



ACTIVITY: Catching sardines

CASE: [GSAF 1981.07.01](#)

DATE: Wednesday July 1, 1981

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Indian Ocean at Clansthal, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

NAME: John Wilson

BACKGROUND

ENVIRONMENT: The incident took place during the sardine run.

DEPTH OF WATER: Knee-deep

NARRATIVE: See press clipping

INJURY: Lacerations to calf

SPECIES: A gray shark (dusky shark?)

SOURCES: The Chronicle Telegram (Elyria, Ohio), Wednesday July 1, 1981

Shark mauls fisherman in Indian Ocean

DURBAN, South Africa (UPI) — A gray shark today mauled the leg of a fisherman who ignored warnings to stay out of the water because of a shark invasion near the Indian Ocean resort town of Durban, officials said.

The Anti-Shark Measures Board said John Wilson was standing in knee deep water catching sardines when the shark struck, ripping apart his leg. Wilson managed to scramble

out of the water before the shark could strike again.

The last reported shark attack in South African waters was in February 1980.

The board has issued a warning to all bathers to stay out of the water because of hundreds of sharks spotted in the area. The sharks were following the annual sardine migration along the coast.