

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: GSAF 2000.10.06.b

DATE: Friday October 6, 2000

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA. It occurred in the sea between Esther Street and Crawford Avenue, about a mile north from where Taylor Holley was bitten 90 minutes earlier.

29°N, 81°W

NAME: Austin White

DESCRIPTION: The surfer is a 23-year-old male, a stockbroker from Apopka, Florida. He was wearing a black bathing suit.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, October 5, 2000

SEA CONDITIONS: Waves were two- to three-feet in height and the water was murky with about one-foot visibility.

ENVIRONMENT: Large schools of baitfish were passing through the area.

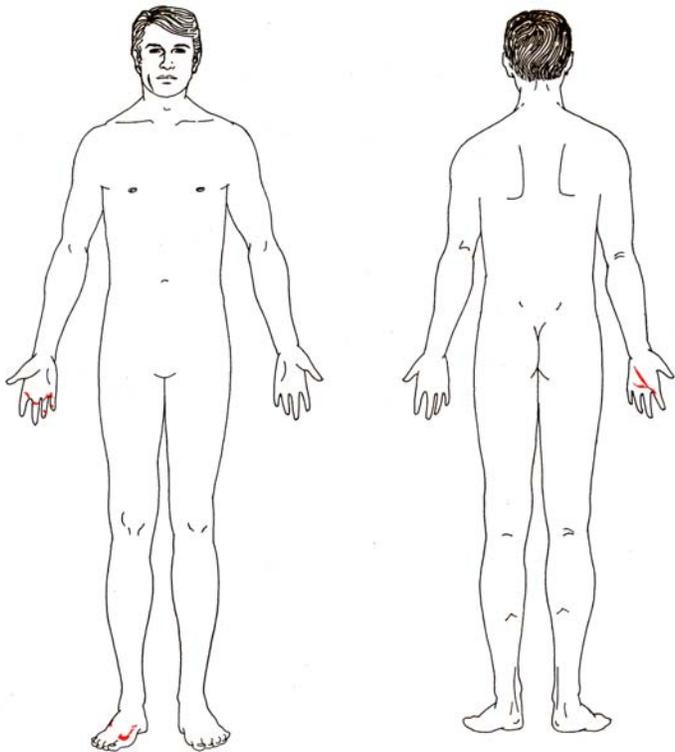
DEPTH OF WATER AT INCIDENT SITE: "Waist-deep"

TIME: 14h30

NARRATIVE: Austin White was separated from the other surfers; the closest surfer was about 50 to 100 yards away. "I had just finished riding a wave, and jumped off my board," he said. "I went under the water, and I felt a sharp pain in my hand. At first, I thought the fin of my board hit my hand, but when I surfaced, I couldn't pull my hand up. I saw a dorsal and a tail fin thrashing around. ... I didn't see any baitfish when I first paddled out, but when the shark grabbed my hand, baitfish scattered everywhere. Then the shark let go of my hand, and I pulled my hand out of the water."

INJURY: Tendons in the middle and ring finger of the right hand were cut.

TREATMENT: "On the beach, I ran up to two ladies and asked for a towel to wrap my hand," said White. He received



© Global Shark Accident File, 2000. All rights reserved. This report may not be abridged or reproduced in any form without written permission of the Global Shark Accident File.

medical care for his injury, but details are not known.

SPECIES INVOLVED: According to the surfer, the incident involved a two-foot blacktip shark, *Carcharhinus limbatus*.

SOURCES: SharkSurvivor.com; M.I. Johnson, Daytona Beach News Journal, October 7, 2000, page 1A and October 8, 2000, page 4B.

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Captain Scott Petersohn, Global Shark Accident File