



ACTIVITY: Spearfishing

CASE: GSAF 1998.01.28.R

DATE: Reported January 28, 1998

LOCATION: The incident took place at Whale Beach, New South Wales, Australia.

NAME: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: He was a 31-year-old male from Duffys Forest.

BACKGROUND

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 700 metres

TIME: 20h00

NARRATIVE: He was diving with a friend at The Oven, a popular dive sport, when he disappeared. The men had arranged to meet at sunset. When the man's friend could not find him, he returned to shore to find the missing man's still in the carpark and alerted the police. After a brief search, police divers recovered the man's speargun and a marker buoy with a severed rope attached. The rope had held a bag in which speared fish were deposited. Water police confirmed that the man's speargun had been discharged, but that the spear was missing.

INJURY: It was thought the diver had been taken by a shark, but this was not confirmed.

SPECIES: Several bronze whaler sharks up to three metres in length had been seen in the area.

SOURCE: The Daily Telegraph, Wednesday January 28, 1998, page 2

