
COASTAL PHOTOGRAPH BY R.P. PASKOFF

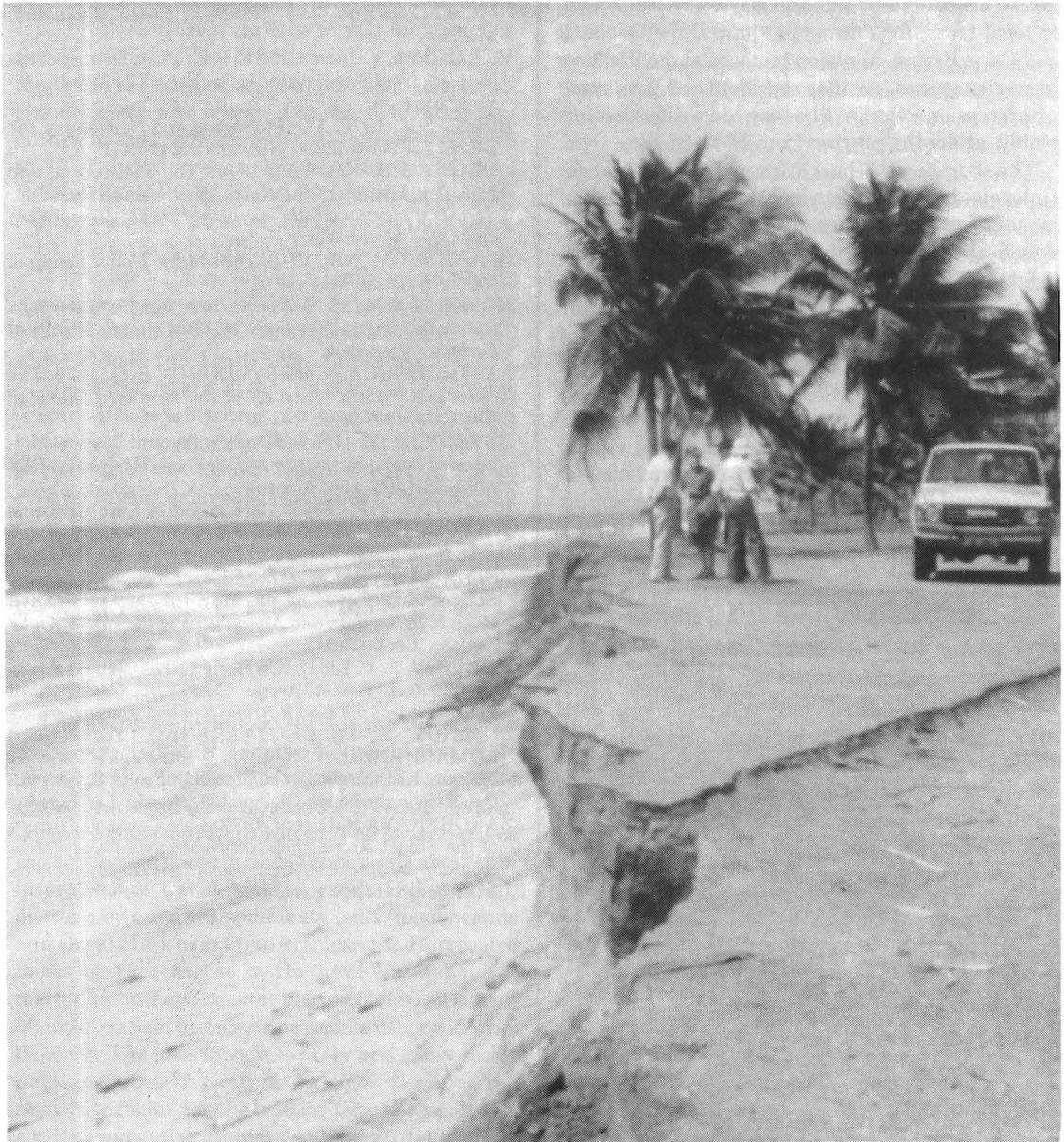


PHOTO 33. Beach erosion is severe on the sandy coast of Togo (West Africa). It started just after the completion of the Akosombo dam, erected in 1961 on the Volta river (Ghana), which dramatically reduced the eastward-oriented littoral drift. The construction of the new harbor of Lome in 1965 with a jetty 120 m long substantially increased the sand deficit. The photograph was taken in March 1986 about 30 km east of Lome where the recession of the shoreline has amounted to 130 m in the last 15 years. In July 1984 a single storm caused a retreat of 15 m. The primitive coastal road has already been completely eroded away. (Roland P. Paskoff, University of Lyon II, 10 Square Saint-Florentin, 78150 Le Chesnay, France).