

ACTIVITY: Diving

CASE: [GSAF 1995.04.09.b](#)

DATE: Sunday April 9, 1995

LOCATION: Honeysuckle Point at Eden in southern New South Wales, Australia.

NAME: David Malone

DESCRIPTION: He is a New South Wales Fisheries Officer.



BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, April 8, 1995

NARRATIVE: Officer David Malone knew there was something fishy about Hans Ryzy's boat as he approached.

After receiving a tip-off from a commercial fisherman, Officer Malone sped to an anchored seven-metre craft. The boat, with Ryzy and Eric George Hyland on board, briefly attempted to avoid the officer's vessel before stopping and allegedly tossing more than 70 abalone shells overboard.

Officer Malone donned diving gear to retrieve the abalone but as he reached the bottom, a wobbegong bit him. The shark made off with Officer Malone's fin. He dived again but had to fend off a school of fish before reaching the abalone.

Hyland and Ryzy were subsequently charged in Downing Centre Local Court with one count of possessing undersized fish. Hyland, the boat's deckhand, was also charged with shucking the abalone.

Only 37 abalone licences exist in New South Wales and each is worth \$600,000.

INJURY: No injury, but the shark took Officer Malone's swimfin.

SOURCE: Alister McMillan, The Daily Telegraph, Thursday May 9, 1996, page 7