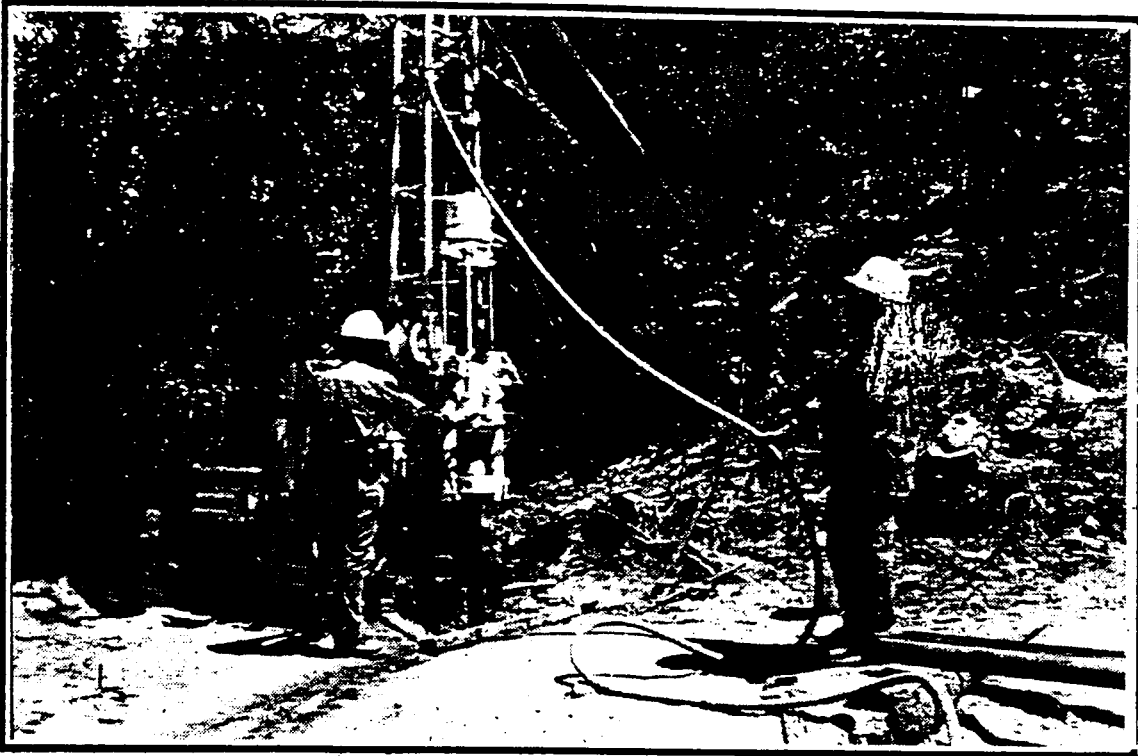


EXTREMELY HARD BEDROCK FOUND AT PROPOSED DAM SITE

March 29, 1999.- Belize Electricity Limited recently awarded a contract to Swissboring Overseas Corporation Limited to provide certain drilling and geotechnical investigation services at the site of the proposed dam at Chalillo in the upstream Macal River area of the Mountain Pine



Swissboring Overseas Corporation conducts geotechnical investigation

Ridge in Western Belize.

This study is determining soil types, the type and strength of rock formations and whether there are any geological faults in the area. Samples have so far indicated that the granite formation in the area is much harder than internationally set standards for granite and bedrock formation for such a project.

Surveyors will also be doing

transects to determine the surface area which will be flooded by the damming of the Macal River at Chalillo. The reservoir area of the proposed dam is about three square miles.

Forest Rangers have said that nesting sites for Macaw parrots are located about 50-60 miles upstream (or about 20 miles for a Macaw, or crow), from Chalillo on the Raspaculo Branch of the Macal River.

British forces were last week observed doing military jungle exercises in the area which some groups have claimed to be "pristine habitat" further upstream from Chalillo and Rubber Camp, in an area known as Francelia -an old logging camp. Logging has been going on in this area for about 30 years. forestry records show.

-Press Release-

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