled to drag his friend into their boat.

Talbot said he was shelling the catch when Manuel surfaced 150 yards from their 14-foot open dinghy and yelled "shark!"

"That was the only word he said," Talbot said. "As he surfaced, I headed straight for

him in the boat and just as I got to him, blood was pouring everywhere onto the surface of the water," Talbot said. "He was still conscious and I kept talking to him as I was trying to get him onto the boat.

"But the shark kept grabbing him. I could feel it pulling on him.

"The offshore wind blew the boat out of the blood and I saw the shark which I estimated to be a 10-foot Pointer."

Talbot said when he got Manuel into the boat. "I looked to see if I could apply a tourniquet but his leg was gone. The leg was completely bitten off at the top of the thigh and his right arm had been mauled between the elbow and the wrist. His chest and back was also bleeding."