

El San Juan Star

18- agosto- 1993

2

## IN BRIEF

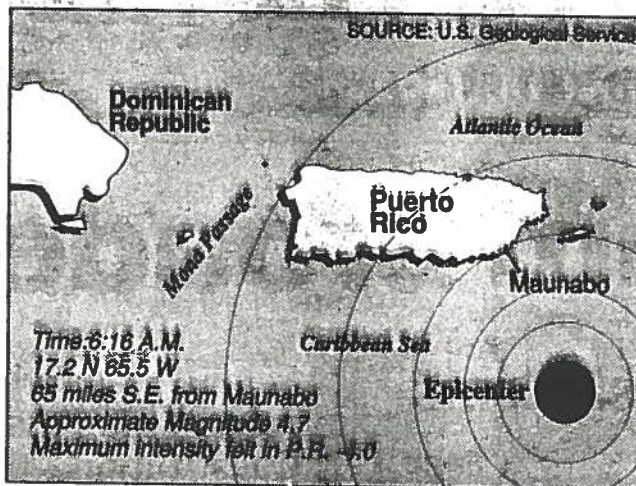
### 4.7 Richter Scale earthquake shakes P.R.

An earthquake shook Puerto Rico shortly after dawn Tuesday, the Cayey Geophysical Observatory confirmed. There were no immediate reports of property damage or injuries.

The quake was recorded at 6:16 a.m., according to observatory director Terry Hardiman. A minor aftershock was recorded at 7:21 a.m.

First seismological readings showed a magnitude of 4.7 on the Richter Scale with the epicenter of the temblor about 65 miles southeast of Ponce, the National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo., reported.

Hardiman said that this type of quake activity in Puerto Rico is considered "normal" because the island is located in "an ac-



tive seismic area."

The Richter Scale is a gauge of the energy released by an earthquake as measured on the ground by a seismograph. Every increase of one number

means that the ground motion is 10 times greater.

A quake of magnitude 4 can cause moderate damage and magnitude 5 considerable damage in populated areas.