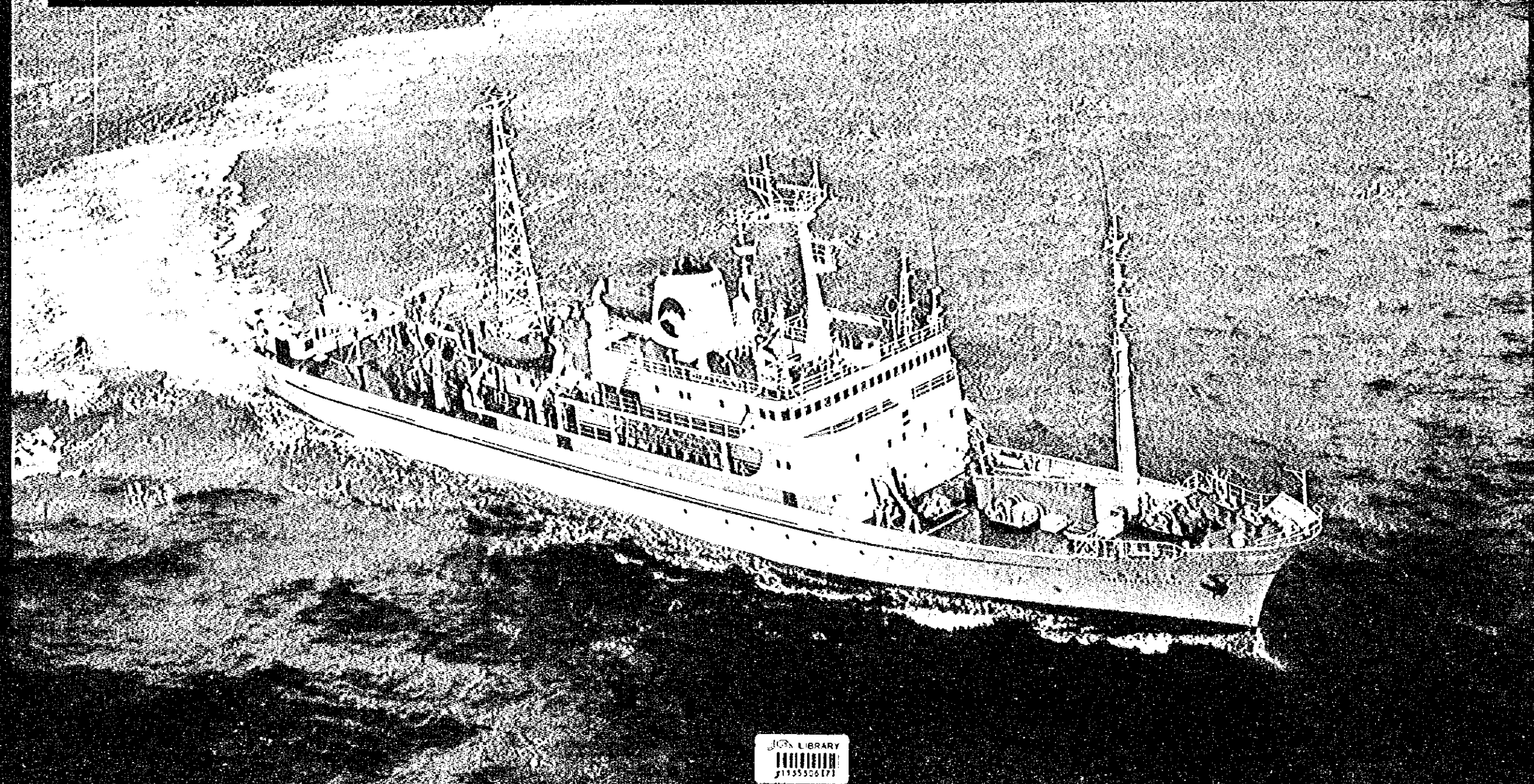


South Pacific Seafloor Atlas



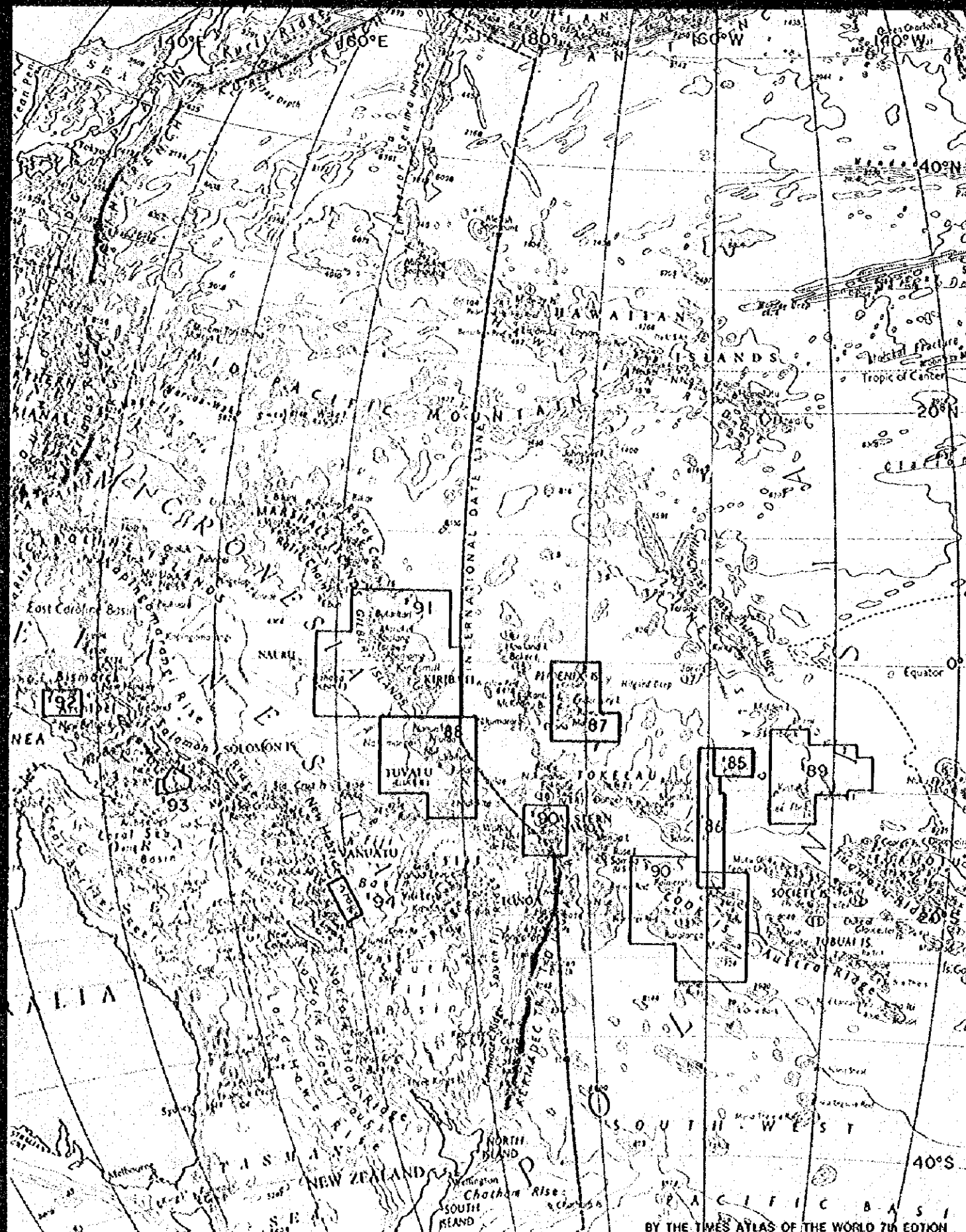
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**JAPAN-SOPAC COOPERATIVE STUDY
ON DEEP SEA MINERAL RESOURCES
IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC 1985-1994**



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LOCATION MAP OF THE SURVEY AREA

PREFACE

In response to a request by South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), the Government of Japan has undertaken marine geological studies and other studies relating to mineral prospecting to assess potential of mineral resources in the deep seafloor of offshore regions of SOPAC member countries. Implementation of the survey has been assigned to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Considering the technical nature of geological and mineral prospecting studies, JICA commissioned the Metal Mining Agency of Japan (MMAJ) to execute the survey.

The survey was carried out in two stages, the First Stage, for a five-year period from 1985, and the Second Stage, for a five-year period from 1990. The First Stage survey for manganese nodules and cobalt rich crusts was carried out within the exclusive economic zones of the Cook Islands, the Republic of Kiribati and Tuvalu. The Second Stage survey for manganese nodules and cobalt rich crusts was carried out within the exclusive economic zones of Western Samoa, the Cook Islands and the Republic of Kiribati, and the survey for submarine hydrothermal deposits was carried out within the exclusive economic zones of Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and the Republic of Vanuatu. The MMAJ dispatched the Hakurei-Maru No.2, a research vessel for investigating deep-sea mineral resources, to the sites for ten years during the First and Second Stages and implemented the survey with the cooperation of the above mentioned governments.

This Atlas sums up the results of the survey with an emphasis on maps.

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to all the persons concerned, especially for the cooperation given to us by the Secretariat of SOPAC, the Government of the Cook Islands, the Government of the Republic of Kiribati, the Government of Tuvalu, the Government of Western Samoa, the Government of Papua New Guinea, the Government of the Solomon Islands and the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, the Japanese Embassy in Fiji, the Japanese Embassy in Papua New Guinea and the Japanese Embassy in Solomon Islands.

March, 1995

Kimio Fujita

President Kimio FUJITA
Japan International Cooperation Agency

Takashi Ishikawa

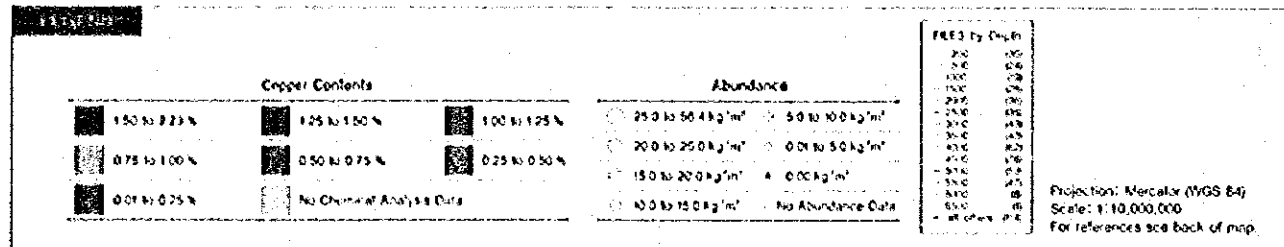
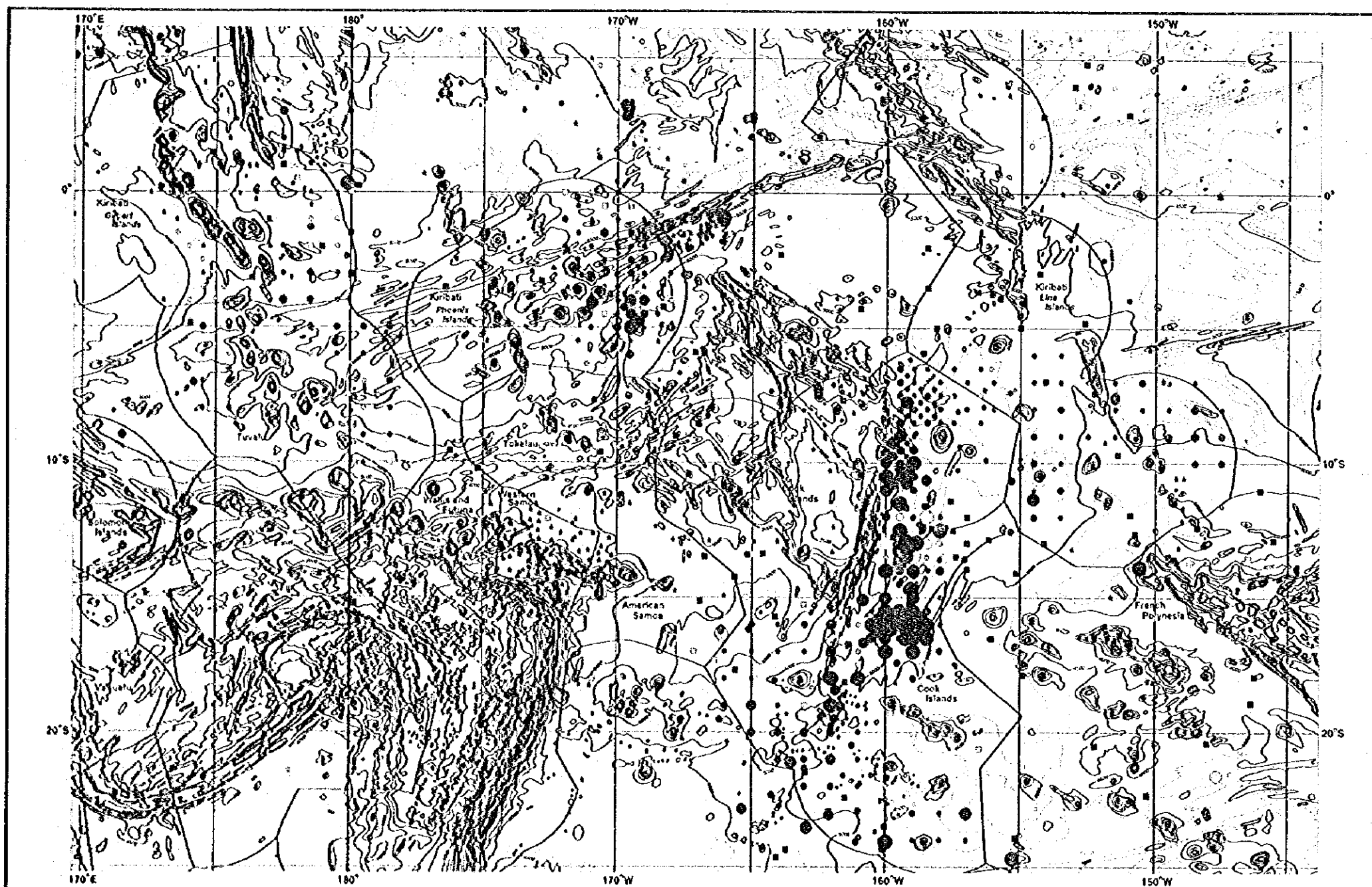
President Takashi ISHIKAWA
Metal Mining Agency of Japan

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DISTRIBUTION OF MANGANESE NODULES SOUTHWEST PACIFIC OCEAN

MAP 2-Cu CONTENT



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:
 Funding by Japan International Cooperation Agency and Metal Mining Agency of Japan.
 Bathymetry printed from IHO IBC GERO Digital Atlas (IHO) GERO 5th Edition.
 World Vector SS-references from IMA, supplied by DEAC (UK).
 Contours in metres, contour interval 500 metres: 2500, 5000 and 7500 m contours in blue; other contours in black with selected intermediate contours dashed.
 200 nautical mile boundaries shown are approximate.
 Michel Turge and Phillip Woodward for assistance.

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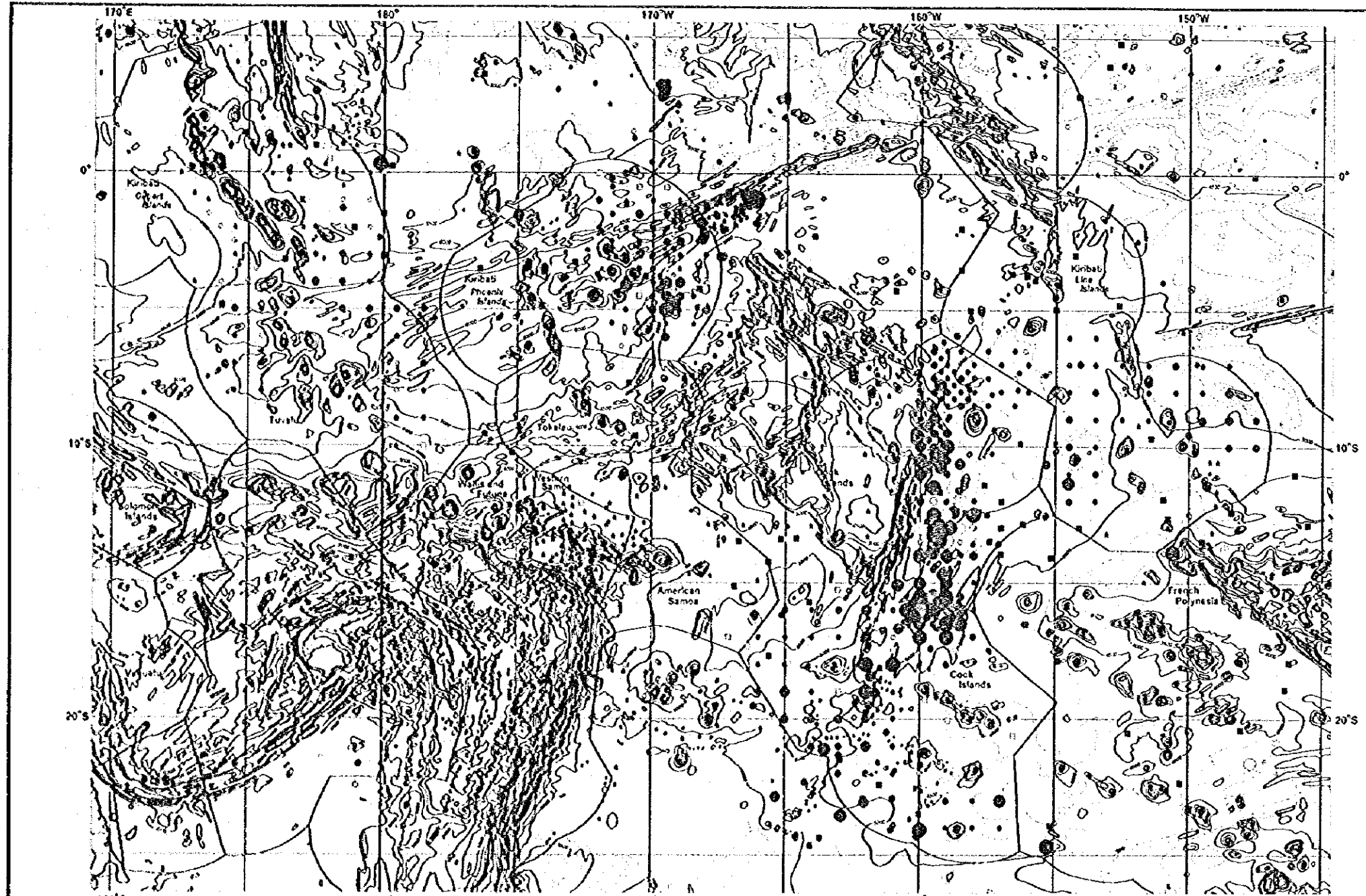
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By Yasumasa Kinoshita and Don Tiffin, SOPAC Secretariat

DISTRIBUTION OF MANGANESE NODULES SOUTHWEST PACIFIC OCEAN

MAP 3-C₀ CONTENT



LEGEND

C ₀ Contents		
150 to 225%	125 to 150%	100 to 125%
075 to 100%	050 to 075%	025 to 050%
025 to 050%	No Chemical Analysis Data	

Abundance	
25.0 to 50.0 kg/m ²	5.0 to 10.0 kg/m ²
20.0 to 25.0 kg/m ²	0.0 to 5.0 kg/m ²
15.0 to 20.0 kg/m ²	0.00 kg/m ²
10.0 to 15.0 kg/m ²	No Abundance Data

FILES by Date	
200	024
190	024
180	024
170	024
160	024
150	024
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130	024
120	024
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20	024
10	024
0	024

Projection: Mercator (WGS 84)
Scale: 1:10,000,000
For references see back of map

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Funding by Japan International Cooperation Agency and Metal Mining Agency of Japan.
Partly reprinted from IHO IBC GEBCO Digital Atlas (GAD) GEBCO 3rd Edition.
World Vector Shoreline from IMA, supplied by DIOC (UK).
Contours in metres, contour interval 500 metres; 200, 500 and 750 m contours in blue; other contours in black with selected intermediate contours dashed.
200-metre tidal boundaries shown are approximate.
Michel Larnier and Philip Woodford for assistance.

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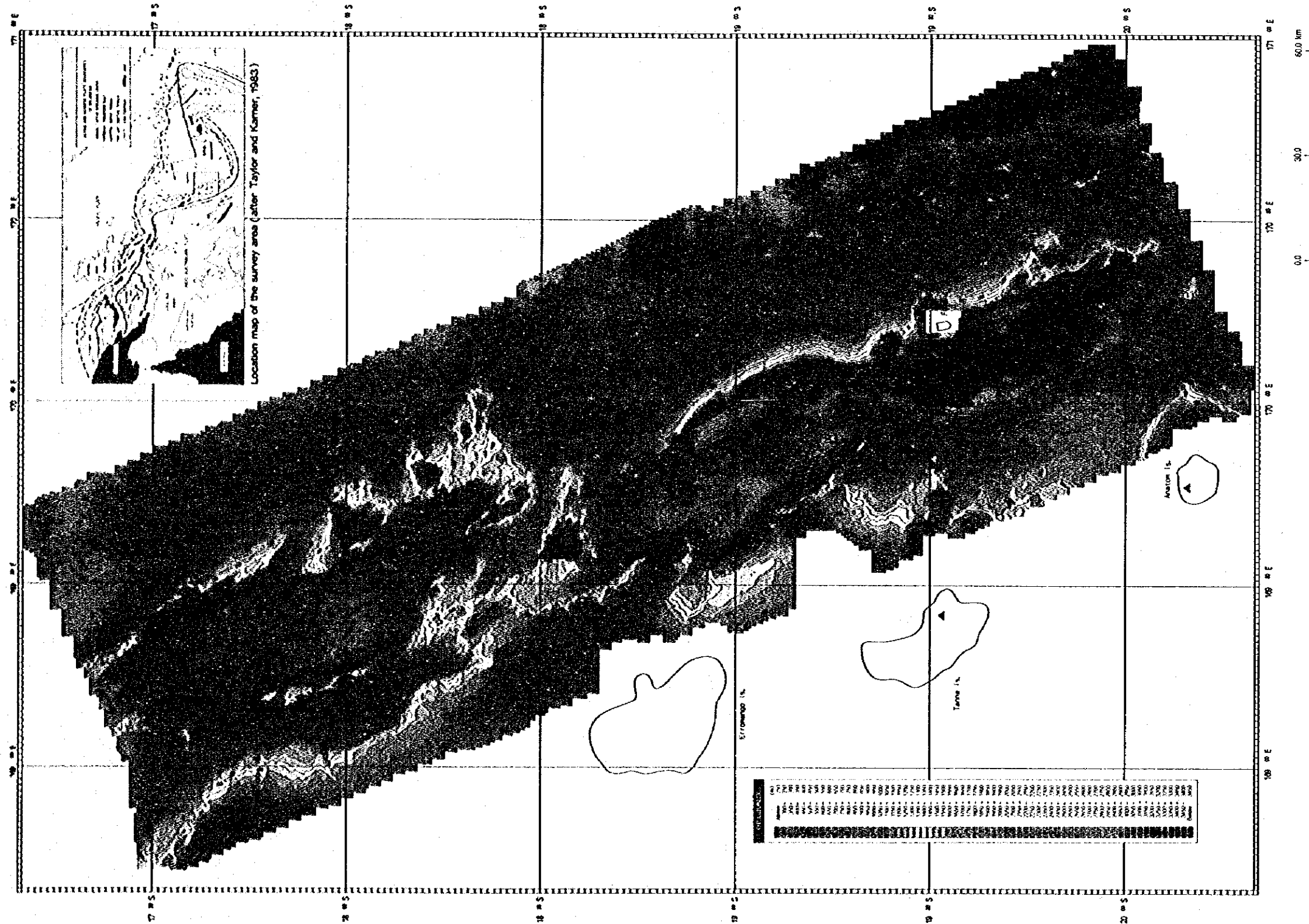
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The Coriolis Troughs of the New Hebrides Backarc Republic of Vanuatu

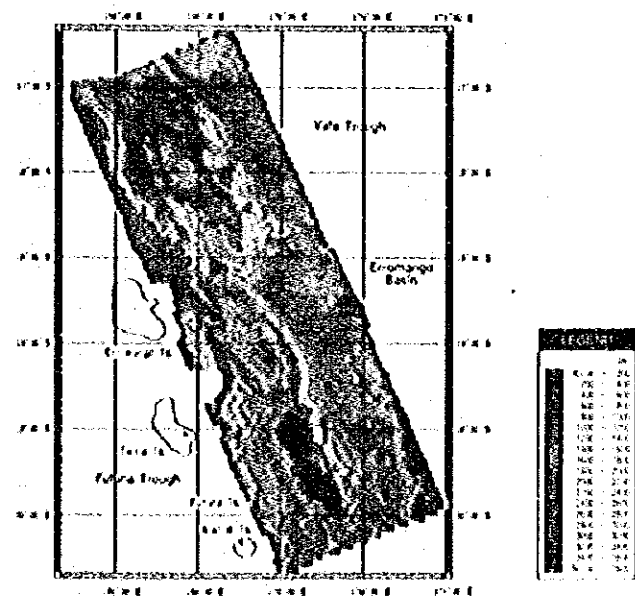
The Survey of Seafloor Hydrothermal Ore Deposits (1994)



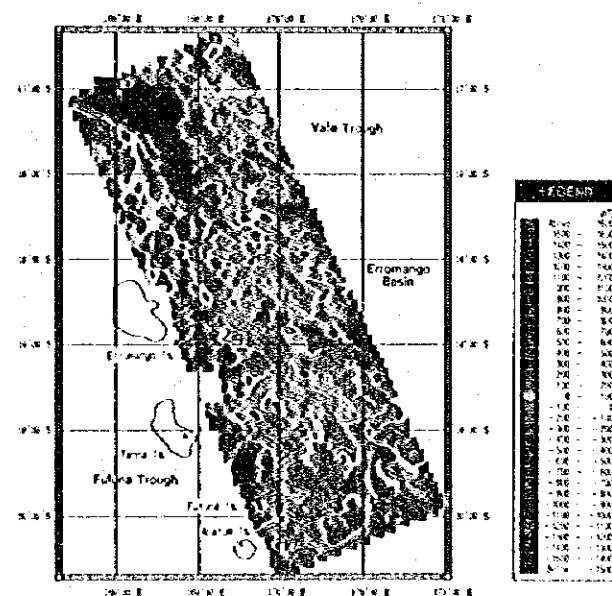
JICA/MMA/JROCK
OCEAN RESOURCE INVESTIGATION
IN THE AREA OF MBES
REPLY ON THE JOINT BASIC STUDY
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MINERAL
RESOURCES
REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

The Coriolis Troughs of the New Hebrides Backarc Republic of Vanuatu

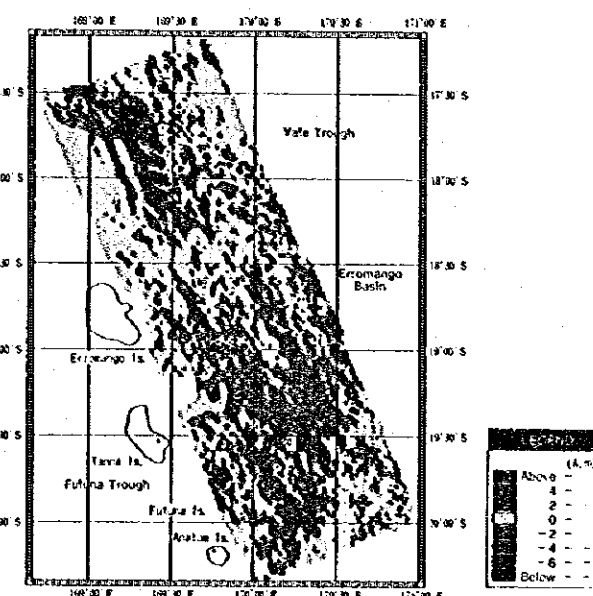
The Survey of Seafloor Hydrothermal Ore Deposits (1994)



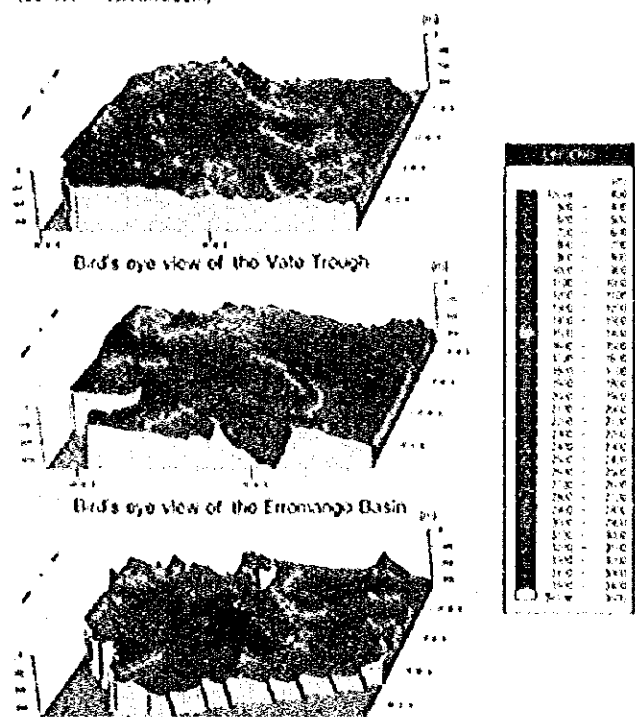
Color-coded bathymetric contour map based on MBES (contour interval: 200m)



Magnetic anomaly map (contour interval: 200nT)



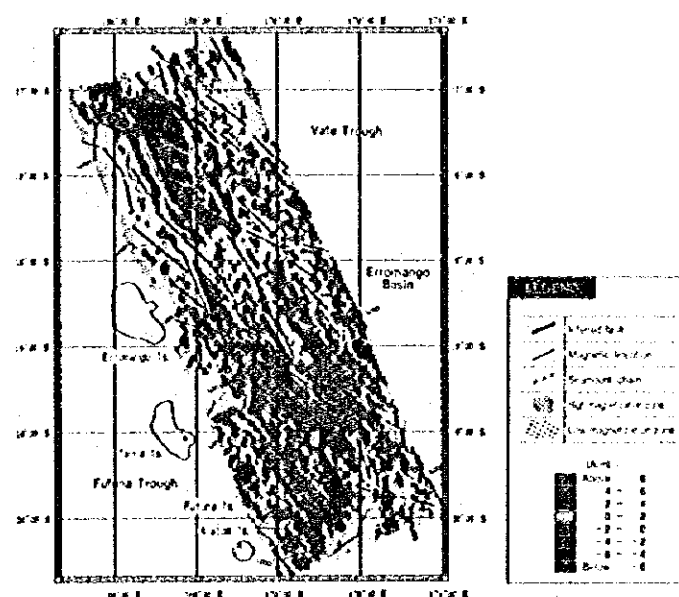
Magnetization distribution map



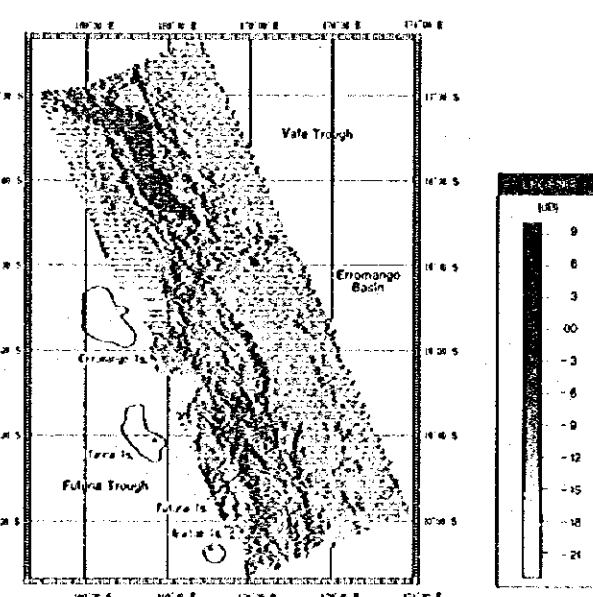
Bird's eye view of the Vate Trough

Bird's eye view of the Erromango Basin

Bird's eye view of the Futuna Trough



Interpretative magnetic structure map

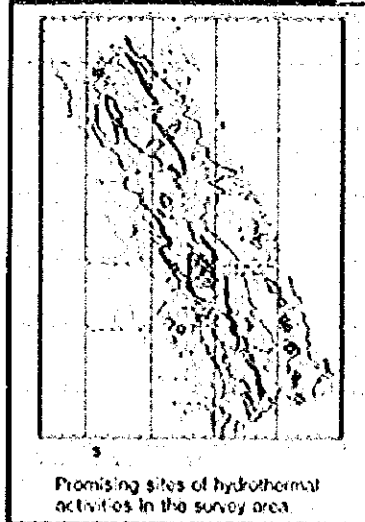


Acoustic reflection image based on MBES

The Coriolis Troughs of the New Hebrides Backarc Republic of Vanuatu

The Survey of Seafloor Hydrothermal Ore Deposits (1994)

Coriolis Troughs



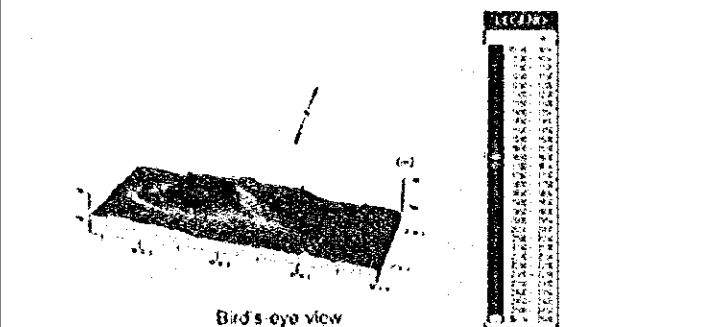
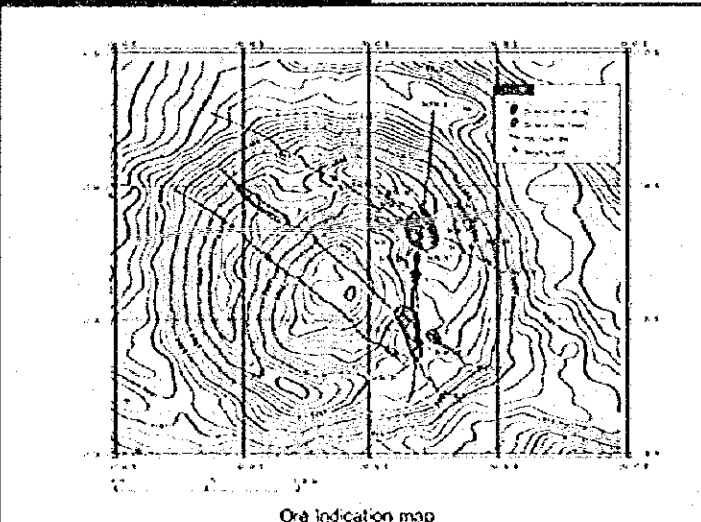
The survey area, the Coriolis Trough, is located north of the main part of the New Hebrides backarc, between the New Hebrides Trench and the New Hebrides Ridge. The area is bounded by the New Hebrides Trench to the north, the New Hebrides Ridge to the south, and the New Hebrides Trench to the east.

The Coriolis Trough is a backarc basin, bounded by the New Hebrides Trench to the north and the New Hebrides Ridge to the south. The area is bounded by the New Hebrides Trench to the north, the New Hebrides Ridge to the south, and the New Hebrides Trench to the east.

The Coriolis Trough is a backarc basin, bounded by the New Hebrides Trench to the north and the New Hebrides Ridge to the south. The area is bounded by the New Hebrides Trench to the north, the New Hebrides Ridge to the south, and the New Hebrides Trench to the east.

The geology of the survey area consists of basaltic rocks, gabbro, and diorite. The basaltic rocks are the main rock type, and they are found in the central part of the Coriolis Trough. The gabbro and diorite are found in the northern part of the trough.

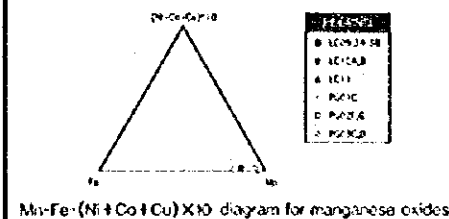
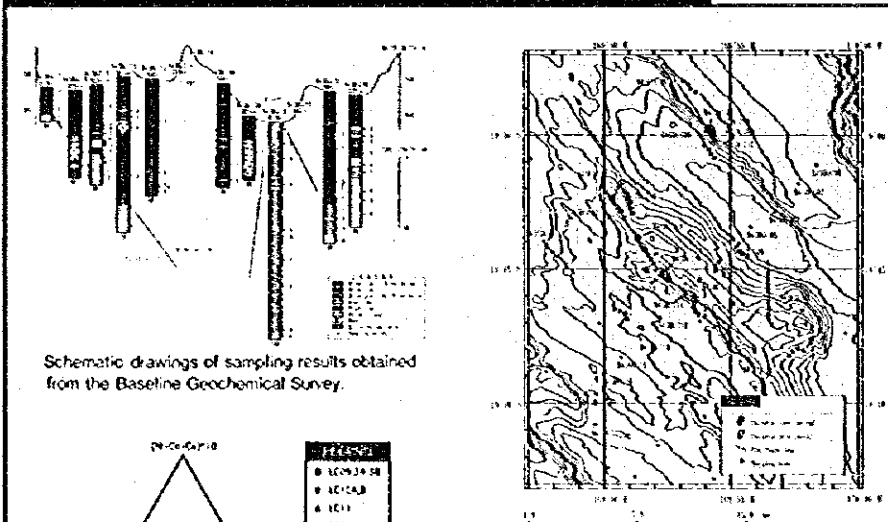
94S01 Seamount



Seafloor photographs taken by FDC

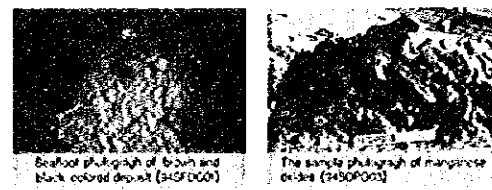
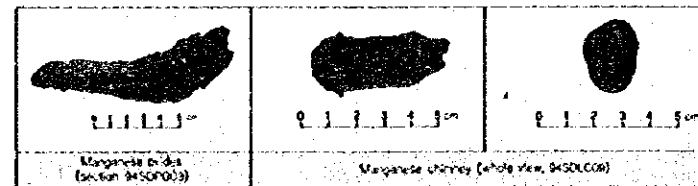
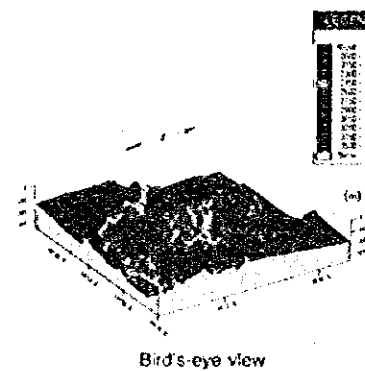


Central part of the Erromango Basin

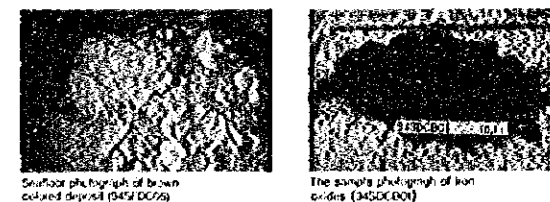
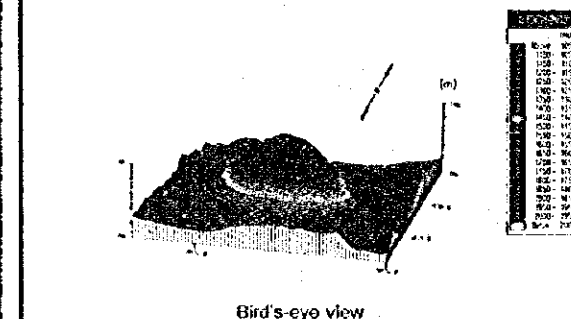
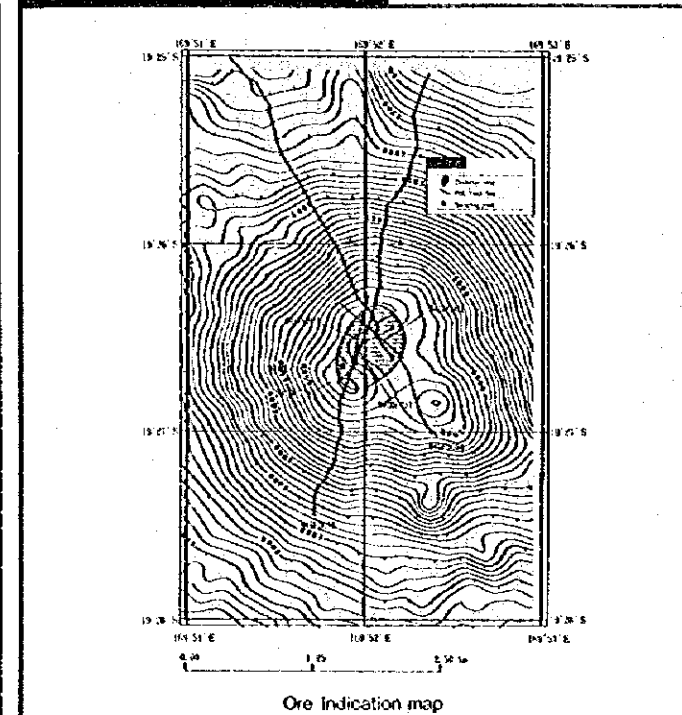


Results of chemical analysis for manganese oxides

Sample No.	Ni(ppm)	Co(ppm)	Cu(ppm)	Fe(%)	Mn(%)
94S02C01	36	113	113	1.1	28.9
94S02C02	36	69	30	1.1	32.20
94S02C03	51	143	17	1.7	37.81
94S02C04	110	211	200	6.1	28.1
94S02C05	145	211	193	3.7	36.98
94S02C06	81	207	30	1.5	21.30
94S02C07	27	227	178	8.1	14.81
94S02C08	30	14	13	0.30	51.99
94S02C09	81	9	5	2.8	28.54

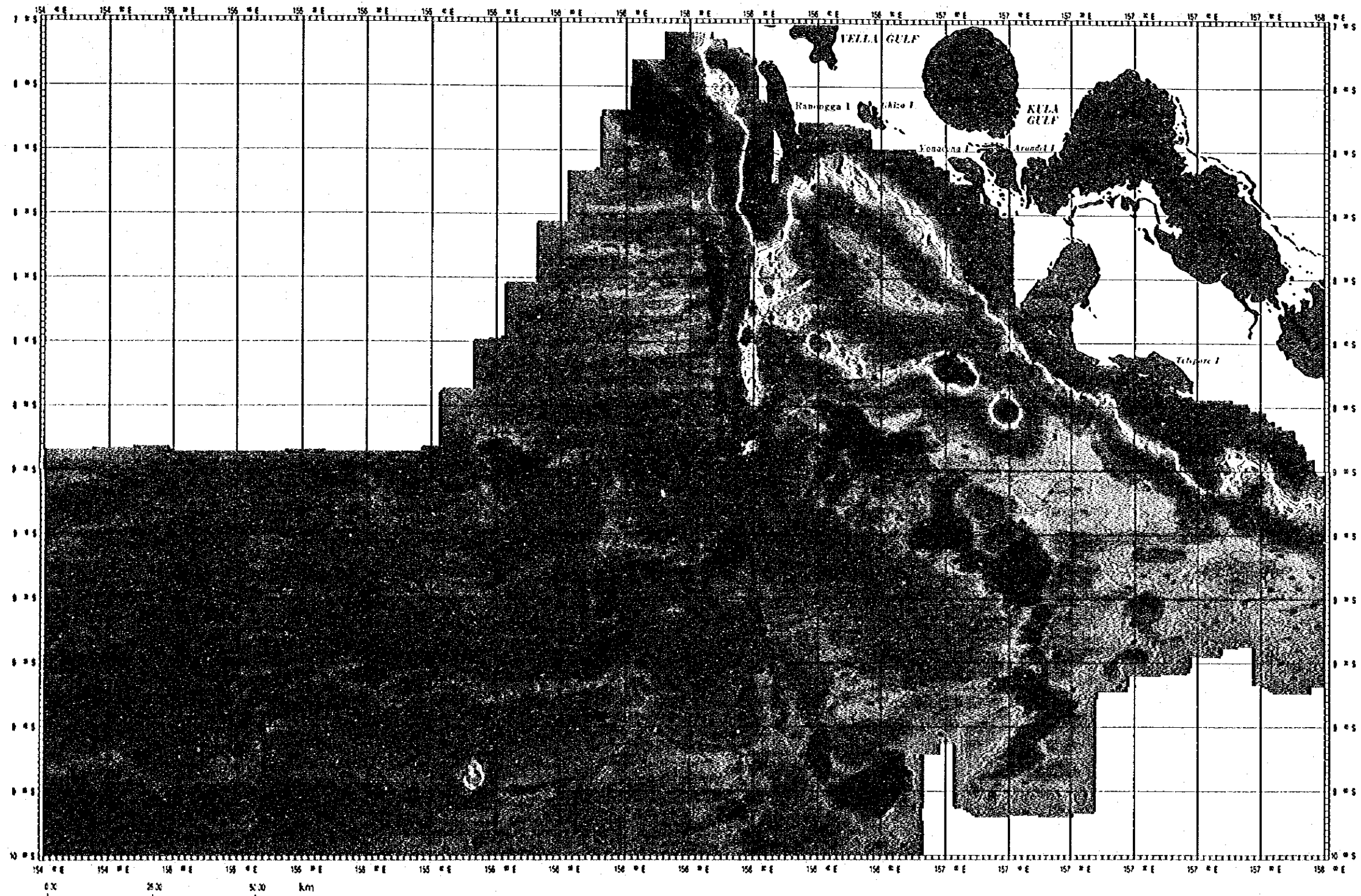
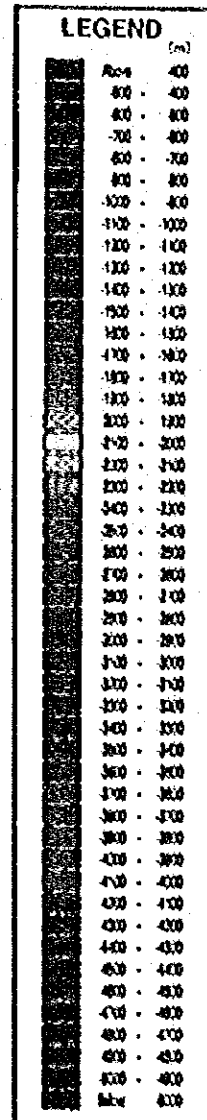


94S02 Seamount



The Woodlark Basin Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea

The Survey of Seafloor Hydrothermal Ore Deposits (1993)

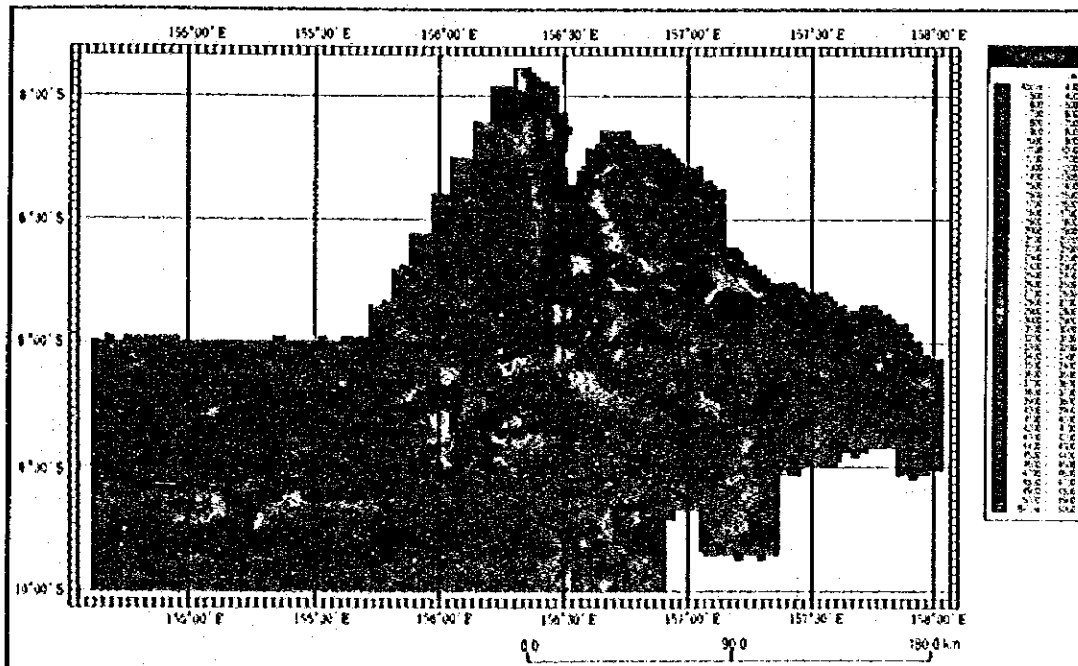


JICA MAP 1994
OCEAN RESEARCH INVESTIGATION
IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS
REPORT ON THE EAST WANK FIELDS
IN THE HYDROTHERMAL ORE DEPOSIT
FIELD OF THE
SEA AREA OF WANK ISLANDS
AND FRENCH FRIGATE

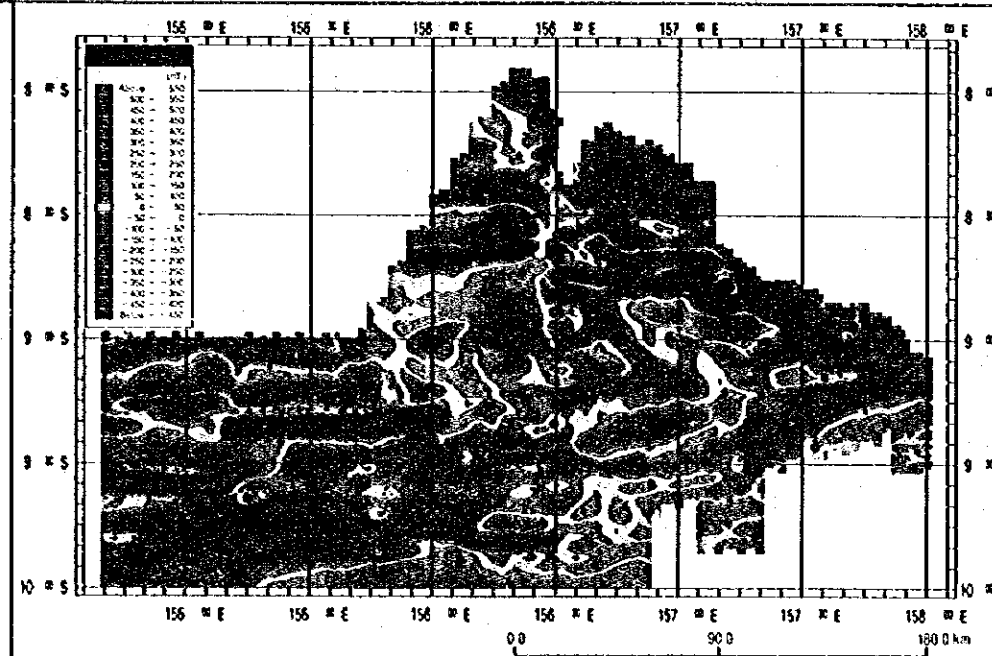
Color-coded bathymetric contour map based on MBES (contour interval : 100 m)

The Woodlark Basin Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea

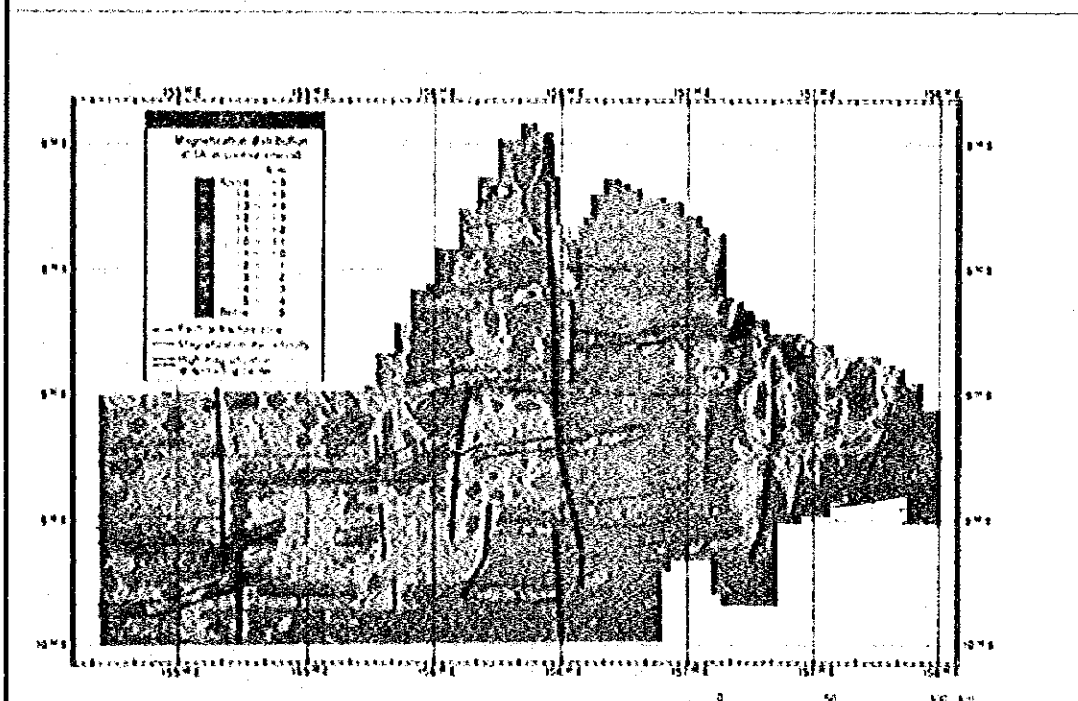
The Survey of Seafloor Hydrothermal Ore Deposits (1993)



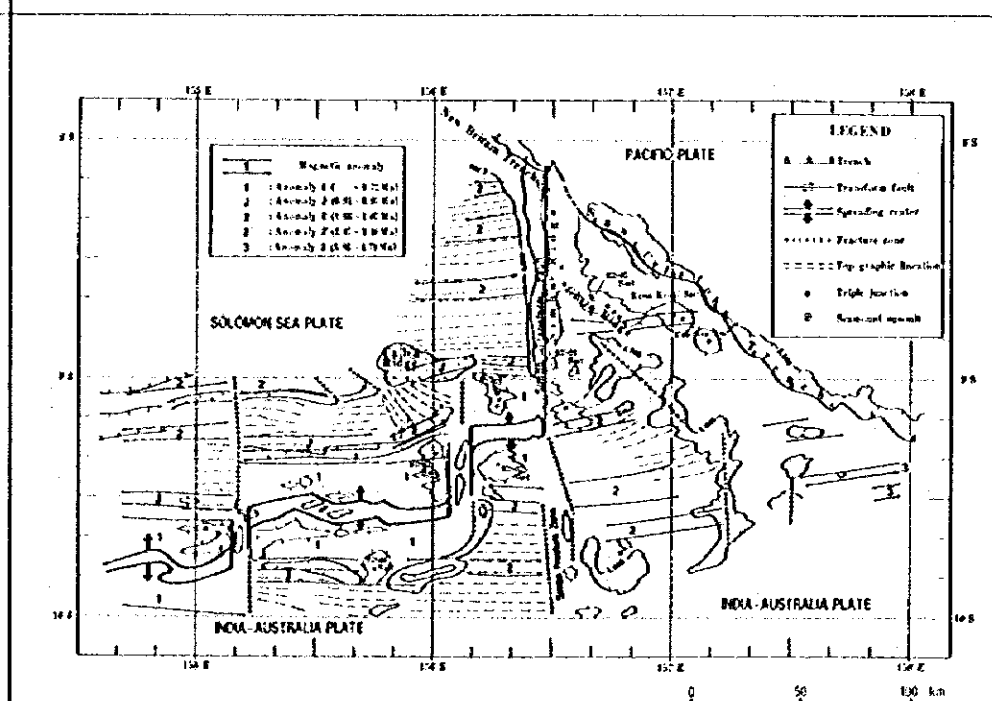
Color-coded bathymetric contour map based on MBES (contour interval: 100 m)



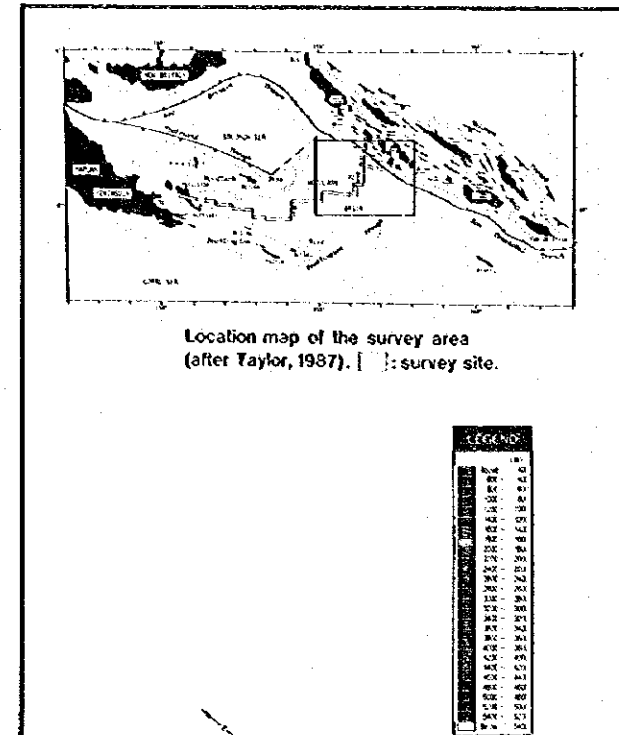
Magnetic anomaly map (contour interval: 50 nT)



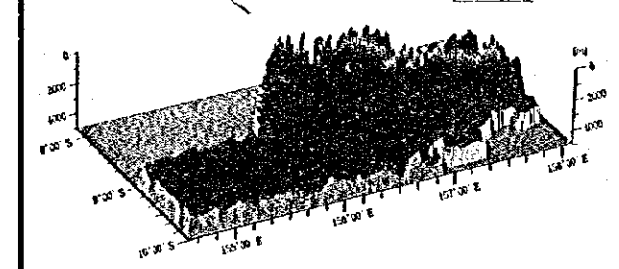
Magnetization distribution map



Interpretative geological structure map



Location map of the survey area
(after Taylor, 1987). []: survey site.



Bird's-eye view

According to Taylor (1987), seafloor spreading in the easternmost Woodlark Basin begins prior to 5 Ma and progressed progressively west and toward the Papuan Flyschs, splitting formerly continuous Woodlark and Fockler Ridge. Magnetic lineations likely a symmetrical spreading history in the eastern basin, except for the spreading center jumps to south in the past. The total spreading rates have varied spatially and temporally between 56 and 77 mm/y.

The survey area (the East Woodlark Basin) is divided into eastern and western parts by the Simbo Transform Fault and Fracture Zone running through its middle area from north to south. West of the Simbo Fracture Zone, it is characterized by a presence of the active spreading center, which is a west-trending rift valley (about 4 km deep, 3-10 km wide) and by the north-south-trending transform fault, which is also a valley (about 1 km deep).

Equivalently, magnetic lineations are arranged symmetrically both sides of the seafloor spreading center in the form of order except the spreading center jumps occurred. These lineations identify anomaly 1, anomaly 2, anomaly 3 and anomaly 4 in this region.

Topographically, west of the Simbo Fracture Zone is characterized by a family of rift valley parallel basins and graben-like structures.

East of the Simbo Fracture Zone, it is characterized by the absence of the spreading center, which is presumably already subducted beneath the Solomon Island Trench. It is easily understood from the fact that magnetic lineations are not arranged symmetrically, i.e., anomaly 2, anomaly 3 and anomaly 4 are found there but no anomaly 1. These anomalies, which display east-west-trending lineations, are broken into small bits by several north-south-trending transform faults and are shifted to north and south. There is an E-W trend direction with positive magnetization on the seafloor of the Simbo Ridge. This situation is enough to be considered the reactivated oceanic zone.

Topographically, east of the Simbo Fracture Zone is characterized by shallow trench, the N-S-trending Simbo Ridge and E-W-trending Oiva Ridge, the Kana Kana and Odivan Saddle (Istrabuk area), several N-S-trending short ridges (in about 1700m depth) and cross-linear basins and graben-like structures started from Simbo Fracture Zone.

Reference:
Taylor, B., 1987: A geophysical survey of the Woodlark Solomon region. Circum-Pacific Council for Energy and Mineral Resources, Earth Sci. Ser. 7, 75 pp.

The Woodlark Basin Solomon Islands

Regional Survey of Hydrothermal Ore Deposits (1993)

Through the regional geochemical prospecting carried out at 24 points over Area I in a 21 mile grid, seafloor sediments were collected from 21 points. Multivariate statistics was conducted simultaneously with the chemical analysis.

(With regard to Muddy Substances)

The muddy substances of this survey area are composed of clastic minerals forming basic or intermediate igneous rocks, and organic fossils mainly composed of foraminifera. They have sedimented at the rate of more than 2-3 mm/1000 years. Only a trace of clay minerals are contained in the muddy substances, and it is presumed that these clay minerals were generated from clastic mafic minerals through alteration, and the possibility of being the products of hydrothermal activities or diagenesis is low.

The color tones of the muddy substances can be classified into the brown series and olive series. Nearly always the former exists on the upper position of the latter. From the chemical composition, we can presume that the former is a sample under an oxidized environment and rich in foraminifera fossils, and the latter is a sample in a reducing environment and rich in clastic minerals.

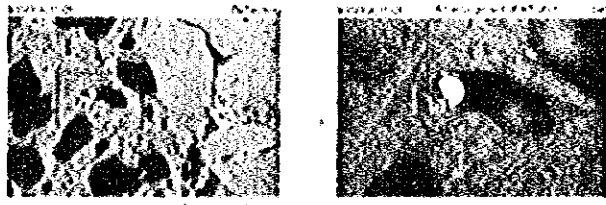
As species abundantly rich in foraminifera fossils are identified in the southeastern half of the survey area and samples abundantly rich in clastic minerals are identified in the northeastern half of the survey area.

(Multivariate Analysis)

On the first principal component, Al_2O_3 , Fe_2O_3 , Al_2O_3 , Fe_2O_3 , FeO , MgO , Na_2O , Si , Co , P , Cr and V control its factor positively and CaO , CO_2 , LiOH and Sr control it negatively. From the combination of these components and elements, this principal component is presumed to expressing the amount of clastic minerals in the positive direction and the amount of foraminifera fossils in the negative direction.

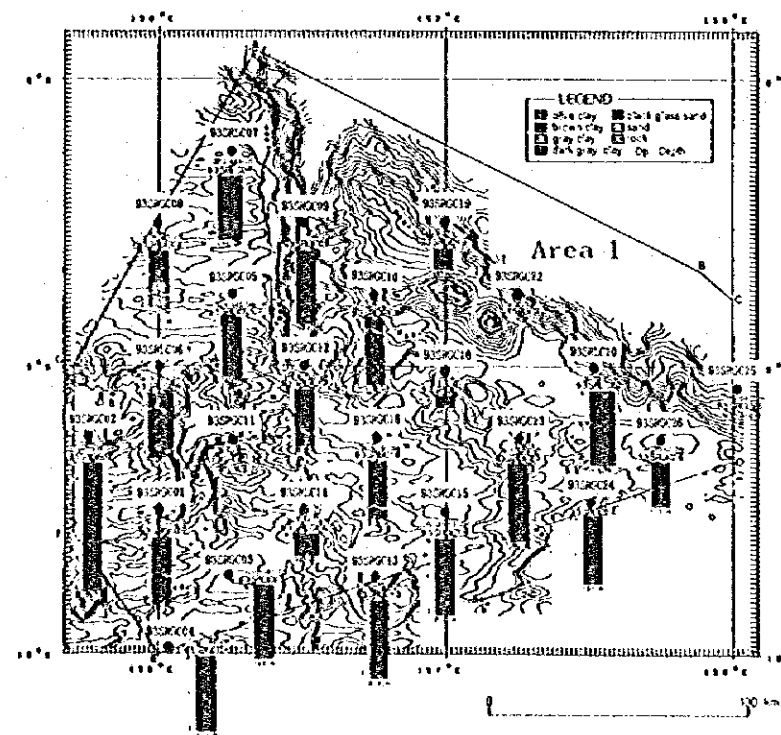
On the second principal component, Cu , Pb , Zn , As , Bi , Mo , B and Hf control its factor positively but factors controlling it negatively are weak. Cu , Pb and Zn are the principal ore elements produced by the already known submarine hydrothermal activities. As and Bi are also the elements showing high abnormality in hot spring activities. B and Hf are also the elements contained more abundantly in hydrothermal solution erupted from the seafloor than in sea water. Accordingly, this principal component is presumed as indicating a seafloor hydrothermal activity in the positive direction.

It is considered that the parameters indicating hydrothermal ore deposits in the muddy substances are shown by the values of $\text{Al}/(\text{Al} + \text{Fe} + \text{Mn})$ and the second principal component from the principal component analysis. Anomalous values of them are always appeared in the vicinity of the southeastern tip of the survey area.

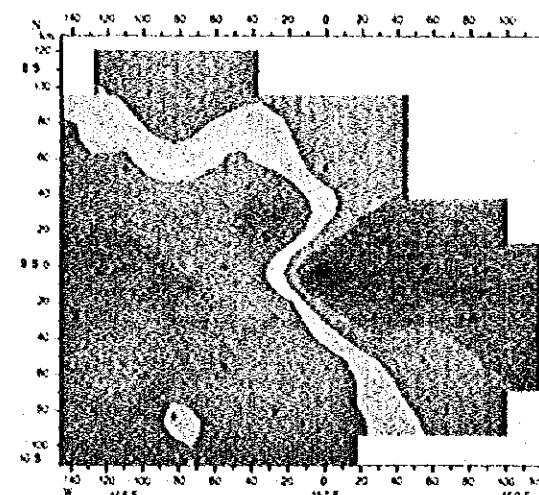


Microscopic photos of effine basalt on regional survey

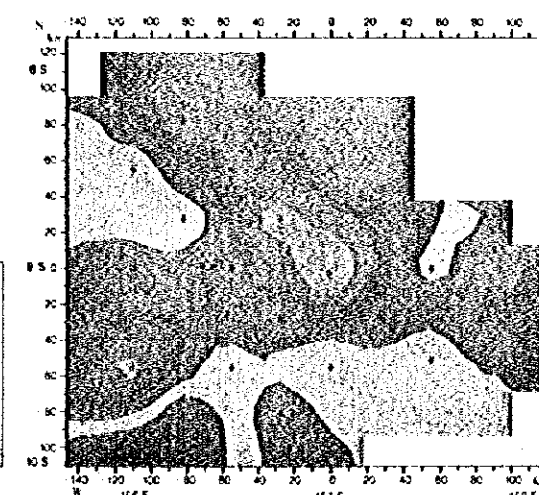
ASDFGHA
Eg PpM Ss Sscl Cc Dure



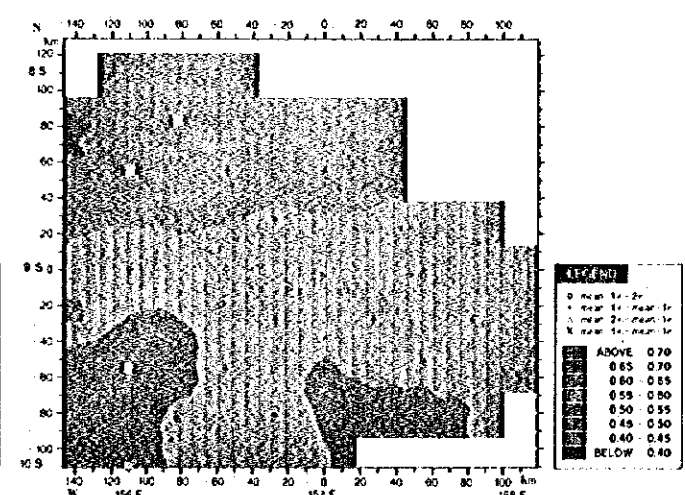
Schematic drawings of sampling results obtained from regional geochemical survey



Distribution of the factor score of principal component 1



Distribution of the factor score of principal component 2



Distribution of $\text{Al}/(\text{Al} + \text{Fe} + \text{Mn})$

Mean, standard deviation, minimum and maximum of chemical component in sediments			
Element	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min-Max
SiO ₂	51.52	1.88	47.15 - 52.80
TiO ₂	0.10	0.01	0.00 - 0.15
Al ₂ O ₃	10.25	1.50	1.41 - 14.94
Fe ₂ O ₃	1.75	0.25	1.74 - 1.84
FeO	1.62	1.94	0.13 - 4.30
MgO	0.16	1.76	0.06 - 1.40
MgO	2.74	1.34	1.15 - 5.34
CaO	0.25	1.61	0.15 - 2.70
CaO	0.41	1.04	0.15 - 1.74
Na ₂ O	3.52	1.15	2.19 - 4.30
K ₂ O	1.01	1.50	0.05 - 3.26
P ₂ O ₅	0.15	1.35	0.05 - 3.71
Co	18.43	0.32	0.1 - 21.1
LiOH	15.25	1.26	1.32 - 21.19
Ag	0.16	0.02	0.01 - 0.22
Cu	44.49	1.30	34.0 - 130.0
Zn	3.33	1.05	0.5 - 11.0
Pb	32.3	1.3	1.7 - 100.0
Mn	117.8	1.8	4.0 - 240.0
S	0.60	1.64	0.25 - 8.51
Cr	0.06	1.59	0.05 - 8.5
Ni	34.7	1.4	1 - 100.0
As	15.3	1.4	4 - 30.0
Bi	3.15	1.6	0.1 - 11.0
Mo	0.11	1.06	0.1 - 1.0
Hf	69.9	1.4	40 - 170.0
Re	115.2	1.4	120 - 200.0
Sr	701.8	1.2	270 - 1920.0
Cl	1414.0	1.4	1000 - 2070.0
P	129.2	1.3	60 - 150.0
V	0.15	1.75	0.05 - 4.20
Co	33.1	1.4	10 - 120.0
V	126.4	1.4	60 - 240.0
Tl	0.33	1.00	0.25 - 1.0
B	31.0	1.4	1 - 50.0
Hf	12.1	1.4	1 - 20.0
Bi	11.1	1.4	1 - 20.0
U	0.0	1.0	0.1 - 1.0

Result of t-test			
Element	Arithmetic Mean (M)	Std. Dev. (S)	Result
logSiO ₂	1.709(122)	1.370(600)	***
logTiO ₂	2.00(112)	1.00(112)	***
logAl ₂ O ₃	1.00(112)	1.00(112)	***
logFe ₂ O ₃	0.24(112)	0.24(112)	***
logFeO	0.21(112)	0.21(112)	***
logMgO	0.20(112)	0.20(112)	***
logCaO	0.20(112)	0.20(112)	***
logNa ₂ O	0.54(112)	0.54(112)	***
logK ₂ O	0.30(112)	0.30(112)	***
logP ₂ O ₅	0.15(112)	0.15(112)	***
logCo	1.26(112)	1.26(112)	***
logLiOH	1.18(112)	1.18(112)	***
logAg	0.16(112)	0.16(112)	***
logCu	1.64(112)	1.64(112)	***
logZn	0.52(112)	0.52(112)	***
logPb	1.05(112)	1.05(112)	***
logMn	2.07(112)	2.07(112)	***
logS	0.16(112)	0.16(112)	***
logCr	0.06(112)	0.06(112)	***
logNi	1.54(112)	1.54(112)	***
logAs	1.18(112)	1.18(112)	***
logBi	0.50(112)	0.50(112)	***
logMo	0.11(112)	0.11(112)	***
logHf	1.07(112)	1.07(112)	***
logRe	1.05(112)	1.05(112)	***
logSr	2.85(112)	2.85(112)	***
logCl	3.14(112)	3.14(112)	***
logP	2.11(112)	2.11(112)	***
logV	0.15(112)	0.15(112)	***
logCo	1.52(112)	1.52(112)	***
logV	1.10(112)	1.10(112)	***
logTl	0.33(112)	0.33(112)	***
logB	1.50(112)	1.50(112)	***
logHf	1.08(112)	1.08(112)	***
logBi	1.05(112)	1.05(112)	***
logU	0.00(112)	0.00(112)	***

Factor loading pattern						
Element	PC 1	PC 2	PC 3	PC 4	PC 5	PC 6
logSiO ₂	0.97	-0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logTiO ₂	0.95	-0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logAl ₂ O ₃	0.93	-0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logFe ₂ O ₃	0.91	-0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logFeO	0.89	-0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logMgO	0.87	-0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logCaO	0.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logNa ₂ O	0.83	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logK ₂ O	0.81	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logP ₂ O ₅	0.79	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logCo	0.77	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logLiOH	0.75	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logAg	0.73	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logCu	0.71	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logZn	0.69	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logPb	0.67	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logMn	0.65	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logS	0.63	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logCr	0.61	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logNi	0.59	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logAs	0.57	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logBi	0.55	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logMo	0.53	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logHf	0.51	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logRe	0.49	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logSr	0.47	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logCl	0.45	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logP	0.43	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logV	0.41	0.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logCo	0.39	0.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logV	0.37	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logTl	0.35	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logB	0.33	0.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logHf	0.31	0.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logBi	0.29	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
logU	0.27	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00