

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: GSAF 2012.07.06

DATE: Friday July 6, 2012

LOCATION: The attack took place in the Indian Ocean at Sandstrand (Sand Beach), at Jongensfontein, Western Cape Province, South Africa.

NAME: Jacque Mostert

DESCRIPTION: He is a 29-year-old male, an accountant from Centurion, Pretoria.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Full Moon, July 3, 2012

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 20 to 30 metres

TIME: 16h30

NARRATIVE: Jacque Mostert was surfing with friends. "I was about to get out of the water, only about 15 metres into the surf, when I saw something swimming past me," said Mostert. "At first I thought it was a dolphin, but then I realised I was in trouble. Then I just felt a hard hit on my side. It was as if a crazy dog had bitten into me because it started shaking my leg in the same way" The shark circled him twice. "I managed to get a look at it and saw it was massive, I was really scared. I'm very religious, so I believe a calmness came over me and I decided to stop panicking about something I couldn't change. This was when a large wave came and I was able to paddle myself back to shore." His fellow surfers, who witnessed the attack, removed him from the water.

INJURY: The surfer sustained "two serious lacerations to his left upper leg and knee with serious blood loss," according to the National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI). There were four wounds, one of which was estimated to be 25 cm long and 8 cm wide. "The shark bit through the ligaments and nerves in the top part of my leg and my knee," reported Mostert.

TREATMENT: NSRI medics and a local doctor, Pieter Joubert, treated the patient on scene. A tourniquet, O₂, and intravenous fluids were administered to compensate for blood loss, and he was stabilized before an ER24 ambulance arrived to transport him to Bay View Hospital in Mossel Bay.

SPECIES: "Based on the eyewitness accounts, and from the bite marks, we estimate the shark to have been between four and 4.5 metres but the species of shark is not yet confirmed," reported Craig Lambinon of the NSRI.

SOURCES: Business Recorder, July 7, 2012, <http://www.brecorder.com/arts-a-leisure/travel/66129-safrican-surfer-survives-shark-attack-.html>

Wavescape (from JBay News), July 9, 2012, <http://www.wavescape.co.za/news/breaking-news/stilbaai-shark-attack.html>



Jacque Mostert