

**ACTIVITY:** Spearfishing

**CASE:** GSAF 1994.05.28

**DATE:** Saturday May 28, 1994

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean off Jacksonville Beach, Duval County, Florida, USA.

**NAME:** James (Jimmy) Plumer

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 35-year old male and has been spearfishing and scuba diving for 16 years.

**SUPPORT BOAT:** A 46-foot fishing and dive boat owned by his father, Vic Lloyd.

#### **BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** Third Quarter, June 30, 1994

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 34 miles according to the press report but 3 or 4 miles seems more likely.

**NARRATIVE:** The shark bit into Plumer's left shoulder and shook him like a rag doll. Plumer pounded on the shark's head repeatedly with his free right fist until the shark released him. Plumer pulled his dislodged mask back over his face and cleared his vision, and saw the shark circling.

Plumer said he fired his spear gun, which he had planned to use to bring in grouper or cobia. But the gun misfired, sending a shaft glancing off the shark's head. "When I knew I didn't kill it, that's when I dropped everything and swam up," he said.

It took Plumer about a minute to reach the surface and the safety of his father's boat. Plumer said the ordeal won't keep him out of the water. "I think it was just a freak accident," he said. "I'll be back out as soon as I can."

**INJURY:** The diver sustained gashes to his left shoulder and arm.

**FIRST AID / TREATMENT:** Unknown

**SPECIES INVOLVED:** Not identified. According to the diver, the incident involved a 2.1 metre [seven-foot] shark.

**SOURCE:** The Miami Herald, May 30, 1994, page 5B

