

**ACTIVITY:** Swimming

**CASE:** GSAF 2002.10.30

**DATE:** Wednesday October 30, 2002

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Pacific Ocean off Kama'ole Beach Park I, Kihei, Maui, Hawaii, USA.

**NAME:** Karen A. Miller

**DESCRIPTION:** She is a 60-year-old female, a Kihei resident from Idaho.

### BACKGROUND

**MOON PHASE:** Last Quarter, October 28, 2002

**SEA CONDITIONS:** The water was semi-turbid outside the reef break.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 20 yards

**DEPTH OF WATER AT INCIDENT SITE:** 15 feet

**TIME:** 11h00 [DNR] / 11h56

**NARRATIVE:** Miller said she did not see what bit her but said that if it was a shark, it wasn't very big. "It chomped and then let go. I feel extremely fortunate."

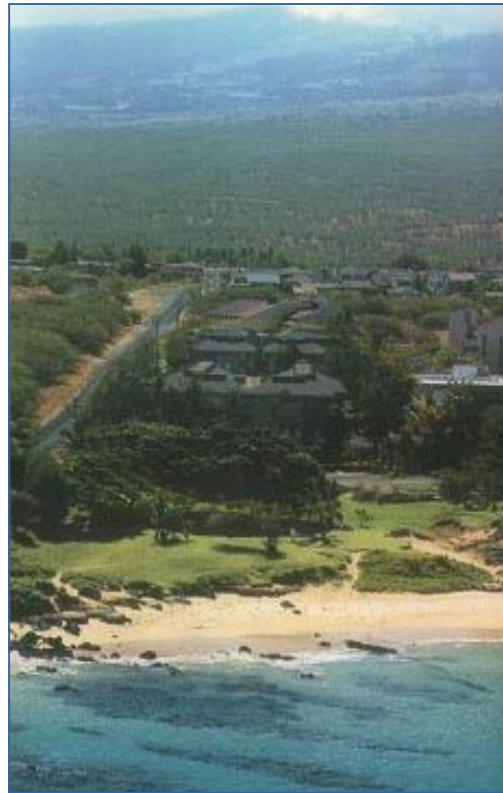
**INJURY:** Her left foot was bitten.

**FIRST AID:** County ocean safety officers bandaged her foot to control the bleeding, and she was transported to Maui Memorial Medical Center.

**TREATMENT:** At the hospital, surgery was performed to repair a severed artery and she was listed in satisfactory condition.

**SPECIES INVOLVED:** "We're not positive it was a shark," said officials. "We're just speculating that it is." State aquatic officials closed down two miles of South Maui beaches as a precautionary measure: Charley Young Beach, Cove Park, Kalama Park and the three Kamaole beaches. DNR later attributed the injury to a small reef shark.

**REPORTED BY:** Gary T. Kubota, gkubota@starbulletin.com



Map courtesy Star-Bulletin