

ACTIVITY: Fishing
CASE: **GSAF 1995.08.01**

DATE: August 1, 1995

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean near a fish aggregating buoy outside Neiafu Harbour, Vava'u, Kingdom of Tonga.

18°43.4'S, 174°00.1'W

NAME: Jim McManus



Neiafu Harbour

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, August 4, 1995

ENVIRONMENT: The FAD [Fish Aggregating Device] located outside the harbor attracts a variety of species, including Mahi Mahi, Yellow fin, Skipjack Tuna, Marlin, Sailfish, Wahoo, and Spanish Mackerel.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: Six miles

DEPTH OF WATER AT INCIDENT SITE: The water in the vicinity ranges between 40 and 50 feet, but the incident took place at the surface.

TIME: 15h00

NARRATIVE: McManus was fishing off his yacht when his fishing reel locked up. At that moment a shark bit a tuna he had on the line. The impact broke his rod and his finger.

INJURY: The middle finger of his hand was broken, but not lacerated. Although technically-speaking the shark's action resulted in the injury to the fisherman's finger, the incident was not an "attack". At best, it should be classed as a provoked incident.

SPECIES: The incident involved a 1.8-metre [6'] grey-colored shark.

SOURCE: Jim McManus was interviewed by Marie Levine of the Shark Research Institute in Neiafu on Friday November 3, 1995.



Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) at Vava'u

