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E.L. 1031 - WIDE HORIZONS

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 13TH NOVEMBER, 1976

RELINQUISHMENT REPORT

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By: P.B. d'Auvergne
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION
2. RESULTS OF 1975 EXPLORATION
3. RELINQUISHMENT OF EXPLORATION LICENCE 1031
4. REFERENCE
5. EXPENDITURE

LIST OF FIGURES

	<u>Dwg. No.</u>
1. LOCATION DIAGRAM	13688

1. INTRODUCTION

Intensive mineral exploration between 1972 and 1974 on properties along the eastern margin of the Bonaparte Gulf Basin suggested that favourable stratigraphical and structural trends might extend to the north outside these properties. Consequently application was made for an exploration licence to cover this ground. E.L. 1031 "WIDE HORIZONS" was subsequently granted 14th November, 1976. This E.L. extends between the Western Australia/Northern Territory border and the mouth of the Victoria River at the northern extremity of the Bonaparte Gulf Basin.

The surface of the E.L. consisted of thick alluvial black soil or sand. Small isolated sand "islands" within the black soil plains were anticipated to be surface expressions of suboutcropping sandy formations. The low lying plains are covered by a network of tidal river channels and mangrove swamps. Exploration of E.L. 1031 commenced in 1975 with a helicopter survey, airborne magnetometry and stratigraphical core drilling.

Because the tidal mud flats made many parts of the E.L. inaccessible by vehicle a helicopter mission was flown to check the sand "islands". No outcrops were found associated with these. Random soil samples taken during this mission failed to produce any encouraging geochemical response.

An airborne magnetic survey covered much of the south-eastern edge of E.L. 1031 - Figure 1 shows the approximate coverage. Data suggested a favourable structure existed in the southern extremity of E.L. 1031 and extended southwards into E.L. 675. This structure was anticipated to be intersected by the northwards extension of a mineralised structural trend known as the Beta Trend. Occurrences of secondary mineralisation had been located along this trend as early as 1972.

After precollaring by rotary drilling to 50 metres, one stratigraphical diamond drill hole (NBH 1001 - see Figure 1. for location) was drilled to 300m. at the anticipated intersection of the Beta Trend with the airmag. anomaly.

2. RESULTS OF 1975 EXPLORATION

Results of exploration on E.L. 1031 during 1975 were not encouraging. Stratigraphical drill hole NBH 1001 intersected a thick shale and sandstone sequence overlying an arenaceous carbonate sequence known to be mineralised elsewhere along the Bonaparte Gulf Basin Margin.

Palynological samples taken from this hole at 145m. and 236m. indicated a Carboniferous (Visean) age but when compared with morphologies from other stratigraphical studies in the Basin the spores in NBH 1001 indicated that the sampled levels in NBH 1001 were considerably younger than the known mineralised levels throughout the Basin.

An estimated minimum thickness of 250 metres of sediment overlying any prospective unit was expected to effectively mask any useful geophysical response from this unit. Consequently exploration within E.L. 1031 would have to be guided by results on adjacent properties to the south and east where the younger sediment cover would become progressively thinner.

Results of 1975 operations are discussed in D'AUVERGNE (1975).

3. RELINQUISHMENT OF EXPLORATION LICENCE 1031

During 1976 results of exploration on these adjacent properties failed to give any further encouragement for exploration on E.L. 1031. The great thickness of sediment overlying the potentially mineralised unit would mean very high exploration drilling costs and difficult and expensive evaluation of this property.

Any target lying closer to the basin margin, and consequently less deeply buried, offered much more attractive exploration possibilities and consequently E.L. 1031 was allowed to expire when the property became due for renewal on 13th November, 1976.

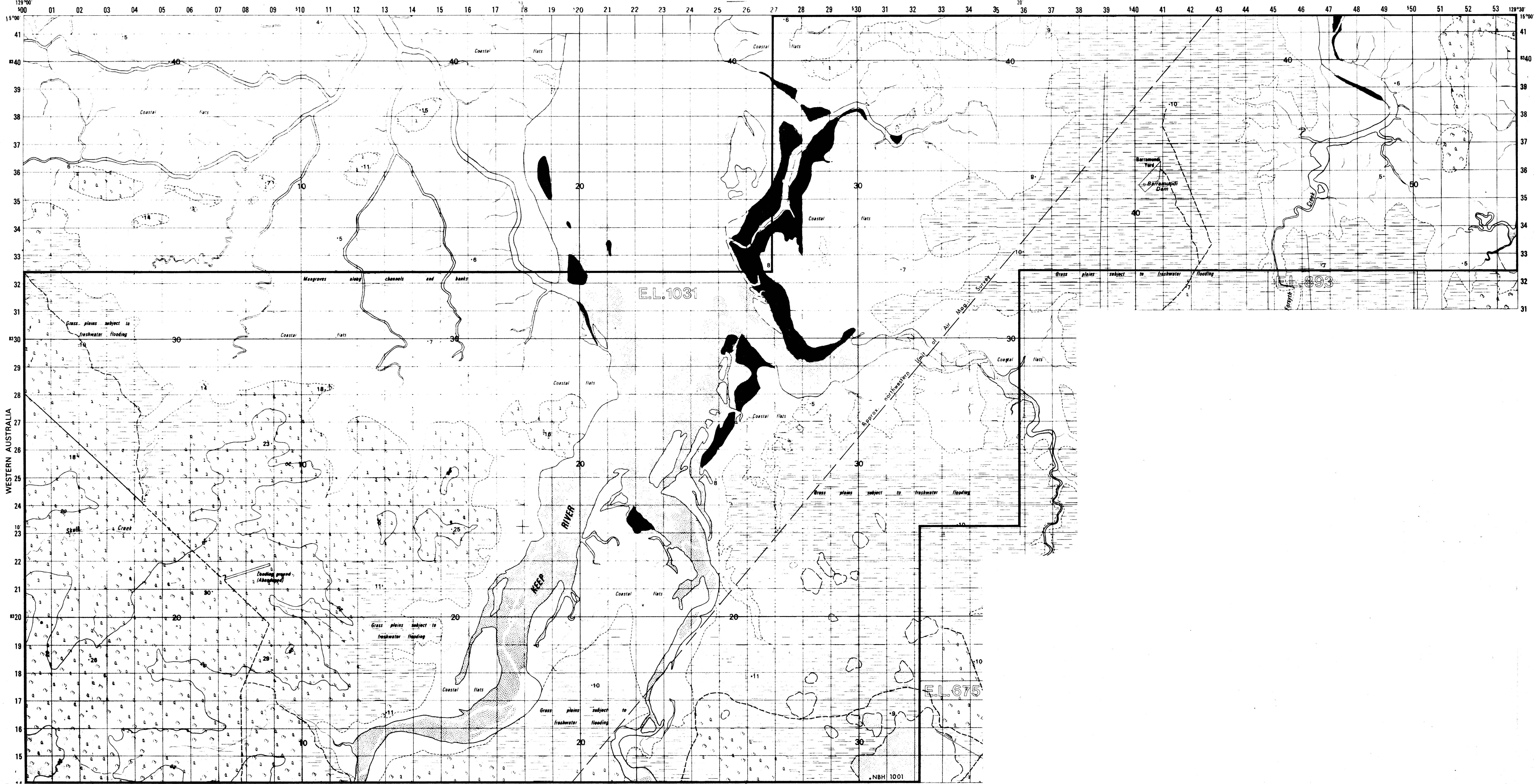
4. REFERENCE




D' AUVERGNE P. (1975) E.L. 1031 - WIDE HORIZONS. Annual report for the period ending 13th November, 1975 (MG: 656).

5. EXPENDITURE

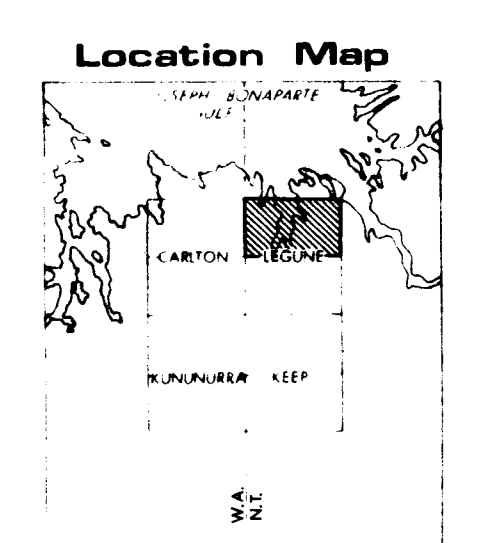
Expenditure on E.L. 1031 as recorded for the period 1st November, 1975, to 31st October, 1976, is as follows:-

Small consumables, miscellaneous supplies	1,550.13
Rates and taxes	19.61
Repairs & maintenance - vehicles	208.00
Accommodation etc.	20.54
Air travel	154.68
Transport & freight - air	11.70
Maps, photographs, mosaics	45.66
Mobilisation - demobilisation	844.42
Geophysical surveys	413.15
Consulting - S.N.P.A. - C.R.P.	799.52
Public relations	27.18
Office supplies	49.13
Telecommunications	10.00 credit
Minerals - salaries	2,168.00
Minerals Department general expenses	4,243.00
Legal Department expenses	24.00
Drafting expenses	195.00
Printing expenses	52.10
Depreciation	19.90
Administration and base expenses	<u>1,545.00</u>
	<u>\$12,380.72</u>



- LEGEND
-  track
 -  sand "island"
 -  diamond drill hole

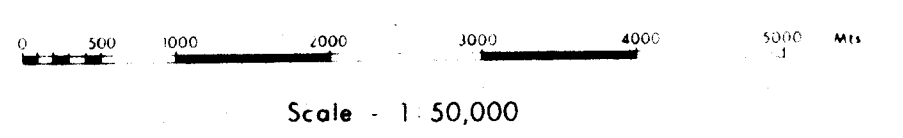
Reference



Aquitaine Australia Minerals Pty. Ltd.

Bonaparte Gulf Basin
 LEGUNE - upper half
E. L. 1031 WIDE HORIZONS

Location Diagram



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Drafted by: L. BUNNY	Report No: MG 784	Drawn: 13248

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