

Preliminary report of the precise topographic and geophysical surveys off Sissano, northern Papua New Guinea

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KR98-13 geophysical and geological survey cruise by the Research Vessel KAIREI off the Sissano Lagoon, northern coast of Papua New Guinea was carried out in January 1999 in order to locate the possible seismic faults and/or underwater landslides as the source of tsunami which occurred on July 17, 1998. Topographic mapping off Sissano, in the area of 200km (E-W) and 120km (N-S), was completed after the 9 days' survey. The study area is characterised by topographic features caused by landslides at numerous sites. The most recent is located 25km north-east off the lagoon. The most prominent tectonic fault in the study area is located 25 kilometres north of the lagoon as an E-W trending escarpment.