



ACTIVITY: Spearfishing

CASE: GSAF 1981.12.13.a

DATE: Sunday December 13, 1981

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean at Nimitz Beach, Barbers Point, O'ahu, Hawaii, USA.

NAME: Melvin T. Toma

BACKGROUND

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 300 to 400 yards

DEPTH OF WATER: 20 feet, but the incident took place at the surface.

NARRATIVE: The incident took place shortly after Melvin Toma entered the water. He was searching for fish, but none had been speared. He was swimming on the surface when his leg was bitten by the shark.

INJURY: His right leg was severely bitten.

TREATMENT: The wound required 200 stitches.

SPECIES: The incident involved a 3.7-metre [12-foot] tiger shark.

SOURCES: Jim Borg, page 75; Leighton Taylor (1993), pages 104-105

