REPORT ON THE MINERAL EXPLORATION IN THE SOUTHERN NURATAU AREA THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN (PHASE III)



JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY
METAL MINING AGENCY OF JAPAN

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REPORT ON THE MINERAL EXPLORATION IN THE SOUTHERN NURATAU AREA THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

(PHASE Ⅲ)

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MARCH 2000

JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY
METAL MINING AGENCY OF JAPAN



PREFACE

In response to the request of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Japanese Government decided to conduct a series of studies involving geological survey, geochemical survey and others related to the exploration of ore deposits. The purpose of the studies was to examine the potential of mineral resources in the Southern Nuratau Area, situated some 330 km southwest of Tashkent, the Uzbek capital city. The Japanese government entrusted the survey to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

In view of the geological and mineralogical nature of the intended survey, the JICA commissioned the Metal Mining Agency of Japan (MMAJ) to execute the survey.

The survey started in FY1997 (Phase I). This Report corresponds to Phase III or the third year (FY1999) of the survey. During Phase III, the MMAJ sent a one-man survey team to the Republic of Uzbekistan for the period from June 27 to September 21, 1999. The field survey was completed, as scheduled, in close collaboration with the Uzbek government agencies concerned and the State Committee of Geology and Mineral Reserves.

The Report summarizes the results of the Phase III survey and is designed to form an integral part of the final survey report to be elaborated.

We should like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratefulness to the Uzbek government agencies and persons concerned for their valuable cooperation. We are also thankful to the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Embassy of Japan in Tashkent and people concerned who have rendered assistance and support for the survey.

March, 2000

Kimio Fujita

President

Japan International Cooperation Agency

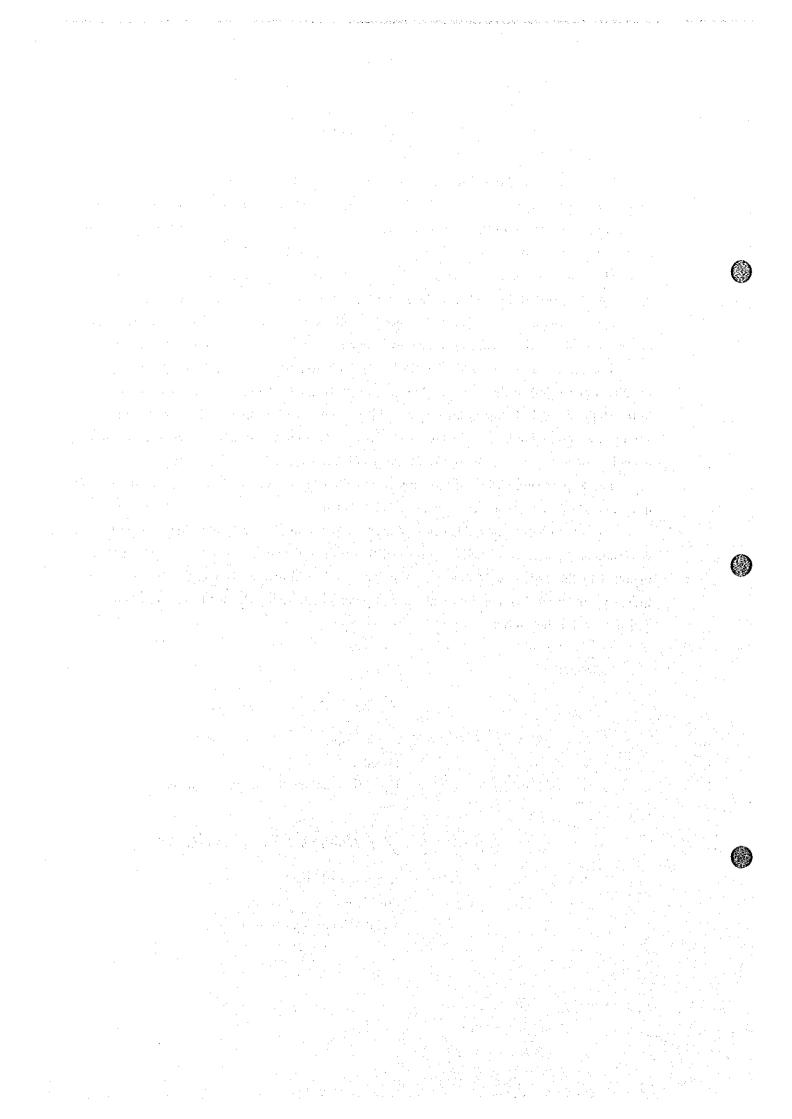
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Metal Mining Agency of Japan



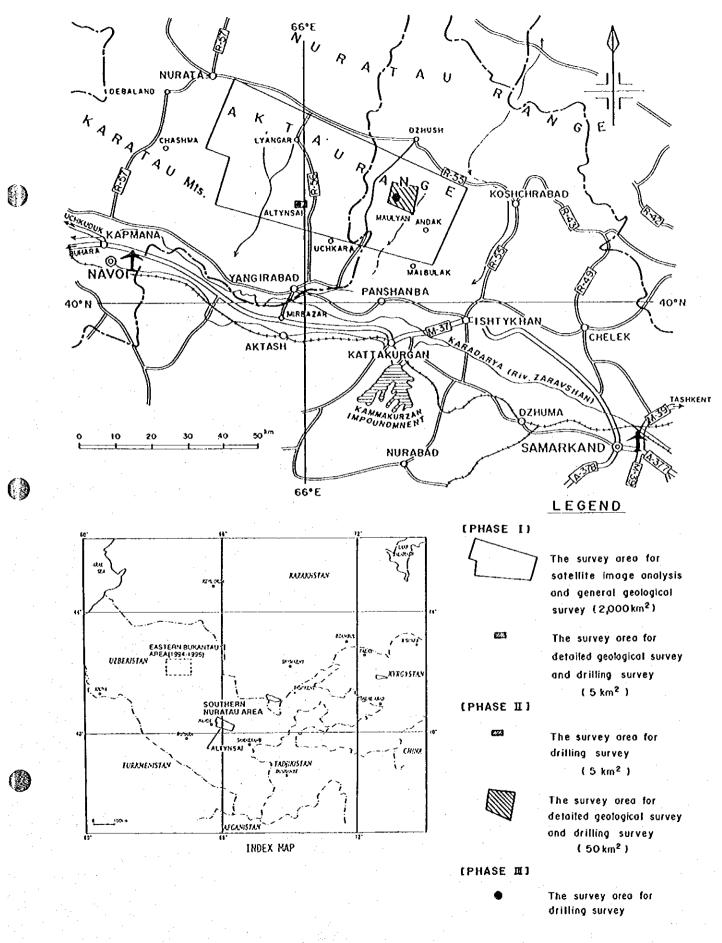
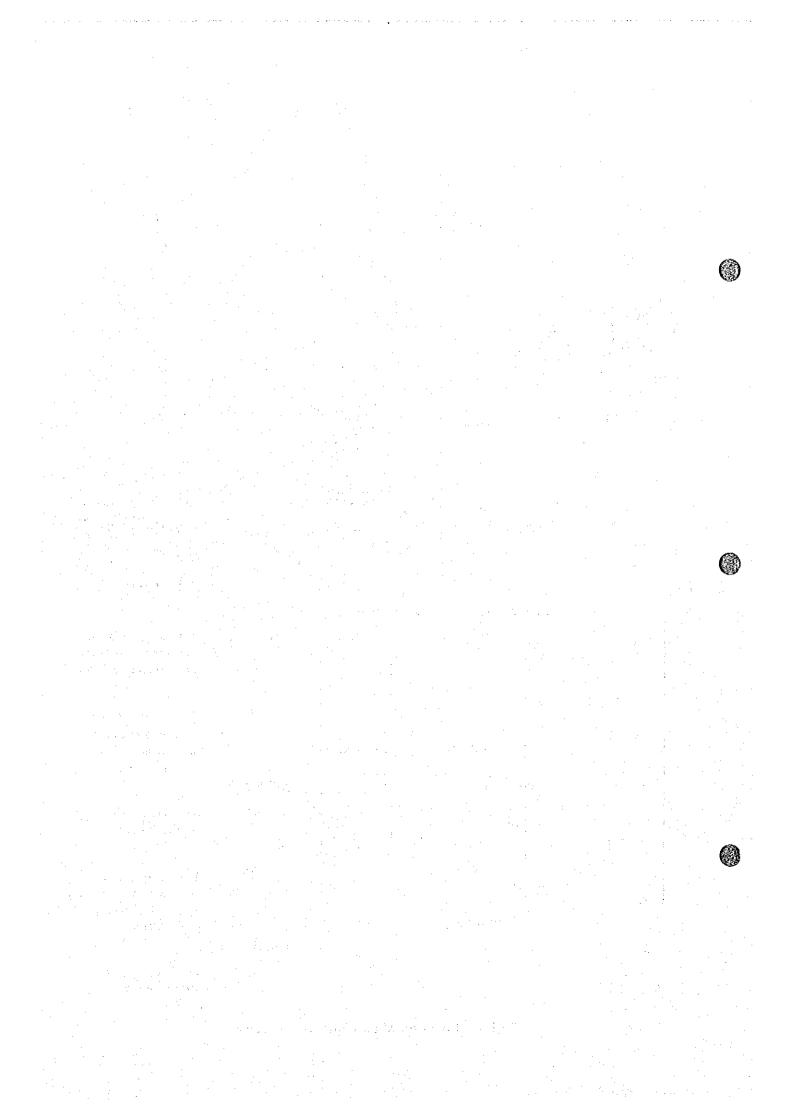


Fig.I-1 Location Map of the Survey Area



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Настоящий отчет представляет собой свод результатов Фундаментального исследования по программе сотрудничества в освоении недровых ресурсов на третий год, которое было проведено в Южно-Нуратуском регионе Республики Узбекистан. Основные цели исследования заключались в выяснении гсологической обстановки и расположения рудных месторождений в названном регионе, в определении общих направлений исследовательских работ на будущее, проведении переоценки существующих месторождений и составлении плана извлечения недровых ресурсов с них, а также, тем самым, в оказании помощи стране-партнеру в освоении и разработке рудных ресурсов. Работы по разведке на месте были проведены с июля по октябрь 1998 г.

В рамках исследования на первый год в зоне общей площадью 2000 км², назначенной объектом исследования, были проведены изучение и анализ фотоснимков, снятых с борта искусственного спутника, сбор и анализ существующих материалов и информации о недрах, а также геологическая разведка. В Алтынсайском районе также были проведены подробная геологическая разведка по площади 5 км² и разведка с разбуриванием скважин (10 скважин, общая глубина 2451,1 м) на Алтынсайском месторождении.

В рамках исследования на второй год были проведены геологическая и геохимическая разведка по площади 50 км² в Маулянском районе и разведка с разбуриванием скважин (2 скважины, общая глубина 384,1 м) на Маулянском рудопроявлении. Кроме того, на Алтынсайском месторождении была проведена разведка с разбуриванием скважин (4 скважины, общая глубина 790,4 м).

В рамках исследования на третий год были проведены работы по разведке с разбуриванием скважин (2 скважины, общей глубиной в 170,0 м) на Алтынсайском месторождении и такая же разведка (20 скважин, общей глубиной 600,0 м) на Маулянском рудопроявлении.

В следующем приводим результаты исследования на данный год по каждому из районов и рекомендации на следующий год:

1) По Алтынсайскому району

- (1) Геологическая обстановка и месторождения
 - Геология в данном районе состоит из осадочных пород, относящихся к ордовикскому силурскому периодам, и проникающих в них интрузивных лампрофиров, относящихся к нижие-пермскому верхне-пермскому периодам. В общем, она представляет складчатую структуру с осью, идущей по направлению 3СЗ-ВІОВ. Осадочные породы в районе подвержены метаморфизму при низких температурах и под средним давлением, превращены в филлит и кристаллический сланец с образованием биотитового сланца, мусковита, хлорит и стапролит.
 - Месторождения в данном районе являются жильными, на которых золото содержится в кварцевых жилах, ограниченных гармонизирующей с тектонической структурой разломной полосой системы 3C3-3IO3 и пересекающей се наискось разломной полосой системы C3-ЮВ, а также в тонких полосах турмалино-кварцевых жил на серии трещин системы C-Ю.

(2) Участки минерализации

- Данное месторождение располагается в Каратауской рудоносной зоне (70 км с востока на запад, 2 4 км с юга на север), где манифестации золота образованы по разломам и участкам силификации по направлению ЗСЗ-ВЮВ. Помимо данного месторождения, здесь же уточнено наличие месторождения и манифестации золото- или сереброносных кварцевых жил, таких как Сармичское месторождение, Биранское месторождение (эти два находятся вне зоны исследования), Курайская манифестация и Алтынсайское месторождение.
- В пределах полосы протяженностью 2,5 км и шириной 500 м 800 м пайдены рудные тела кварцевых жил №1, №2, №8, (северо-западная жила), №9 (Казанбулакская жила) и №10 (Беркутская жила) в осадочных породах, превратившихся в роговые породы. В пределах этой зоны расположения участков минерализации развиваются полосы тонких турмалино-кварцевых жил системы С-Ю.
- Рудные столбы находятся в зоне, где сосредоточенно располагаются кварцевые жилы на участке пересечения жилы системы 3C3-BIOB с разломом системы C3-IOB и тонкие турмалтно-кварцевые жилы системы C-IO.

(3) Масштаб и длительность месторождения

- В результате исследования и проведенной узбекской стороной разведки с разбуриванием скважии, которые нацеливались на уточнение нижнюю протяженность рудных столбов жил №1 и №2, найденных в горизонтальной выработке, было выяснено, что на глубинах более 100 м (600 м по высоте над уровнем моря) минерализация ослабляется. Причина такого ослабления минерализации, должно быть, заключается в отпаде основной части рудного тела из-за эрозии.
- В результате исследования в скважинах MJSN-16, которое было проведено в третьем году для разведки нижней части рудного тела северо-западной жилы (жилы №8), уточненной проведенной узбекской стороной траншейной разведкой, была угочнена интенсивная минерализация с образованием золота (ширина 0,98 м, содержание золота 44,8 г/т) на глубине 60 м под поверхностью. Однако исследование в скважинах MJSN-15, которые на 50 м глубже, чем первые, показало ослабление минерализации (ширина 1,06 м, содержание золота 1,8 г / т). Это говорит о резких переменах содержания золота по глубинам, несмотря на наличие непрерывности минерализации жилы №8, Нижние слои под жилой №8 еще не достаточно подробно разведаны и, поэтому, проведение в дальнейшем их дополнительной разведки считается необходимым. Однако, ввиду маломасштабного рудного тела, значительного увеличения запасов руды не возможно ожидать.
- В результате нашего исследования с разбуриванием, а также узбекской разведки с разбуриванием скважин, проведенных в целях постижения состояния минерализации полосы тонких турмалино-кварцевых жил системы С-Ю, был выявлен процесс минерализации во многих местах (содержание

золота: трасса ~ 23,6 г/т). Однако, в общем, содержание золота оказалось низким и составило не более 0,2 г/т в среднем, что говорит о невозможности считать данную жилу предметом открытой разработки.

(4) Процесс минерализации

- В золотоносных кварцевых жилах систем 3С3-ВЮВ и С3-ЮВ содержаться минералы, такие как пирит, марказит, арсенопирит, халькопирит, сфалерит, гётит, фосфоферрит, галетит, природный бисмут, айкинит, виттихенит, шеслит и др., а золото обнаруживается в виде электрума. В тонких турмалино-кварцевых жилах системы С-Ю содержаться минералы, такие как пирит, арсенопирит, гётит, фосфоферрит и марказит.
- Как правило, температуры гомогенизации жидкостных включений в кварцевых жилах систем 3С3-ВІОВ и С3-ІОВ, а также в тонких турмалинокварцевых жилах системы C-Ю, составляют 270°С~370°С, и не показывают значительной разности. Предполагается, что эти кварцевые и турмалинокварцевые жилы формировались в определенный период минерализации и определенных температурных условиях. Кроме того, не наблюдается особое взаимоотношение между температурой гомогенизации жидкостных золота, а также между температурой включений и содержанием гомогенизации жидкостных включений и глубиной.
- Данные по распределению участков минерализации и пределам расположения участков роговых пород в достаточной мере совпадают с данными по аномалиям, полученными в результате проведенной Узбекской стороной аэромагнитной разведки. Это совпадение данных указывает на возможность наличия скрытых гранитных пород. Следовательно, можно предположить, что данный участок минерализации был формирован в результате протекания процесса минерализации, вызванного интрузией гранитных пород.
- Данное месторождение, несмотря на достаточную длительность процесса минерализации, характеризуется большими колебаниями показателей содержания золота по его участкам.

(5) Минеральные запасы

В следующем приводим результаты предварительного расчета рудных запасов: минеральные запасы в жиле №1 - 109 тыс. т, содержание золота по Au - 10,3 г/т, количество золота - 1,1 т; минеральные запасы в жиле №2 - 239 тыс. т., содержание золота по Au - 6,9 г/т, количество золота - 1,7 т; минеральные запасы в жиле №8 - 75 тыс. т, содержание золота по Au - 17,0 г/т; количество золота - 1,3 т. По всему Алтынсайскому месторождению: минеральные запасы - 423 тыс. т, содержание золота по Au - 9,6 г/т, количество золота - 4,0 т.

2) По Маулянскому району

- (1) Геологическая обстановка в районе
 - Геология в этом районе состоит из: относящихся к ордовикской -

силурийской системе осадочных пород и проникшихся в них интрузивного эпидиорита. Осадочные породы подвержены метаморфизму при низких температурах и под средним давлением, и превращены в филлит и кристаллический сланец с образованием биотита, мусковита, хлорита и ставролита.

• Эти пласты представляют складчатую структуру, имеющую свою ось по направлению 3C3-ВІОВ и ограничены разломами, идущими по тому же направлению.

(2) Участки минерализации

• Данный район является одной из частей, составляющих Актауский участок минерализации (70 км с востока на запад, 2 - 5 км с юга на север). Рудопроявления золота в этом районе расположены на сбросах, идущих по направлению 3СЗ-ВЮВ и на участке силикатизации. В частности, уточнены разведкой рудопроявления золота, такие как Маулянское, Бешбулакское, Таулянское, Шурское и др.

(3) Масштаб и длительность рудопроявления

- На Маулянском рудопроявлении уточнено наличие 3 рудных тел, а именно: 1 м 4 м ширины и 1000 м протяженности (рудное тело №1); 400 м протяженности (рудное тело №2) и 200 м протяженности (рудное тело №3). При этом содержание золота варьировалось в пределах от 1 г/т до 33,4 г/т.
- В 2 скважинах, разбуренных в ходе проведенного нами исследования на второй год, а также в 6 скважинах, выработанных узбекской стороной, на глубинах 16 м 135 м была уточнена непрерывность всех рудных тел №1, №2 и №3. Однако выявленный процесс минерализации с образованием золота был очень слабым (шириной 0,2 м 1,8 м, с содержанием золота 1,6 8 г / т). В результате был сделан вывод, что интенсивная минерализация имеет место только в поверхностных слоях.
- В рамках исследования на третий год было осуществлено разбуривание 20 скважин (МЈМL3 22) с целью постижения состояния минерализации рудных тел №1 и №2 на малых глубинах в недрах (10 м 15 м под новерхностью земли) в данном районе и определения возможности открытой разработки. В результате было выявлено следующее: в 4 из 13 скважин, выработанных для разведки участка под рудным телом №1, минерализация с образованием золота шириной в 0,4 м 1,9 м и с содержанием золота 1,7 г/т 5,8 г-т; в 3 из 7 скважин, выработанных для разведки участка под рудным телом №2 минерализация с образованием золота пириной в 0,4 м 1,1 и с содержанием золота 1,8 г/т 9,6 г-т. Что же касается остальных скважин, разбуренных для разведки, то нами не было выявлено минерализации с содержанием золота более 1 г/т.

(4) Процесс минерализации

• В образцах золотосодержащих жил, которые были отобраны на Маулянском рудопроявлении, включались минералы, такие как пирит, гетит, фосфоферрит, арсенопирит, халькопиритс, фалерит и др., а золото было

получено в виде электрума.

- Температура гомогенизации жидкостных включений на участках минерализации была, в основном, в пределах от 250°С до 350°С. Эти пределы оказались более высокими по сравнению с той образца кварца, который имел содержание золота 1,2 г/т 2,0 г/т, а также по сравнению с общепринятой температурой образования золота, которая лежит в пределах от 100°С до 250°С. На основании образцов, полученных в ходе разбуривания скважин, взаимное отношение между температурой гомогенизации жидкостных включений и глубиной не было выяснено.
- На основании распределения Актауских гранитных пород, характеристик смежных рудопроявлений, результатов разведки с разбуриванием скважин и показателей температуры гомогенизации жидкостных включений можно считать, что золотосодержащие кварцевые жилы в Маулянском районе сформировались в условиях высоких температур и под воздействиями негматитовой минерализации. Следовательно, предполагается, что этот район, как место масштабной концентрации руды с высоким содержанием золота, не обладает достаточными условиями.

(5) Рудные запасы

В следующем приводим результаты предварительного расчета рудных запасов: минеральные запасы в рудном теле №1 - 149 тыс. т, содержание золота по Au - 3,8 г/т, количество золота - 0,6 т; минеральные запасы в рудном теле №2 - 87 тыс. т., содержание золота по Au - 5,0 г/т, количество золота - 0,4 т; минеральные запасы в рудном теле №3 - 16 тыс. т, содержание золота по Au - 4,2 г/т; количество золота - 0,07 т. По всему Маулянскому рудопроявлению: минеральные запасы - 252 тыс. т, содержание золота по Au - 4,2 г/т, количество золота - 1,1 т.

В следующем приводим рекомендации по дальнейшему исследованию:

Рекомендации на третий год

1) По Алтынсайскому месторождению:

- (1) В результате предварительного расчета рудных запасов было определено, что в общей сумме по жилам №1, №2 и №8 рудные запасы составляют 423 тыс. т, содержание золота по Аu 9,6 г/т и количество золота 4,0 т. Что же касается участка под жилой №8, то надо отметить, что проведенное по нему в текущем году исследование и разведка с разбуриванием скважин на малых глубинах, осуществленная силами узбекской стороны, не должны считаться достаточными. Узбекской стороне рекомендуется в дальнейшем продолжить разведку с разбуриванием скважин с целью уточнения состояния минерализации в более глубинных недрах.
- (2) В верхних частях рудных тел жил №1, №2 и №8 на данном месторождении, хотя в весьма малом масштабе, имеются участки со сравнительно высоким содержанием золота более 10 г/т. Данное месторождение имеет возможность в дальнейшем быть разработанным в качестве маломасштабного шахтного месторождения в зависимости от результатов проводимых узбекской стороной

разведки с разбуриванием скважин и шахтной разведки.

- 2) По Маулянскому рудопроявлению:
- (1) В результате предварительного расчета рудных запасов было определено, что в общей сумме по всем рудным телам №1, №2 и №3 рудные запасы составляют 252 тыс. т, содержание золота по Аu 4,2 г/т и количество золота 1,1 т. Продолжение разведки в дальнейшем, может быть, приведет к увеличению рудных запасов, однако, при этом, получение более лучших показателей содержания золота на данном рудопроявлении весьма маловероятно.
- (2) Все 3 рудных тела на данном рудопроявлении маломасштабны и характеризуются резкими переменами показателей содержания золота по слоям и участкам, а в общем низким содержанием золота (содержание золота не более 5 г/т). В имеющихся условиях необходимо отметить то, что мало возможности осуществить разработку этого рудопроявления как масштабного месторождения золота. Кроме того, разработка этого рудопроявления в маломасштабное месторождение возможно при условии того, что дальнейшие разведка с разбуриванием скважин и шахтная разведка, проводимые в дальнейшем узбекской стороной приведуг к получению руды с значительно высоким содержанием золота.

Summary

This Report summarizes the results of the survey in Phase III (FY1999, the third fiscal year of the survey) implemented in the Southern Nuratau Area of the Republic of Uzbekistan, under the Technical Cooperation for the Mineral Exploration. The survey was intended to clarify geologic conditions and occurrence of ore deposits in the subject area, provide guidelines for future exploration, re-evaluate known ore deposits and make mining plans, thereby assisting the host country in developing its mineral resources. The field survey was executed from June to September, 1999.

During the Phase I survey, execution of satellite image analysis, collection and analysis of existing geological data, and geological reconnaissance covered the entire survey area of 2,000 km². In addition, a detailed geological survey of 5 km² was carried out in the Altynsai district, as well as drilling survey of 10 drillholes totaling 2,451.1 m on the Altynsai deposit.

In Phase II, geological and geochemical surveys covering a 50 km² area in the Maulyan district and drilling survey of two drillholes totaling 384.1 m at the Maulyan manifestation were carried out. At the Altynsai deposit, a drilling survey of four bore holes totaling 790.4 m was executed.

In Phase III, a drilling survey of two drillholes totaling 170.0 m was executed at the Altynsai deposit. At the Maulyan manifestation, a drilling survey of twenty drillholes totaling 600.0 m was executed.

The results of these survey and recommendations are summarized in the following paragraphs:

1) Altynsai Deposit

- (1) Geology and ore deposit
- The Altynsai deposit is underlain by sediments of Ordovician-Silurian System and late Permian to early Triassic lamprophyre, and represents a fold structure along the axis in the WNW-ESE direction. The sedimentary rocks are metamorphosed into phyllites and schists through low temperature, medium pressure-type metamorphism, and consist of biotite, muscovite, chlorite, staurolite, etc.
- The deposit is vein-type deposit consisting of quartz veins accompanied with fracture zones of the WNW-ESE trend and those of NW-SE trend intersecting the former, and tourmaline-quartz veins accompanied with joints of the N-S trend.
- (2) Ore zone
- The deposit is located in the Karatau ore zone, 70 km E-W and 2 km to 4 km N-S, where gold manifestations occur in fractures and silicification zones in the WNW-ESE direction.

The Karatau ore zone embraces ore deposits and manifestations of gold-silver bearing quartz vein type, such as the Sarmich deposit, Biran deposit (these are out of the survey area), Kurai manifestation and Altynsai deposit.

- Ore bodies of quartz veins such as the Nos. 1, 2, 8 ("Northwest Vein"), 9 ("Kazanbulak Vein") and 10 ("Berkut Vein") have been confirmed in hornfelsed sedimentary rocks within an area of 2.5 km in length and 500 m to 800 m in width. Tourmaline-quartz veinlet zones with the N-S trend are also developed in the areas where the ore zones occur.
- Bonanzas are located at the intersections of the WNW-ESE veins with the NW-SE fractures and tourmaline-quartz veinlets are concentrated.
- (3) Size and continuity of ore deposit
 - The Phase I, II and Uzbek drilling surveys, aimed at the lower extension of the bonanzas confirmed in Adit No. 4 at veins Nos. 1 and 2, discovered that the mineralization degenerates below the depth of 100 m (600 m above sea level) under the adit. This is presumably attributable to denudation of the main portions of the ore body by erosion.
 - The drillhole MJSN-16, aimed at the lower extension of the Northwest Vein (No. 8 vein) as confirmed by the Uzbek trenches, discovered the dominant mineralization (true width 0.98 m; Au 44.8 g/t) 60 m under the surface. But the drillhole MJSN-15, aimed at the lower extension (50 m) of it, only confirmed low-grade gold mineralization (true width 1.06 m; Au 1.8 g/t). From these findings, it was confirmed that gold grade considerably varies though mineralization is continuous. The lower portion of No.8 vein remains unexplored, however, big increase of ore reserves can not be expected by further drilling because the mineralization is small in size.
 - The Phase I, II and Uzbek drilling surveys, aimed to examine mineralization of tourmaline-quartz veinlet zones with the N-S trend and also examine the feasibility of open pit mining, discovered low-grade gold mineralization (Au trace to 23.6 g/t) at various locations; however, the overall average of Au grade did not exceed 0.2 g/t which is insufficient for justifying open pit mining.

(4) Mineralization

- Component minerals of the quartz veins that occur in fractures zones with the WNW-ESE and NW-SE trends are pyrite, marcasite, arsenopyrite, chalcopyrite, sphalerite, goethite, lepidocrocite, galena, native bismuth, aikinite, wittichenite, scheelite, etc., while gold occurs as electrum. The tourmaline-quartz veins with the N-S trend are accompanied with pyrite, arsenopyrite, goethite, lepidocrocite, etc.
- Homogenization temperatures of fluid inclusions of quartz veins with the WNW-ESE and NW-SE trends and the tourmaline-quartz veinlets with the N-S trend generally range

between 270°C and 370°C. There was no significant difference observable between them. The quartz veins and tourmaline-quartz veinlets are inferred to have been formed during the similar period of mineralization and under similar temperature ambience. No significant correlation was observed between homogenization temperature and gold grade, nor between homogenization temperature and depth at which drilling samples were taken.

- The occurrence of ore and hornfels zones and the anomalous zones of the Uzbek airborne
 magnetic survey mostly correspond to each other, which suggests the possible existence
 of concealed granites at shallow levels. The ore zones are inferred to have been formed
 by the mineralization originating in the intrusion of granites.
- The mineralization of the subject ore deposit represents continuity but has variable grade.
- (5) Ore reserves

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• At the cutoff grade of 2.0 g/t (Au), the total ore reserves of No.1, No.2 and No.8 veins combined are 423,000 t, grading 9.6 g/t Au, or approximately 4.0 t of Au in terms of metal content. While those of No.1, No.2 and No.8 veins are 109,000 t, grading 10.3 g/t Au (1.1 t of Au content), 239,000 t, grading 6.9 g/t Au (1.7 t of Au content) and 75,000 t, grading 17.0 g/t Au (1.3 t of Au content), respectively.

2) Maulyan Manifestation

- (1) Geology
- The Maulyan manifestation is underlain by sediments of Ordovician-Silurian System and
 a dike of metadiorite that intruded in the castern part of the subject manifestation. The
 sedimentary rocks are metamorphosed into phyllites and schists through low temperature,
 medium pressure-type metamorphism, and consist of biotite, muscovite, chlorite,
 staurolite, etc.
- These strata are folded along an axis in the WNW-ESE direction and cut by faults in the same directions.
- (2) Ore Zone
- The manifestation is located in the Aktau ore zone, 70 km E-W and 2 km to 5 km N-S, where gold manifestations occur in fractures and silicification zones in the WNW-ESE direction. Gold manifestations have been confirmed at Beshbulak, Taulyan and Shur.
- (3) Size and continuity of ore manifestation
- The extent of the Maulyan manifestation on the surface is 1 m to 4 m wide and 1,000 m long (No.1 ore body), 400 m long (No.2 ore body) and 200 m long (No.3 ore body). The gold grade varies from 1 g/t to 33.4 g/t.
- · Two drillholes of the Phase II drilling survey and six Uzbek drillholes independently

confirmed the continuity of the No.1, No.2 and No.3 ore bodies between 16 m and 135 m under the surface. They, however, only confirmed low-grade gold mineralization (true width 0.2-1.8 m; Au 1.6-8 g/t). From these findings, the near-surface mineralization is inferred to be dominant.

• Twenty drillholes of the Phase III drilling survey were aimed to examine mineralization of shallow portion of the No.1, No.2 and No.3 ore bodies, between 10 m and 15 m under the surface, and also examine the feasibility of open pit mining. Among the thirteen drillholes aimed to examine mineralization of lower portion of the No.1 ore body, four drillholes discovered low-grade gold mineralization (true width 0.4-1.9 m; Au 1.7-5.8 g/t). Among the seven drillholes aimed to examine mineralization of the No.2 ore body, three drillholes confirmed weak gold mineralization (true width 0.4-1.1 m; Au 1.8-9.6 g/t). However, analyses of ore samples collected from another thirteen drillholes did not indicate Au grade higher than 1.0 g/t.

(4) Mineralization

- Samples collected from gold-bearing quartz veins at the Maulyan manifestation are accompanied by ore minerals such as pyrite, goethite, lepidocrocite, arsenopyrite, chalcopyrite and sphalerite, while gold occurs as electrum.
- Homogenization temperatures of fluid inclusions at the ore zone mostly fall within the range of 250°C-350°C. The homogenization temperatures of quartz samples grading Au 1.2-2.0 g/t were 221°C-281°C, higher than the general temperature range of gold occurrence, 100 °C -250 °C. No significant correlation was observed between homogenization temperature and depth at which drilling samples were taken.
- In light of the occurrence of the Aktau granites, characteristics of the surrounding manifestations, drilling results and homogenization temperatures, gold-bearing quartz veins at the subject manifestation are inferred to have been formed under high temperature ambience, which is considered to lack the conditions required for a highgrade, large-scale gold concentration zone.

(5) Ore reserves

• At the cutoff grade of 1.0 g/t (Au), the tentative estimation of the total ore reserves of No.1, No.2 and No.3 ore bodies indicated 252,000 t, grading 4.2 g/t Au, or approximately 1.1 t of Au in terms of metal content. While those of No.1, No.2 and No.3 ore bodies are 149,000 t, grading 3.8 g/t Au (0.6 t of Au content), 87,000 t, grading 5.0 g/t Au (0.4 t of Au content) and 16,000 t, grading 4.2 g/t Au (0.07 t of Au content), respectively.

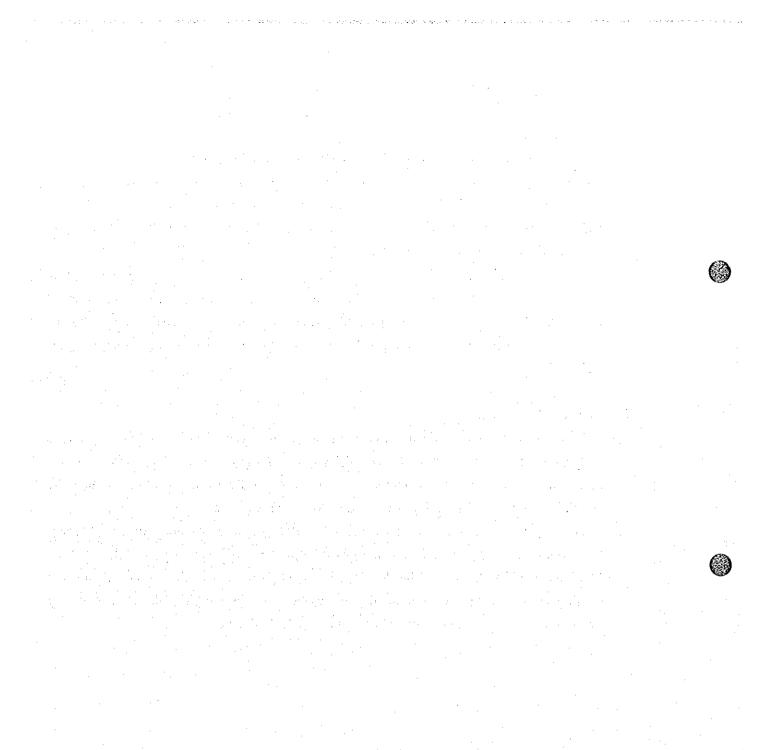
Recommendations may be summarized as follows:

1) Altynsai Deposit

- (1) Ore reserves estimates of No.1, No.2 and No.8 veins added up to 423,000 t, grading 9.6 g/t Au, or approximately 4.0 t of Au in terms of metal content. The lower portion of No.8 vein remains unexplored, except the shallow portions surveyed by the Phase III and Uzbek drilling surveys. In order to verify the deep mineralization, it is advisable to continue the drilling survey by the Uzbek side.
- (2) All the ore bodies of No.1, No.2 and No.8 veins are small in size, however, have dominant mineralization (Au grade higher than 10 g/t) in the upper portions. There is the possibility that the Altynsai deposit could be developed as a small-scale mine by tunnel mining, though it depends on the results of future drilling and tunneling surveys by the Uzbek side.

2) Maulyan Manifestation

- (1) Tentative calculation indicated that the total ore reserves of No.1, No.2 and No.3 ore bodies combined are 252,000 t, grading 4.2 g/t Au, or approximately 1.1 t of Au in terms of metal content. A certain increase in ore reserves by further exploration may be anticipated but a significant improvement in Au grade is unlikely.
- (2) All the ore bodies in the subject manifestation are small in size and have variable and low overall grade (Au grade less than 5 g/t). At present, there is little possibility that the Maulyan manifestation could be developed as a large-scale deposit. For developing the manifestation as a small-scale mine, discovery of considerably high grade ore is necessary by the future drilling and tunneling surveys by the Uzbek side.



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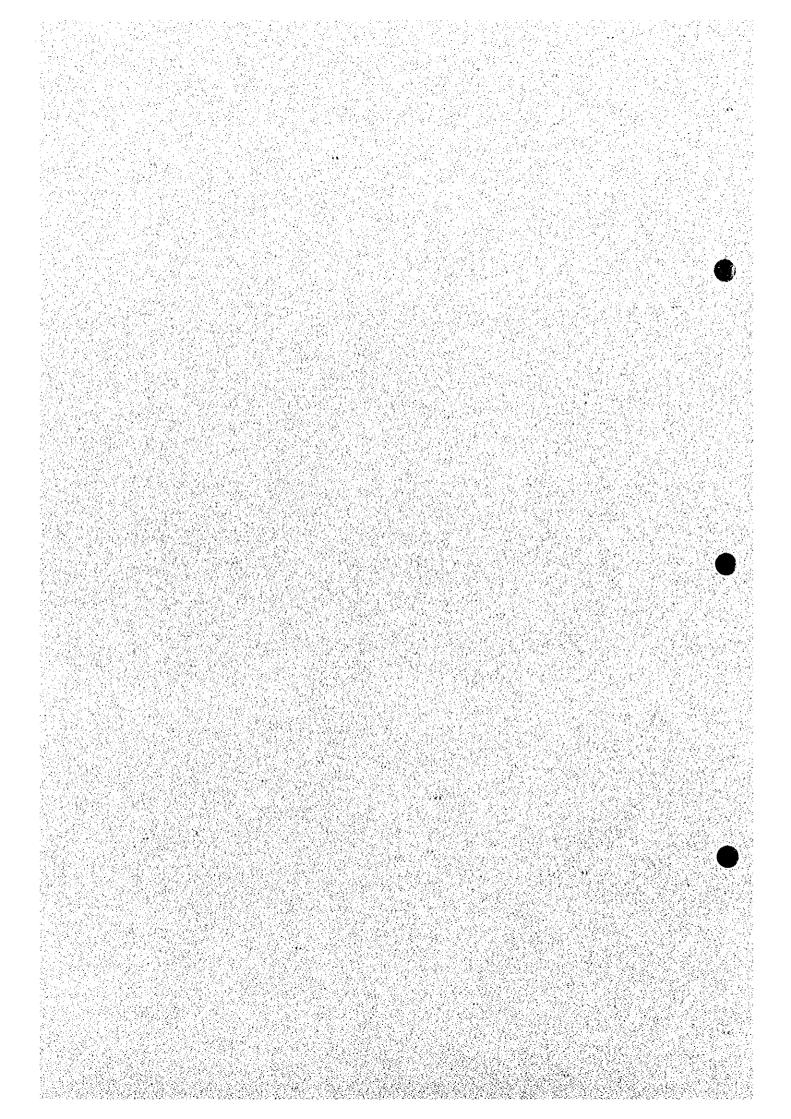
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PART I GENERAL INFORMATION



Chapter 1 Introduction

1-1 Basis of the Survey

The subject survey of mineral resources in the Southern Nuratau Area of the Republic of Uzbekistan was conducted by the Japanese Government to comply with the request of the Uzbek Government, in conformity to the Scope of Work agreed to between the two governments on June 14, 1997.

The survey was intended to clarify the geological conditions and mineral resources in the mentioned area, provide the guidelines for future exploration, re-evaluate the known ore deposits, and also draw mining plans, thereby assisting development of the mineral industry of the host country. It was also aimed to promote technology transfer to the host nation's organizations concerned through the collaborative survey.

1-2 Conclusions and Recommendations of Phase II Survey

1-2-1 Conclusions of Phase II survey

Conclusions of the Phase II survey may be summarized as follows:

- 1) Altynsai District
 - (1) One drillhole, aimed at the eastern extension (120 m) of the dominant mineralization (true width 1.6 m; Au 15.3 g/t) discovered by the Phase I survey at the footwall of Altynsai No. 2 vein, confirmed the continuity but indicated that the mineralization is small in size and low in Au grade (1.27 m in true width, grading Au 3.0 g/t).
- (2) Drillholes, aimed to examine mineralization of tourmaline-quartz veinlet zones with the N-S trend and also examine the feasibility of open pit mining, discovered low-grade gold mineralization (Au trace to 23.6 g/t) at various locations; however, the overall average of Au grade did not exceed 0.2 g/t which is insufficient for justifying open pit mining.
- (3) Four Uzbek drillholes, aimed at the lower extension of the bonanzas confirmed in Adit No. 4 at veins Nos. 1 and 2, confirmed that the mineralization degenerates below the depth of 100 m (600 m above sea level) under the adit. This is presumably attributable to denudation of the main portions of the ore body by crosion.
- (4) The dominant ore body of the Northwest Vein (No. 8 vein) as confirmed by the Uzbek trench along the vein had a 32 m length, 1.35 m width and Au 8.1 g/t grade. A 230 m portion between the trench and the ancient stopes remains unexplored, as well as the portion beneath the trench (860 m above sea level), which are considered to be future exploration targets.
- (5) The mineralization of the subject ore deposit represents continuity but has variable

grade.

2) Maulyan District

- (1) The Phase II geological survey and Uzbek trenching survey indicate that the Beshbulak, Taulyan and Shur manifestations are not considered worthy of further exploration due to low grades of gold.
- (2) The extent of the Maulyan manifestation on the surface is 1 m to 4 m wide and 900 m long (No.1 ore body), 300 m long (No.2 ore body) and 200 m long (No.3 ore body). The gold grade varies from 1 g/t to 33.4 g/t. Two drillholes, MJML-1 and -2, confirmed the continuities of the No.3 and No.2 ore bodies between 100m to 135m under the surface. They, however, only confirmed small size and low-grade mineralization (true width 0.2 m and 0.34 m; Au 2.0 g/t and 1.6 g/t).
- (3) The Uzbek drilling survey independently confirmed, between 16 m and 90 m under the surface, the continuity of the No.1 ore body (1.2 m to 1.5m wide; Au 4 g/t to 8 g/t) and continuity of the No.2 ore body (1.7 m to 1.8 m wide; Au 5 g/t to 7 g/t); the near-surface mineralization is inferred to be dominant.
- (4) In light of the occurrence of the Aktau granites, characteristics of the surrounding manifestations, drilling results and homogenization temperatures, gold-bearing quartz veins at the Maulyan manifestation are inferred to have been formed under high temperature ambience which is considered to lack the conditions required for a high-grade, large-scale gold concentration zone.

1-2-2 Recommendations of Phase II survey

Based on the conclusions of the Phase II survey, the following were recommended for the Phase III survey:

- 1) Altynsai District
 - (1) As the altitude of the outcrop of the Northwest Vein, or No.8 vein, 860 m above sea level, is higher than that of the veins Nos.1 and 2, denudation of the ore body may not have advanced; therefore, its continuity into the deeper portion can be expected. It is advisable to implement a drilling survey to verify mineralization in the 230-m portion between the trench and the ancient stopes in the east, and its western extension.
- 2) Maulyan District
 - (1) It has been confirmed by the Uzbek drilling survey that the mineralization continues from 16 m to 90 m below the surface at the ore bodies Nos. 1 and 2. It is advisable, therefore, to implement a drilling survey to verify mineralization, mainly up to 100 m under the surface, in the eastern extension of the ore bodies confirmed by the Uzbek trenching and drilling surveys.

(2) The lower portion of the No.3 ore zone remains unexplored. It is advisable to implement a drilling survey to verify mineralization in the portion beneath the vein, 1m wide, grading Au 6.8 g/t, as confirmed by the Uzbek trench K-45.

1-3 Outline of Phase III Survey

1-3-1 Survey area

The Southern Nuratau area is situated about 330 km southwest of Tashkent, the capital, and about 100 km west-northwest of Samarkand, the ancient capital (Fig.I-1). Topographically, the area consists of a mountainous zone in the north, 1,000 m to 2,000 m above sea level and a gently undulating hill zone, 600m to 900 m in altitude.

1-3-2 Purpose of the survey

Phase III survey implemented a drilling survey of two drillholes totaling 170.0 m at the Altynsai deposit, as well as a drilling survey of twenty drillholes totaling 600.0 m at the Maulyan manifestation.

These surveys were aimed at verifying and describing stratigraphy and occurrence of ore deposits by drilling and sampling and confirming the ore reserves in the Altynsai and Maulyan.

1-3-3 Methods of the survey

1) Drilling survey

At the Altynsai and Maulyan districts, a drilling survey of the quantities indicated in Table I-1-1 was carried out. The drilling work was undertaken by an appointed local contractor.

After core identification and photographing, the split cores were collected for chemical assay and sampled for various laboratories testing of the quantities indicated in Appendix 2-1. Core identification results are demonstrated in geologic core logs on a 1:200 scale.

1-3-4 Organization of the survey team

1) Survey team

Japan		Uzbekistan		
Name	Entity	Name	Entity SCG	
Katsuji Fukumoto (Leader)	MINDECO	A. Abdurakhmanov (Coordinator)		
	//	G.E.Kamagurov (Coordinator)	"	
	<u> </u>	A.T.Zakirov (Coordinator)	//	
		A.L.Ogarkov (Geologist)		
		N.E.Kozarez (Geologist)	//	
		N.Akhmediv (Coordinator)	SKG	
		E.P.Zaleutov (Engineer)	"	
		N.F.Khamidullacv (Geologist)	//	
		M.B.Karimov (Coordinator)	ZE	
in dagen in general to the first of the first of the second of the secon		V.A.Shevchenko (Geologist)	: "//	
		K.I.Khaitov (Coordinator)	ZA	
		I.O.Khamroev (Geologist)	"	

SCG:

State Committee of Geology and Mineral Reserves

SKG:

Samarkandgeology

ZE:

Zarafshan Expedition

ZA:

Zarmitan Expedition

MINDECO:

Mitsui Mineral Development Engineering Co., Ltd.

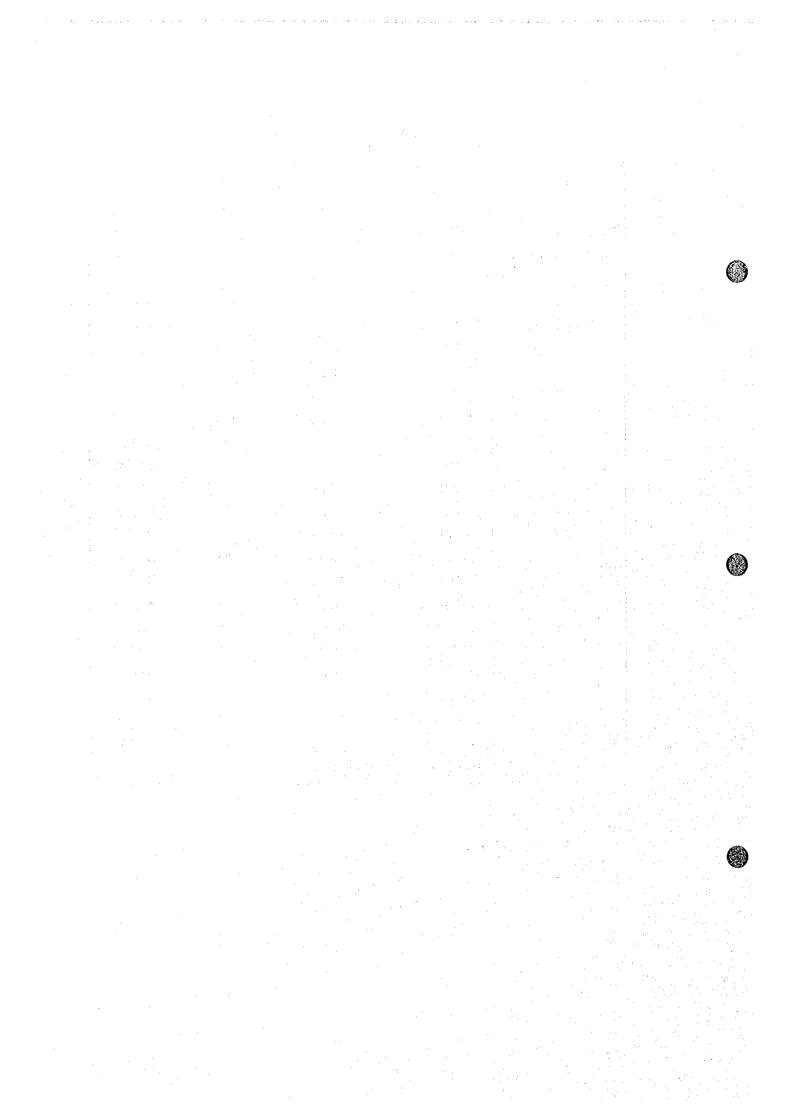
1-3-5 Period of the survey

				1999	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	- 17 (4) -		20	00
e version per de l'Arres	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Planning and Preparation	- 26				7				1.75
Field survey	27			21				·	
Tests and analysis							· · ·		
Compilation of report				22		15.			2

Table I-1-1 Outline of the Survey

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Items	Quantity							
	Hole No.	Length	Dip	Direction				
Drilling survey	MJSN-15	110.0m	-75°	N30° W				
(Altynsai district)	MJSN-16	60.0m	-75°	N30° W				
Drilling survey	MJML- 3	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
(Maulyan district)	MJML- 4	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML- 5	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML- 6	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-7	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-8	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML- 9	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-10	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-11	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-12	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-13	30.0m	-75°	S20°W				
	MJML-14	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-15	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-16	30.0m	-75°	S20°W				
	MJML-17	30.0m	-75°	S20°W				
	MJML-18	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-19	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-20	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-21	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	MJML-22	30.0m	-75°	S20° W				
	Total 22 holes T	otal length 770.0m						



Chapter 2 Geography of the Survey Area

2-1 Location and Access

The survey area is situated about 330 km southwest of Tashkent, the capital, and about 100 km west-northwest of Samarkand, the ancient capital. The area spreads over the Navoi and Samarkand Regions and can be reached by car from Tashkent via Samarkand. From Tashkent to Samarkand, east of the survey area, it takes about 4.5 hours (380 km), and about 2 more hours (155 km) from Samarkand to the Altynsai deposit, where the Altynkazgan Geological Party of the Zarafshan Expedition has installed its base (Fig. I-1). The roads are paved, except for a 5 km portion near Altynsai. Maulyan district is situated 30 km east of the Altynsai district. It takes about 1 hour (45 km) by car from Altynsai deposit to the Maulyan manifestation, where the Zarmitan Expedition has been prospecting.

2-2 Topography and Drainage Systems

North of the survey area lies the Aktau Range consisting of mountains of 1,000-2,000 m in altitude, forming the western edge of the Southern Tien-Shan Mountains. The steep mountainous areas extend in the WNW-ESE direction. The southern part of the survey area forms the foothills of the Aktau Range, has gently undulating topography between 600 m and 900 m in altitude. In the southwest, the Karatau Mountains spread in the WNW-ESE direction, whose altitude ranges from 600 m to 1,200 m.

During the dry summer seasons, permanent water flow can be seen only in the large streams of the area. There are many dried riverbeds where water flows only in the rainy seasons in winter and spring. The drainage systems represent dendritic ~ parallel patterns stretching in the NS ~ NNE - SSW directions.

2-3 Climate and Vegetation

The area has a typically continental dry climate, characterized by dry, hot summers and cold winters. The average monthly temperature drops to the lowest in January (min. -20°C) and rises to the highest in July (max. +40°C).

The precipitation is high in winter and spring. The spring precipitation accounts for 30 % of the annual total of 300 mm to 350 mm.

Except large river basins, vegetation is sparse due to the desert climate; therefore, the area assumes an outlook of a rock desert.

Along large rivers with constant flow, vegetation such as poplars, willows, mulberries and some fruit trees are seen, as well as shrubs. Grass and shrubs can be seen all over the area, which however wither away before August except along some streams. The area is

inhabited by some animals, though small in number, such as rats, squirrels, foxes and wolves, as well as some birds and reptiles including snakes, lizards and tortoises.

Chapter 3 General Geology

The survey area is underlain by the basement rocks consisting of Palcozoic sedimentary rocks and granitoid, and blanket beds consisting of sediments of the Senonian Series of Upper Cretaceous to Quaternary Systems (Fig.I-3-1). The subject area pertains to the Zarafshan-Turkestan Zone of the Southern Tien-Shan Tectonic Belt; the regional tectonic structure of the basement rocks represents the WNW-ESE trend (Fig.I-3-2).

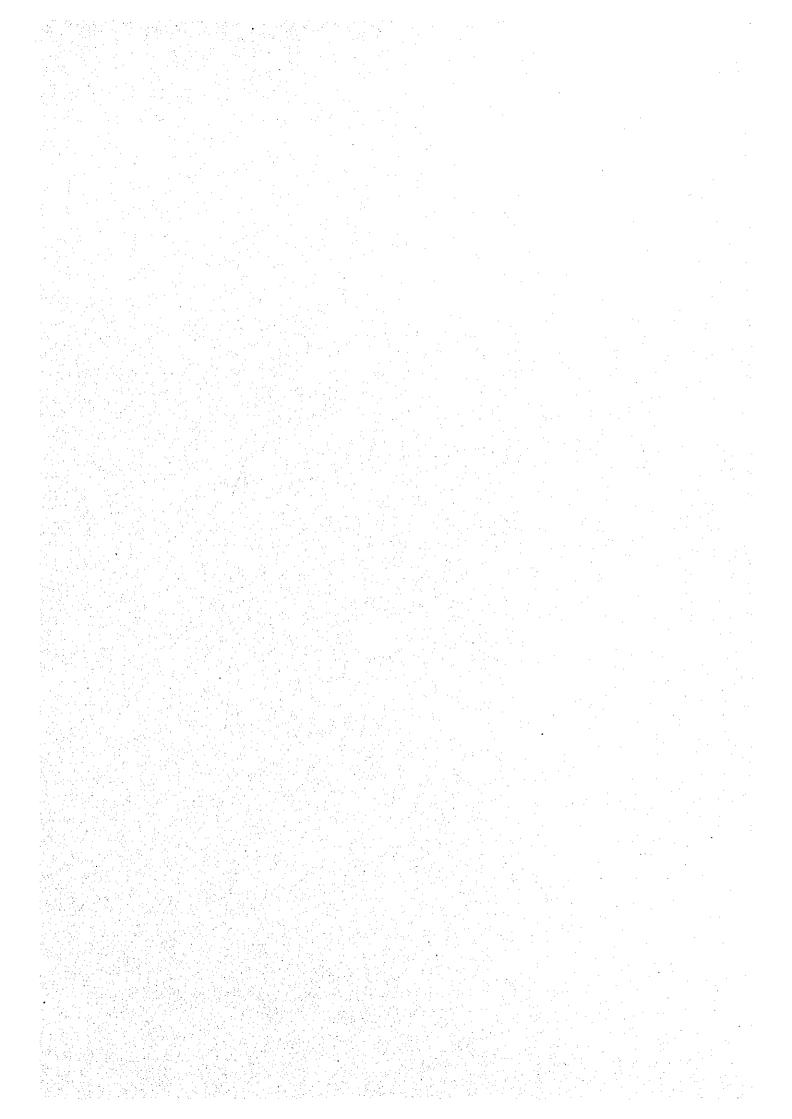
The sedimentary rocks that constitute the basement are classified into 13 formations of lower Cambrian to middle Carboniferous age (Fig.I-3-3). Each formation is mainly in the fault contact to each other. These formations occur in belts with a WNW-ESE trend along the extension of the Aktau Range and Karatau Mountains, accompanied by remarkable folding. The Middle Carboniferous to Early Permian Aktau granites as well as the Early Permian Karatau granites intrude into the sedimentary rocks, forming the main parts of the Aktau Range and Karatau Mountains, respectively. Besides the granites, igneous rocks include Silurian-Triassic lamprophyre, diorite and gabbro dikes.

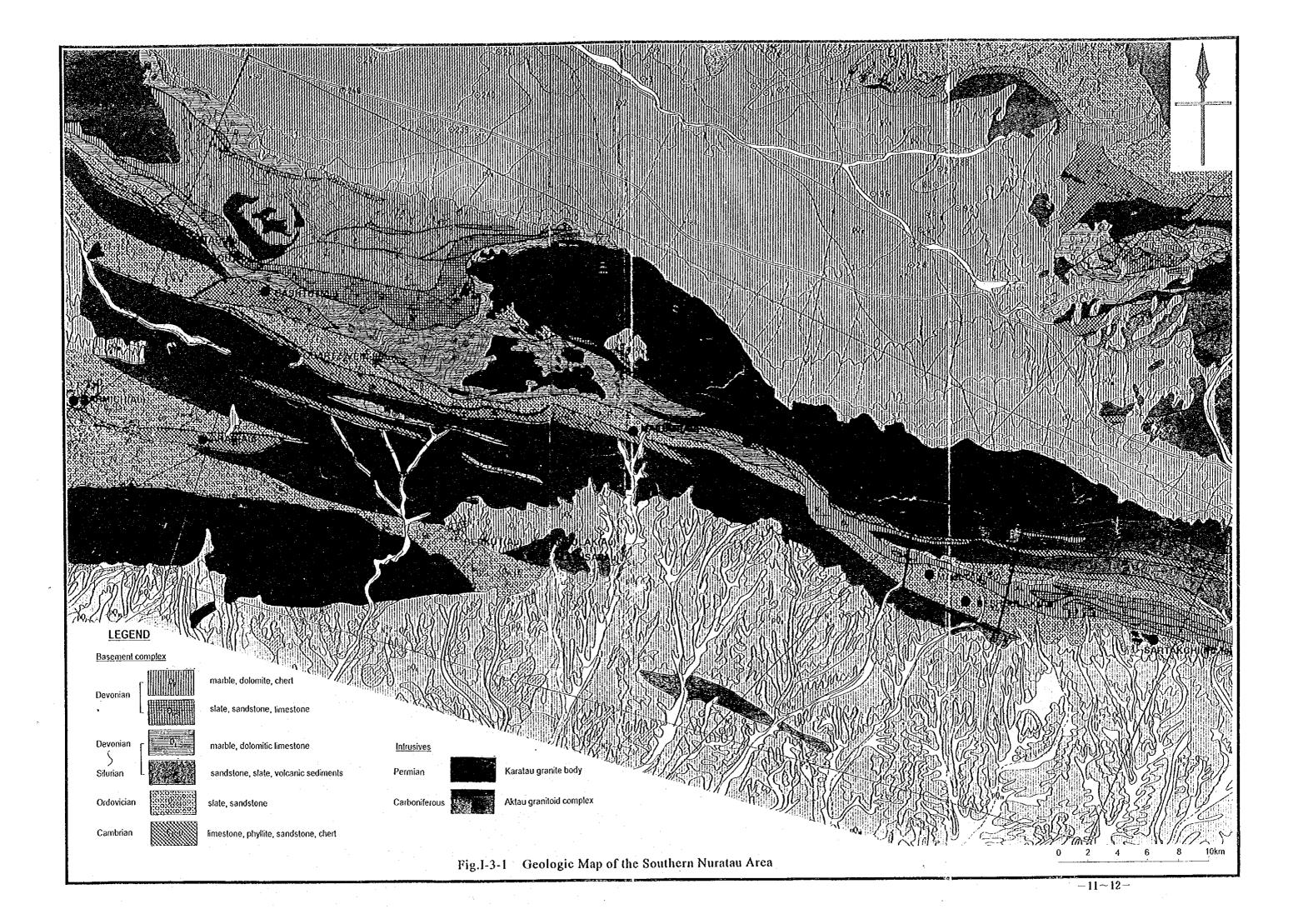
The strata of Lower Cambrian to Upper Silurian System, made of thick terrigenous sediments, mainly slate and sandstone, are widely distributed in the Karatau Mountains and Aktau Range. The strata of Upper Silurian to Middle Devonian System made of thick limestone occur in the Aktau Range in the western part of the survey area. They occur along the anticlinorium south of the same Range in the eastern part of the survey area. The Middle Carboniferous System, mainly conglomerates and coarse-grained sandstone, occurs in small blocks aligned in the WNW-ESE direction in the northwestern part of the survey area.

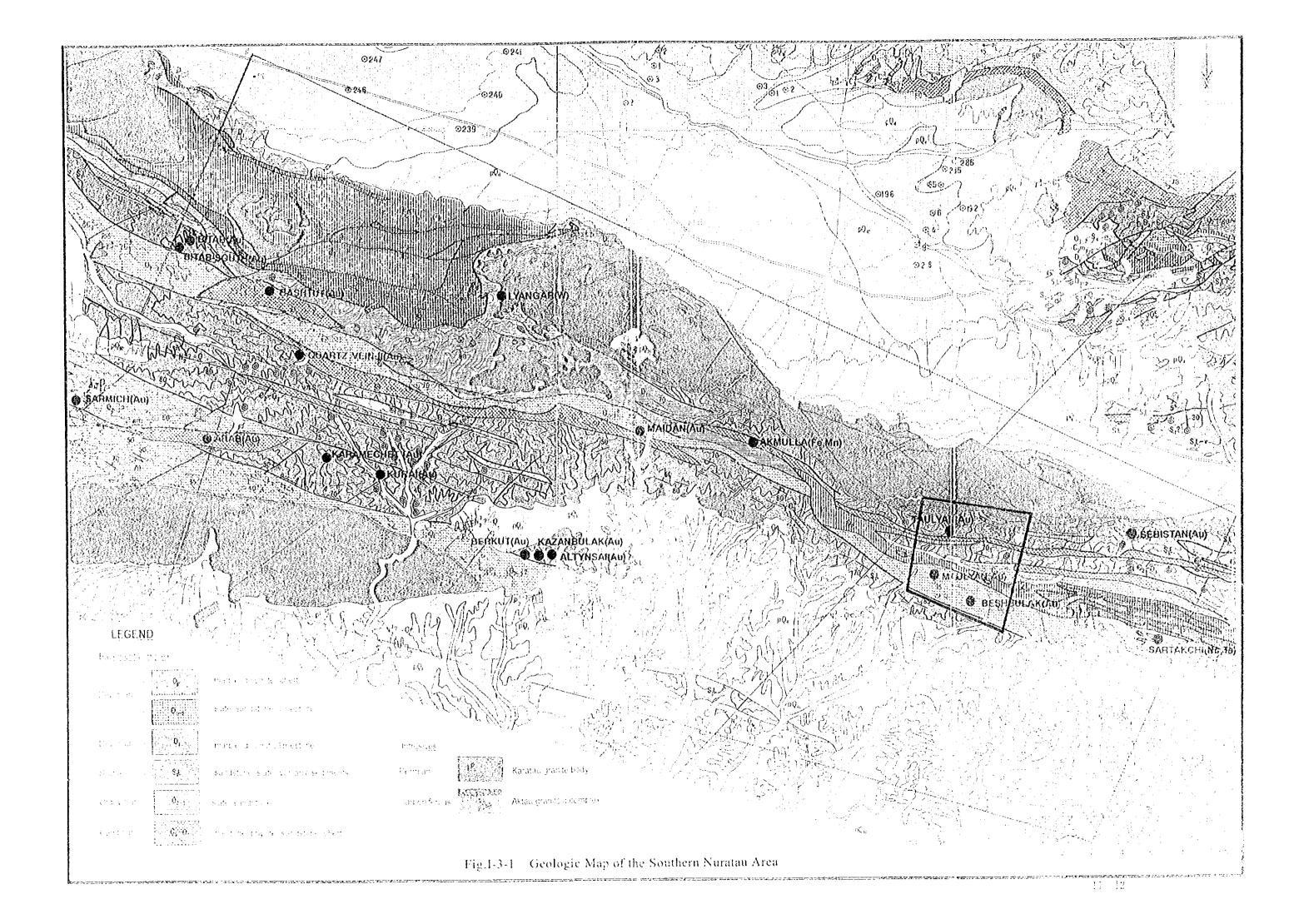
Post-paleozoic sediments that form the blanket beds occur with a very gentle inclination chiefly in the flatlands north of the Aktau Range and south of the Karatau Mountains. The Senonian Series of the Upper Cretaceous System and Eocene Series of the Paleogene System are composed of neritic sediments, mainly marl, siltstone, limestone, sandstone and coquinite. The Neogene System is molasse-type sediments, mainly consisting of semi-consolidated conglomerates, sandstone and clay, whereas the Quaternary System consists of alluvial fan sediments, terrace sediments, stream sediments, acolian sediments, etc.

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그 이 문 이 그리고 있는데 보고 한 분리를 보고 있다. 그리고 있는데 얼굴을 했고싶었다. 그는 그는 나는 것	
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그들이 이 집에는 아이들은 그림과 이 말라는 동안 들었다면 하나 되고 있을 때 하다고 말했다면 되었다.	
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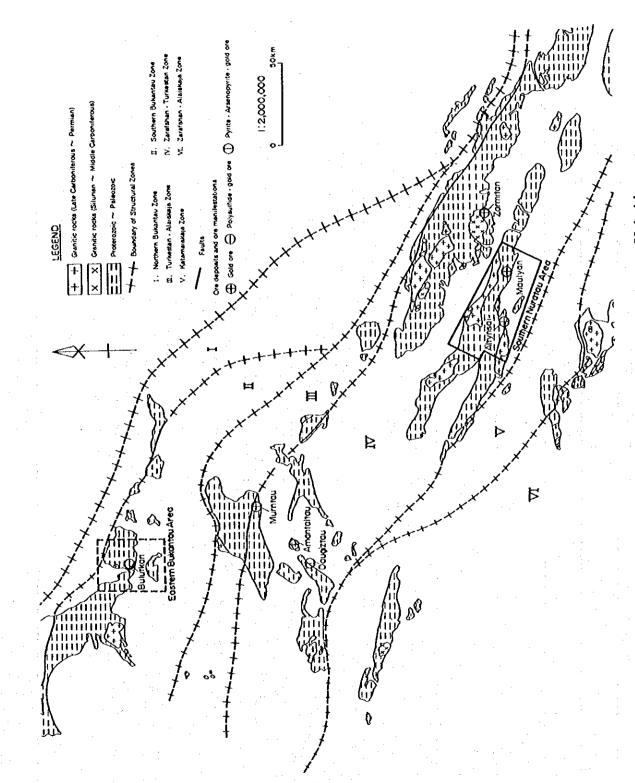


Fig.I-3-2 Structural Zones of the Western Uzbekistan

Age			Formation	Abbreviation	Geologic column	Thickness (m)	Lithology
Paleozoic Cenozoic	Quaternary			a			sand, gravel (present river hed sediments)
				Q	0.2030 -	<310	sand, gravel, silt
	Tertiary	Neo- gene		N1	0.00000	<450	conglomerate, shale, sandstone, siltstone
		Paleo- gene		₽		310	marl, shale, sandstone, siltstone
	Creta- ceous	Seno- nian		K 15n	.0.0.0.0.0	50- 65	sandstone, shale, coquinite
	Carboni ferous		Bitab	C2?b1	0'0'0'0'0	100	conglomerate, sandstone, slate
	Devonian		Bakhiltau	D ² bh		850	limestone
		middle				620	
			Charkhansai	Dla			limestone, chert, dolomite
			Darasai	Distr		300	slate, siltstone, sandstone, conglomerate, limestone
		lower	Angidan	S 27-D120		1,000	limestone, dolomitic limestone, conglomerate
			Aktau	Sa-Diat		>330	limestone, slate
	Silurian	upper	Tansarai	S. Dita		350	siltstone, sandstone, slate, conglomerate
		lower	Tumsai	S ₁ 11, tm		450- 500	sandstone, siltstone, slate, tuff
			Sartbulak	Silizir	000	250- 300	sandstone, siltstone, slate, conglomerate
	Ordovician	upper middle	Tusun	02315		500	siltstone, sandstone, slate, "multicolored slate"
		lower	Karakargin	O' Ohr		400- 450	slate, siltstone, sandstone
	Cambrian	upper middle	Shurchin	£2397		100- 300	
		lower	Kutanbulak	Cin		150- 180	slate, siltstone, limestone, metavolcanics, cherty limestone

Fig. 1 -3-3 Schematic Geologic Column of the Southern Nuratau Area