



Photo by mara_ates

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 2015.03.31](#)

DATE: Tuesday March 31, 2015

LOCATION: The incident took place in the South Atlantic Ocean at Praia de Del Chifre, Olinda, Pernambuco, Brazil.

NAME: Diego Gomes Mota

DESCRIPTION: A 23-year-old male.



Diego Gomes Mota

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 11h00, SBRF (the airport closest to Recife) recorded 6.2-mile visibility and scattered clouds. The air temperature was 86°F, heat index 91.8°F, dew point 71.6°F humidity 62%, sea level pressure 29.92 inches (falling) and wind direction was SE at 10.4 mph.

MOON PHASE: Waxing Gibbous, 87% of the Moon was illuminated. Full Moon, April 4, 2015.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 12 metres

TIME: 11h00



Damage to Diego's surfboard caused by the shark

Photo: Thiago Gomes Mota

NARRATIVE: Diego Gomes Mota and his brother, Thiago Gomes Mota, and two friends were surfing, "We were surfing there for an hour," said Thiago, "and we were waiting for the waves when we heard Diego cry for help, shouting that he was being attacked by a shark."

"I think the shark could not fully bite my leg because of the board, then I punched him, I punched him, then I jumped to the right side of the board and started swimming. That's when my brother and my colleagues rescued me. I knew surfing was forbidden there due to sharks, but I was used to surfing there and took the risk," said Diego.

INJURY: Tissue damage to left thigh

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: Once onshore, Thiago helped his brother onto a motorcycle and they went to the Emergency Unit (UPA) in Olinda where Diego's injury was cleaned and dressed, and medication was administered. At 14h45, he was transferred to Hospital Miguel Arraes (HMA) in Recife, where he underwent surgery.

SPECIES: According to Diego, the incident involved a small, grey-colored shark. Experts who examined the injury determined that it was from another species of fish: The wound is 20 cm, and very superficial, had none of the features of a shark bite and there was no muscle loss."

SOURCES: PernambucoNordeste, March 31, 2015

<http://g1.globo.com/pernambuco/noticia/2015/03/surfista-e-ferido-na-perna-e-diz-ter-sido-atacado-por-tubarao-em-olinda.html>

JCOline, April 1, 2015

<http://www.alagoas24horas.com.br/882175/surfista-atacado-em-olinda-afirma-que-foi-mordido-por-tubarao/>

Jornal Hoje, April 1, 2015

<http://g1.globo.com/jornal-hoje/noticia/2015/04/surfista-e-atacado-por-peixe-em-praia-da-regiao-metropolitana-do-recife.html>

Neo10, April 1, 2015

<http://noticias.ne10.uol.com.br/grande-recife/noticia/2015/04/01/laudo-do-iml-nao-confirma-ataque-de-tubarao-em-olinda-539936.php>