

ACTIVITY: Free diving for lobster
CASE: **GSF 1959.11.10**
DATE: Tuesday November 10, 1959
LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean at Paradise Cove north of Malibu, Los Angeles County, California, USA.
34°01.1'N; 118°47'W

NAME: Duffy Fryling
DESCRIPTION: He was a 21-year-old male. He was wearing a wetsuit, mask, gloves and swim fins.

BACKGROUND
MOON PHASE: First Quarter, November 7, 1959
DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 100 to 150 metres
DEPTH OF WATER: Eight fathoms
TIME: 10h30

NARRATIVE: .Fryling was hunting the California spiny lobster, *Panulirus interruptus*, and was resting at the surface near a kelp canopy when he noticed a bloodstained area on the surface with a dozen or more blue sharks surfacing. "About 25 feet in front of me was a surging, swirling chaos of blue sharks, ranging in size from three to six feet. I'm sure two or three of the sharks were wounded, and it looked like some of the others were feeding or taking bites out of them. I turned and started swimming toward shore when two sharks, each about five feet in length, came between the beach and me. One of the sharks charged, grabbing my left forearm, which I had instinctively thrown out in front of my face. I grabbed hold of its snout and pulled out my arm."

INJURY: The diver sustained several tooth punctures to his left forearm.

TREATMENT: Fryling was treated at Malibu Emergency Hospital. His wounds were considered minor and he did not require hospitalization.

SPECIES: The incident involved a blue shark about five feet in length.

SOURCES: Ralph Collier (2003), pages 26-27

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Ralph Collier

