

ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: [GSAF 2007.04.26](#)

DATE: Thursday April 26, 2007

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Gulf of Carpentaria at Mornington Island, Queensland, Australia.

16°30'S, 139°30'E

NAME: Lorraine

DESCRIPTION: She is a 13-year-old female.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 18h00, Mornington Island recorded air temperature of 84°F [29°C], dew point 64°F [18°C], humidity 42%, sea level pressure 29.90 inches [1012 hPa] and wind direction was WSW at 3.5 mph [5.6 km/h].

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, April 24, 2007.

ENVIRONMENT: Mornington Island, one of 22 Wellesley islands, is the largest of the island group. The township of Gununa on the main island of Mornington is home to the majority of residents and access is available by sea or air. Because the island is an Aboriginal community, permission to visit the island must be sought from the Mornington Shire Council by mail, six weeks prior to intended arrival. There is no guarantee of permission being granted.

TIME: 18h00 [6 pm]

NARRATIVE: She was with a group of children swimming near the community jetty when the incident took place. "It's a big thing here for the kids to jump off the jetty into the water," said a woman resident. "That's what she was doing."

INJURY: Her lower leg and foot were injured by the shark.

TREATMENT: A resident, who did not want to be named, said the girl was taken to the nearby island hospital where she was treated for her injuries. She was later airlifted to Townsville by the Royal Flying Doctor Service based in Mount Isa. She underwent surgery on Friday at the Townsville Hospital on mainland Australia and continues to recover.

SPECIES: Not identified. "One of the kids said it was a small shark; only one of the kids said they saw it," said the resident.

SOURCES: Sonia Campbell, Sunday Mail, April 29, 2007,
http://www.news.com.au/story/0,23599,21637817-2,00.html?from=public_rss

<http://www.news.com.au/couriermail/story/0,,21640531-5003402,00.html>



*Mornington Island from space,
September 1991*

