
**COASTAL PHOTOGRAPH BY JAIME MARTINEZ &
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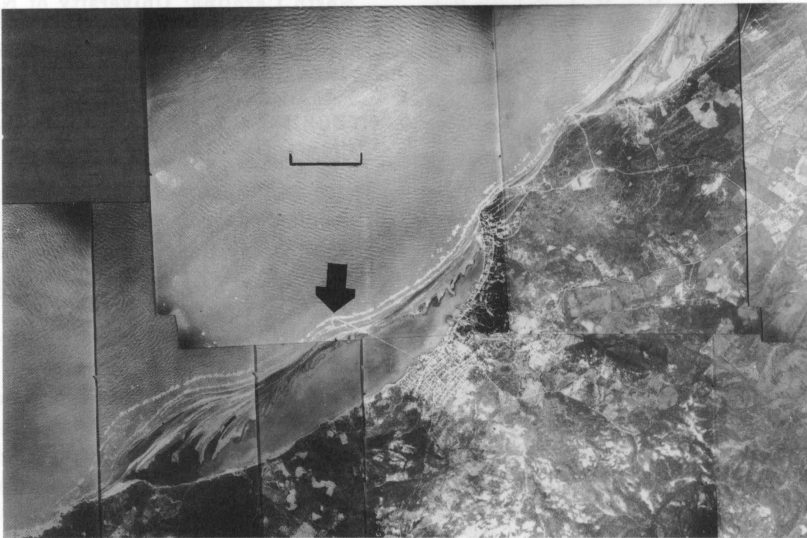


PHOTO 85. Aerial photo mosaics of the Puerto Colombia Spit on the southern margin of the Magdalena River Delta, Atlantic coast of Colombia, S.A. Arrows point to the end of a large pier extending from the former port town of Puerto Colombia. Bar scales are 1 km in length. Upper photo mosaic was taken in 1947; the lower in 1961. Photos, maps and charts made between 1947 and 1961 indicate that the spit migrated intact in the 1961 position which is more or less where it is today. During migration which apparently occurred at rates ranging from 230 to 430 m per year, the spit was reduced in size, low in elevation and permeated by many shallow inlet/washover channels. Spit migration permanently shut down the port of Puerto Colombia. The spit migration was probably caused by changes in the sand supply system initiated by jetty construction at the nearby mouth of the Magdalena River. Ironically, the jetty which closed Puerto Colombia greatly improved access to the port of Baranquilla.