

ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: GSAF 2002.11.17

DATE: Sunday November 17, 2002

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean off Maui Kai Condominiums and Embassy Vacation Resort in Kaanapali, Maui, Hawaii, USA.

NAME: Julia Given-Glance

DESCRIPTION: The swimmer is a 34-year-old executive from San Diego, California. She is physically fit, an experienced ocean swimmer, and is training for triathalons.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Full Moon, November 19, 2002

SEA CONDITIONS: The sea was choppy and slightly turbid.

ENVIRONMENT: This was the second incident on Maui in less than a month.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 100 yards

DEPTH OF WATER AT INCIDENT SITE: Six feet

TIME: 10h46

NARRATIVE: Julia Given-Glance, her husband Robert, their two small children and her parents were vacationing at a resort at Ka'anapali Beach, Maui. It was just the second day of their planned one-week trip, and while the children were napping, she took the opportunity to take an ocean swim by herself. She entered the water about 10h36 and swam out into deeper water beyond the shorebreak. Two surfers were about 20 yards away when she felt as if she collided with something. "I just recall feeling a big bump, something crashing into me and my arm being sliced and I saw [the shark] as I started to turn." Aware that she was seriously injured, she said, "I pulled my arm against my stomach very tight because it was very badly gashed." She began swimming on her back toward the shore until one of the two surfers, Steve Bona, helped her onto his board and took her to the beach.

INJURY: The swimmer was bitten on her right shoulder, chest, forearm and wrist; 14 tendons were severed and a bone was chipped.

FIRST AID: A doctor and nurse who were in the area treated the swimmer until paramedics arrived.

TREATMENT: She was admitted to Maui Memorial Medical Center.

SPECIES INVOLVED: Bona reported that the shark was grey-colored and 2.5 to 3 metres in length.

SOURCES: San Francisco Gate; NBC San Diego,
<http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/1792881/detail.html>

