

ACTIVITY: Snorkeling

CASE: GSAF 2010.10.30

DATE: Saturday October 30, 2010

LOCATION: The attack took place in the Eastern Indian Ocean off the north end of Garden Island Naval Base near Rockingham, Western Australia.

NAME: Elyse Frankcom

DESCRIPTION: She is a 19- or 20-year-old female, a videographer and tour guide with Rockingham Wild Encounters, which operates the Apollo 3 charter. Rockingham Wild Encounters operations director Aaron Heath said Ms Frankcom was one of two crew members who were wearing shark shields, which are designed to repel sharks using electric pulses.



Elyse (left) with her sister, Samantha (right)

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 12h30, Perth recorded clear skies. The air temperature was 71.6°F, dew point 30.2°F, humidity 22%, sea level pressure 30.27 inches, and wind direction was ENE at 17.3 mph.

MOON PHASE: Last Quarter, October 30, 2010

TIME: 12h30



Trevor Burns

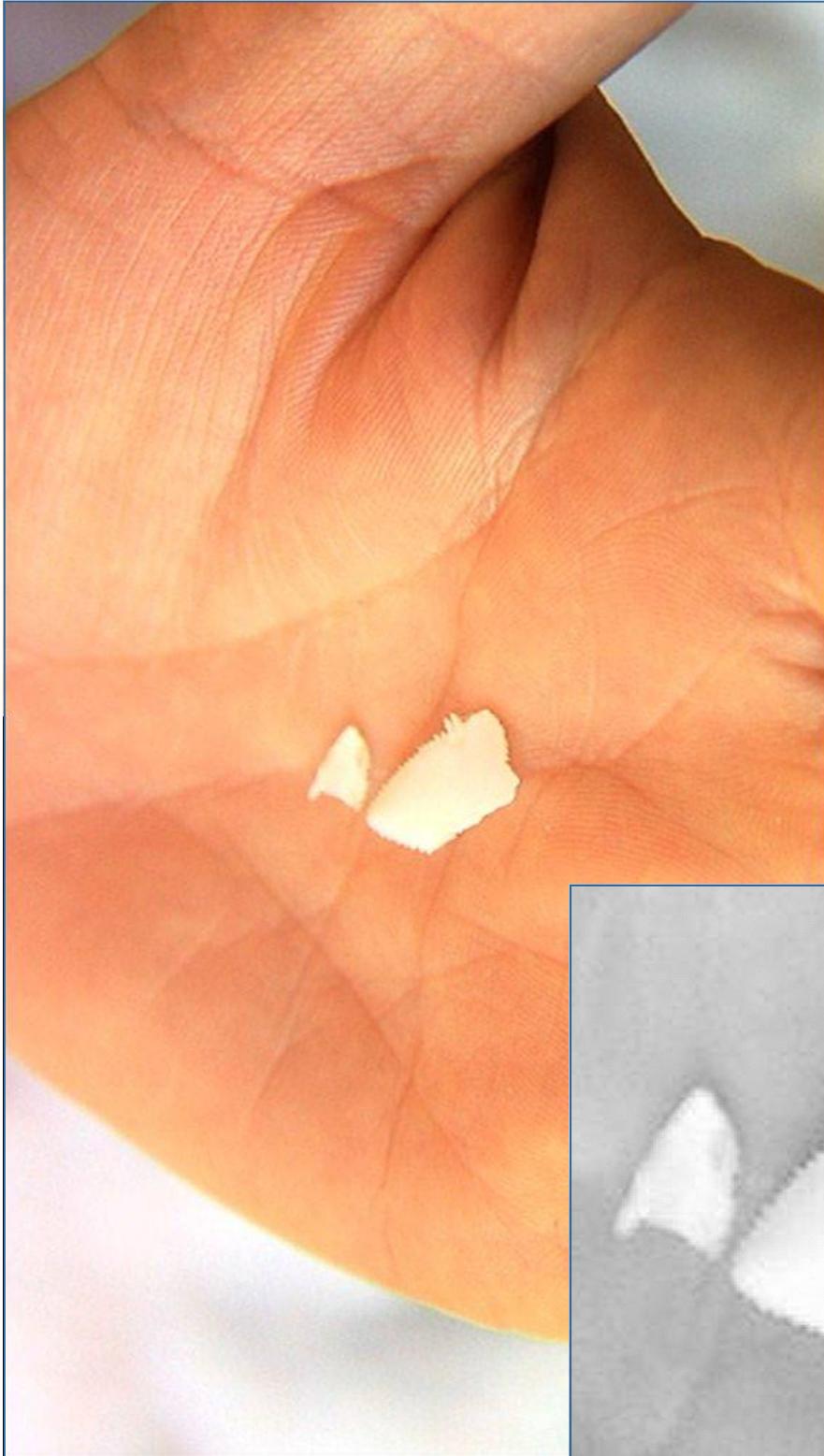
NARRATIVE: Ms. Frankcom was hosting a swim-with-the-dolphins tour for Rockingham Wild Encounters. "As the shark bit her, it brushed aside a fairly large man, Trevor Burns, who grabbed hold of the tail of the shark, which then made it let go," Mr Pisani said. "The girl then started to sink to the bottom and he grabbed her and brought her to the surface and got her back on board the boat. He certainly was instrumental in making this a good outcome."

INJURY: The girl sustained lacerations and puncture wounds to her left buttock and thigh. "There were very deep puncture wounds, quite wide but there was no actual loss of flesh," reported Mr. Pisani.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Mr Pisani said there was a paramedic on the boat, but no first-aid equipment, so sea rescue volunteers worked to stabilise Ms. Frankcom. "We used all our first-aid equipment and did all we could to stem the bleeding before the RAC rescue helicopter arrived," he said. Ms Frankcom was taken to HMAS Stirling base, where she was treated by naval medics before being airlifted to the Royal Perth Hospital where she underwent surgery. Some 200 stitches were needed to repair her injury.

SPECIES: Tooth fragments of a white shark were recovered from Ms Frankcom's wounds. The images of her injury illustrate the clean-edged widely-spaced tooth impressions of a white shark, approximately 12 to 15 feet in length.

CASE INVESTIGATORS: Terry Peake, Shark Research Institute and Al Brenneka, Shark Attack Survivors.



*Tooth fragments recovered from
Ms Francom's wound.*