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Martin H. Moynihan - Cephalopoda (Squid) 1971-1973, 1975-1979, 1981-1982 (1 of 3)

Extracted on Apr-18-2024 09:14:08

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Ceph., May 5, 1982, II

[[circled]] 2 [[/circled]]

9:58 pm. Now there are 3 Sepiots feeding on sardines. Probably all 3 medium large. Feeding at different depths. Not coordinated. All 3 in "Basic". Sometimes with White Stripe. Sometimes just plain? Why have they assumed this "unusual" coloration tonight? Could it be because the moon is full and particularly bright tonight? Thus encouraging diurnal rather than nocturnal coloration?

There are many peculiar V and contort movements. Apparently just before and after catching fishes.

San Blas,

May 6, 1982

To Okupukkyo this mornnig. Sunny, clear, calm and hot.

We start out to work 9:40 am. A tows around island in usual way. Does some photography. SAN.

I just go to the western end of island where there are large expanses of shallow sand and TG flats. Swim and walk around, looking for "Sepioids", until 11:50 am. No success.

Who is filling the niche of inshore "Sepioids" here. Young Sepiots may be in TG, but they certainly do not occur over sand (There certainly would seem to be plenty of potential food around. Large schools of small sardines are enormously abundant near the shore line here. Ca. 10:00 am, most of them seemed to be "asleep" on or near the bottom. This is fine for Gloria's egrets. But why don't cephalopods take advantage of the same opportunities? Would they be too exposed to predators?)

There is something queer about the "Sepicola." Apparently much more abundant and diverse in the Old World than in the New. This may be almost as true of the "Sepioids" as of Sepia itself.

A tows around Okopukkyo and adjacent island this afternoon.

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