09-12-2002 Croatia – Oliver Maric - LEO PSD Cave Recovery

Oliver Maric

Aged 25, died during the search for missing Czech scuba diver Miroslav Kuklis whose body was later found in an underwater cave off the Adriatic Island of Sol.

Reported that another police diver was nearly killed during the same operation.

(Kuklis died of stab wounds, two men initially charged with his murder - 'homosexual love triangle' according to the press - were later released and sued the newspaper saying that Kuklis had most likely committed suicide by stabbing himself when he realised that he was lost in the underwater cave and trapped).

http://www.thediversassociation.com/index.php/sheets

http://www.hrt.hr/arhiv/2002/09/13/ENG.html

Special police divers have managed to recover the body of their colleague Oliver Maric who had gone missing on the island of Solta while searching for a missing Czech diver. It is believed that the young special police diver got stuck in one of the long underwater tunnels of a local cave positioned some 10 meters below the surface. The body of the Czech tourist was recovered on Wednesday in a cave positioned some 57 meters deep.

Killed Czech diver and a special police
12-09-2002

* Night diving in the cave as night is like driving down the road at a speed of 200 kilometers per hour with the lights off, say experienced divers

SPLIT - Two divers, Czech Miroslav Kukliš (31) and a member of the special unit split PU Oliver Maric (25) died yesterday at bay Poganica on the island. Cech with a group of tourists on a boat, "Dominoes" set the night diving and exploring caves, which starts at 10 meters depth, and ends, it is assumed, at a depth of 40 meters.

Around midnight, the commander of sailboats Martin Štikar (39) observed that Kukliš not emerged two hours. He called police, who arrived at the scene sent its divers. Due to bad weather conditions the search for missing diver started yesterday around 8 hours. Oliver Maric has not emerged, while his colleague Bernard Majic emerged with difficulty, and is transported to Split, and underwent a
six-hour treatment in a hyperbaric chamber Naval Medical Institute of the Navy. We managed to find out that it is not critical. At the scene of the accident came to the Chief of the Split police Serđan Gustin, and commander of special forces Danijel Krolo. Today up to 16 hours was found not one body. It is assumed that the divers are in the cave. For them seeking members of the special unit from Zagreb and Sibenik, which are to Solta sent from a base in Lošinj, having emerged from the sea is not a cop Maric.

Darko Bujas, owner of diving center "Neptune" in Sibenik, one of the invited to participate in the rescue, said the accident did not happen by accident.

- Night diving in the cave have the stupidest thing you can do. It's like night driving down the road at a speed of 200 per hour with the lights off. This is just an indication that you must accept before legislation for diving. Individual diving shall be limited to four people maximum. For a long time we insist to impose order, but in relevant ministries hut us some of HRS, trying to maintain the status quo, while diving tourism in Croatia has not been - says D. Bujas.

Dr. Miljus