

ACTIVITY: Snorkeling

CASE: GSAF 2010.12.01.b

DATE: Wednesday December 1, 2010

LOCATION: The attack took place in the Red Sea at Ras Nasrani, a bay facing the straits of Tiran, 9 km north of Sharm El-Sheikh, South Sinai, Egypt.

27°57.809'N, 34°24.938'E

NAME: Yevgeniy (Eugene) Trishkin

DESCRIPTION: He is a 54-year-old Russian male from Petersburg, a marine captain. He is approximately 160 cm tall and was wearing a blue bathing suit.



BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 11h00, Sharm El-Sheikh recorded clear skies and an air temperature of 80.6°F [26.9°C], dew point 42.8°F [5.9°C], humidity 26%, sea level pressure 30.06 inches and wind direction was NNE at 11.5 mph.

MOON PHASE: New Moon, December 5, 2010

SEA CONDITIONS: There was no current.

ENVIRONMENT: The reef drops from the shallow bay to a wall down to 60m+ with many caves and overhangs.

DISTANCE FROM JETTY: 20 metres

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 40 metres

DEPTH OF WATER AT SITE: 15 to 20 metres

TIME: 11h00

NARRATIVE: “I was attacked on the third day of my holiday. I was swimming within the area marked safe for swimming, and snorkeling by buoys near the jetty,” said Yevgeniy. “Children and women, they all splash there. At the end of the pontoon there was a sharp depth increase and the color of the sea gets a much darker blue, almost black. I swam into this, and by the time I saw the shark it was too late.

“It came from the deep and was the same dark black colour as the sea. It bit, and started chewing my left arm. I hit it with my right arm while it continued to eat the left away. I hit its nose several times, and for a second it opened up its jaws, but only to bite my other hand. It was a huge creature. The people on the jetty heard my cries and came to rescue me just as I was losing consciousness. They dragged me out of the water.”

The lifesavers were calling people out of the water because of the attack on Viktor Koliy when they saw Yevgeniy clutching his arm and realized that he was injured. They reached him in their white-bottomed Zodiac. To avoid further injury to Yevgeniy’s hands and forearms, Ahmed, a lifesaver, grabbed him under the arms and lifted him aboard the Zodiac, and saw the fin of a mako shark. The lifesavers used towels to control blood loss. As Ahmed was wringing out a blood-soaked towel over the side of the Zodiac, an oceanic whitetip shark surfaced beside him.

INJURY: Both arms were bitten. His right arm was severely lacerated and his left arm was surgically amputated above the elbow.

SPECIES: Witnesses on the jetty saw a mako shark and then an oceanic whitetip shark. The lifesavers saw the dorsal fin of a mako, and a 2.5 metre whitetip shark below their boat. Some of the wounds appear to be made by a pronged smooth-edged teeth of a mako, but others such as P1010413 and P1010428 have clean-cut edges made by serrated teeth.

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Captain Hassan. He witnessed the attack

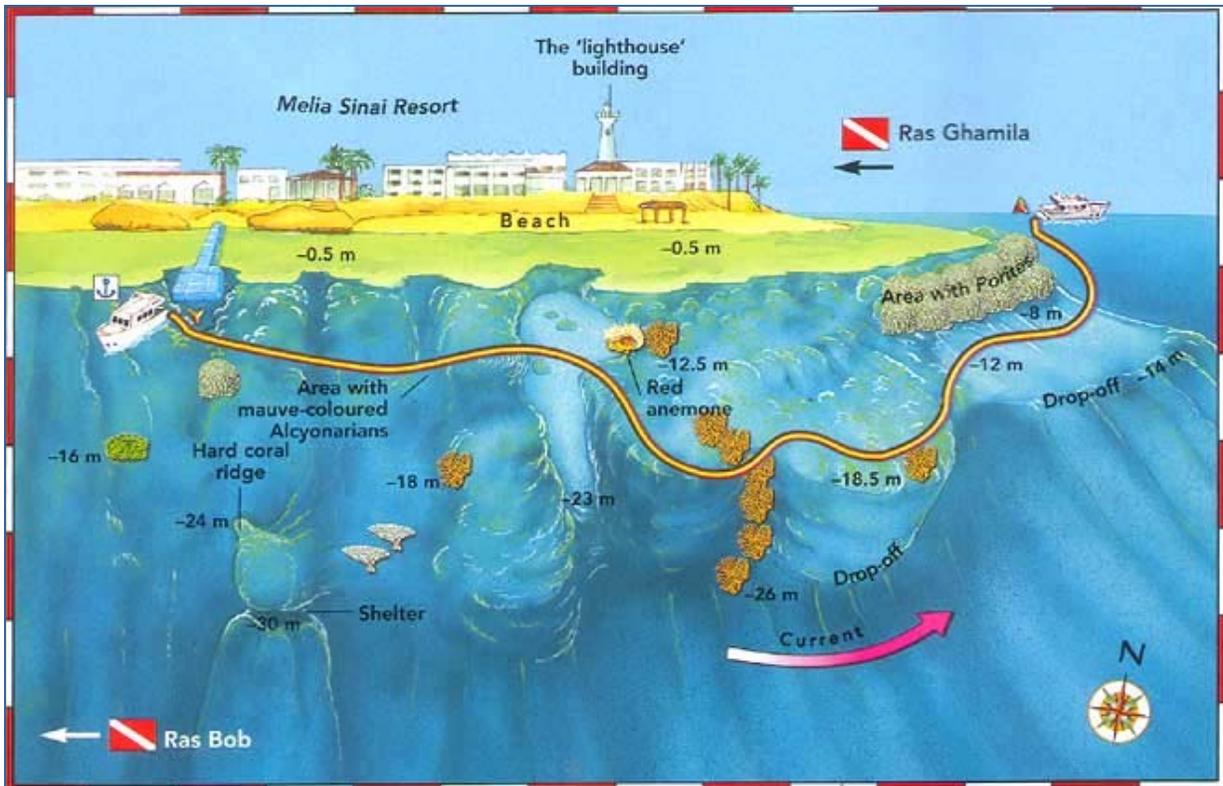


Melia Sinai Resort and floating jetty



Lifesavers' Zodiac and Captain Hassan (at left) on floating jetty

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Yevgeniy lying on the floating jetty being given first aid by lifesavers after the attack.

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