

ACTIVITY: Running / splashing

CASE: GSAF 1983.00.00.c

DATE: 1983

LOCATION: The attack took place on Malakula at the beach opposite Atchin Island, Malampa Province, Vanuatu (formerly, New Hebrides).

NAME: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: A tourist from Sweden (or Switzerland).

NARRATIVE: The tourist was running into the water when he was bitten by a shark.

INJURY: Fatal. "His arm and shoulder were removed."

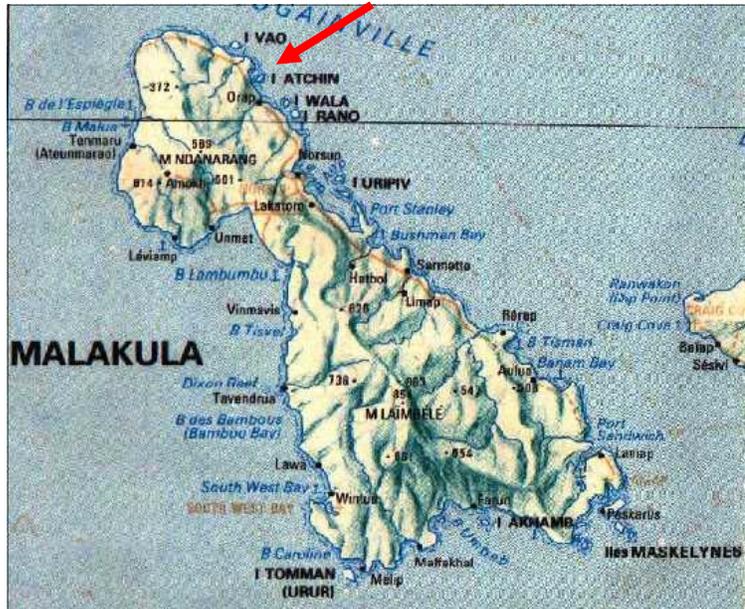
FIRST AID / TREATMENT: "The ni-Vanuatu who was there packed sand into the wound and the tourist was taken to the Norsup hospital, where he died. . . I got the story from the CUSO doctor who met the Swedish tourist at the Norsup airstrip and shortly thereafter had the tourist die on his treatment table, as well as from the ni-Vanuatu man who treated the tourist immediately after the attack. ..

"Ni-Vanuatu in general ascribe almost all shark attacks to men who change form into a shark and attack an enemy to exact revenge for some wrongdoing. I once went through all of Malekula's recent shark attacks with some of my ni- Vanuatu coworkers, and they had a custom explanation for each one. I tried to trip them up on a newly-arrived Swiss tourist who was killed less than an hour after he arrived, my theory being that he hadn't been there long enough to make any enemies. I was told that he had run into the water at the exact time and place that the intended victim was supposed to have, and was killed by mistake". .*Stan Combs*

SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified

SOURCE: Stan Combs, scombs@aol.com, <http://members.shaw.ca/scombs/vanuatu.html> and <http://members.shaw.ca/scombs/letters/870402.html>

"Vanuatu - a Canadian's Perspective"





© Global Shark Accident File, 2005. All rights reserved. This report may not be abridged or reproduced in any form without written permission of the Global Shark Accident File.