



ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: [GSAF 1987.01.06](#)

DATE: January 6, 1987

LOCATION: Lizard Island, Queensland, Australia.

NAME: Alessandro Russo

DESCRIPTION: He was a 37-year old male, a tourist from Turin. He was one of 19 Italian tourists who arrived on the island shortly before the incident.

BACKGROUND

ENVIRONMENT: Air Queensland Ltd, which operates Lizard Island, will today investigate a report that the shark might have been attracted by dead sharks hanging over the side of a boat moored overnight at the island's jetty.

"We understand a game fishing boat came into Lizard yesterday and overnighted at the jetty," the spokesman said. "The bodies of some sharks appear to have been left hanging over the side. That's just not done — the carcasses should be taken out of the water and weighed."

TIME: 07h00

NARRATIVE: Russo was swimming near the jetty in shallow water when he was bitten by a shark. He was dragged unconscious from the water, bleeding badly from a gaping wound in his right leg.

INJURY: Severe lacerations to right leg.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Royal Flying Doctor Service flew the man to the Cairns Base Hospital where he was placed in Intensive Care. He survived.

SPECIES: Not identified

SOURCES: Sydney Morning Herald; Courier-Mail January 7 & 8, 1987, page 1



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