THE EROMANGA BASIN

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BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. John Armstrong graduated in Science with a first class Honours Degree in 1965 from the Queensland University and was awarded a Doctorate from that University in 1969. His petroleum career started with Union Oil Development Corporation in 1970 as a geologist and lead to positions of Chief Exploration Geologist of Union Oil Company of Indonesia in 1975 and Chief Exploration and Development Geologist in 1976 with responsibility for Union's interests in East Kalimantan, Indonesia. He was Union's Manager of Exploration between 1978 and 1979 prior to joining Santos Limited in 1979 as Manager of Exploration. His current position with Santos Limited is Director of Operations and his responsibilities include petroleum exploration and development, petroleum engineering and production, drilling operations and facilities construction and plant operation.

Terry Barr graduated as an Associate in Applied Geology from the West Australian Institute of Technology in 1975 and has held geologic positions with West Australian Petroleum Pty. Ltd. and Australian Associate Resources, prior to joining South Australian Oil and Gas Corporation in 1978 where he held the position of Chief Geologist in 1980, prior to joining Santos Limited as Senior Geologist in 1982.

ABSTRACT

The Eromanga Basin, of immense area and volume, has been explored for hydrocarbons since 1924. Covering 400,000 square miles it has recently become prominent in the Australian petroleum scene with 11 significant discoveries being made since 1975.

These discoveries have led to the Eromanga Basin Symposium, which indicates the emerging awareness amongst petroleum explorers of the basin's new significance. A collection of 40 papers being presented by a wide range of earth scientists directly concerned with the basin compares somewhat favourably with the 24 papers presented at the national APEA conference earlier in the year. The hydrocarbon potential of the Eromanga Basin was largely ignored in the past by the majority of earth scientists. In reviewing the literature only a few authors, for example R.C. Sprigg and G.D. Williams, expressed a positive view of the prospect of finding hydrocarbons in the Eromanga Basin.