

b) Previous Geophysical Work

The area of this survey has been covered by seismic surveys by Hematite in 1962-63 and 1964-65 and Esso in 1966-67, 1967, 1968 and 1969. The Hematite shooting used single coverage with some 3 CDP, analogue recording, and dynamite energy source. The 1966-67 survey introduced 6 CDP shooting and digital recording, although this was not digitally processed until a year later. The 1968 and 1969 surveys which comprise the latest available data used a gas exploder energy source with 48 CDP recording (processed 12 CDP), but this resulted in no significant improvement in record quality.

Results of Previous Surveys

The Hematite surveys covered the area with a regional grid to which the later Esso surveys added, giving a 5 x 10 to 5 x 5 mile grid with closer coverage in some locations. For Esso surveys record quality was fair to good down to the Upper Cretaceous/Tertiary unconformity, but relatively poor to very poor on the Esso records, and unusable on the Hematite records, below this level. A recent review of the data resulted in the conclusion that in view of the structural complexity evident below the Tertiary unconformity, the discontinuous reflections provided insufficient data to be confident of any interpretation. In particular it was not possible to confirm any of the "structures" drilled in this part of the basin. (Mussel, Prawn, Whelk).

The availability of improved data processing techniques suggested that reprocessing might improve