

GEOSCIENCES AND REMOTE SENSING

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GEOCHEMISTRY, ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY AND ATMOSPHERIC CHEMISTRY

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Regional geology and petroleum potential of Cuba, Florida, and the Bahama Bank utilizing public domain data

Our purpose is to present the findings and map products generated from public domain sources, found within the area surrounding Cuba, Florida, and the Bahama Bank. The research concept began with a recent advertisement for a seismic survey in the waters off the northwest coast of Cuba. Work in progress in the Yucatan basin and an internet/literature search of Florida were utilized. This presentation includes an introduction, followed by discussions of the geologic setting, plate tectonics, geothermal regime, satellite imagery, and ancillary data, of each area and concludes with a comparative discussion. Our analysis clearly confirms that regional scale geological mapping and seismic, gravity and magnetic data, along with plate tectonic implications, satellite imagery analysis, and ancillary data; give indications of the presence of oil in each area. All three areas contain sedimentary rocks of Paleozoic, Jurassic, and Cretaceous age, which are considered to be prospective for hydrocarbon accumulation since they either produce or have definitive shows in the areas discussed. Published reserve estimates are given. These basins are underlain with differing basement, associated with several tectonic plates; which may relate to the different grades of prospectivity.

Biography

Ernest Berkman graduated from the Colorado School of Mines, Geophysical Engineer, 1958. He worked for Mobil Oil for 20 years and then started EMEX. At EMEX, his experience includes prospect analysis and regional geological/geophysical studies including reflection, gravity, magnetics, magnetotellurics (MT), refraction analysis, in North America and worldwide; plus a lot of shallow seismic for coal mine development and site characterization. Interpretation background includes site characterization, and technical writing, modeling, quality control, project, and team management, industrial teaching, and mentoring. He has been a member of the SEG since 1955.

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