

ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: [GSAF 2007.09.27.a](#)

DATE: Thursday September 27, 2007

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Egyptian Red Sea at Daedalus Reef.

NAME: Kristina Aleksandrova.

DESCRIPTION: She is an 18- or 20-year-old Russian female.

BOAT: The liveaboard dive boat *Obsession*, one of the Sea Serpent fleet, is 36 metres in length.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Full Moon, September 26, 2007

ENVIRONMENT: Daedalus Reef (Abu Kizan) is part of the Marine Park, and is the most offshore of all the reefs in the Egyptian Red Sea. An isolated reef surrounding a small island with a lighthouse, it lies approximately 52 sea miles [96 km] east of Marsa Alam, almost halfway to Saudi Arabia. The reef is a huge submerged oval table and the surrounding reef wall drops off at 30-40m to depths of 500m. Its perimeter of steep walls offers some of the most stunning diving in the Red Sea and is known for its huge and pristine hard coral formations, abundant soft corals, strong currents, and big pelagics including schooling hammerheads (especially off the north point), thresher sharks, mantas and whale sharks.

DISTANCE FROM BOAT: 100 metres

TIME: 07h00



NARRATIVE: Kristina was swimming with a friend off the platform of the dive boat *Obsession* when she saw the fin of the shark and was bitten immediately. Panicked, she beat at the shark and it released her.

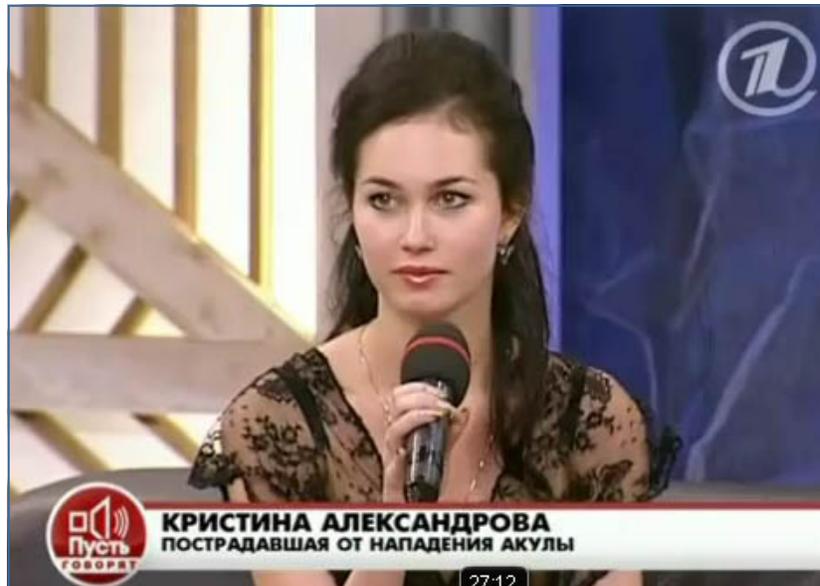
INJURY: She sustained two bites to her lower left leg, ankle and foot, with severe tissue loss.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: In an interview on Russian television, Kristina said a man from a yacht nearby and German doctors pulled her out of the water and provided first aid. Daedalus Reef is six hours by boat from Marsa Alam and even longer from Hurghada.

SPECIES: Prior to the accident oceanic whitetip sharks had been fed and were close by. On television, Kristina said the accident involved “a reef shark”.

CASE INVESTIGATORS: Erich Ritter, Ph.D. and Yuri Sobolev, Global Shark Accident File; Dr. Mohammad Salem of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency and Manager of the South Sinai National Park

NOTE: Kristina and her mother were interviewed on Russian television three years after the accident. The entire interview (in Russian) is available on youtube at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gX7FqIBBkMQ>,



Kristina Aleksandrova, three years after the accident.

