

Quake prompts tsunami warning in S.Pacific

by UPI

HONIARA - A strong earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale was reported early Monday in the South Pacific Ocean, prompting a tsunami warning. Citing the U.S. Geological survey, the BBC said the quake struck about 7:40 a.m. local time six miles below the surface, and was centered about 220 miles west-northwest of the Solomon Islands' capital Honiara, northeast of Australia. There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said nations with coastlines in the region should take appropriate action in case the quake has caused a tsunami. "An earthquake of this size has the potential to generate a destructive tsunami that can strike coastlines in the region near the epicenter within minutes to hours," the center said.

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