T8780 TURTLE BEACH (AUSTRALIA, 1991)
(Other titles: Killing Beach)

Credits: director, Stephen Wallace; writer, Ann Turner; novel, Blanche d’Alpuget.
Cast: Greta Scacchi, Joan Chen, Jack Thompson, Art Malik, Norman Kaye.
Summary: Political melodrama set amid the racial turmoil of Malaysia in the late 1970s. Tells of an Australian photojournalist named Judith (Scacchi) who travels to Malaysia to report on the Vietnamese boat people seeking refuge there. She is befriended by Minou Hobday (Chen), a beautiful former call girl from Saigon, who is married to the Australian ambassador. Minou hopes to use her husband’s power and money to find her own lost children among the refugees. But each new boatload of Vietnamese is met by violence from the Malays. Minou’s desperate search and Judith’s dangerous love affair with an Indian blackmarketeer (Malik), a man who can help both women, propel the story to a shattering conclusion in which Minou sacrifices herself to save her children from a Malay mob.

Abraham, Deborah and Cronau, Peter. “‘Turtle Beach’: Filmmakers license?” Filmnews 22/2 (1992), p. 5.
Devine, Jeremy M. Vietnam at 24 frames a second [GB] (p. 357)
Williams, Tony. “Killing beach” in Viet Nam war films II (edited by Jean-Jacques Malo and Tony Williams) [GB]