

**ACTIVITY:** Surfing

**CASE:** GSAF 1990.04.06

**DATE:** Friday April 6, 1990

**LOCATION:** The incident took place at Greenmount Beach, Queensland, Australia,

**NAME:** Tony Patton

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 29-year-old male, a tourist.

#### **BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** Full Moon, April 10, 1990

**ENVIRONMENT:** This was the first of three incidents involving surfers in this area: The second incident took place on Saturday at Fingal Beach (GSAF 1990.04.07) when an American tourist had his board snapped in two, and on Monday (GSAF 1990.04.09) Mark Fleming's board was bitten by a shark. Rainbow Bay lifesaver, 21-year-old Brad Lattegan said all the incidents took place at dawn or dusk.

**TIME:** Late afternoon

**NARRATIVE:** The shark took a bite of Tony Patton's surfboard, throwing him into the water. "The shark hit me with such force I felt like I had been hit with a sledgehammer. I turned around and saw the top half of his head," he said. "I grabbed a piece of board and climbed on, and paddled for my life."

**INJURY:** No injury

**SPECIES:** Lattegan said he had seen a three-metre tiger shark swimming offshore for three weeks. "I was out surfing and it came under me and then circled me," he said. "It had a stomach the size of a 44-gallon drum. I think it would have to be the one responsible for three attacks."

**SOURCE:** Herald, Tuesday April 10, 1990, page 4

