COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS.

RECORDS.

1960/15

FORAMINIFERA FROM THE KOMPIAN AREA, EASTERN END OF THE CENTRAL RANGE, NEW GUINEA.

by

D.J. Belford

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Nine samples of limestone from the Kompian area were forwarded for micropalaeontological examination by D.B.Dow. Results of the examination are as follows:-

Sample G.8. Grey fine-grained limestone from the lower Lai River. This sample contains abundant planktonic foraminifera, but no diagnostic larger foraminifera were observed and a definite age cannot be given.

Sample G.12. Grey fine-grained limestone from the lower Sau River containing abundant planktonic foraminifera and other indeterminate smaller foraminifera. Again, no diagnostic larger foraminifera were observed.

Sample G.37.
Grey crystalline limestone from the lower Sau River containing algae and echinoid spines: no foraminifera were observed and no age can be given to the sample.

Sample G.49.
Grey, coarse-grained limestone from the Upper Sau River containing foraminifera, algae, molluscan fragments, echinoid spines and corals.

Foraminifera: *Lepidocyclina (N.) ferreroi*
L.(N) sp.
Miogypsina spp.
Elphidium sp.
Rare indeterminate smaller foraminifera.

The sample is regarded as Lower Miocene in age ("f_{1-2}" stage). It contains a new, strongly pillared species of *Miogypsina* which has previously been recorded from the Matapau area and from Manus Island.

Sample G.56.
Grey coralline limestone from the Kompian Patrol Post containing corals, mollusca (gastropoda), bryozoa and rare indeterminate smaller foraminifera. It is not possible to give an age to this sample.

Sample S.45.
Boulders of limestone from the Simbai River. Two distinct assemblages were observed in these boulders:

(a) Abundant large *Nummulites* and *Discocyclina*;

(b) Small *Discocyclina* (often fragmentary), rare planktonic foraminifera, other indeterminate smaller foraminifera, algae and molluscan fragments.

Both these assemblages are of Eocene age.

Sample S.46.
Grey coarse grained limestone from the Simbai River, north side of the Simbai fault. This sample also contains abundant large Nummulites and Discocyclina, and is of Eocene age.

Sample S.47.
Grey coarse-grained limestone from the Simbai River, south side of the Simbai fault. This sample contains abundant Discocyclina and Operculina and is also of Eocene age.

Sample S.48.
Grey crystalline limestone from the Jimi River, containing algae, echinoid spines and ?bryozoa; no foraminifera were observed and it is not possible to give an age to this sample. Lithologically, it is very similar to sample G.37.