

ACTIVITY: Swimming
CASE: GSAF 1995.08.31.a
DATE: Thursday August 31, 1995
LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at Myrtle Beach, Horry County, South Carolina, USA.

NAME: Robert Hall
DESCRIPTION: The swimmer is a 44-year-old male from Ontario, Canada.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: First Quarter, September 2, 1995
ENVIRONMENT: Myrtle Beach is located along South Carolina's northern coast in Horry County. It is the center of the Grand Strand, 60 miles of beaches that stretches from the North Carolina border to Georgetown. Hall told authorities that he saw a school of fish swimming nearby.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: Hall said he "was not swimming too far out, but was at the point where the waves were breaking."

TIME: Afternoon

NARRATIVE: Robert Hall was relaxing on a float when he felt pain around his ankle, which was dangling in the water.

INJURY: The swimmer sustained puncture wounds to his leg and ankle.

TREATMENT: He was treated at Grand Strand Regional Hospital. He received stitches and was released.

SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified

NOTE: This was the fifth of six incidents reported this year off the coast of South Carolina this year. The shark was said to be about four feet in length.

SOURCES: The State, Friday September 1, 1995; September 1, 1995, page C3; The Record, September 2, 1995; The Charlotte Observer, September 2, 1995, page 4C; The Post and Courier (Charleston, SC), September 2, 1995, page 19; Herald-Journal (Spartanburg, SC).

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Clay Creswell, GSAF

Swimmer attacked at Myrtle Beach

MYRTLE BEACH – A man swimming in the Atlantic Ocean was bitten by what authorities believe was a shark, badly injuring his leg and ankle.

The man, who police would not identify, was being treated at Grand Strand Medical Center after the Thursday attack.

"He was looking back to see if it was going to follow him to the beach. It hit him right there where the waves are breaking," Jerry Julian, a witness to the attack, told WBTW-TV in Florence.

■ SOUTH CAROLINA

6th shark bite of season reported

MYRTLE BEACH — A shark bit a Canadian man while he was swimming in the Atlantic Ocean, the sixth shark attack in the area since mid-June, authorities say.

Robert Hall, 44, of Ontario was bitten Thursday on the leg and ankle, said Mark Thompson, assistant beachfront director for Horry County. Hall received stitches at Grand Strand Regional Medical Center and was released.

— Edited by Vinny Kuntz

