

ACTIVITY: Swimming
CASE: GSAF 1995.06.14
DATE: Tuesday June 14, 1995
LOCATION: The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean at Wailea, Maui, Hawaii, USA.

NAME: Donald Bloom
DESCRIPTION: He is a 38-year-old male, a resident of Maui. He was wearing swim goggles.

BACKGROUND
WEATHER: It was a hot, sunny day.
MOON PHASE: Full Moon, June 12, 1995
SEA CONDITIONS: The usually clear water was murky with sediment and the waves were unusually large. The incident took place the day after Kamehameha Day, and the Kamehameha Day swell was whopper in 1995 – the biggest south swell in 20 years.
DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 200 yards
DEPTH OF WATER: 20 feet
TIME: 11h50

NARRATIVE: Donald Bloom is an excellent swimmer who works out weekly with the Maui Masters Swim Club. On the day of the incident he was swimming with Margaret Maddigan, president of the club. The pair entered the water opposite Grand Wailea Resort. During their sprint offshore, Bloom had angled somewhat shoreward. He was stroking over to join Maddigan when the shark grabbed his left flank. He rotated and twisted to the right and out of the shark's mouth, but facing the animal. He reared back and kicked the shark, and the shark disappeared. Bloom and Maddigan swam to shore, hugged the rocks until they were able to scramble ashore on a strip of sand.

INJURY: The injury consisted of four puncture wounds to Bloom's torso and scratches to his left leg.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Bloom did not require hospitalization; he was able to treat himself guided by advice from his doctor over the phone.

SPECIES INVOLVED: The incident involved a tiger shark, *Galeocerdo cuvier*, about 3.7 metres [12'] in length.

SOURCE: Greg Ambrose, pages 41 - 47

NOTE: Another source gives the date of this incident as June 13, 1995



Map from Ambrose

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