

Tsunami preparedness in the US Virgin Islands

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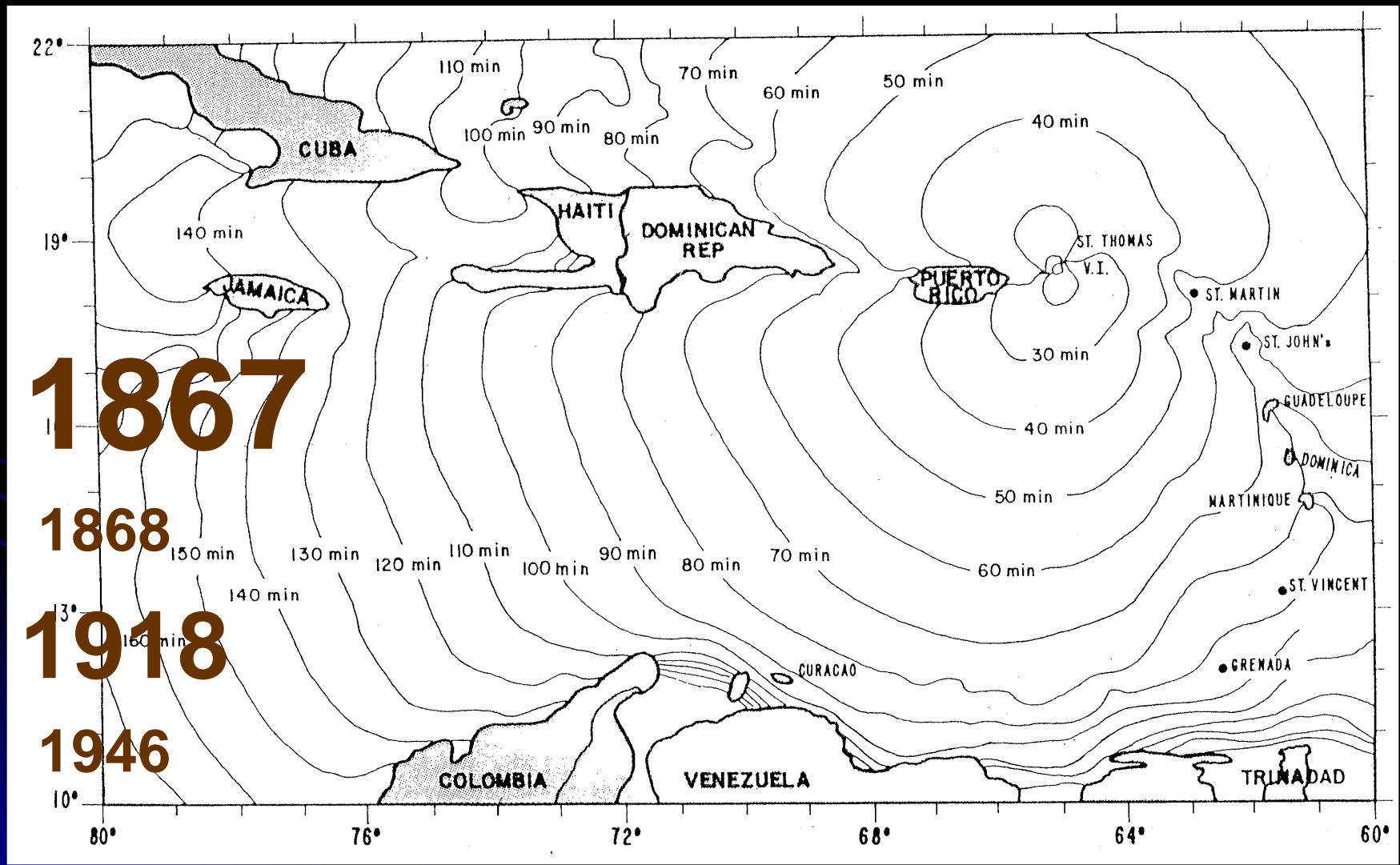
University of the Virgin Islands
(UVI)

National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program
Seattle, Washington

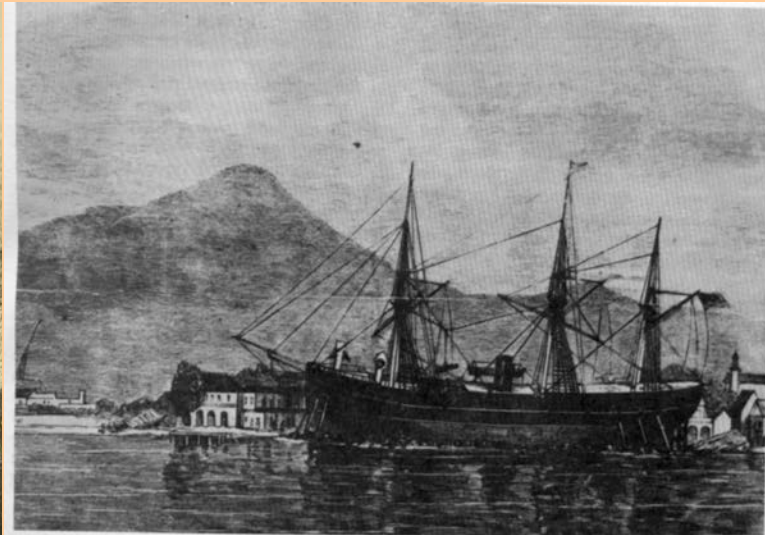
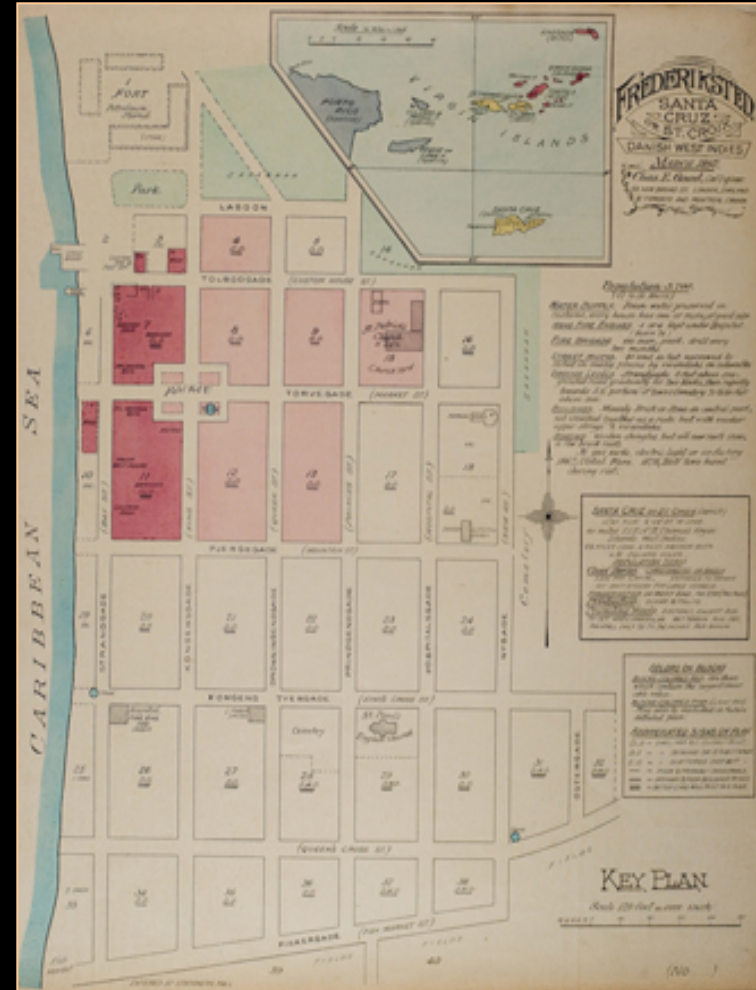


May 15, 2007

Tsunamis impacting the USVI



Frederiksted, St. Croix 1867



Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas 1867

The tsunami followed a devastating hurricane by two weeks.

TILFREDSHED MED DANSK REGIME



Havnen ved St. Thomas under orkanen den 29. oktober 1867.

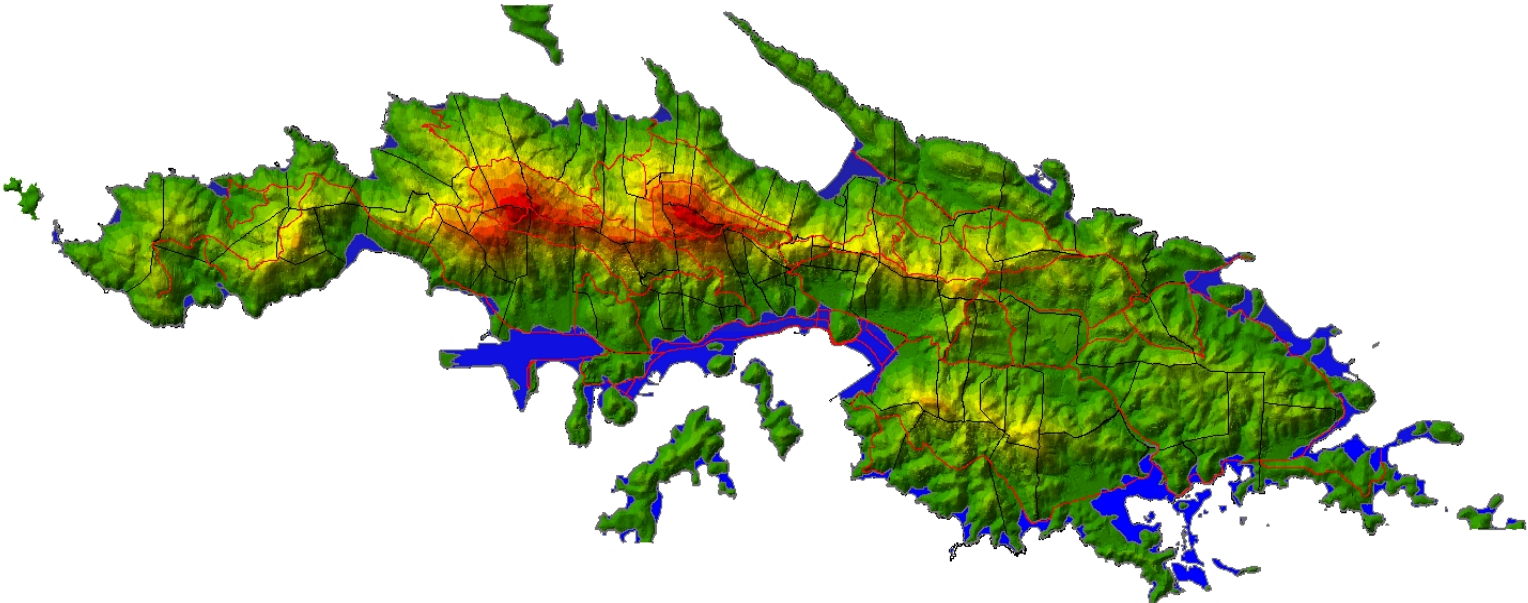
The *La Plata* takes the wave.



Who's who at VITEMA

- Relation to the VI National Guard
- VITEMA EOC Staff
 - State Director
 - Deputy Directors – STT, STX, STJ
 - State Hazard Mitigation Officer
- Consultants/Advisors
 - Christa von Hillebrandt, PRSN, CaRA
 - Aurelio Mercado, UPRM, CaRA
 - Roy Watlington, CaRA
 - Elizabeth Ban, VI EPSCoR
 - William Young, Red Cross

ST. THOMAS

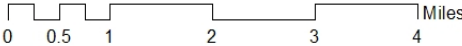


Digital Elevation Model Elevation

- 1.009 - 170.883
- 170.883 - 342.774
- 342.774 - 514.666
- 514.666 - 686.557
- 686.557 - 858.449
- 858.449 - 1030.340
- 1030.340 - 1202.232
- 1202.232 - 1374.123
- 1374.123 - 1546.015
- Tsunami Flood



Tsunami Hazard



At risk today



The physical circumstances at Magens Bay, St. Thomas, require careful mitigation planning for tsunami threats.

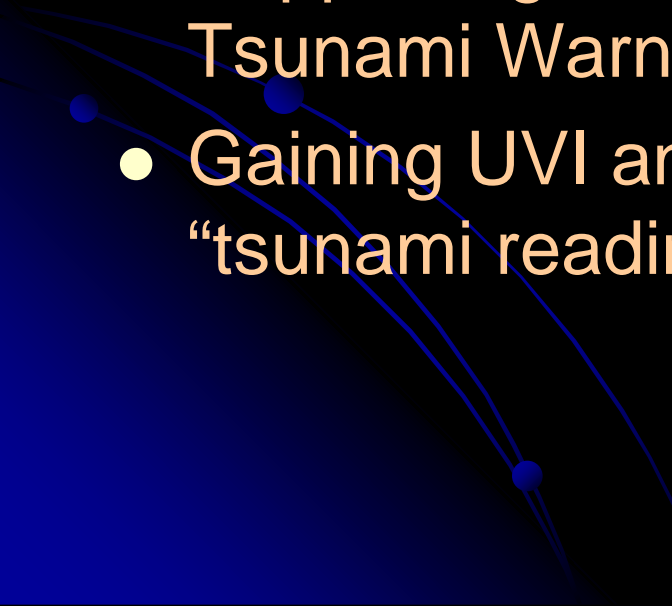


Where should beach-goers run? How would you inform them?

USVI activities towards “tsunami readiness”

- Establishing 24-7 points of contact
- Defining inundation zones for the entire territory
- Identifying specific locations for achieving “tsunami ready” designation.
 - Central Frederiksted, St. Croix
 - Gallows Bay, St. Croix
 - Hovensa, St. Croix
 - Cruz Bay, St. John
 - UVI lower campus, St. Thomas
 - Carenage (Frenchtown), St. Thomas
- Identifying escape routes, preparing brochures, developing public alert systems

Other USVI tsunami-related activities

- Educating VITEMA staffers, other EOC principals, etc. on tsunami warning and response
 - Supporting PR Seismic Network in the USVI
 - Supporting the development of a Caribbean Tsunami Warning Center
 - Gaining UVI and UPRM technical assistance in “tsunami readiness” with NTHMP support
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QUESTIONS

