

**ACTIVITY:** Unknown

**CASE:** [GSAF 1954.00.00.d](#)

**DATE:** 1954

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Caribbean Sea at Martinique, French West Indies.

**NAME:** Bernard Vieux

**NARRATIVE:** “One of the strangest events concerning nurse sharks occurred in Martinique in 1954 and was related to the author [John E. Randall] by J. Morice, Chief of the Laboratory, Institut Scientifique et Technique des Peches Maritimes, Guadeloupe, French West Indies. With no provocation, a six-foot nurse shark attached itself with its jaws to the top of the chest of Bernard Vieux and seemed to embrace him with its pectoral fins. Vieux was able to free himself only with great difficulty. When the author tactfully indicated to Morice that the incident seemed a little too bizarre to be believed, he and an associate insisted that it truly happened. He said that he had seen the contused area and tooth marks of the nurse shark on Vieux’s chest.”



**SPECIES INVOLVED:** The incident involved a nurse shark about 1.8 metres [six feet] in length.

**SOURCE:** John E. Randall in *Sharks & Survival*, pages 358-359