

**ACTIVITY:** Kitesurfing

**CASE:** GSAF 2001.10.07

**DATE:** Sunday October 7, 2001

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Indian Ocean at Salt Rock, KwaZulu-Natal, 46 kilometres northeast of Durban, South Africa.  
29°30,8'S, 31°14'E

**NAME:** Alwin van Breda

**BOARD:** A kite-board is a short surfboard used with a kite.

### BACKGROUND

**WEATHER:** Moon phase: Waning Gibbous, 78% of the moon was illuminated.

**ENVIRONMENT:** The incident took place seawards of the shark nets.

**NARRATIVE:** Alwin van Breda was a competitor during the first Quik Air kite boarding competition. He was leading the down wind dash when the shark closed in and knocked him flying off his board into the air. Van Breda thought he had hit a log, but as he flew through the air he realized it was a shark, which was also turning back towards him again. Van Breda clambered back on to his board - and apparently chased the shark away by shouting at it.

**INJURY:** No injury

**SPECIES:** The incident was thought to involvd a two-metre shark. Later that week a mako shark was caught in the Natal Sharks Board nets. The NSB thought it might have been the same shark involved in this incident. "The teeth don't match up exactly to the marks on the board, but that is not surprising as both van Breda and the shark were traveling at high speeds," said Jeremy Cliff of the NSB.

