

ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: **GSF 1994.09.26**

DATE: Sunday September 26, 1994

LOCATION: The incident took place off North Forest Beach at Hilton Head, Beaufort County, South Carolina, USA.

NAME: Liubov Kozarinova

DESCRIPTION: The swimmer is a 30-year-old female, a biologist from Gaithersberg, Maryland.



BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Third Quarter, September 27, 1994

ENVIRONMENT: A shrimp boat was working nearby and it was speculated that the shark may have been following it.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 200 yards

DEPTH OF WATER AT INCIDENT SITE: "Shoulder-deep"

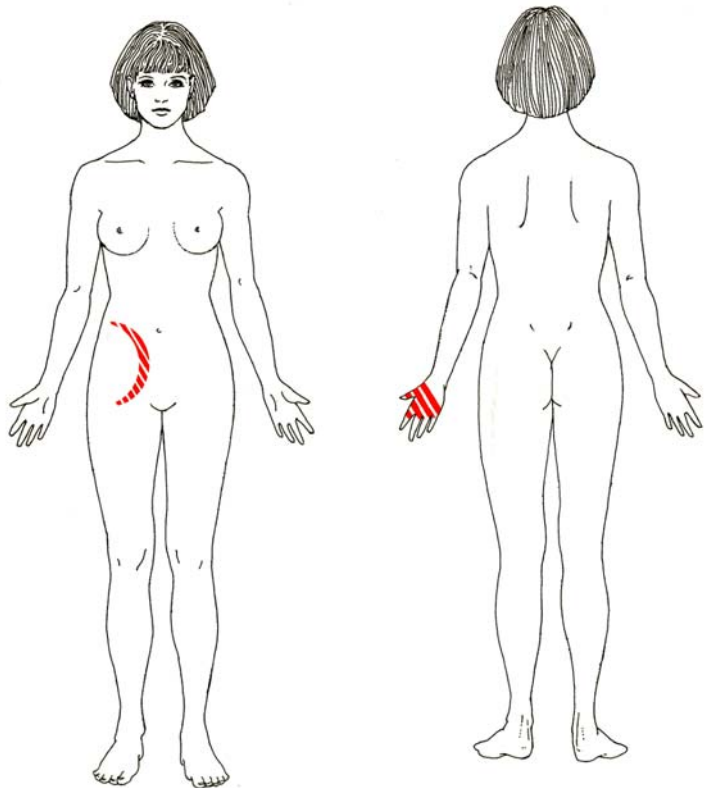
TIME: Afternoon

NARRATIVE: Liubov and a co-worker, Alex Grinberg, both biologists at the National Institute of Health, arrived on Saturday to spend a week with friends. She was swimming alone when she was bitten. "She said there was no warning before [the shark] hit her like a torpedo," said Grinberg. She swam to shore where Grinberg and another man assisted her onto the beach.

INJURY: She was bitten on her right abdomen and left hand, and there were cuts on her chest and thigh. The shark had a bite radius of 18 inches.

FIRST AID: Ralph Wagner, head of the Hilton Head Beach Patrol, radioed for an ambulance and administered first aid.

TREATMENT: The swimmer was admitted to Memorial Medical Center in Savannah, Georgia.



SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified. The shark was thought to be 10 to 12 feet in length.

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Clay Creswell, GSAF

SOURCES: Atlanta Journal, September 27, 1994; Charlotte Observer, September 27, 1994, page 1C; Pacific Stars and Stripes (Tokyo, Japan), Saturday, October 1, 1994

Women OK after bitten by shark at resort island

SC HILTON HEAD ISLAND — A woman swimming off this resort island was bitten from her chest to her thigh by what authorities suspect was a 10- to 12-foot shark.

Liubov Kozarinova of Gaithersburg, Md., was in good condition.

“The pain is not too bad now. She’s been given painkillers,” friend Alex Grinberg said.

Kozarinova had been swimming about 50 to 75 yards offshore. Whatever bit her had a bite radius of 18 inches, said fire Battalion Chief Eddie Johnson.

It was probably 10 to 12 feet long, and may have been drawn into the area by a nearby shrimp boat, he said.

“It was typical of a shark attack. She was bitten, then it pulled away and let go, which is what sharks usually do,” Johnson said.

The last serious shark attack here was in 1988.