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BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES, GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

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MICROPALAEONTOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES FROM PAPUA - NEW GUINEA

by

G.R.J. Terpstra

The information contained in this report has been obtained by the Department of National Development as part of the policy of the Commonwealth Government to assist in the exploration and development of mineral resources. It may not be published in any form or used in a company prospectus or statement without the permission in writing of the Director, Bureau of Mineral Resources. Geology & Geophysics.



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SUMMARY

Samples submitted by J.A.J. Smit collected from outcropping limestones in the Aitape, Menyamya, Lake Kopiago, and Star Mountains areas New Guinea have been examined. Rocks of Miocene, Oligocene and Eocene ages have been encountered.

INTRODUCTION

The samples examined have been collected during 1967 and 1968. Most of them consist of hard dense limestones of which smoothed surface sections and thin sections were prepared and studied. Details of the examination and the stratigraphical results are given below. Location maps 1 - 3 showing the position of the samples examined are attached.

Faunal and Stratigraphical Results

Aitape Area (Location Map No. 1)

- O2 N.G. 0589 Limestone outcrop, 20 miles south west of Aitape near Wewak. Lepidocyclina sp., Cycloclypeus sp.,

 Miogypsina sp., Operculina sp., Elphidium sp.,

 Globigerina sp. Algae.

 Age: Miocene, Tertiary stage 'F, F2'.
- O2 N.G. 0667 Limestone outcrop, six miles south of Romei station near Aitape.

 Lepidocyclina (?Eulepidina) sp., Miogypsina sp.,

 Elphidium sp., Globigerina sp.

 Age: Miocene, ?Top lower Miocene, Tertiary stage

 'F₁ F₂'.

Menyamya Area (Location Map No. 2)

- 27 N.G. 1002 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles due west of Menyamya.

 Lepidocyclina (Nephrolepidina) sp., Lepidocyclina (Eulepidina) sp.

 Age: Miocene Tert. 'e' stage.
- 27 N.G. 1021 Limestone outcrop, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile due east of Menyamya. Algae; Bryozoa; Rotalia sp. No age determination.

- 27 N.G. 1022 Limestone outcrop, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile due east of Menyamya. Algae. No age determination.
- 27 N.G. 1026 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles east-south-east of Menyamya.

 Lepidocyclina (Nephrolepidina) sp., Lepidocyclina

 Eulepidina) sp., Miogypsina sp.

 Corals; algae.

 Age: Top Lower Miocene. Tert. 'e' to 'F₁ F₂' stages.
- 27 N.G. 1028 Limestone outcrop, 4 miles due east of Menyamya.

 Lepidocyclina (Eulepidina sp.), Heterostegina sp.;

 Miogypsinoides sp.; Discocyclina sp.; Pellatispira sp.,

 Spiroclypeus sp.; ?Austrotrillina sp., Amphistegina sp.;

 Corals, algae.

 Age: Tertiary 'e' stage (Lower Miocene) with reworked Eocene microfauna.
- 27 N.G. 1029 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles due east of Menyamya.

 Lepidocyclina sp., Miogypsina sp., Bolivina sp.,

 Elphidium sp., Operculina sp.; algae.

 Age: Miocene. Tert. 'F₁ F₂' stage.
- 27 N.G. 1030 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles due east of Menyamya.

 <u>Miogypsina</u> sp., ?<u>Lepidocyclina</u> sp., <u>Carpenteria</u> sp.

 Age: Miocene. Tert. 'F₁ F₂' stage.
- 27 N.G. 1049 Limestone outcrop, 2 miles north of Menyamya.

 <u>Bolivina</u> sp., <u>Quinqueloculina</u> sp., <u>Globigerina</u> sp.

 No age determination.
- 27 N.G. 1050 Limestone outcrop, 2 miles east-north-east of Menyamya. Bryozoa sp. Algae sp., no foraminifera. No age determination.
- 27 N.G. 1052 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles south-east of Menyamya.

 Lepidocyclina (Nephrolepidina) sp., Lepidocyclina
 (?Eulepidina) sp., ?Austrotrillina sp., Miogypsina sp.,

 Amphistegina sp., Bolivina sp. Algae sp.

 Age: Top Lower Miocene. Tert. 'e' to 'F₁ F₂' stages.
- 27 N.G. 1053 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles south-east of Menyamya.

 Lepidocyclina sp., Amphistegina sp., Rotalia sp.,

 Planorbulinella sp. Algae.

 Age: Miocene. Tert. 'F₁ F₂' stage.
- 27 N.G. 1058 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles north of Kainteba.

 Lepidocyclina (Eulepidina) sp., Spiroclypeus sp.,

 Heterostegina sp., Discocyclina sp., Nummulites sp.;

 Corals, algae.

 Age: Tertiary 'e' stage (Lower Miocene) with reworked Eocene microfauna.

- 27 N.G. 1060 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles north of Kainteba.

 <u>Alveolina sp., Nummulites sp., Pellatispira sp., Gypsina sp., Discocyclina sp., corals, algae.</u>

 Age: Eocene. Tert. 'b' stage.
- 27 N.G. 1064 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles north of Kainteba.

 <u>Discocyclina</u> sp., <u>Pellatispira</u> sp., <u>?Radiolaria</u>;

 Algae.

 Age: Eocene. Tert. 'b' stage.
- 27 N.G. 1071 Limestone outcrop, 6 miles north-east of Kainteba.

 Lepidocyclina (Nephrolepidina) sp.; Lepidocyclina
 (?Eulepidina) sp., Austrotrillina sp., Flosculinella
 sp., Miogypsina sp., Amphistegina sp., Corals, algae.
 Age: Top Lower Miocene. Tert. 'e' to 'F₁ F₂'
 stages.
- 27 N.G. 1076 Limestone outcrop, 4 miles north-east of Kainteba.

 <u>Lepidocyclina</u> sp., <u>Sorites</u> sp., <u>Carpenteria</u> sp.;

 Corals, algae.

 Age: ?Miocene. ?Tert. 'F₁ F₂ stage.
- 27 N.G. 1081 Limestone outcrop, ½ mile east of Kainteba.

 Lepidocyclina (Nephrolepidina) sp.; Lepidocyclina
 (Eulepidina) sp., Miogypsinoides of dehaarti(van der Vlerk, 1924). Carpenteria sp.

 Age: Top Lower Miocene. Tert. 'e' to 'F₁ F₂' stages.
- 27 N.G. 1516 Limestone outcrop, 4 miles east of Menyamya.

 Lepidocyclina (Nephrolepidina) sp., Lepidocyclina
 (?Eulepidina) sp., Miogypsinoides sp., Elphidium sp.,
 Quinqueloculina sp., Nummulites sp., ?Discocyclina sp.
 Algae.

 Age: Miocene (possibly Tert. 'e' stage) with reworked Eocene.
- 27 N.G. 1517 Limestone outcrop, 4 miles east of Menyamya.
 No foraminifera.
 No age determination.
- J.A.J. Smit has distinguished in this area three mappable units.
- 1. The Menyamya beds, which are steeply folded sediments with minor basic volcanics interbedded. The sediments consist mainly of greywacke with siltstone and shale but also limestone lenses occur interbedded. Samples representing this unit are: 27 N.G. 1002; 1021; 1022; 1028; 1049; 1050 and probably 1058 and 1060.

2. The Basic Volcanics, sediments found to occur in massive outcrops along the border between the Menyamya Beds and the Langimar Beds. They consist of siltstone and massive conglomerates mainly with basic volcanic pebbles.

Samples representing this unit are: 27 N.G. 1026; - 1029; - 1030; - 1052 and - 1053.

3. The Langimar Beds which are broadly folded, hardly indurated sediments consisting mainly of siltstone with minor interbeds of greywacke and massive pebble conglomerates and several lenses of reef limestone. Samples representing this unit are: 27 N.G. 1071; - 1076; - 1077 and - 1081.

Lake Kopiago area (Laigap River) (Location Map No. 3)

- 04 N.G. 0500 Limestone outcrop at Lake Kopiago Field Station.

 <u>Amphistegima</u> sp., <u>Elphidium</u> sp., Mollusca.

 No age determination.
- 04 N.G. 0501 Limestone outcrop 1 mile south west of Lake Kopiago Field Station.

 Lepidocyclina (Nephrolepidina) sp.; Lepidocyclina (Eulepidina) sp., Miogypsina sp., Elphidium sp.

 Quinqueloculina sp., Lithothamnium. Algae.

 Age: Lower Miocene probably Tert. 'e' stage.
- 04 N.G. 0509 Limestone outcrop, 8 miles west of Lake Kopiago.

 Amphistegina sp. Algae.

 No age determination.
- 04 N.G. 0514 Limestone outcrop, eight miles north-west-north of Lake Kopiago.

 Lepidocyclina (Eulepidina) sp., Cycloclypeus sp.,
 Lepidocyclina (Nephrolepidina) sp., Miogypsina sp.,
 Amphistegina sp., Globigerina sp., Algae, Echinoid spines.

 Age: Lower Miocene Tert. 'e' stage.
- 04 N.G. 0517 Limestone boulders, seven miles west-north-west of Lake Kopiago.

 <u>Discocylina</u> sp., <u>Nummulites</u> sp., <u>Rotalia</u> sp.,

 <u>Amphistegina</u> sp.

 Age: Eocene.
- 04 N.G. 0518 Limestone outcrop, seven miles west-north-west of Lake Kopiago.

 Lepidocyclina (?Eulepidina) sp., Lepidocyclina (Tribliolepidina) sp., Heterostegina sp., Miogypsina sp. Echinoid spines.

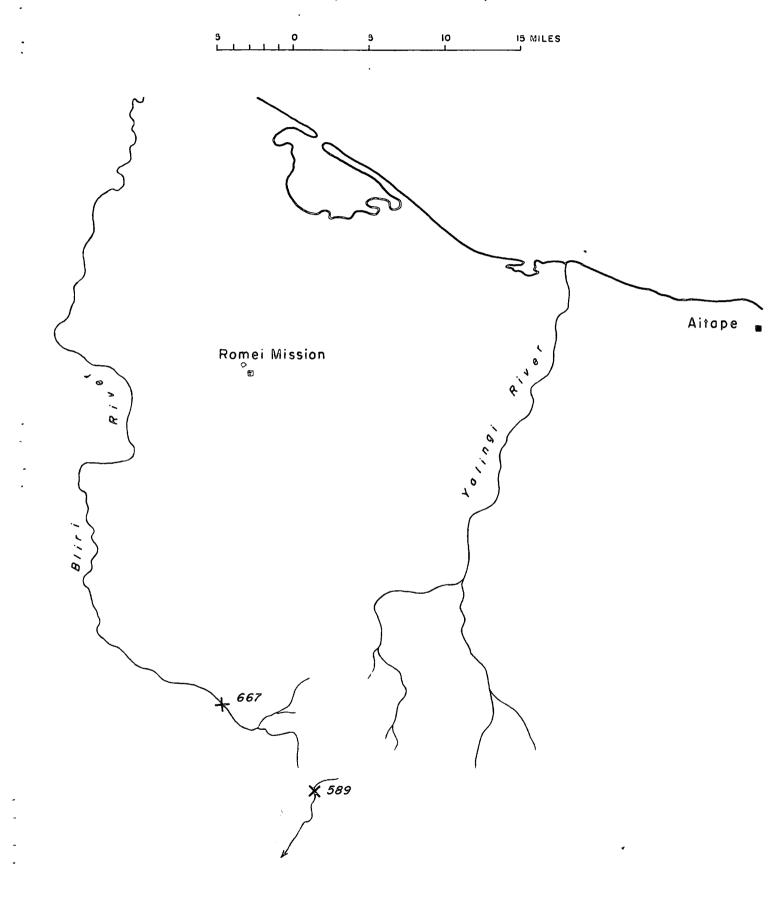
 Age: Top Lower Miocene, Tert. 'e' to 'F₁ F₂' stages.

- 04 N.G. 0519 Limestone boulder along tributary of the OM river, eight miles west-north-west of Lake Kopiago. Nummulites of fichtelli; Borelis sp., Quinqueloculina sp., Bolivina sp. Age: Upper Eocene - Lower Oligocene.
- 04 N.G. 0523 Pebbles collected along the OM River fifteen miles north-west of Lake Kopiago.
 - specimen A Spiroclypeus sp., Lepidocyclina (Eulepidina)sp., Miogypsinides sp., Flosculinella sp. Age: Lower Miocene Tert. 'e' stage.
 - specimen B Nummulites sp., Discocyclina sp. Age: Eocene.
- 04 N.G. 0526 Limestone outcrop, two miles west of Lake Kopiago. Rotalids, Bryozoa. No age determination.

Star Mountains Area (Location Map No. 3)

- 04 N.G. 5001 (Field No. 217). Limestone outcrop, Star Mountains. ?Lepidocyclina sp. Age: ?Miocene.
- 04 N.G. 5002 (Field No. 233). Limestone outcrop, Star Mountains. This recrystallised limestone contains specimens of Nummulites of intermedius and Echinoid spines. Age: probably Lower Oligocene Tert. 'c-d' stages.
- 04 N.G. 5003 (Field No. 375). Limestone outcrop, Star Mountains. <u>Lepidocyclina</u> (<u>Eulepidina</u>) sp., <u>Miogypsina</u> sp., Elphidium sp., Discocyclina sp. Age: Lower Miocene Tert. 'e' stage with some reworked Eocene.
- O4 N.G. 5004 (Field No. 377). Limestone outcrops, Star Mountains. O4 N.G. 5005 (Field No. 379). No Foraminifera. O4 N.G. 5006 (Field No. 376). No age determination.

Location Map No.1. Aitape Area.



Location Map No.2. Menyamya Area.

