A 6.9 magnitude quake in remote Papua New Guinea kills 3 and destroys nearly 1,000 homes

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (AP) — A magnitude 6.9 earthquake has hit a remote part of western Papua New Guinea killing at least three people and causing extensive damage to around 1,000 homes, officials said.

The quake rocked the East Sepik region at about 6.20 a.m. Sunday (2020 GMT Saturday) near the town of Ambunti, about 470 miles (756 kilometers) northwest of the capital of Port Moresby, and at a depth of 25 miles (about 40 kilometers), according to reports by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

East Sepik province Governor Allan Bird posted on Facebook Sunday that initial estimates show the earthquake had destroyed about 1,000 homes in the area which was already "dealing with widespread flooding" from earlier in March.

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