

## Red de Observacion del Nivel del Mar para America Central (RONMAC)

### **Guatemala Reconnaissance Report (Santo Tomas de Castilla)**

Tuesday, June 20, 2000

Traveled by car with Mr. Pedro Tax, Coordinator of Hydrological Services from the Instituto Nacional de Sismologia Vulcanologia Meteorologia e Hidrologia (INSIVUMEH) to the east coast of Guatemala. Met with;



Oscar O. Munoz  
Director de Operaciones  
Puerto Santo Tomas de Castilla  
Guatemala, C.A.

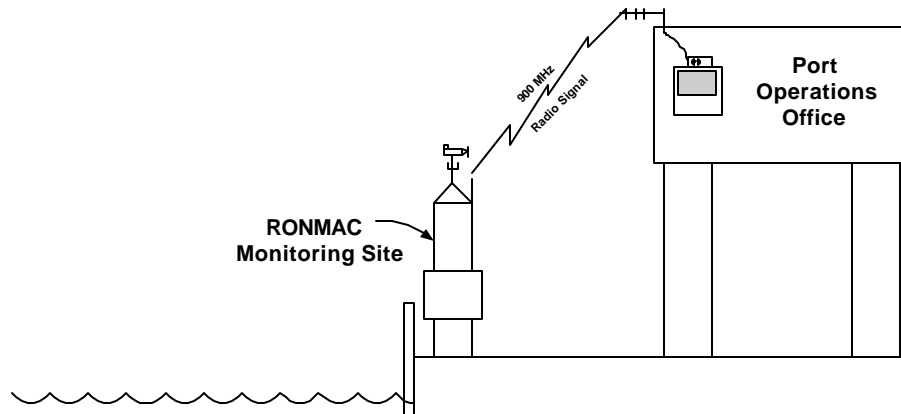
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Demonstrated the data communications system, discussed the RONMAC project and provided an information package to the Port Director (see Attachment 'A'). The port is primarily a container facility, there is also a commercial fishery operation. Both the container and the fishery operators were very interested in the real-time communications of the RONMAC monitoring site.

After the demo, we toured the Port facility. We looked at the abandoned IGN tide measurement site that was located on the west end of the Port pier.



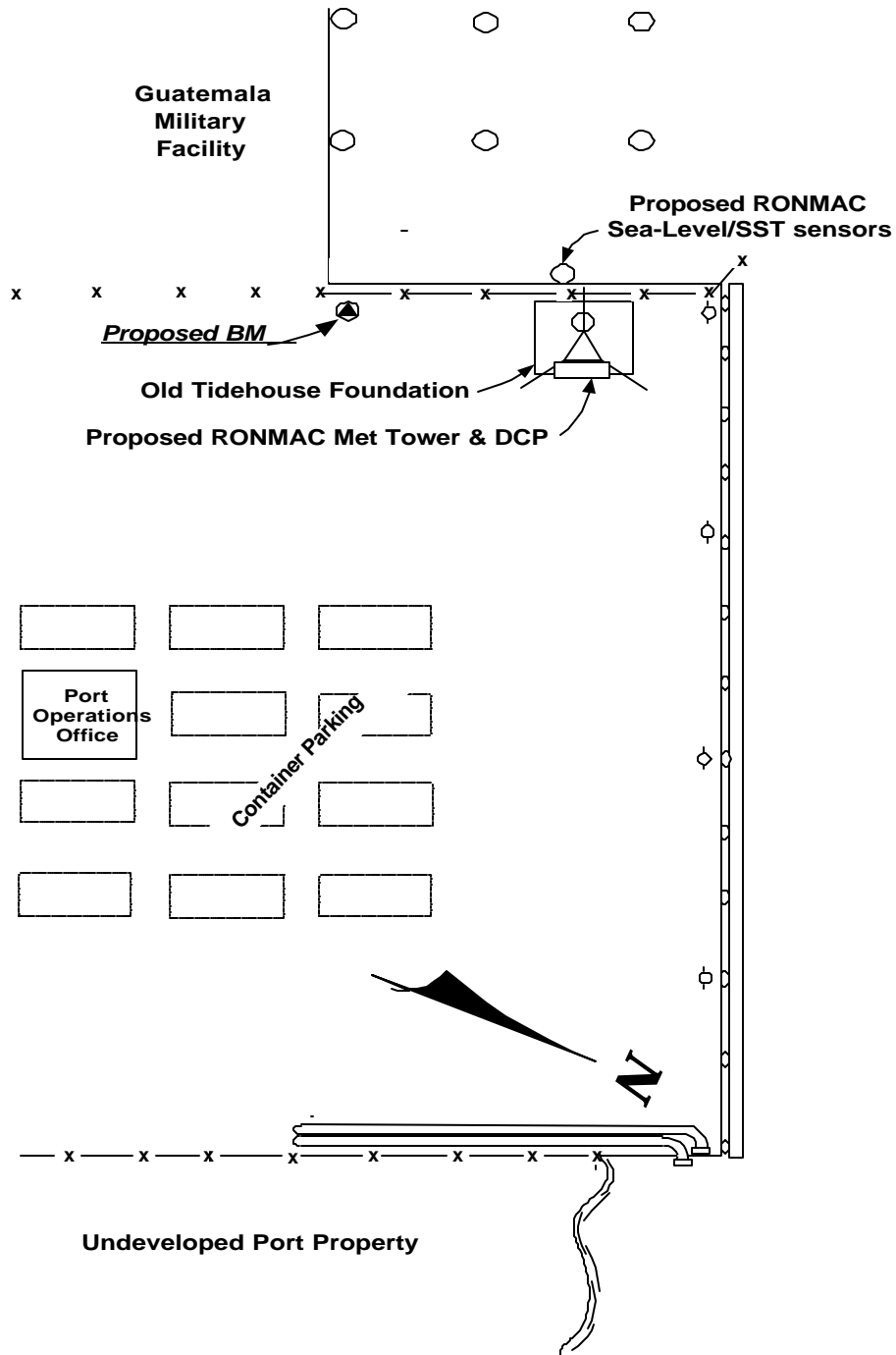
After discussing the suitability of using the historic site for the RONMAC monitoring installation a design was discussed and it was agreed that the existing location would be a suitable choice.



The real-time signal from the Monitoring Site to the Port Operations office should not be a problem because of the height of the Port Operations office.

One question that has been raised is; is RONMAC providing a computer to monitor the line-of-sight real-time output? The original plan did not include a computer for this purpose, however since this monitoring requires a very minimal computer, we could provide one for around \$300 (USD), or we could try to find “excess property” computers from NOAA or OAS. The communications and monitoring plan is very basic, but very attractive to port operations and would create more enthusiasm for operation and maintenance responsibilities.

# Puerto Santo Tomas de Castilla, Guatemala Proposed RONMAC Monitoring Site



The choice of Puerto Santo Tomas de Castilla for the monitoring site is a good one. The site is well situated in relation to the ocean, it is relatively well protected from extreme storms, it has good security because of its location within the port, the port operations people are keen on the idea.

## **Names & Coordinates in Guatemala**

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**Director**

**GS/OAS**

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