

ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: **GSF 1984.11.30**

DATE: Friday November 30, 1984

LOCATION: The attack took place off Black's Beach, Queensland, Australia.

NAME: Nicholas Bos

DESCRIPTION: He was a 16-year-old male from Campwin Beach, a student at Sarina State High School.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, November 30, 1984

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 400 metres

TIME: 12h33



NARRATIVE: It was the annual Christmas outing at the beach; 130 students and nine senior teachers had chartered two buses for the event. Black's Beach Aqua Park rented out 10 catamarans, 12 surf skis and a wind surfer, and more than 60 children were in the water when the attack took place.

Nicholas Bos and three schoolmates — Darren Keating, Mark Scott and Chris Petersen — were sailing one of the catamarans. The boys were inexperienced sailors and when Nicholas fell overboard, it took the other boys some moments to bring the boat around. As Nicholas was swimming towards a lifejacket, the shark made a single pass nearly cutting him in two. By the time Nicholas' friends reached him, he was unconscious. Darren and Mark lifted him onto the catamaran, returned to the beach and raised an alarm.

INJURY: Fatal. Dr L. LeRay of Black's Beach was on the beach within minutes of Nicholas being carried ashore. But he said there was nothing he could do to save the teenager. "He had lost a lot of blood," he said. "He probably died from shock."

SPECIES: A tiger shark about four metres in length.

SOURCES: Courier-Mail, December 1, 1984, page 1; Alan Sharpe, page 106