Greetings,

I attended DEMA last month in Las Vegas and was pleasantly surprised and humbled at the recognition PSDiver and PSDiver Monthly has acquired. After 7 years of work, the magazine and the work we do has finally come of age. Thank you for that.

We have six new sponsors to introduce to the magazine and hope some of the contacts we made at DEMA will lead to more over the next month or two.

For those of you who were not with us at the beginning, PSDiver Monthly was introduced as a concept in 2003 at DEMA. The goal and intention of PSDiver Monthly was to bring information to the Public Safety Diving community in a way that was unique, educational and most importantly – free to subscribers. We started with a handful of sponsors and 235 subscribers.

Since the initial launch in December of 2003, our email subscriber base has grown to over 13,000 active email contacts. Because we are Internet only, our subscriber base is world wide with our highest membership being in the USA. We use Constant Contact as a permission based email distribution source and send out a notice to our email subscribers that a new issue is available for download. We do not offer a print version.

The focus of PSDiver Monthly is on water rescue and recovery and underwater crime scene investigation. We include articles, news, medical information, events and a continuing education program as part of our regular features. We occasionally offer product reviews but only if they are conducted by an outside / neutral source.

We try to keep our subject matter and topics both current and relevant and offer subscribers the opportunity to discuss issues in an open forum on a Moderated Yahoo Discussion Group. Sponsors / Advertisers or any corporate representatives are encouraged to participate and offer their expertise to this group. We just do not allow the forum to be used for advertising. The group is the largest of its kind and currently has over 1,600 members world wide representing most every training agency, major manufacturer and numerous government and military teams.

PSDiver Monthly is housed at www.PSDiver.com. PSDiver.com is a free resource site that contains a variety of information, documents, videos and both the current and archived issues of PSDiver Monthly.

Most recently we have had discussions on hybrid vehicles and how or if they pose a danger to divers if the vehicle is submerged. There is a new file posted on PSDiver.com that includes a good number of links to the Emergency Response Guides for most of the hybrid and alternate fuel source vehicles on the market right now.

In this issue we have the opportunity to see where our discipline of diving has come from and compare it to what we do today.

Stay Safe,
Mark Phillips
Editor / Publisher
PSDiver Monthly
Chicago Mass Dive
Story of what is believed to be the largest controlled underwater search ever conducted by Scuba Divers
By Vern Pederson

SEEK 100 SKIN DIVERS, screamed the headlines of the Chicago newspapers on the warm summer evening of August 31, 1957. The text of the stories carried the news that the Chicago Police Department was looking for many volunteer divers to carry out a thorough search of the bottom of our Montrose Harbor, hunting for evidence that could lead to the capture of the murderers of a teen-aged girl a few weeks previously. Following are the details that led to, and followed these headlines, and culminated in Chicago Mass Dive.

On Friday evening, August 16, a 15 year old girl disappeared while on her way home from a friend’s house. On August 22, part of her crudely butchered body was recovered from a 55 gallon oil drum found floating in the Harbor, and two days later the remainder of the body was found by Harry Bartels, a diver, jammed into a five gallon oil drum only a few hundred yards from where the first drum had been discovered.

Immediately upon the finding of the girl, Lt. Mike Spiota asked divers to search the waters for any clues, and also the remainder of the body, which at that time had not yet been found. No public mention of this was made at that time, however, and only a few divers were working the area for the next week. Then the enormity of the job...
became apparent, and it was clear that something drastic must be done if the entire harbor was to be completely and well searched.

It was in this time that one of the participating divers, Gene Morales, was discussing the situation with Lt Spiota. It must be realized that this harbor is three quarters of a mile long, and one quarter mile wide, and has moorings for over 200 craft ranging from 18 feet to 50 feet in length. The depth varies from 15 feet at the edges to 40 feet in the center, with an extreme depth of 75 feet at the harbor mouth. Because of the silt and muck on the bottom, visibility is zero, and searchers must feel every inch of the way. The water temperature at this time of the year is about 50 degrees, and there are some very strong and treacherous currents running. All in all, it was not an easy or pleasant job, but it had to be done.

To continue, Lt. Spiota asked Gene what his opinion of the operation was up to that time and was told that a crew of 100 divers would be needed to do the job quickly and properly. This information was relayed to Chief of Detectives, Pat Deeley, and so was born Chicago Mass Dive, the greatest controlled search of this type ever attempted.

On Sunday, August 31, I received word from some of my friends participating in the dive, that a great number of SCUBA divers were being sought, and asking me to contact as many as I could, and so inform them. Wishing to get more details of the proposed operation before committing myself and diving friends, I went to the harbor and met police Sgt. Walter “Buck” Bukovichak, Chief Deeley’s personal representative, and the man who would officially be in charge of the entire project. Due to past experience in recovery work, I was put in charge of the diving itself. After a meeting with Capt. Deeley, we set the time for starting the job at 10:00 A.M. the next day, Sunday.

All the Chicago papers printed the request for divers, while I contacted Al Hollowell, Secretary of the Illinois Council of Skin and SCUBA Divers, and many of the area clubs including the Chicago Sub-Mariners, Water Vagabonds, Chicago Frogmen, Scubateers, Fathom Masters, and many more. The response was terrific, On Sunday we were surprised as the divers continued coming, until 139 of them had checked in, coming from as far away as Indiana and Wisconsin, with almost as many unattached volunteers as club people represented.

To assist the divers and coordinate them and the area to be covered, we had Sgt Buck in overall command. Incidentally he is also a diver, and knows the many problems that could arise in a search of this kind. Aiding him were Officers Earl Johnson, Ray Thorpe, and our “evidence man”, detective Hebert Christoph. Herb took charge of all items brought up, evaluated them, and sent them to the crime lab for study. We also had two police
boats, a small outboard, and the police personnel to run them, guard our gear, and keep back the crowds.

My duty was to assign divers to teams, name team captains and give them areas to search. We began with the harbor entrance. This area varies in width from 200 feet to 600 feet and ranges in depth from 15 feet to 75 feet, it was here we ran into the worse currents. We worked this entrance floor with six teams of six men each, with each team being assigned a section about 100 feet wide. A line was strung from shore to shore along the bottom for each teams, and the divers made a sweep six abreast, following the line to the opposite shore.

The rope was then moved over far enough so that the next pass would overlap the previous one, and the sweep back made. This method was continued until each team had covered its assigned area, and the watery floor was covered as never before.

While the harbor entrance was being searched, another sweep was formed under Jim O'Brien and the Frogmen, who had placed their boat, the Atlantis, at our disposal. This team of thirty divers were to search the entire shoreline to a distance of 100 feet from the harbor wall, the distance to the nearest buoys. These men used a line, with Jim as anchor man, and another man on a float at the far end of the line. The Atlantis acted a safety boat, and also carried replacement divers for those in the water who might have problems or run out of air. This sweep covered a lot of ground, but it was becoming very apparent that the job was going to take a lot more time than any of us had figured on, it was here we ran into our first and biggest problem, a supply of compressed air.

There were no compressors available in the area that could keep up with the demand and for a while it looked as though the operation would be stopped before we got a good start. Then, Mr. Joe Koss, plant supervisor for the Bastian and Blessing Company, came to our rescue. He told us that his plant, where there are more pressure regulators manufactured than anywhere else in the world, had available high pressure pure air, and we were welcome to as much of it as we might need. Thanks to this very kind gentleman, we were able to continue.

On Labor Day, we picked up where we left off the day before. This time we formed two large teams to work the edges, and the remaining divers were put to work searching around the many buoys. These were worked by teams of two in the following manner. The divers submerged and tied a light line to the buoy anchor. One man held the line, while the other held his partners harness with one hand, and, to all practical purposes, they crawled in a complete circle around the anchor, feeling their way along with one hand each. Upon completion of a pass, they moved out a few feet long the line, and repeated the process, until they reached the next buoy. Then the line was moved to the next assigned area, and the whole process repeated. Many divers used
as many as six full cylinders of air a day, and the average throughout the week was three cylinders of air per man per day. On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the tedious search of the buoy area continued. The average manpower, because of working days, was down to an average of twenty a day, so progress was slow. We still had the police boats, the crews of which were a tremendous help, plus the Margaret K, Captain Michels’ 40 foot power boat. Cap Michels is also an old time diver in his own right. There was also a police vehicle that carried our empty cylinders to Bastian and Blessings for filling.

Last but not least by any means, the greatest morale-keeper-upper in the world was the Salvation Army for their truck. For every day of the dive this organization was at the scene with sandwiches, doughnuts, coffee, milk, cold drinks, and cigarettes, all at no charge to the divers and the people connected with the dive. Our final success was due in a large part to all these people mentioned, and more, and the men who worked this job are grateful to all of them.

By Sunday morning, September 8, we had only twenty buoys left to cover, and with the many divers who came, we were able to clear them in a few hours. Then came the best and the easiest part, the outer shoreline for 1000 yards out from the harbor mouth. Here the water was no more than 20 feet deep, and the visibility 5 feet, a veritable Silver Springs after the darkness of the harbor proper. For this part of the operation, teams of three were assigned areas of 200 feet of shoreline, each overlapping. Lines were fastened at the center of each area, and the teams worked out a half circle, moved out ten feet, and repeated the process, until their area was covered. These divers were put out by the police boats, and when the boats made the return pickups, the most ambitious search ever attempted came to a close, successful inasmuch as the police were now reasonably certain the
murderer had disposed of any incriminating evidence elsewhere.

In this volunteer effort, 227 different divers signed in a total of 339 times, and put in about 1000 hours of underwater time. These men ranged in ability from the best to beginners. By taking the proper precautions, our only casualties were fourteen bloody noses, four slight cases of cramps, and an assortment of cuts and bruises, none serious. On the credit side, I have never seen such a fine willing cooperation from a large group of unpaid volunteers. These men brought up from the bottom a vast assortment of cutlery ranging from bolo knives to pen knives, barrels of all sizes, hammers, chisels, wallets, and even a few guns. The hottest item was an address book containing the girl’s name and turned in by Joe Steffins. Apparently it was thrown in the water by one of these weak-minded morons who get a morbid joy out of planting false evidence for the police to find. Through the entire operation, the men sought only the items asked for, and in the process passed up many valuable items they came across, so that city officials and the public would not get a bad impression of the thing they were attempting to accomplish. This in itself called for almost as much will-power as entering the cold, dark water in the first place.

I feel it only fair to mention the part played by our bravest diver, Officer Johnson. Acting on a tip, he and Sgt. Buck made a dive in the Columbus Park Lagoon, a real murky and weedy body of water. While working in about twelve feet of water, he suffered a ruthless and sneak attack by a huge (he says) turtle, which managed to nip him on the foot. Nine-toe- Earl now has the only steel tipped fins in captivity, and has been shopping for a much larger knife.

In closing this report, let me say that Chicago Mass Dive was a success in many ways. Much was learned on search procedure, and much was taught. The Chicago Police Department, under Commissioner Tim O’Conner will probably form a search squad, and we hope to have some civilian divers as an auxiliary part. But the biggest thing, and the point that all Chicago area divers hope to make clear, is that we have proved to all concerned that we have many safe and sane divers who want very much to dive in the waters of Lake Michigan. We hope the city officials, and particularly the Chicago Park District Board, will act to lift the ban on SCUBA diving placed on Chicago’s shoreline two and a half years ago, so that we may enjoy our sport in our own front yard.

Mayor Daily, Commissioner O’Connor, Captain Deeley, Lt. Spiota, Sgt. Bukovichak, and I would like to extend our thanks to all divers who participated in, and insured the success of the greatest underwater controlled search ever attempted, Chicago Mass Dive.

This article appeared in Skin Diver Magazine, November, 1957.
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More On This Story Follows:

PSDiver Monthly Issue 79
Head of Missing Girl Found Off Lake Shore

Photographs courtesy of the Chicago Tribune

Chicago police recovered the torso from a battered, cut-down 55-gallon drum floating in Lake Michigan. A 5-gallon metal bucket containing the head, hands and one arm were found in the lake two days later. The victim had been shot in the head at least once, maybe four times. It's difficult to tell from news accounts.

Given the location--Chicago--and the advanced method of disposal--victim shot in the head (apparently with a .32-caliber pistol), dismembered, put into metal drums and dumped in Lake Michigan, you might assume that the subject was a low-level mobster. You would be wrong.

She was 15-year-old Judith Mae Andersen, who disappeared late one Friday night, Aug. 16, 1957, while walking home from visiting a girlfriend.

The facts in the case are depressingly few and incredibly tragic. On the night of Aug. 16, 1957, Judith Mae Andersen, 15, was supposedly watching TV at the home of Elena Abbatacola, 1019 N. Central Avenue. Judith was the only daughter of Ralph W. and Ruth A. Andersen, who also had three sons, and lived at 1520 N. Lotus Ave. She was about to enter her junior year at Austin High School. Because she was identified through fingerprints recovered from a picture of Jesus in her room, we can infer that she had no police record and that she was at least somewhat religious.

About 11 p.m., Judith called her mother to say that she and her friend were watching a

Detective James Hennigan, who is assigned to the case, with some of the files on the investigation.
movie on TV and asked to stay until it was over.

Her mother said no, so Judith began walking home, a distance of 0.8 of a mile. She never arrived. On Aug. 22, a cut-down 55-gallon drum containing a torso was found at Montrose Harbor. Two days later, the head, hands and an arm were found in a 5-gallon bucket recovered from the same area.

According to The Times, despite the fingerprint evidence, Judith's father, Ralph, refused to believe that the victim was his daughter because the body did not bear traces of a smallpox vaccination on her left arm.

The killing touched off a massive investigation involving large numbers of detectives. Many people called in tips (there were various reports of people hearing shots and screams) but nothing ever proved to be conclusive and the case went into hibernation for lack of leads.

Attention eventually focused on a convicted sex criminal identified in 1987 and 1991 articles in the Chicago Tribune. However a recent story in the Tribune withholds the man's identity. He was never charged in the case.

In googling this killing, I discovered a website devoted to the case. It's prudent to be extremely skeptical of websites devoted to actual crimes, so I'm going to limit myself to what appear to be accounts from the original investigation.

According to a 1957 news account, on the night Judith disappeared, she visited the home of Nancy O'Brien, 222 N. Kenneth Ave. According to the Chicago Sun-Times, Nancy and Judith had been dating a sailor named Kenneth Blevins stationed at the Norman, Okla., Naval Air Station while he was on leave in Chicago. Nancy said she and Kenneth were going to get married and called Kenneth in Oklahoma to prove it. Kenneth told them that he loved Nancy but told the Sun-Times that he loved Judith.

Two months shy from turning 16, Judith Mae Andersen left her NW Side home on Aug. 16, 1957 to visit a friend. She never returned. Six days later, her dismembered body was found inside an oil drum floating in Montrose Harbor. Two days after that, her head and other body parts were found in a pail. The gruesome crime was never solved. Photo: Chicagonow.com
In attempting to reconstruct her last day, newspapers also found that Judith was at the Dairy Bar, 5156 W. North Ave, but accounts of her visits are conflicting and problematic.

Judith's father supposedly called the Abbatacolas to check on Judith when she failed to come home. When no one answered, he went to the house, but no one came to the door—at least according to an unverified account on the Internet. He supposedly searched the neighborhood without success and finally roused someone at the Abbatacola household at 2:30 a.m. He was allegedly told that Judith planned to take the bus home.

According to testimony at the inquest, Elena Abbatacola contacted three boys after Judith's disappearance and told them not to reveal that they spent the evening together.

All right, armchair sleuths (especially those of you living in Chicago—you know who you are), I expect some help. Let me preface this by emphasizing that superficially, at least, this seems to be an extremely elaborate disposal.

Here's what the killer has to do:

He (and I'm going to assume this was a man—maybe two) must get control of a 15-year-old girl, shoot her in the head several times, find a location where he can safely cut up the body, dispose of the blood, put the remains in two metal drums, seal or close the drums, load them into a vehicle, drive to Lake Michigan and dump them in Montrose Harbor. All without getting caught. And I would say that the killer must have had a good reason for going to all of that trouble instead of simply driving out to rural DuPage County and throwing the victim in a culvert.

Here's a few of the things we don't know. (Keep in mind that the remains had been in the water for about a week, so presumably some questions can't be answered, for example, whether she was sexually assaulted or had suffered any injuries other than being shot).

**For starters:**

- What kind of firearm was used in the killing? Forensics should be able to tell us not only the caliber but identify the brand of handgun used in the slaying. One news account says the gun was a 32-caliber revolver.
- Where was she shot? News accounts say she was hit one to four times in the head, once in the
temple. Why shoot someone four times in the head when once should do the job?

- What kind of implement was used to dismember her?
- How skilfully was she dismembered? Was it amateurish and clumsy or well-executed?
- We know the original investigators tried to determine the origin of the two metal drums.
- Where did they come from? How was the 55-gallon drum cut down? With a welding torch? How were they sealed to keep the remains from escaping?

We may not know the killer's identity, but we can be certain he had a gun and a vehicle, and because of the elaborate disposal we can probably rule out somebody acting on the spur of the moment who suddenly finds himself with a dead teenager on his hands. It is also reasonable to assume that the killer was familiar with Montrose Harbor and knew he could dump two drums in the water without being caught. I would also imagine he's either fairly strong to be able to lift the drums in and out of a car with a big trunk (or maybe he had a truck)--or perhaps he had help.

Frankly, this killing seems quite professional and if the victim were a 30-year-old man instead of a 15-year-old girl, I would suspect an execution by someone in organized crime. The fact that nobody has ever come forward with information might again argue for a link to organized crime. But it's absurd and irresponsible to speculate with so little information.

The tragedy, of course, is that there is no resolution to what became of Judith Mae Andersen. Maybe at this late date, someone will come forward and provide some answers.

'57 cold case is rekindled
Fifty years after 15-year-old Judith Mae Andersen was slain, Chicago police continue to look for answers in a pile of leads http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2007-08-09/news/0708081517_1_triple-murder-fifty-years-robert-peterson
August 09, 2007|By James Janega and Tonya Maxwell,

Chicago Tribune and Tribune researcher Alan Peters contributed to this report. Tonya Maxwell is a former Tribune staff reporter.

Late on a Friday in August half a century ago, 15-year-old Judith Mae Andersen called her parents to say she was
walking home, offered a last goodnight to a friend, stepped into the dark and was never again seen alive.

Her dismembered body floated up a week later in Montrose Harbor, encased in cut-down oil drums. She was the sixth child in two years murdered in an increasingly horrified city, and as a dragnet fanned out in her West Side neighborhood, a disgusted city official declared the death had set Chicago "on fire."

Fifty years later the crime remains unsolved, and detectives say the lore of the case has grown to a point where it often is at odds with the facts. Seemingly promising leads no longer can be connected to verifiable sources. Many presumed factors in the case -- including a man long assumed to be a promising suspect -- aren't mentioned in any of the police reports of the time. As police revisit the murder of Andersen, it feels like starting over again. "A lot of this stuff is legend," said Detective James Hennigan, the cold-case investigator who inherited the case last winter, with its three file-cabinet drawers full of clues, its thousands of tips typed on onionskin paper, the shattered family of its victim and a city's frustration.

Without any certainty of a payoff, investigators again have exchanged information with out-of-state authorities who have had contact with the onetime prime suspect since he moved away from Illinois. But police no longer are so convinced that the man committed the murder, despite a lengthy criminal record of attacks on women for which he served time.

The man has been named by the Tribune in past investigations but is not being identified in this story because he has not been charged with the Andersen slaying.

'A terrible tragedy'
As time passes, fears have grown among the victim's surviving family that the crime, and perhaps Andersen herself, will soon be forgotten entirely. "It happened," said 62-year-old James Andersen, Judith Mae's youngest brother. "A terrible tragedy. So terrible, you'd think all murders all over the world would stop, it was so horrendous."

"Justice will be served one way or another," he said, citing religious assurance in God's final judgment. "But someone needs to make the world aware of the horrible things that happened in 1955, '56, '57 and are still going on. It's a call to the world to stop it."
Reggie Roundtree shows you how to get out alive
11/03/1020

Tampa, Florida - On August 24 of this year, Lisa Sanchez was driving along a rain slicked I-275 when she lost control of her SUV. She skidded and her truck hydroplaned into the black water of a retention pond off I-275. Sanchez says, "I heard a swooshing sound, water came to the top of truck and I thought, 'I'm going to die, I am under the water.'"

People accidentally driving into water and getting trapped in their car -- it is a scenario that happens too often. Especially in the Bay area.

April 2010: A 93-year old man died after driving into a pond.

May 2010: A Bay area woman died after her car ended up in a pond.

August 2010: An elderly couple drove off a Dunedin Marina wall by accident. Some alert rescuers smashed out their window and saved them.

October 2010: A 60-year-old man loses control of his vehicle and crashed through a fence and ended up submerged in a pond.

Oftentimes, this scene ends in death because people panic in this situation.

Lisa Sanchez says, "I couldn't get my seatbelt off, I couldn't see anything, all I was thinking about was my family and my kids."

But you have to learn how to control yourself, because you can get out before it's too late. So how do you survive the incident? Under the watchful eye of Tampa police divers and Tampa fire paramedics, we prepared to submerge a car in Tampa Bay with Reggie in it.

Photo Gallery: Getting out alive

Videos

Getting out alive - Part 1
More than 289 people have died over the past five years after they drove their cars into the water. Hear from a survivor and how to get out alive from Reggie Roundtree.

Getting out alive - Part 2
More than 289 people have died over the past five years after they drove their cars into the water. Hear from a survivor and how to get out alive from Reggie Roundtree.
After a safety check, the car was propped onto the flat of a tow truck rigged for release. Inside were two underwater cameras and a backup air tank in case of emergency.

When the car finally submerged, the pressure of the windows was about 14,000 pounds per square inch. That's when Reggie used the center punch of the corner of the window. The center punch is the only device you can use to break the window. It's one device that can get you and your family out alive.

It is also a good idea to keep something handy to cut your seatbelt. We got our center punch from Houdini Tool.

Residents hear screams, body found
http://cnews.canoe.ca/CNEWS/Canada/2010/11/03/15935216.html
November 3, 2010 By JASMINE FRANKLIN, QMI Agency

EDMONTON - Police are probing the death of a 25-year-old woman pulled from a Mill Woods pond after a five-hour search-and-rescue effort.

No foul play is suspected, but investigators are now trying to determine just how the woman ended up in the water near 55 Street and 28 Avenue around 8 a.m. Tuesday, her screams heard by a number of nearby residents.

Violet Kully, 77, lives on the first floor in a corner unit near the pond that is as deep as 15 feet in some spots.

She heard "an unusual" noise around 7 a.m. but never dreamed it could become such a tragedy. "I just feel sick about this; I wish I had an inkling and I could have done something," said Kully. "I heard the noise about three times in a minute -- I thought it was someone walking their dog early and tightening the leash."

Rescue crews were called to the man-made pond after a witness reported seeing a woman in the water, said fire rescue spokesman Tim Wilson. Search and rescue equipment and officials -- including fire trucks, rescue boats, divers from the Northern Alberta Aquatic Rescue Society and EMS -- converged on scene.

STARS air ambulance flew overhead in an effort to spot any sign of the woman from the sky.

At one point, five boats were searching the pond in addition to a dog from the Search and Rescue Dog Association of Alberta. The dog was in a rescue boat, attempting to pick up any human scent on the water.

"A diver with the Aquatic Rescue Society located the body just after 1 p.m. Police are now investigating," said Wilson.
"I heard a woman jumped from the bridge," said one resident, who did not want to be named.

The pond is located just east of Mill Woods Town Centre and about one block from the southeast division police station.

**Police investigate human jawbone found at Lake Mead**


Nov 05, 2010 *VIDEO ON SITE*

Las Vegas Metro Police divers were searching Lake Mead on Friday for human remains after a visitor there found a human jawbone Thursday morning.

The bone was found at around 10:30am on the Arizona side of the lake near the east basin area.

**Police find human remains in canal**


11/10/10

**FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla.** (WSVN) -- Police are seeking the public's help in identifying a murder victim whose remains were placed in a South Florida canal.

Fort Lauderdale Police held a news conference to discuss a homicide investigation into the remains, Tuesday afternoon. According to investigators, a homeowner found the remains in a container near Northeast 26th Street and Federal Highway over the weekend. The homeowner said he found the container, which weighed about 175 pounds, floating in the canal.
"It had a stench to it that I knew wasn't normal," said the homeowner.

Police said, the container was filled with concrete and also contained a pair of gray size 10 New Balance sneakers and eyeglasses prescribed for a farsighted person. Fort Lauderdale Police Sergeant Frank Sousa said, "When you opened it, you could see one of the sneakers, so obviously, the sneaker was detached from the body part."

Police said, the victim appears to be a white adult male, about 5 feet 8 inches to 6 feet in height. According to authorities, the victim's body was hacked into several pieces. The victim was killed sometime last week, and police speculate the container with his remains was in the canal for three to four days before it was discovered.

"They went to great lengths to dispose of it in a manner that we wouldn't be able to identify the victim," said Sousa.

Investigators would not elaborate on what body parts were found in the container. Sousa said, "There's body parts in this container. What body parts we have, at this point, we're not at liberty to release at this point."

Police divers searched the canal where the container was found to try to locate more clues to the identity of the victim. "We're trying to find more body parts," said Sousa.

Residents in the area were shocked by the gruesome discovery. "It's frightening to think that this is happening in your neighborhood, and who knows if whoever has done whatever lives in your neighborhood as well," said Karen Marsal, who lives near the canal.

Police are now looking for the person responsible for this heinous crime. According to authorities, they have not found anything that leads them to believe this murder is tied to the mob or any other type of organized crime. "We don't have reason to believe, at this point, that it'd be mob-related based on the nature that it was done, but again, I think one of the important things for the general public to understand: whoever did this was heinous. Whoever did this had no regard. Whoever did this went to great lengths to conceal the identity of this victim," Sousa said. "To kill somebody is cold, but then to go and violently sever their body parts in the manner that this person did this is just unexplainable."

If you have any information on this murder, call Broward County Crime Stoppers at 954-493-TIPS. Remember, you
can always remain anonymous, and you may be eligible for a reward.

**Bosphorus akin to a trash can, says Turkish NGO**


Friday, November 19, 2010

**ISTANBUL – Hürriyet** - 250
divings since 2005 by the divers of the
Underwater Cleaning
Movement, or STH,
show how filthy the underwater of
Bosphorus. The
articles of trash STH
has found in the
strait reflects the
various socio-cultural
differences of the
Istanbul
neighborhoods near
where they were discovered. A vendor’s cart sits
immobile on the seabed off the coast of Eminönü, good
luck charms glitter on the seabed at Üsküdar and Stanley
knives stab the coast of Kadıköy.

The Bosphorus Strait, so beautiful from above, could be
equally impressive below, but members of a non
governmental organization who have dived into the
straight 250 times since 2005 say it is filthy. “Everywhere
there are people; there is pollution; only the density of
the population varies. Boats are the number one source
of sea pollution. Every single piece of trash you throw into
the sea is ruining the habitats of marine species. For
example, a tire takes 450 years to dissolve. As they
dissolve, tires poison the environment,” said Hakan
Tiryaki, chief of the Underwater Cleaning Movement, or
STH.

Unfortunately, regardless of the beauty of the view of the
Bosphorus from above, the situation below is a totally
different story. A brief catalog of some of the articles of
trash STH has found in the strait reflects the various
socio-cultural differences of the Istanbul
neighborhoods near where
they were discovered. A
vendor’s cart sits
immobile on the seabed off the coast of Eminönü, good
luck charms glitter on the seabed at Üsküdar and Stanley
knives stab the coast of Kadıköy.

All right, but is all the
trash in the Bosphorus
discarded unconsciously?
“A truck battery can only
be carried by two or three
people. Something that
heavy cannot fall into the sea accidentally. A 12-square-meter piece of flooring cannot accidentally fall into the sea. There are plenty of plastic bags and other kinds of waste you would expect to find down there. This is normal. But dropping a panel radiator into the water accidentally is not possible,” Tiryaki said.

Most areas of the Bosphorus where the STH collects its data are suitable for diving, and the group only dives on certain days in order to maintain an accurate catalog of what they discover on the seabed. Accordingly, the group is able to compare the differences, for example, across two days of findings.

**Thousands of pieces of trash collected off near Harem**

Diving at Harem is a bit different however, as a long-term cleanup of the area has been going on for some time.

STH has already collected specimens from a large part of the old Karaköy seaport after it was moved to Harem. Pieces of trash found there included almost everything from sofas and closets to cables, paint boxes, batteries, tires, pendants, wheel rims, X-ray films and New Year decorations. During a four-week diving session, a total of 11,503 pieces of solid waste were removed from the area. Subsequently, divers retrieved a further 15,000 pieces of solid waste.

The Üsküdar seabed is also littered with an emporium of solid waste, accommodating litter thrown from restaurants and boats, kettles, salt shakers, jars, plates, television stands and remote controls, doormats and cleaning materials. Seven padlocks were found, which are believed to bring good luck if discovered unlocked and sadness otherwise. Other waste off the coast of Üsküdar included Harry Potter books, Muazzez Ersoy tapes, Bridget Jones CDs, shopping carts, concrete pots originally installed along the coast by the municipality and four jawbones, which are thought to have been used in witchcraft.

**Free Akbils at Kadıköy**

A total of 22 Akbils were retrieved from the seabed at Kadıköy. “Obviously, an official in the area dumped them all into the water at the same time,” Tiryaki said.
At the end of a dive in 2006 off the coast of Caddebostan, numerous glass bottles, 180 plastic bags and countless picnic paraphernalia were retrieved.

The team has discovered Suadiye’s coast is comparatively unpolluted. In their first dives in the area they retrieved only 11 plastic bags and chip packets, 12 metal bars and some rope. During a dive in 2006, the team also retrieved a fax machine, a doormat, 15 tires and boat parts, however they acknowledge that pollution in the area is comparatively low.

Dives throughout 2009 proved the cleanest part of the Bosphorus was Kuzguncuk. A mere 37 pieces of trash – wood, glass bottles, cups, raki glasses, broken porcelain plates and a broom – were retrieved.

**Eminönü, the most ‘cosmopolitan’**
Dives in 2006 revealed the seabed off the coast of Eminönü to contain one of the Bosphorus’ most eclectic collections of solid waste, which included a city police cart, a cell phone, an iron, an assortment of bottles, a wedding ring, pieces of metal, eight blocks of glass, a set of pincers and a pair of handcuffs.

Another dive at Eminönü in 2008 recovered a car tire, two bicycles, a wrought iron flower stand, a nargile water pipe, a sewing machine, an assortment of brushes, a fire extinguisher, a kettle, toys and a newspaper stand.

The team has dived almost every year at Karaköy since 2005, with the most visible pile of waste on the seabed being a forest of fishhooks. Thousands of lead sinkers, artificial bait and a tangle of fishing line litter the sea bed, as well as drink bottles, diamond cutters, tiles, a tennis racket, a microphone, a manicure set, a radio, a handgun, a barbeque, a barbecue chimney, an identity card, a knife, a Bible and an assortment of wallets, thought to have been thrown into the sea by thieves, were retrieved.

**A dog collar at Bebek**
To date, a total of eight dives have been conducted at Ortaköy, with materials removed ranging from a urinal, supermarket shelving, a municipal park bench, a school desk, a two-meter glass rod, two big pots and a ledger apparently logging the financial activity of some kind of illegal trafficking.
Divers in front of Bebek Park retrieved three automobile batteries, a park bench with concrete
legs, a spatula, a kettle, a dog collar, a sack of mussels, a pair of pants, a towel and a potato.

**Foça is also like Harem**

STH has dived in a number of different coastal areas in Turkey, and the situation is not much different than what they discovered in the Bosphorus. At Altinkum in Didim, four divers retrieved 600 pieces of solid waste.

The seabed beneath marinas in particular is in very poor condition, Tiryaki said. At the Aegean resort of Foça, the situation is nearly as bad as it is in Istanbul’s Harem, with a total of 10,000 pieces of solid waste collected from the seabed there.

Çanakkale Port is as badly contaminated as the Bosphorus, Tiryaki said.

**Something should be done**

Many social responsibility projects kill two birds with one stone. A campaign titled “Ataşehir collecting caps, removing obstacles,” launched by the Ataşehir Municipality is one of them.

Begun on April 22 and scheduled to run until Dec. 30, the campaign both raises awareness of the benefits of recycling and provides wheelchairs for people with disabilities. Plastic bottle lids are collected and sold as plastic junk, with the proceeds going to purchase wheelchairs. The biggest supporter of the campaign is the Aegean University’s School of Dentistry.

The International Center for the Disabled in Ankara is the center of the campaign. So far, nine tons of bottle lids have been collected in Istanbul, eight tons in İzmir and four tons in Ankara.

“We are sending recycling bins to campaign participants. If people wish, they can be a part of the project even using a different bin,” Ataşehir Mayor Battal İlgezdi said.

The municipality has so far sent about 400 kilograms of bottle lids to the firm buying the plastic junk to pay for as many wheelchairs as the campaign can purchase. “There are 45 applications for wheelchairs. Normally, one kilogram of the junk plastic is worth 55 kuruş, but the campaign receives 95 kuruş per kilo,” İlgezdi said.

With discounted wheelchairs also being made available to the campaign, a chair normally sold for 400 Turkish Liras will only cost the campaign 200 liras. To date, collected
bottle lids have paid for about 100 wheelchairs.

Plastic bottle lids can be donated to the Ataşehir Municipal Environment Protection and Control Directorate, which can be contacted by telephone at 0216 570 5099.

**Deadly catch: Young angler reels in explosive**
23/Nov/2010 By Liam Croy, Eastern Reporter

A BOY fishing at Bassendean’s Pickering Park earlier this month hooked a once-in-a-lifetime catch when he reeled in a stick of explosive. The boy was at the river with his father just after sunset when he pulled in a small white tube of Powergel explosive.

Acting inspector John Waghorn said police were called to the scene and seized the object before notifying the Bomb Squad.

“The man and others were fishing at Pickering Park on the western bank of the river when his son pulled in a white tube,” he said. “On closer examination, it was found to be marked ‘explosive’.”

Insp Waghorn said police divers found several more explosives when conducting a search of the river.

Bomb Response Supervisor Sergeant Jodie Pearson said it was the first time in her 12 years with the Bomb Squad that explosives had been reported found in a river. She said police believed the explosives were dumped illegally.

“We can’t identify where the explosives have come from,” Sgt Pearson said. “The most likely thing is that someone just wanted to get rid of it and dumped them in the river. It obviously became a public safety concern so we had divers come out and search that entire area.

“There are tides and currents, but based on their expertise we’re confident that we recovered all of it.”

Sgt Pearson urged people wanting to dispose of explosives legally to contact the Department of Mines and Petroleum. “If they don’t have any success, contact police and we can have someone with explosives knowledge take it off their hands.”
Belanglo accused 'a blathering mess'
Nov 23, 2010

Map: Tahmoor 2573

Related Story: Belanglo teen killed with axe, court told

A court has heard a man charged with being an accessory to a murder in the Belanglo State Forest is traumatised and inconsolable.

Cohen Klein, 18, was denied bail in the Goulburn Local Court on Tuesday afternoon.

On Sunday police found the body of David Auchterlonie, 17, in the forest in the New South Wales southern highlands.

Klein, along with another 18-year-old, has been charged as an accessory to murder. Another teenager has been charged with Mr Auchterlonie's murder. The defence told the court Klein has been a blathering mess since the alleged murder and that he had no knowledge of or involvement in the crime.

His lawyer, Elias Tabchouri, says his client was simply in the worst possible place at the worst possible moment. "It was all over before he knew what was going to happen," he said.

According to facts tendered to the court, Klein told police he saw the accused hit the victim over the head with an axe. Klein says he was asked to help hide the body in bushland but refused.

The prosecution has opposed bail for Klein, saying he is a flight risk and there is a strong case against him. Magistrate Geraldine Beattie refused bail and the matter has been adjourned for three weeks.

Outside the court Mr Tabchouri says his client did not have anything to do with the crime. "The family is obviously very distressed that he wasn't granted bail," he said. "He had no idea what was going to happen on that night. That's been made clear to everyone. The police evidence indicates that."
The teenager charged with the murder of Mr Auchterlonie is a relative of notorious serial killer Ivan Milat. The forest is the same place Milat dumped the bodies of seven backpackers he murdered in the 1990s.

Police divers are still searching a small dam at Tahmoor for a possible murder weapon.

**Mirror Lake serves as training ground for dive teams**

http://www.thelantern.com/campus/mirror-lake-serves-as-training-ground-for-dive-teams-1.1796246

November 23, 2010  Ally Marotti  Slideshow on Site

Tuesday night, Mirror Lake became a wading pool for thousands of students at Ohio State. Earlier in the day, it was a training ground for the Columbus Police Underwater Search and Recovery Team.

The diving team gets permission to use the lake with the stipulation that it clear as much debris as possible from the water. "It's two-fold. It allows us to do some cold-water diving," said Sgt. Jeffrey Sacksteder of Columbus Police. "It allows OSU to say that the lake is clear of any debris."

In the past, debris recovered in Mirror Lake has included bicycles, grocery carts, a large stuffed chair and wedding rings. "There's always something in there," said OSU Police dispatcher Jeffrey Hustak.

The team clears out the lake and recovers debris using a technique called grid training. Police lay down lines criss-crossing the lake, and a diver inspects the water one grid at a time. "We use our hands and we feel for things," Sacksteder said.

Divers Tuesday found cement blocks, beer bottles and other flotsam. The training team consisted of about six officers, Sacksteder said, and about four went into the water. Divers trained under water from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m.

During Michigan Week last year, OSU let the Columbus Police dive team use Mirror Lake for joint training with the fire department dive team.

The Columbus Fire Department dive team was scheduled to dive between 1 and 4 p.m. Tuesday, but no one from the department arrived. Officials from the department were unavailable to comment.

Although Sacksteder said he doubted the divers Tuesday could see the bottom of the deep end, he said Mirror Lake isn't totally opaque. It's murky, he said, but the dive team wasn't fazed. "We dive a lot. Mirror Lake is nothing," Sacksteder said. "It's just another environment for us to dive in."
Human Remains Found In Submerged Car - Vehicle Matches That Of 72-Year-Old Lake City Man Missing Since 2006
Wednesday, November 24, 2010

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. -- Police divers checking out a car found in a pond next to Mandarin High School on Tuesday afternoon have located human remains inside.

The car matches one driven by a 72-year-old Lake City man missing since March 2006.

Divers were called to the pond on Greenland Road after someone reported seeing a car in the water. Police initially said no one was inside the vehicle but that it appeared the car had been in the water for a long time.

While the identity of the person in the car will be established by an autopsy, Lake City police said the vehicle was a 1993 Saturn registered to Francis Watson, who was reported missing on March 13, 2006.

Lake City police Capt. John Blanchard said there were never any leads in Watson's disappearance.

Police said no foul play was suspected. However, divers were back in the water Wednesday morning looking for any other evidence because it has become a homicide investigation.

Elderly Trenton Couple Found Dead In Submerged Vehicle
November 24th 2010 by Rob Poindexter - VIDEO ON ALL SITES

Tremont - An elderly couple from Trenton has been found dead inside a car submerged in the ocean in the town.

The Maine Marine Patrol says 92-year-old Lewis Lawton and his 86-year-old wife, Inez, were inside the vehicle.

Authorities received a 911 call around 7:30 this morning. A carpenter on his way to

This story is a follow up to:
Two Dead in Seal Cove Incident

This story has been updated:
Update: Trenton Elderly Couple Deaths Ruled Drowning

The days of dragging your fins in and out of the water are finally over!
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OmegaAquatics.com
do some work near the Seal Cove boat landing spotted what looked to be a vehicle about 75-feet out in the cove. The man told police he rowed out to investigate. "When they rowed out to it they could observe something was sticking out the window," says Colin Macdonald, a specialist with the Maine Marine Patrol. "They weren't really sure what it was. They came back in and called 911. We responded with the Sheriff's Office. One of our divers was down here initially with us. He went out and dove on it and determined there were two people in a vehicle."

Authorities still don't know how the car wound up in the cove. Autopsies will be conducted. State Police detectives are investigating.

**Dive Team Investigates Sinking Car**


29 Nov 2010 Lauren Johnson VIDEO ON SITE

**MEMPHIS, Tenn.** - The Shelby County Dive Team was called to the Memphis riverfront Monday afternoon on reports that headlights were seen sinking below the water's surface.

Surveillance video captured a car roll from the harbor near Memphi Riverboats into the Wolf River. "Basically looked like they put the car in gear and drove straight into the water," said Captain William Lozier.

A witness called police after first noticing the parked car. When police arrived, it was floating before becoming fully submerged. "Having had no one saw it go in, or saw anyone come out of it, we were concerned that you cannot leave the body in the water," said Major D.L. Sheffield.

So the Coast Guard and Army Corps of Engineers were called in to assist with the search for the car. Shelby County Emergency Services dive team joined the search in the rain, mid morning on Monday. "The divers hooked up the tow lines, and the Class C wrecker pulled the vehicle out of the water," said Sheffield.

After the muddied Chevrolet Impala was flipped over, police searched for a body. No one was found inside. Crews ran sonar tests on the bottom of the river to make sure no one was trapped under water. "They've pulled out
many vehicles from over here, I'd say at least 5 I've seen in the last 20 years,” said Lozie

PSNI diver's overtime payment bid rejected by court
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-11876736
30 November 2010

The High Court has dismissed a claim by a former police diver that he is owed £32,000 for on-call payments.

Constable Mark Lloyd argued he was entitled to money he accumulated during a 15-year period when he was expected to be available around the clock. His application for a judicial review was dismissed despite a judge ruling he could qualify for allowances for individual periods.

The judge said that payments were subject to a three month time limit.

Constable Lloyd was part of the underwater search unit which the PSNI operated until it was outsourced to a private sector provider in 2008. It emerged during the case that Constable Lloyd and other members of the team faced disciplinary proceedings linked to the sinking of a trawler in the Irish Sea in January 2006.

Skiing holiday
He refused, along with two others, to perform diving duties at the time as they were all due to go on a skiing holiday, the court heard. A stand-off developed during which the officers' leave was cancelled and they then reported unfit for duty. But they were acquitted of the disciplinary charge after a finding was made they were not obliged to obey the order due to health considerations.

The judge set out how Constable Lloyd claimed the disciplinary proceedings "sounded the death knell for the dedicated PSNI diving team".

Members had been expected to carry a radio pager and be available for operational call-out at all times, barring only sickness and annual leave. They were on 24-hour call-out and entitled to no special allowances other than those within the normal finance code regulations.

Constable Lloyd's barrister argued he was required to be immediately available for diving duties outside scheduled hours at all times.

'Irrational'
Any suggestion that he and other unit members were merely volunteers was also claimed to be misconceived and irrational. Lawyers for the PSNI equated being on call with being expected to receive a pager or mobile phone call.

Ruling on the case, Mr Justice McCloskey held there was no error of law on reasons based on the finance code regulations. He said: "It follows that the appropriate order will be a dismissal of the application for judicial review."

However, the judge noted that another of the PSNI's basic reasons for refusing the on-call allowance claim was legally incorrect. He added: "It is conceivable that the applicant's legal advisers may formally request the respondent (the PSNI) to reconsider its rejection of the applicant's exceptional circumstances claim."
New Bedford, MA Mayor Scott W. Lang said the recent discovery of two Palestinian stowaways aboard a Liberian freighter, highlights the need to expand coastal security.

Points to consider:
Consider that terrorism has become a trans-national issue making border security our first line of defense against terrorists. The government uses technology as much as possible, to develop solutions to help with this enormous task. According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the length of the International Boundary line of the U.S.-Canadian border, excluding Alaska, is approximately 3,987 miles, while the length of the U.S.-Mexican border is estimated at 1,933 miles. The length of the Alaska-Canada border alone is 1,538 miles. Additionally, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has surveyed the "general coastline" based on large scale nautical charts, resulting in a coastline measure for the 50 states totaling 12,383 miles.

Related News Article:
Lang: Stowaway incident highlights need for Coast Guard presence
November 15, 2010 By Curt Brown

NEW BEDFORD — Mayor Scott W. Lang said the capture of two Palestinian stowaways aboard a Liberian freighter on Saturday highlights the need for the Coast Guard to return to the city's port. "This is just another reason why we want them back on the water," the mayor said late Sunday afternoon, explaining that he has been trying to get the Coast Guard to return to New Bedford since 2006. "We're the number one fishing port in the country and one of the top working water fronts. I would love to have the Coast Guard back here."

Coast Guard officials could not be reached for comment Sunday night.

Lang said he has expressed his preference for the Coast Guard to return to New Bedford many times to Capt. Verne B. Gifford, commander of Sector Southeastern New England, and will do so the next time he sees him. The Coast Guard left New Bedford in September 2003 after fighting rum runners and drug smugglers, and protecting fishermen for more than a century from the port.

In the hopes of improving homeland security while expanding its more traditional missions, the Coast Guard relocated the Tahoma and the Campbell, two 270-foot cutters from New Bedford, to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine.
The Coast Guard said at the time that the move would allow it to expand its coastal security mission while continuing fisheries enforcement and search-and-rescue missions.

The two Palestinian stowaways were still yet to be identified Sunday, but were in the custody of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, according to Ross Feinstein, an ICE spokesman.

Federal officials said that the stowaways posed no threat to national security. Feinstein said they were trying to make their way to Canada and the investigation is continuing as a stowaway/human smuggling.

Feinstein and Ted Woo, a spokesman for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, both declined Sunday to answer any other questions about the incident. The 455-foot-long Liberian freighter, Prince of Sounds, bound for New Bedford with a cargo of citrus fruit, was searched by law enforcement agencies for explosives and weapons Saturday before it was allowed to enter the city's port following the discovery of the stowaways on Thursday in a forward crane pedestal by a boatswain's mate on the freighter.

The New Bedford-Fairhaven Bridge was shut down for several hours Saturday afternoon for the operations. The Coast Guard was not able to board the ship until Saturday because of bad weather.

Police swept the ship with bomb-sniffing dogs and a state police dive team checked the hull for any "abnormalities." A security guard stationed behind a locked gate at Maritime Terminal prevented access except to authorized personnel Sunday afternoon to the terminal, where the freighter was docked.

Kristen Decas, executive director of the Harbor Development Commission, said Sunday that workers are off-loading 2,500 pallets of clementines from North Africa from Prince of Sounds. She said that, weather permitting; the freighter is scheduled to leave New Bedford on Tuesday.

Lang said Prince of Sounds is one of about 35 ships that will use the city's harbor in the next few months to off-load cargo.

Decas said Sunday a ship has been off-loading cargo over the weekend at State Pier and is scheduled to leave today; two additional ships are waiting to come into the port. "We have what we consider to be an active shipping week," she said.

Lang said each ship represents an "economic stimulus" for the city and the region, or about $250,000 between salaries, supplies and fees.

The arrival of so many cargo ships in the coming months is the reason Lang said he wants "a factual accounting" of the stowaway incident aboard Prince of Sounds. He added the thorough handling of the stowaway incident sends a clear message that officials will be vigilant when cargo ships
arrive in the port of New Bedford.

The mayor said he is certain city officials can find dock space if the Coast Guard is willing to return to New Bedford and could probably also find space at the Greater New Bedford Airport for its helicopter and jets. "I have no doubt about that," he said.

**FOUND ON THE WEB**

Grant Writing and Management Assistance Available


Nov 23, 2010

The Bureau of Justice Assistance's Grant Writing and Management Academy has released two new modules:

"Applying for BJA Funds" addresses pre-application activities and describes the application process, and

"Managing Your BJA Funds" offers an overview of the various administrative and financial requirements associated with managing a federal grant project.

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, the Community Capacity Development Office, and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking.

BJA supports law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, victim services, technology, and prevention initiatives that strengthen the nation’s criminal justice system.
Some Causes of Decompression Accidents

The best way to categorize the various ways a diver can prevent the occurrence of DCS is by looking for the causes of the accident.

Some predisposing causes for DCS are as follows:

- **Inadequate decompression or violating the no-decompression limits.** By surfacing too rapidly and not taking safety stops a diver allows bubbles to form and to get larger as the pressure differential decreases. Nitrogen loads in all the tissues at different pressures and times and violation of the NDL (no-decompression limits) is a major cause of DCS.

- **Inadequate surface intervals** (failure to decrease accumulated nitrogen). Surface times are outlined for various diving profiles and failure to adhere to the prescribed length of time does not allow "off-gassing" of onboard nitrogen. The accumulated nitrogen is then added to by the next dive, increasing the risk of DCS.

- **Flying or going to higher altitude** soon after diving (12-24 hours), which increases the pressure gradient. This in reality is a continuation of an ascent from a dive. This allows any nitrogen that is in the tissues to come out of solution and form bubbles, leading to DCS.

- **Individual physiological differences** that have been traditionally thought of as increasing the risk of DCS are as follows:
  - **Dehydration:** This is probably the most important of the predisposing factors. Taking in adequate quantities of water (8-10 glasses/day). This is needed to counteract the drying effect of compressed air and the obligatory diuresis that all divers get from immersion. Dehydration, due to any cause (coffee, oral diuretics, alcohol, vomiting and diarrhea states, failure to drink non-alcoholic liquids)
- **Pre-existing illness affecting lung or circulatory efficiency**: The lung acts as a filter for the bubbles that occur in all divers. Chronic lung disease, heart failure both tend to increase the risk of DCS. Decreased perfusion from any source can increase the possibility of DCS. Intracardiac septal defect (PFO) bypasses the filtering effect of the lungs and increases risk of bubbles. Undeserved DCS (DCS that has no other causative factors) should have investigation for this entity.

- **Scar tissue from previous injury**: (scar tissue decreases diffusion). Areas of decreased and increased blood flow have been incriminated in leading to DCS. Whether this is operative in the growth plates of teenagers is unknown. Nitrogen off-gassing is influenced by factors that alter perfusion.

- **Previous DCS with residual neurological disturbances.** These people should not resume diving. [Chronic neurological Effects of Diving](#)

- **Gender**: women have been shown to have a slightly higher rate of DCS, particularly during the menses.

- **Obesity** (nitrogen is lipid soluble). Several studies have incriminated obesity as a factor in increasing the risk of DCS. Fat is poorly supplied with blood vessels and decreased perfusion (ability to off-gas) can lead to DCS.

- **Fatigue**: This clouds the decision making process, often leading to mistakes and DCS. Fatigue is also a subtle symptom of decompression sickness. Exertion during the deep part of the dive is a risk factor.

- **Age**: The older diver has long been thought to have increased tendencies to have DCS. Studies done by the Navy show a definite increase in DCS in older divers (all under 50 years of age). Other studies have not borne this out. Older divers have a higher percentage of body fat. Age and obesity: risk possibly increases in proportion to increase in age. Greater age and higher fat content are traditionally associated with increased incidence of DCS but the evidence is not consistent, recent reports showing no relationship.

- **Poor physical condition**: Good physical fitness increases perfusion and ensures good gas exchange.

- **Exercise after diving** increases the incidence of DCS from 22% to 46%. Exercise at depth is detrimental, increasing nitrogen uptake. (Requiring three times the decompression). Immersion in cold water with exercise causes increased incidence of
DCS. Exercise while decompressing is beneficial.

Environmental factors that are important include the following:

- **Cold water** (vasoconstriction decreases nitrogen off-loading). Warm water immersion (vasodilation) and the head down position increases nitrogen elimination.
- **Heavy work** (vacuum effect in which tendon use causes gas pockets). Exercise at depth increases nitrogen uptake and is detrimental.
- **Rough sea conditions**
- **Heated diving suits** (leads to dehydration)
- **Divers who have been chilled on decompression dives** (or dives near the no-decompression limit) and take very hot baths or showers may stimulate bubble formation.

Sport divers mainly need to avoid dehydration, dive shallower, ascend slower and spend more time between dives eliminating nitrogen.

Here are some of the factors found to increase the risk of decompression accidents:

- Repetitive diving
- Exceeded No-decompression limits
- Running out of air, rapid ascent

Diving on the edge of No-decompression limits
Deep or repetitive dives using computer outside the limits of the tables or no-decompression limits
Flying after diving
* Diving at altitude

There are other factors that are thought to increase the chances of getting DCS but have little data in support; some of these are:

- **Alcohol** and hangover state (related to dehydration)
- Medical problems increasing the viscosity of the blood (Sickle cell anemia and trait)
- Injury to muscle, bone or joint (due to increased blood flow to inflamed area)
- Rate of ascent
- Repetitive, multiday dives after a long lay-off; deep prolonged air diving
- Failure to do safety stops
- Patent foramen ovale
- Smoking habits
- Adaptation or recent diving history
- Underestimated depth
- Table "fudging"
- Neurological DCS symptoms are most common after short, deep dives. less common after altitude exposure, slow saturation decompression and low-pressure caisson exposure.
- Slow ascent near the surface more effective in reducing neurologic DCS than was slow ascent from depth.
- Fewer VGE with short safety stops. (venous gas emboli)
- Off-gassing greatest in subjects tilted head down, immersed in warm water and exercising. Increasing venous return to the thorax increases off-gassing.(Head down tilt)
- Exercise in warm water immersion decreases DCS (decrease by about 30%)
- Some believe that the use of aspirin might help prevent the adherence of platelets to bubbles, thereby reducing the chance of bubble damage.

**References:**


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**EVENTS**

**International Workboat Show 2010**
Dec 1 -3, 2010
New Orleans, LA

**Cause and Manner of Death**
Pittsburgh, PA
December 9-10, 2010

**Forensic Symposium to Address Best Practices**
The University of Tennessee National Forensic Academy will host a Best Practices Symposium for forensic and crime scene investigators, December 9-10 in Nashville.

The symposium, to be held at the Hilton Nashville Downtown, will allow attendees to network with other law enforcement officials while learning about the National Institute for Justice Rape Kit Backlog Initiative and the Forensic Technology Center for Excellence.

Among the speakers will be renowned forensic investigator Dr. Henry Lee. The UT National Forensic Academy is a program of the UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center headquartered in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

**Evidence Photographer Certification**
January 11, 2011 - January 18, 2011 San Antonio, TX

**The New Orleans Boat and Sportshow**
From 27 Jan. 2011 to 30 Jan. 2011
New Orleans Morial Convention Center - New Orleans, LA, USA

Gabe Watson Charged With Wife's Scuba-Diving Murder After Return to U.S. [Click here for videos and news article!](#)
**BOOT**, Dusseldorf, Germany - 20-30 January 2011

February 8, 2011 - February 10, 2011

**ACSR Annual Training Conference**
Jacksonville, FL      [www.acsr.org](http://www.acsr.org)

**International Armored Vehicle Conference**
07 - 10 February, 2011, ExCeL Centre, London, UK

**Our World Underwater**, Chicago. USA - 18-20 February 2011

**AAFS** February 21, 2011 - February 26, 2011
Chicago, IL

**SWAT Counter Terrorism Operations** - March 8-11, 2011 - Camp Blanding, FL

**SWAT Counter Terrorism Operations** - April 12-15, 2011 - Yakima Firing Range, WA


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If you have an event or know of an event that might be of interest to PSDiver Monthly subscribers send the information to: [PSDiverMonthly@aol.com](mailto:PSDiverMonthly@aol.com)

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**Voit Tank Box, Circa 1957**

In the 1950's, the Voit tank came in a cardboard box. No one ever saved the box, which makes this example a very rare find. [http://www.vintagescubasupply.com/acssview.html](http://www.vintagescubasupply.com/acssview.html)

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**Healthways WaterDogs (Fins) Circa 1956**

These are the earliest Healthways fins I have ever seen. To have purchased them with the original box was incredible! Made of blue natural rubber. [http://www.vintagescubasupply.com/acssview.html](http://www.vintagescubasupply.com/acssview.html)
PSDiver Monthly Continuing Education

PSDM-CE-79 working

1) Select the Basic search pattern:
   a. Arc
   b. JackStay
   c. Circle
   d. All of the above

2) Recovery dives start:
   a. Immediately on arrival
   b. As soon as two divers are on scene
   c. After a dive plan is selected
   d. All of the above

3) When multi teams are diving it is best to:
   a. Use the ICS system
   b. Let teams work under their direct control
   c. Use only one team at a time
   d. Any of the above

4) On recovery dives when air is limited you can use ______ grade of air.
   a. Grade C
   b. Grade D
   c. Grade E
   d. All of the above

5) For basic search patterns you do not need to assess currents.
   a. True  b. False

6) Divers should be tied together instead of teathered.
   a. True  b. False

7) For large area of search you should use:
   a. More divers
   b. Longer dive times
   c. Sonar
   d. Dogs
   e. Only C & D

8) Only one type of a boat should be used for multiteam divers so that every one knows exactly what to do.
   a. True  b. False

9) All items found are evidence.
   a. True  b. False

10) Turtles cannot bite underwater.
    a. True  b. False

11) Search patterns used today are:
    a. New patterns
    b. Old and established
    c. Only previously designed and tested
    d. A & B

12) The 1957 Montrose Harbor search:
    a. was effective in accomplishing the objective of completely searching the
harbor for evidence
b. would be considered OSHA compliant
c. should be used as a model for current day
   large scale underwater searches
d. put untrained divers at risk

13) Montrose volunteer divers
   a. proved their was no further evidence in
      the harbor
   b. were qualified to do the job
   c. proved that with proper training,
      volunteer divers have the motivation and
      enthusiasm to be used as a valuable asset
      with search and recovery operations
   d. all of the above

14) If the 1957 Montrose Harbor search was
    conducted today
   a. evidence recovery procedures would
      be considered professional
   b. evidence recovery procedures would
      be considered sloppy
   c. SAR dive professionals would
      confidently agree that the entire
      area was adequately searched
   d. dive teams would be rendered
      obsolete

15) In the history of your city/county, searches
    such as the Montrose Harbor scene
    (operational scale varies) were standard for
    that time.
   a. True        b. False

16) Quote taken from the Montrose Harbor search
    story: “My duty was to assign divers to teams,
    name team captains and give them areas to
    search.” If ICS was around when this search
    was being conducted, these divers would be
    part of a
   a. group
   b. division
   c. command staff
   d. branch

17) During support operations, the Salvation Army
    no longer provides
   a. meals
   b. snacks
   c. coffee
   d. cigarettes

18) Volunteer divers in the Montrose Harbor
    search provided enough evidence to solve the
    case.
   a. True        b. False

19) The article describes evidence in this crime
    scene as being collected in accordance with
    SOPs that could aid with legal proceedings.
   a. True        b. False

20) Today, it would be feasible that a volunteer
    with technical knowledge but no connection to
    any search and rescue organization could be
    put in charge of a large scale operation.
   a. True        b. False
Team Discussion:

* Analyze and evaluate the search patterns used in the Chicago Mass Dive article.

* If it is determined that 100 divers are needed for a search, what options are available. Discuss mutual aid, technology, risk/benefit of a rapid search verses an extended search.

* What bodies of water in your jurisdiction would make an attractive body dump site and what sort of pre-plan is in place to deal with effective evidence recovery and documentation of the crime scene?

* How would the organizational structure of the Montrose Harbor search compare to a search with SAR teams under ICS?

1946 Cousteau's Aqua Lung is marketed commercially in France
1952 Cousteau's Aqua Lung is marketed commercially in the USA
1953 British Sub Aqua Club (BSAC)
   Based in the United Kingdom, founded in 1953 and is the largest dive club in the world
1959 YMCA begins the first nationally organized course for scuba certification.
1960 NAUI is formed
1966 PADI is born
1969 American Canadian Underwater Certifications (ACUC) (Formerly called the Association of Canadian Underwater Councils) – originated in Canada in 1969 and expanded internationally in 1984

The Chicago Mass Dive took place in 1957. At the time, there were NO formal scuba training agencies yet a general call for assistance brought over 100 scuba divers to the site – and they came with their own dive gear.

* Compare and contrast basic dive training in 1957 to current certification standards.

* How did divers receive training in 1957?

* What was the significance of the Illinois Council of Skin and Scuba divers ant he vast number of dive clubs?

* How do you think recreationally certified divers today would fare in the Montrose Harbor search scenario?

* Describe some of the possible ways this Montrose search could have ended badly.

* List the potential hazards the volunteer recreational divers faced and what sort of safety precautions should be in place for the Montrose Harbor scenario if it were to be undertaken by current day dive team(s).

* What modern equipment and / or technologies could be adapted to search that same area today if the need arose?

* In a worst case scenario, if YOUR team, as it is now, was faced with a multi agency response for a high profile target, what would you do? As a team, work a tabletop exercise of the Chicago Mass Dive and see.

EXTRA CREDIT

Self-grading Quiz for Prevention of Decompression Accidents

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