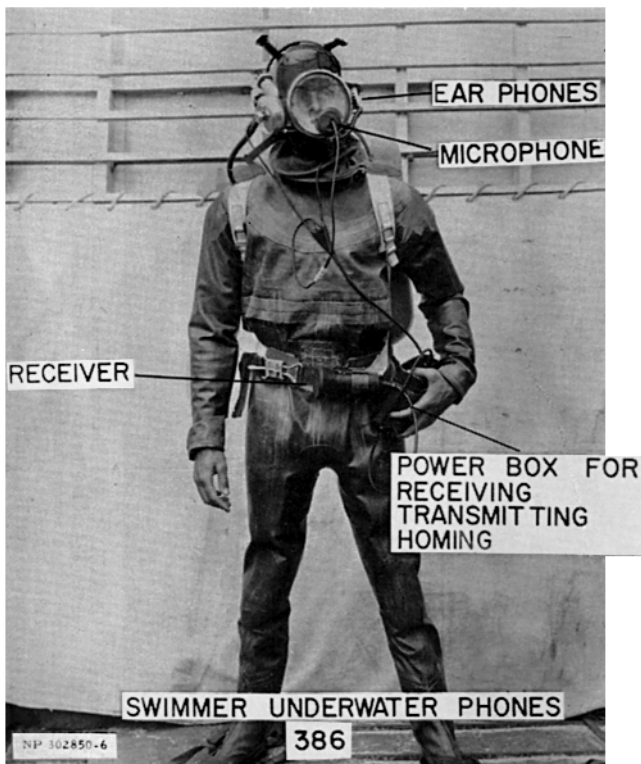


EXCERPTS FROM THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF

UNDERWATER INVESTIGATIONS

Official U.S. Navy Photograph



by Rob Kovitz

A DROWNING

Offshore, a fisherman is tapping on lake ice
And calling to his son.

...

The fisherman, lifting his nets, whispers
A question to each pickerel, each pike.

W. D. Valgardson, A Drowning



Interlake Spectator

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

There is a saying of the wise man: "When all things lay in the midst of silence then leapt there down into me from on high, from the royal throne, a secret word."...

But, Sir, where is the silence and where the place in which the word is spoken?

Meister Eckhart, On Detachment

Gazarra opened the book. The first page swam with crooked, twisted, backwards-leaning letters.

"Darkness was on the face of the deep," he began.

"I know," she told him. "I've been there."

David Homel, Get On Top

We all live in the same world's sea.
We cannot tell a story that leaves us outside, and when I say *we*, I include *you*. But in order to include you, I feel that I cannot spend these pages saying *I* to a second person. Therefore let us say *he*, and stand together looking at them.

George Bowering, Burning Water

The biggest secrets are the ones spread open before us.

Don DeLillo, Underworld

THE DROWNER

Gimli—A 22-year-old Winnipeg man drowned Sunday afternoon at Gimli Beach after apparently suffering a seizure while swimming, police said.

Officials estimated more than 7,000 people were at the beach during the incident.

Two doctors on the scene, along with beach safety officers, applied CPR on the shore after family and friends pulled him out of the water, said RCMP Const. Jamie Slukynsky.

██████████ was prone to seizures and disappeared under the water while swimming with a group of family and friends, he added.

He had been under water for several minutes before his companions found him and pulled him to shore, Slukynsky added.

An ambulance took ██████████ to Gimli General Hospital where he was pronounced dead, he added.

██████████'s is the 14th water-related death in the province so far this year.

Manitoba has Canada's highest per-capita rate of preventable water-related deaths. In 1995, 33 Manitobans drowned, seven in Lake Winnipeg alone.

Andrew Maxwell, Winnipeg Free Press

"So," he says, for want of anything better.

"I am an actress," she says, raising her chin a little, and looks it.

"I'm a drowner."

Robert Drewe, The Drowner

