ZAPOPAN N.L.

EXPLORATION LICENCE 5423

DOCTOR ABBOTS BORE

THE GRANITES - TANAMI REGION

NORTHERN TERRITORY

FIRST RELINQUISHMENT REPORT

1992

THE GRANITES 1:250,000 SHEET SF 52-3

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. GEOLOGY</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. EXPLORATION COMPLETED</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## FIGURES

Figure 1. EL 5423 - Blocks Relinquished 1:250,000 scale
1. **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS**

   This report is submitted as a requirement of the statutory relinquishment of 98 blocks out of Exploration Licence 5423 and summarises work carried out on the relinquished areas. This has consisted of literature searches, aerial photography acquisition, open file airborne magnetic data acquisition and subsequent image processing and interpretation. No surface geochemical sampling methods have been used on the area being relinquished due to lack of targets and appropriate sample media. Interpretation of data has shown that the areas relinquished are not prospective for near surface gold mineralisation.

2. **INTRODUCTION**

   Exploration Licence 5423 was granted on 3 May, 1989 to Harlock Pty Ltd. A 50% interest was subsequently transferred to Zapopan N.L. Harlock held its interest in trust on behalf of Kumagai Gumi Co Ltd (30%) and Kintaro Metals Pty Ltd (20%). Zapopan, Kumagai and Kintaro comprised the Tanami Joint Venture (TJV). Zapopan acquired the remaining 50% of the TJV in September, 1991 and EL 5423 was transferred totally to Zapopan on 28th November, 1991.

   The licence covered an area of 631 km$^2$, equivalent to 196 blocks, and is situated approximately 90 km SSE of the Tanami Mine and 30 km SW of the Granites Mine.

   Access into the area is via the rarely used Tanami Downs homestead to Chilla Well track via Sangsters Bore.

   The licence lies totally on Aboriginal land within the Central Desert Land Trust area.

   The area is predominantly undulating sand plain with spinifex and areas of desert scrubland. Along the northern boundaries and in the east-central part of the licence, sandstones form low ridges. In the western part of the licence a prominent, 4 km wide drainage system trends SSE. Aeolian sand forms prominent WSW-trending dunes either side of the drainage system.

   A total of 98 blocks was relinquished from EL 5423 effective from 03 May, 1992 and the attached portion of the 1:250,000 scale tenement plan for The Granites sheet shows the area relinquished.

3. **GEOLOGY**

   Cainozoic deposits of aeolian sand, minor laterite, lacustrine clays, silts and evaporites dominate the surficial geology of EL 5423. These sediments obscure the underlying geology which is poorly understood.

   Interpretation of the airborne magnetic data suggests that significant areas of magnetic Lower Proterozoic rocks, host of gold mineralisation at The Granites, Dead Bullock Soak and Tanami, are not present.

   Three stratigraphic drill holes sunk by BMR in 1973 in the eastern part of the licence area penetrated an unnamed granite assigned to the Lower Proterozoic.
Upper Proterozoic Muriel Range Sandstone crops out in several places on the northern boundary of the licence area. This formation consists predominantly of sublithic arenite and quartz arenite, but also includes minor siltstone, shale, arkose, conglomerate and breccia. The Granites 1:250,000 Sheet geological map shows that some of the sandstones are folded into open synclines and anticlines with gentle 5° - 15° dips (Hodgson, 1976).

Extensive aeolian sand plains with dunes cover all the formations.

4. EXPLORATION COMPLETED

Open file reports and relevant geological data from the Tanami - Granites region were obtained.

Geoterrex Pty Ltd were contracted to fly an airborne magnetic survey over selected areas including the whole of EL 5423.

Colour aerial photography at 1:50,000 scale was flown by Airesearch Mapping Pty Ltd and relevant landforms, outcrop extent, geology, drainage, structure, etc were interpreted from the photography.

Landsat images at 1:250,000 scale covering the Tanami - Granites region were purchased and again relevant geological and structural features interpreted.

All the available data has been utilised to build up a broad geological and structural picture of the area.

All research on the areas relinquished have indicated that exploration would be extremely difficult due to extensive cover of aeolian sand and the presence of palaeochannels. No detailed surface work was therefore carried out due to the lack of targets and all indications are that the areas relinquished are not prospective for near surface gold mineralisation.
FIGURE 1

EL 5423 - BLOCKS RELINQUISHED 1:250,000 SCALE