



CASE: GSAF 1959.00.00.b

DATE: Late July 1959

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean between Miami, Florida and Bimini, Bahamas.

BOAT: 17-foot boat with an outboard motor.

OCCUPANT: Richard A. Wade, a graduate student at the University of Miami.

NARRATIVE: "In late July, 1959, Richard A. Wade of the Marine Laboratory, University of Miami, slowed his 17-foot outboard motor boat to refuel halfway across the Gulf Stream from Miami to Bimini. A six-foot whitetip shark appeared on the scene and circled the boat slowly, its dorsal fin out of the water. At one point when about 10 feet from the boat it broke out of the circle and swam directly, but with no noticeable increase of speed, toward the stern of the boat and struck the bronze, white-painted propeller which was turning slowly. The shark remained in the area for several minutes before departing. Tooth marks were later found on the propeller."

INJURY: No injury to boat occupant

SPECIES INVOLVED: An oceanic whitetip shark, 1.8 metres [six feet]in length

SOURCES: John E. Randall