

CANADIAN SUPERIOR MINING (AUST.) PTY. LTD.

EXPLORATION LICENCE NO. 130

Report on Area Relinquished to 13th June 1975

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APPENDICES

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INTRODUCTION

Exploration Licence No. 130, Northern Territory was originally held by six individual aboriginals but early in 1974 the Licence was transferred to joint ownership by the Maningrida and Goulburn Island Progress Associations. The area is one of several which were held under Licence by aboriginals, but the others (in the Maningrida - Millingimbi areas) have now been relinquished entirely. Exploration rights on all of these were granted in 1971 to the Ormac Joint Venture, whose original participants were Ocean Resources N.L. and McIntyre Mines (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. In 1973 McIntyre Mines relinquished its rights to Canadian Superior Mining (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. and the latter company became the operator of the Joint Venture, continuing this role to the present day.

AREA

The original area of E.L. 130 was about 390 square miles; the first reduction of area occurred in June 1974, and the present area (application submitted and pending, for the 1975/76 term) is about 92 square miles (Plate 1).

EXPLORATION

This has consisted of airborne radiometric and magnetic surveys, regional mapping, auger and percussion drilling, ground prospecting and Track-Etch surveys.

RELATED SURVEYS

The Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology & Geophysics has conducted airborne radiometric and magnetic surveys, and has geologically mapped the relinquished area at a scale of 1:50,000.

REGIONAL GEOLOGY OF RELINQUISHED AREA

The basement rocks are very poorly exposed and consist of schists and some gneissic rocks; these occur in the western part of the area; and are probably present in other parts but are concealed by large areas of alluvium (particularly along the East Alligator River and Coopers Creek), sand and laterite. Rock units overlying basement are the Carpentarian Kombolgie Formation and, on the north, the Cretaceous Mullaman Beds. (Plate 1).

DETAILED INVESTIGATIONS

- (i) The large areas of <u>black soil plains</u> have been relinquished because of the extreme difficulty of prospecting such terrain, where there are no known meaningful impressions of surface radioactivity and the subsurface rocks are completely unknown.
- (ii) North of Coopers Creek. Six percussion holes were drilled in 1972, but at only one site were the Cretaceous thin enough to allow penetration by the drill. At this location, schist was encountered at a depth of 177 feet.
- (iii) The Kombolgie Formation. Several radioactive bands of pebble conglomerate were found, but the radioactivity was due almost entirely to thorium minerals. One such prospect, named "Yalco" was examined in 1974, with the following results:-

The prospect sensu strictu is some 200 metres north north-west of a prominent peak whose aboriginal name is "Yalco", but since the prospect is located in gently dipping beds of the Kombolgie Formation, the area up to 2km west of the peak is here included in the discussion.

Staff of McIntyre Mines had previously investigated radioactive pebble beds in the Kombolgie Formation but on field instruments the uranium/thorium ratio was low and the investigation was discontinued. During 1974, when improved instrumentation was available, parts of Kombolgie Formation were examined again and in this respect the Yalco area was regarded as the most favourable one because of ease of access from the Murganella road and because it contained one of the thickest radioactive beds found in the Formation.

The Ormac 1973 airborne radiometric survey of E.L. 130 did not reveal an anomaly at Yalco, but one was shown in the earlier B.M.R. survey and Fig. MA 12 in the B.M.R. Records 1974/174 (released after the completion of the Ormac 1974 field season) shows three anomalies - two of mixed source, and one with a source predominantly due to thorium.

Near Yalco peak the outcropping Kombolgie Formation is an estimates 90m thick, but the base is not exposed and is probably some 10m below the surface. At surface level a pavement of quartz cobble conglomerate, about 0.6m thick, gave 10,000 - 15,000 cpm on a TV1 instrument. The cobbles are entirely of quartz, and the radioactive material is in the iron-stained matrix.

About 8 metres stratigraphically above the cobble conglomerate a prominent unit of quartz pebble conglomerate, about 1.8m thick gave 20,000 - 25,000 cpm on a TVl spectrometer, and on a DISA 300 instrument the following readings were obtained:-

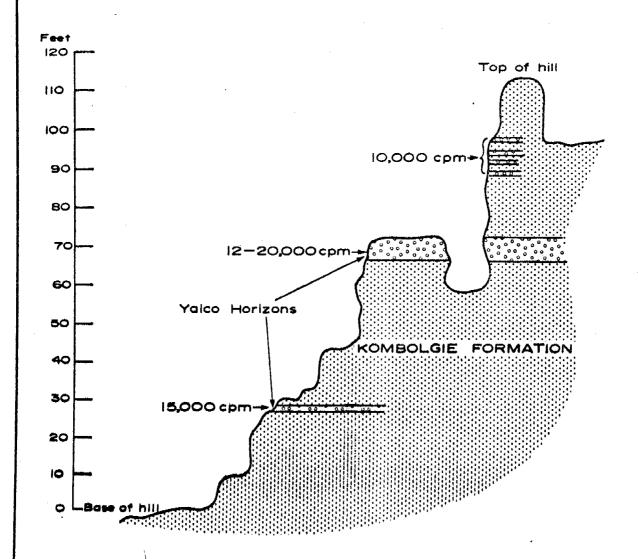
	To	<u>T2 (U)</u>	<u>T2 (Th</u>)
O.3m below top of unit	70,000	940	30
1.3m below top of unit	45,000	901	61
base of unit	110,000	2,610	112

Fluorescent specks were noted, parallel to bedding planes, near the base of the unit. Because of the volume of rock available, and the apparently favourable uranium/thorium ratios recorded above, the units were traced westward, intermittently, (their continuity depending on the subcrop topography of the underlying Lower Proterozoic units) and at a point some 2km west of Yalco four additional, thin radioactive bands of pebble conglomerate were found, as illustrated in the sketch on Fig. 1.

Samples from the thick quartz-pebble conglomerate at Yalco were assayed by XRF methods, with the following results:-

Sample No.	Location	U (ppm)	Th (ppm)
1511	O.3m below top	8	500
1512	1.3m below top	14	410
1544	Near base of unit	44	26
1513	Grab Sample	18	420
1515	Grab Sample	5	1080

With the exception of Sample No. 1544, all samples showed Thorium dominant, which was the reverse of the situation obtained by use of the DISA 300 instrument on outcrop. This instrument performed reliably elsewhere on E.L. 130 and the cause of the reversal is unknown. Petrological examination



ORMAC JOINT VENTURE EL 130

SKETCH OF RADIOACTIVE CONGLOMERATE BANDS IN THE KOMBOLGIE FORMATION 2 Km. WEST OF YALCO

FIG. 1.

GEOLOGIST: K.G.SMITH DATE: OCTOBER 1974

of Sample No. 2285, from near the base of the thick unit, showed that the fluorescent mineral is non-radioactive and is probably a zeolite (Appendix 4).

No further work was done on the prospect after receipt of assays and none is recommended for the future; although some pockets of uranium mineralisation may occur in the Kombolgie Formation but search for them is a project in its own right and must be awarded a low priority on E.L. 130.

(iv) Lower Proterozoic

(a) CS8 and CS8W

These localities are about twelve miles, by road, north-north-east of Ngara campsite and lie on either side of the Oenpelli - Murganella Road. Both areas are close to outcrops of the Kombolgie Formation, but both are mainly covered either by sand from that formation or by soil. At CS8 there are sporadic small outcrops of gneiss in the banks of streams, and at CS8W there are no outcrops, but the presence of large mica flakes in a stream bed indicates subcrop of gneiss or schist. These rocks lie within the upper unit of Lower Proterozoic rocks shown in the Regional Geological Map.

Although a considerable amount of work has been done unsuccessfully on rocks of the upper unit in previous years, testing of the CS8 areas proceeded in 1974 because of confidence in the prediction of the type of subcrop and because relatively large areas of the rock type could be tested by the Track-Etch method.

Accordingly two areas, each measuring 480m (east-west) by 560m (north-south), were selected and tested by a Track-Etch survey installed on an 80m grid. The Track-Etch results (Appendix 1.) showed a very low background, and very low readings, usually below 10; at CS8, only ten readings exceeded this figure, and only six at CS8W exceeded it.

These higher readings are plotted against the appropriate locations in the grids.

Examination of the locations showed:-

(a) CS8

Cup No.	Track Density (T/mm ²)		Remark	<u>5</u>	
5841	14.576	Cup	emplaced	in	sand.
5847	38.360	"	11	**	laterite;
5852	15.344	u	Ħ	11	sand;
5853	19.947	ti	17	***	sand;
5871	35.051	11		*17	laterite;
5872	28.530	11	11	11	laterite;
5873	21.194	11	n		laterite;
5876	12.227	Ħ	Ħ	11	laterite;
5885	21.134	11	İT	11	laterite;
5886	24.454	11	. "	"	laterite.

Since eight of these cups were emplaced in laterite, it was felt that this fact afforded sufficient explanation for the readings in them, because the "scavenging" effect of Northern Territory laterites is well known; no satisfactory explanation for the other two cups could be found, but the readings were too low to warrant further work.

(b) CS8 West

Five cups (Nos. 5888, 5889, 5891, 5892 and 5924) were emplaced in laterite, but all except No. 5924 were drilled by auger, and assayed with disappointing results. The sixth cup, No. 5934 was emplaced in brown-black sandy soil and probably owed its reading to humus.

At CS8W, 23 auger holes were drilled at 20m intervals across the OO line, and three others on the westernmost line tested areas of higher Track-Etch readings. All holes were shallow, and all except one penetrated weathered Precambrian gneiss or schist below soil and/or laterite, which persisted to a depth of approximately 2 metres. All probe readings (TV5) were low, and sample piles recorded low readings on TV1 (No. 171-36). The assays of bottom-hole samples from four holes were all low and had a minimum U/Th ratio of 1:5.

<u>Conclusion</u> - Both CS8 and CS8 West were tested adequately and neither showed any encouraging signs of mineralisation.

Recommendations - No further work can be recommended.

(b) General

Ground Prospecting and auger drilling a few miles west of CS8W has failed to reveal any anomalous radio-activity.

APPENDIX 1.

Track-Etch Survey by Terradex Corp.

CS3

CS7 (including CS9) and CS8

CS9 (second survey)

CS8 AND CS8W

October 22, 1974

Mr. R.A. Searl
Manager
Canadian Superior Mining (Aust) Pty. Ltd.
Private Mail Bag 57
via Darwin, N.T. 5791
Australia

Dear Mr. Searl:

I am enclosing two sets of final tabulated data from your recent Track Etch Surveys of the CS8 area. The Track Etch readings are reported in units of tracks per square millimeter (T/sq.mm) and they are normalized to equivalent 30 day exposures. The data from the films have been tabulated in two different ways for easy use; firstly by ascending film serial numbers and secondly, by ascending Track Etch readings.

The readings range from 0.8 to 38.4 T/sq.mm with a background mean of 3.5 T/sq.mm and a standard deviation of 3.0 T/sq.mm or 86%. The data are summarized in Table I.

Table I

Survey	Background Mean (T/sq.mm)	S.D.	%S.D.
	(1/Sq.1mm)	(T/sq.mm)	
CS7	8.1	5.8	71
CS8	3.5	3.0	86

CS8 is among the lowest backgrounds we have seen, even in the Northern Territory.

The background mean is related to uranium mineralization in the surface soil and the standard deviation to the range of that surface mineralization in the area surveyed. In looking at the high end of the data ranking, however, we can use the background statistics to define abnormally high or statistically anomalous values. This can be done by calculating a "Z" value for each high reading, "Z" being the number of standard deviations the reading is above the mean.

Table II

Range of Z	No. of Points	T/sq.mm Range of	Ratio to Background Mean
2 - 3	3	10.1 - 12.2	2.9 - 3.5
3 - 4	3	14.6 - 15.5	4.2 - 4.4
4 - 5	2	16.3, 17.9	4.6, 5.1
5	8	18.7 - 38.4	5.3 - 11.0

Statistically 12% of the 110 points in CS8 are anomalous.

Although the high points in CS8 are statistically not a part of the background distribution, (and hence related to other mineralization) their relatively low magnitude raises some questions of

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interpretation. Lacking other geologic information, we cannot tell if these anomalous points are due to very deep buried ore, surface or shallow light mineralization (identifiable by ground scintillometry), or some very gas-impervious cover strata between the surface and the ore.

Contour maps are in preparation on your grids and will be forwarded shortly. I note that hand plotting shows a grouping of the CS8 points into four strong areas. The clustering of high points is characteristic of uranium mineralization in our experience.

Thank you for the continuing opportunity of working with you. I trust that these data meet the timing needs of your program.

Sincerely,

H. Ward Alter President

HWA/ssh Enclosures

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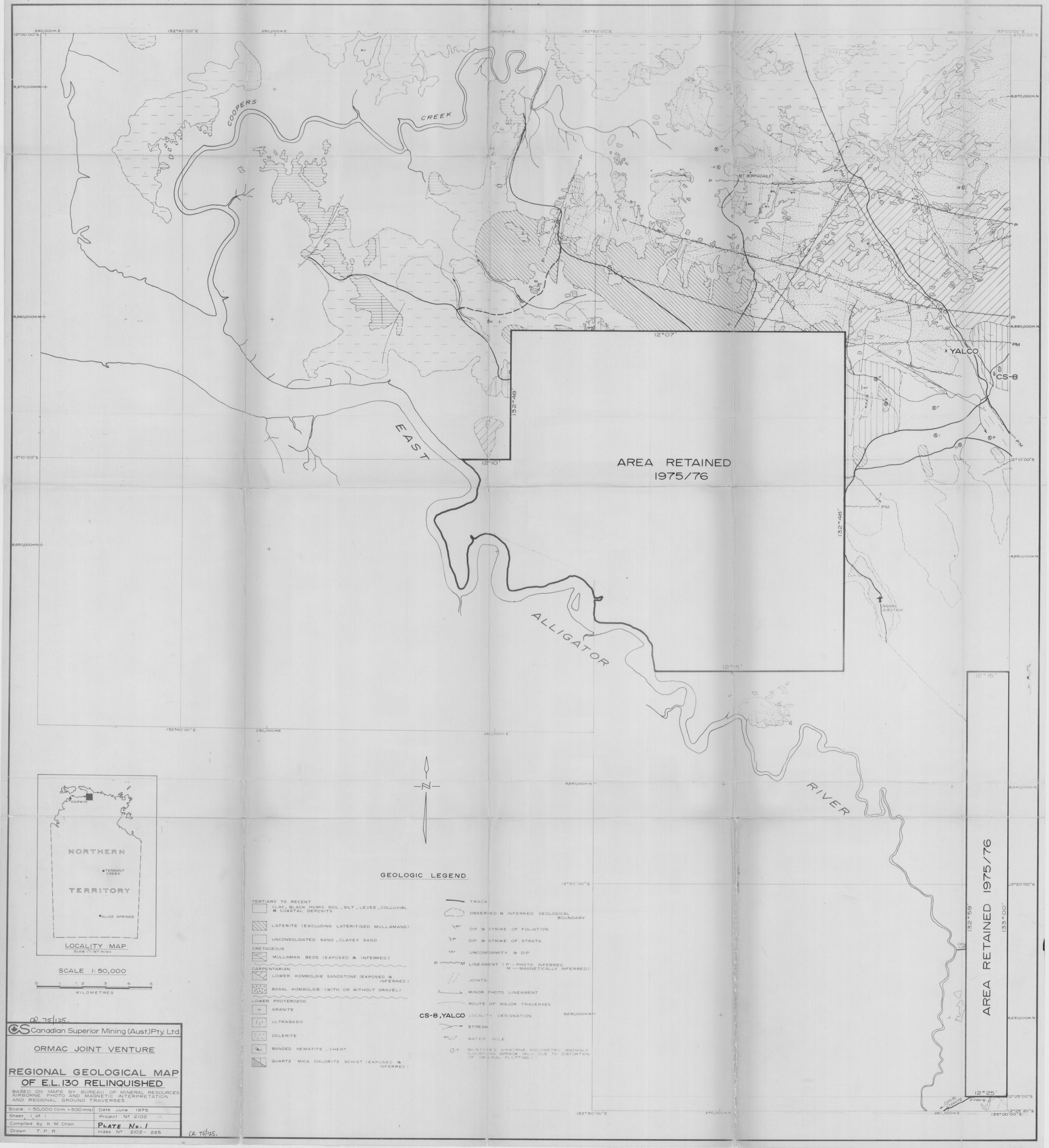
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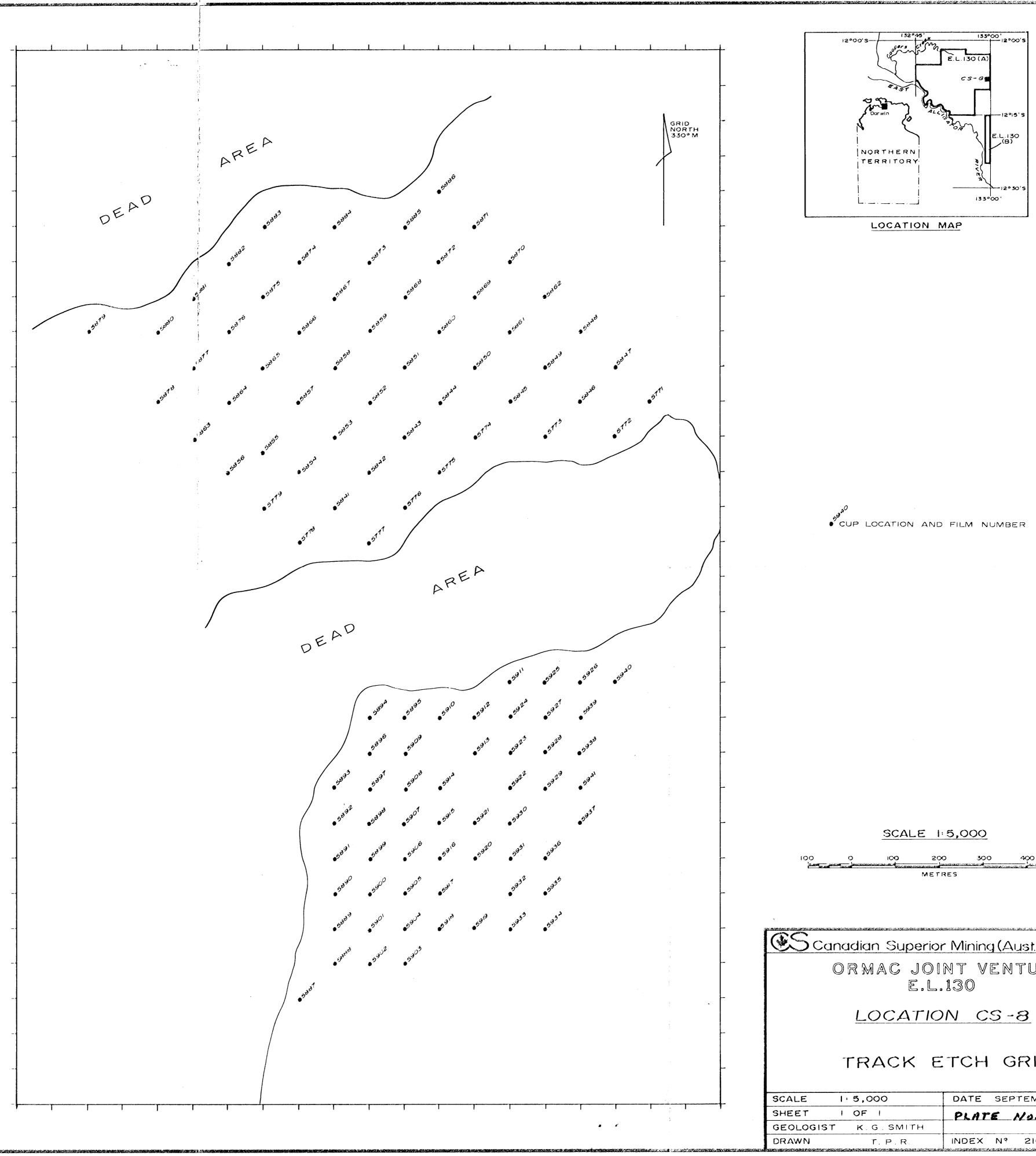
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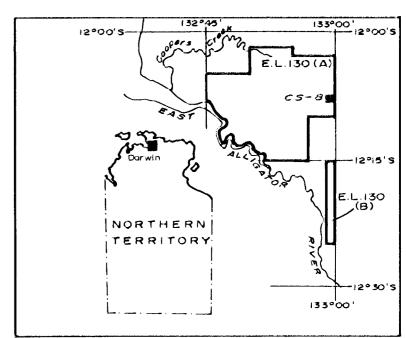
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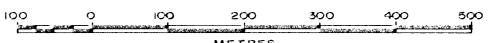
CANADIAN SUPERIOR CS3

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SCanadian Superior Mining (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.

ORMAC JOINT VENTURE

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