GEOLOGIC COLUMN AND UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

AGE	ROCK UNIT	LITHOLOGY; THICKNESS WHERE KNOWN	UNIT DESCRIPTION
CENOZOIC	Alluvium	Sand, gravel, clay and mud; thickness less than IO m	Alluvium, consisting of sand, gravel, clay, and mud, is distributed in river flats and playas; maximum thickness, 10 m.
	Diluvium	Sand and silt; thickness 5 to 20 m Sandy loess, loess, sand, silt and clay, thickness less than 40 m	Diluvium, with a total thickness of about 60 m, can be divided into Qds and Qdl. Qds, 5 to 20 m thick, consists of wind-blown sand and silt deposited in lacustrine basins mainly at the end of the Pleistocene. Recently, upon emergence and wind-erosion, the deposit has altered to form the vast desert. The desert sand is blown eastward with the prevailing westerly winds, demolishing pastures. Qdl, with a maximum thickness of 40 m, consists mainly of sandy loess, clay, silt, and loess. Interstratified aeolian sand and loess are found on hill sides. Interstratified sandy loess and clay are the principal constituents of the Mongolian Quaternary, covering plains and large valley systems. Red clay is found beneath the aeolian loess, and rests upon bedrock.
	······Unconformity······		
	Neogene basalt	Olivine basalt with tuff; maximum thickness more than 100 m	Basalt may attain a maximum thickness of more than a hundred meters, consisting of flows and sheets of olivine- basalt with tuff; it may have been deluged from fissures during the Pliocene epoch.
	<i></i>	Unconformity	
MESOZOIG	Rhyolite	Rhyolite with pyroclastics; maximum thickness about 1,000 m maximum thickness about 1,000 m maximum thickness about 1,000 m	Rhyolite may attain a maximum thickness about a thousand meters, consisting of flows and sheets of rhyolite with its pyroclastic rocks. It is considered to have been erupted during the Cretaceous period. Cretaceous volcanics constitute the main body of the Ta-hsing-an Ling range that runs west of the map area.
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