

**ACTIVITY:** Free diving

**CASE:** GSAF 2013.03.29

**DATE:** Friday March 29, 2013

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Indian Ocean off Île Plate (Île Platte), Seychelles.

**NAME:** Richard Parkinson

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 34-year-old male.

**BOAT:** A visiting pleasure vessel which was anchored off the island.

### BACKGROUND

**MOON PHASE:** Waning Gibbous, 95% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, March 27, 2013.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** The water was "clear".

**ENVIRONMENT:** Île Plate is a low, level sand cay surrounded by barrier reefs. It lies approximately 140 kilometers southeast of Mahe, and is an important haven for birds and turtles.

**DEPTH OF WATER:** 25 metres

**NARRATIVE:** He was underwater when he observed a shark approaching. Despite his attempt to evade the shark, it bit his foot.

**INJURY:** Lacerations to left foot.

**FIRST AID / TREATMENT:** The diver received first aid from the crew of the support boat, one of whom was a trained medical officer. The patient was airlifted from Île Plate to Mahé for onward treatment at the Seychelles Hospital. Following successful surgery on the patient's foot, and after consultation with medical authorities from the Seychelles Hospital, the patient was medically evacuated by air ambulance for further onward attention and medical management. He departed Seychelles at around 20h30 on March 29, 2013.

**SOURCE:** Seychelles Nation, April 1, 2013

**CASE INVESTIGATOR:** Erich Ritter, Global Shark Accident File

