

ACTIVITY: Fishing

CASE: GSAF 1992.06.17

DATE: Wednesday June 17, 1992

LOCATION: The incident took place 1.5 kilometres north of Igata-cho and 60 km south of Matsuyama, Ehime Prefecture, Japan.

33°70'N, 132°17'E

BOAT: A 16-foot wooden fishing boat (5.75 m in length).

OCCUPANT: Yoshiaki Ueda, a 71-year-old fisherman.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Full Moon, June 15, 1992

TIME: 12h30

NARRATIVE: Ueda was preparing to fish for jack-mackerel when he felt a strong shock on his boat as if had collided with another boat and saw a large shark alongside his boat. "...I suddenly noticed a shark opening its mouth," said Ueda. . "I thought I was going to die and tried all means to repel it," The shark rammed the boat repeatedly, and Ueda, who was alone, hit the shark's nose several times with a long stick before it finally dived into the sea.

INJURY: No injury to occupant.

DAMAGE TO BOAT: The shark left more than 30 teeth marks in the boat. It also left two teeth. Yoshiki Iefuji, an official in the Ehime state government in western Japan, said a fishing cooperative reported that two shark's teeth, each two inches long, were found embedded in the keel of Ueda's boat.

SPECIES INVOLVED: The incident involved a white shark. Kazuhiro Nakaya examined photographs taken by local government officials and concluded the shark approached the boat from the starboard and bit the boat in many places on the starboard (right side) and bottom of the boat, leaving many deep cuts on the side board. Two large teeth were discovered in the keel which Nakaya identified as the lower teeth of a white shark.



Shark Attack

 A 16-foot-long (5-meter-long) shark left two teeth and more than 30 gashes on an equally long fishing boat, but the 71-year-old fisherman inside managed to repel the creature with a wooden stick. "When I suddenly noticed a shark opening its mouth, I thought I was going to die," Yoshiaki Ueda told Japanese television. The shark rammed his boat several times, and Ueda, alone in the boat, hit the shark's nose repeatedly with a 13-foot pole (4 meter pole) before it finally left. The incident was in the same area off Ehime, western Japan, where a 41-year-old diver was killed by a shark on March 8

REPORTED BY: Kazuhiro Nakaya, Laboratory of Marine Zoology, Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University, Japan *in* Nakaya, Kazuhiro (1993). A Fatal Attack by a White Shark in Japan and a Review of Shark Attacks in Japanese Waters. *Japanese Journal of Ichthyology*. 40 (1): 35-42. (see bibliography).

ADDITIONAL SOURCES: The News (Frederick, Maryland), Thursday June 18, 1992, page A3; Orlando Sentinel, June 18, 1992 page A3; Syracuse Journal-Herald, Monday June 22, 1992 .

Fisherman fends off shark

TOKYO (AP) — A 16-foot shark left two teeth and more than 30 gashes in a small boat Wednesday, but a 71-year-old fisherman drove off the attacker by whacking it on the nose with a stick. "When I suddenly noticed a shark opening its mouth, I thought I was going to die and tried all means to repel it," Yoshiaki Ueda said in a televised interview.

Yoshiki Iefuji, an official in the Ehime state government in western Japan, said a fishing cooperative reported that two shark's teeth, each 2 inches long, were found on the bottom of Mr. Ueda's 16-foot boat. The shark rammed the boat several times, and Mr. Ueda, who was alone, hit the shark's nose several times with a long stick before it finally dived into the sea, Mr. Iefuji said.

Lone fisherman, 71, fights off shark attack

MATSUYAMA, Japan (NYT)—A shark attacked a small commercial fishing boat on June 17 in Ehime Prefecture, western Japan, just a day after the local government suspended a shark patrol called after two attacks in the area earlier this year.

Kazuhiko Nakaya, an ichthyologist at Hokkaido University, identified the shark as a great white by the two inch-long teeth it left embedded in the wooden boat's bow.

Yoshiaki Ueda, 71, said he was preparing to fish when a 5-meter (16.5-foot) long shark rammed his 5-meter wooden boat. Ueda, alone in the boat about 3 kilometers (1.8 miles) off shore, said he struck the shark with his 2-meter (6.6-foot) long wooden pole—continuing to poke the shark in the snout after the pole broke—until the shark left after five minutes.

In addition to the teeth, the shark left behind 30 gashes in the hull.

"The shark was opening its mouth more than 30 centimeters (11.75 inches) wide," Ueda said. "I hit it frantically, fearing it would kill me if I let it land in the boat. I can't describe the terror I felt."

The Free Lance—Star (Fredericksburg, VA), Friday June 26, 1992, page D2