NRDC Information Product
Technical Reference Manual

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Prepared by

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1. Introduction

On May 28, 1986 an historic agreement was signed in Moscow by Adrian Dewind, the Chairman of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), and Academician E. P. Velikhov, Vice-President of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. This agreement established the first joint seismic observations between the US and USSR aimed at monitoring underground nuclear testing. As part of this agreement, three sites were occupied by American scientists within 300 km of the major Soviet nuclear test sites near Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan. Data were recorded at these sites during 1986 and 1987 culminating in three large chemical explosions, which were detonated as part of the NRDC-Soviet Academy program, in early September, 1987.

The NRDC program represents the logical predecessor to the Joint Seismic Program and the data collected in Kazakhstan provide us with one of the earliest detailed looks at the seismic characteristics of Central Asia. We at the Joint Seismic Program Center (JSPC) are proud to offer the data collected during Phase-II of the NRDC program as the first JSPC information product. This product combines data, documentation and software into an integrated kit that will make these data immediately useful in seismic research efforts.

The history of the NRDC program in the Soviet Union can be broken down into two parts; the Phase-I deployment and the Phase-II deployment. The Phase-I deployment took place during 1986, starting in July, and mainly involved surface instrumentation for doing noise surveys and for capturing initial seismic events. The Phase-I data were used to establish the detailed site locations for the Phase-II deployment which took place in 1987 and involved digital 3-component surface and borehole instruments.

Those who wish to immediately install the information product and get a look at the data should proceed directly to the *NRDC information product installation/tutorial manual* where the installation is described and a brief tutorial is given. All other details concerning the data, how it is stored and the software for accessing it can be found in this report.

This report summarizes both data and information product characteristics. The people who worked to make the NRDC program a success are listed in the acknowledgements, in section 2. Section 3 gives site and instrumentation characteristics including a map of the sites and figures showing standard instrument responses. A description of the processing done on the data are described in section 4. Associated events are listed in section 5. The data is reviewed in section 6 which also includes a coverage table and describes the quality control measures that were taken during the assimilation of the information product. Section 7 gives a general overview of the NRDC information product. A description of the relational database used for representing the data is given in section 8 and the software included in the product is described in section 9. A comprehensive list of references is listed in section 10.

2. Acknowledgements

The people who worked to bring about the negotiations with the Soviet Academy of Sciences and who made the first Kazakhstan field trips to install seismic instruments pioneered the joint efforts in nuclear verification research that exist today between the U.S. academic seismological community and seismologists from the former Soviet Union. Following is a list of names and institutions that identify the major contributors to the NRDC program and to the data contained in this information product.

name	institution
Charles Archambeau	University of Colorado
Jonathon Berger	University of California at San Diego
Paul Bodin	University of California at San Diego
Jim Brune	University of Nevada at Reno
Thomas Cochran	NRDC
Adrian Dewind	NRDC
Jack Evernden	US Geological Survey

name	institution
Holly Given	University of California at San Diego
Joan Gomberg	University of California at San Diego
I. L. Nersesov	USSR Institute of the Physics of the Earth
Christopher Paine	US Senate Staff for Ted Kennedy
Keith Priestley	University of Nevada at Reno
M. A. Sardovskiy	USSR Institute of the Physics of the Earth
Aaron Tovish	Parliamentarians for Global Action
E. P. Velikhov	USSR Academy of Sciences
Frank Vernon	University of California at San Diego
Frank von Hipple	Princeton University
William Walter	University of Nevada at Reno

3. Site and Instrumentation Characteristics

During the NRDC Phase-II deployment, three stations were operated at Bayanaul (BAY), Karkaralinsk (KKL) and Karasu (KSU) by a group from UCSD/IGPP. Both surface and borehole instruments were used at these three stations and the nominal instrumentation configuration is described in Berger, et. al. (1988). The data acquired during this deployment starts on 19 March 1987 (day 078), ends on 5 September 1987 (day 248) and consists of 77 days during which one or more stations were operating and reporting events. In addition to the data collected at BAY, KKL and KSU, portable surface instrumentation was deployed at five stations (UNR1, UNR2, UNR3, UNR4 and UNR5) which were operated on 2 September and 3 September by personnel from UNR during three large chemical explosions, which were detonated as part of the NRDC-Soviet Academy program. The station layout is shown in figure 1.

The three UCSD sites were all located on granitic bedrock and nominal 100 m boreholes were drilled at each site. The instrumentation at each site consisted of one borehole 3-component seismometer and two surface 3-component seismometers. The borehole seismometers were Teledyne Geotech 54100 models with nominal seismometer periods of 5 seconds. The surface seismometers were Teledyne Geotech GS-13 models with nominal periods of 1 second and Kinemetrics S-1 models with nominal periods of 5 seconds. The data acquisition units consisted of 15 channels of 16-bit digital data all subjected to six-pole Butterworth anti-aliasing filters with corner frequencies of 80 Hz and sampled at 250 sps. In addition optional low cut filters at 0.1 Hz were used. Since there were 9 physical channels coming from the seismometers at each site, the acquisition units were able to record two of the 3-component instruments at two gain levels and the third 3-component instrument at one gain level. The typical configuration was to record the borehole intermediate period (54100) instrument and the surface short period (GS-13) instrument at high and low gain levels and the surface intermediate period (S-1) instrument at a low gain level. The detailed channel configurations are given in table 1. Although all of the data from BAY, KKL and KSU were recorded at 250 sps, we refer to the GS-13 instruments as being short period and to the 54100 and S-1 instruments as being intermediate period.

Table 1. UCSD channel configurations

Station	**Dates**	**Configuration**
BAY	133-248	high/low gain surface short period, high/low gain borehole intermediate period, low gain surface intermediate period
KKL	078-123	high/low gain surface short period, high/low gain surface intermediate period, high gain borehole intermediate period
	132-248	high/low gain surface short period, high/low gain borehole intermediate period, low gain surface intermediate period
KSU	099-124	high/low gain surface short period, high/low gain surface intermediate period, high gain borehole intermediate period
	230-248	high/low gain surface short period, high/low gain borehole intermediate period, low gain surface intermediate period