

**ACTIVITY:** Scuba Diving

**CASE:** GSAF 2014.05.23

**DATE:** Friday May 23, 2014

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the South Pacific Ocean outside the lagoon at Wallis Island, Wallis and Futuna.

**NAME:** Eric Barnabas (Barnabé)

**BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** Waning Crescent, 34% of the Moon was illuminated. Last Quarter, May 22, 2014.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Wallis (*Uvea*) is a small Polynesian island belonging to the French overseas collectivity (collectivité d'outre-mer, or *COM*) of Wallis and Futuna.

**TIME:** Morning

**NARRATIVE:** Eric Barnabas was photographing his dive buddy who was spearfishing when they encountered a huge school of red snappers. The shark, attracted by struggling fish that his buddy had shot, charged Barnabas. "The attack was tremendous," Barnabas said. On his Facebook page, he says that he drew his legs up and turned sideways to the shark, as it struck him. "I belted shark neck to make him let go. . . It's crazy the force used in those moments." Afterwards, he said, "(The shark) attacked me by mistake; I will continue to love sharks."

**INJURY:** Lacerations, puncture wounds and abrasions to left thigh and hip.

**FIRST AID / TREATMENT:** He received treatment at a local medical facility.

**SPECIES:** The incident involved a large gray shark three metres in length.



Eric Barnabas

