

ACTIVITY: Spearfishing
CASE: GSAF 2009.04.11
DATE: Saturday April 11, 2009
LOCATION: Kona, Hawaii, USA.

NAME: Paulo Dominici
DESCRIPTION: He was a 49-year-old male from San Francisco.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Full Moon, April 9, 2009

TIME: After 18h45

NARRATIVE: Paulo Dominici was spearfishing with a friend off the Kona Makai Condominiums on Alii Drive and failed to return to shore. He was reported missing at 22h47. Inspection of some items belonging to the spearfisherman which were recovered suggested that he may have been involved in a boating accident. Police also said they have not ruled out the possibility of a shark attack.



INJURY: Presumed fatal, but shark involvement was not established.

Search Suspended For SF Man Missing In Hawaii

Authorities in Hawaii have suspended a search for a San Francisco restaurateur who went missing during a spear fishing outing Saturday.

Paulo Dominici, owner of the Noe Valley restaurant Bacco Ristorante, was reported missing Saturday morning by a friend, according to Hawaii police.

The pair had gone spear fishing in relatively shallow waters off Kona on the Big Island around 6:45 a.m., according to police and fire officials.

During the trip, they split up and Dominici's friend returned to shore about three hours later. When Dominici did not return, the friend became concerned and called police.

Fire Department personnel searched the area and recovered some of Dominici's fishing gear, including a spear gun, mask and parts of his wetsuit, but were unable to locate him, Battalion Chief Reuben Chun said.

The search was suspended Monday, pending any new leads or information in the case, Chun said.

SOURCE: CBS, Apr 14, 2009, <http://cbs5.com/local/missing.sf.man.2.985196.html>

More details released in search for missing spear fisherman in Kona

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii: More details in the case of the missing spearfisherman in Kona are beginning to emerge, as investigators from the Hawaii Police Department and the state are continuing their search for 49-year-old Paulo Dominici of San Francisco.

Dominici reportedly went spearfishing with a friend offshore of the Kona Makai Condominiums on Alii Drive at 6:45 am Saturday, and was reported missing at 10:47 am after he failed to return to shore.

Police say that Fire Department personnel located items belonging to Dominici and turned them over to the Police Department. No body has been discovered.

Witnesses reported seeing a boat in the area where Dominici was believed to have been diving. Police say an inspection of some of Dominici's recovered items indicate that he may have been involved in a boating accident. Police say they have not ruled out the possibility of a shark attack.

The case is still classified as a missing person investigation.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle website, Dominici is the well known owner of the popular Bacco Ristorante on Diamond Street in Noe Valley.

Investigators are seeking the public's help in locating witnesses or persons who may have any information about boats in the area of the Kona Makai Condominiums on Saturday morning between 6:45 a.m. and 10:47 a.m. Police ask anyone with information to call Detective Charlotte Bird at 326-4646, extension 228, or the Police Department's non-emergency line at 935-3311. Tipsters who prefer to remain anonymous may call Crime Stoppers at 961-8300 in Hilo or 329-8181 in Kona. All Crime Stoppers information is kept confidential.

SOURCE: April 15, 2009

<http://www.bigislandvideonews.com/kailuakona/2009/20090415missingdiver.htm>

Paolo Dominici: Hit By A Boat?

Missing restaurateur may have been killed by boat.

DNA testing has confirmed that a bone fragment recovered in the waters off Ali'i Drive is that of missing spearfisherman Paolo Dominici, 49, of San Francisco, according to Hawai'i County police.

Dominici, owner of Bacco Ristorante in Noe Valley, went spearfishing with a friend offshore of the Kona Makai Condominiums on the morning of April 11 and was reported missing after failing



to return to shore. Fire department personnel found the bone fragment and other items belonging to the man, indicating he may have been run over by a boat.

Police said witnesses reported seeing a boat in the area where Dominici was believed to have been diving.

Anonymous said...

Don't fool yourselves. Bodies hit by boats are found. People eaten by tiger sharks are not.

Anonymous said...

I was actually on the Big Island vacationing with my husband, brother and sister in-law at the time of Paolo most unfortunate accident. We were actually on the dive boat of the dive operation who was questioned about being in the area at the time. We were told that they were not in the area at the time. We actually also spoke with people who were friendly with the Dominici family and were staying at the Kona Makai. They said that they did not see any boats during that time. Also, Paolo was an excellent spear fisherman and would come back with huge fish. There are quite a few tiger sharks that regularly travel up and down the Kona Coastline ranging between 10 to 18 feet long. We were even told that the locals have named the sharks.

Most people we talked to all thought it was a tiger shark v. a boat. If Paolo had hanging fish from his utility belt then the tiger shark was after the fish and not Paolo. Unfortunately, Paolo was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

My sympathy goes out to Paolo's wife and daughter.

God Bless!

SOURCE: <http://noevalleysf.blogspot.com/2009/04/paolo-dominici-hit-by-boat.html>