Columbia University in the City of New York

LAMONT GEOLOGICAL OBSERVATORY
PALISADES, NEW YORK

VEMA CRUISE NO. 16 GEOMAGNETIC MEASUREMENTS

by James R. Heirtzler

Technical Report No. 2 CU-3-61-Nonr-Geology



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I. INTRODUCTION

Since 1948, Lamont Geological Observatory has had a program for measuring the total intensity of the geomagnetic field in marine areas. Most of the measurements were made with a towed magnetometer by the Research Vessel VEMA on its regular cruises. Many measurements, however, have been made from other ships, on Arctic ice stations, and during 1955 and 1957, and from PBY aircraft.

The intent of the program was to obtain total intensity profiles to assist in the analysis of detailed geological features. Within recent years it has become evident that this data is of interest to individuals in other disciplines than structural geology. This report is the first attempt to present the entire data from a VEMA cruise. It is necessary that there be a departure from the tradition of presenting data and interpretation together. The data is so extensive that a reasonably complete analysis would make the data generally unavailable for a long period of time. Also, the data of a single cruise is frequently of value only when included with the data of other cruises so that trends can be observed. Accordingly, it would be impossible to make a complete analysis of the results of a single cruise.

It is expected that data from other cruises will be presented by this group in a similar format.

The VEMA-16 cruise departed New York on October 1,

1959, and returned to that port on September 21, 1960, completing a voyage of approximately 40,000 nautical miles. The ship circumnavigated the globe from west to east, usually sailing in mid-southern latitudes. Figure 1 shows the entire track. The magnetometer program began at San Juan and continued with only one major interruption (just before Buenos Aires) when the towed member was lost and a replacement could not be effected for several days.

The figures which constitute the body of this report show the total magnetic intensity values in gammas (105 gammas = 1 oersted) as a function of track distance in nautical miles from the last major port. The regional magnetic field and the time-varying part of the magnetic field have not been removed. Each profile sheet shows the depth to bottom in fathoms (corrected according to Mathew's Tables) and the 3-hour magnetic K-index from the nearest magnetic observatory. Breaks in the record are identified by the following codes:

- A Magnetometer under repair
- B Fluxgate magnetometer off scale
- C Ship hove to and drifting
- D Ship circling
- E Changing recording paper
- 129 (for example) the number of the station when ship stopped for other marine measurements.

These profile sheets are divided into seven sections. Each section is prefaced with a more detailed navigational chart.

II. INSTRUMENTATION

Two different types of magnetometers were used on this cruise. One type, the fluxgate, was the type that has been used for many years at Lamont. The other type, which will be used exclusively in the future, is the proton precession magnetometer. Two different fluxgate heads were used and each was calibrated separately. Table I gives the times when each of the instruments was used. Local times are used in this report. The relation of local to GMT is given in another part of this document.

TABLE I INSTRUMENTS USED

| Interval | Instrument |
|---|-------------------|
| Beginning of record to 1336, 17 Jan. 1960 | Fluxgate No. 1 |
| 1930, 17 Jan. to 1630, 9 May | Proton Precession |
| 1730, 10 May to 0100, 24 May | Fluxgate No. 1 |
| 0215, 30 May to 1015, 31 May | Fluxgate No. 2 |
| 1400, 31 May to 0745, 6 June | Proton Precession |
| 1640, 6 June to 1400, 9 June | Fluxgate No. 2 |
| 2215, 16 June to 1400, 17 June | Proton Precession |
| 1430, 19 June to 1115, 10 July | Fluxgate No. 2 |
| 1600, 10 July to 1814, 14 July | Proton Precession |
| 0000, 15 July to End of record | Fluxgate No. 2 |

1. Fluxgate Magnetometer

The fluxgate, or saturable core, magnetometer was a modification of the AN/ASQ-3A airborne magnetometer. Early modifications of this instrument for geophysical use are described by Rumbaugh and Alldredge (1949) and for towed marine use by Heezen, et. al. (1953). Additional modifications to stabilize the electronic components have been made in recent years.

2. Proton Precession Magnetometer

To simplify the instrumentation and reduction of data, and to provide for greater accuracy without calibration, a proton precession magnetometer has been developed by the Lamont group over the last four to five years. The instrument is not greatly different from other proton precession magnetometers in common use.

The total magnetic field intensity (F) is a function of the proton precession frequency (f) and is given by:

$$F = (2\pi/g)f$$

where g is the proton gyromagnetic ratio. The value of g, adopted by the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy in 1960 (Nelson, 1960), is 2.67513 X 10⁴ radians/gauss second. Much of the data reported in this report was reduced before that value was adopted and the value of g used here was 2.67531 X 10⁴ radians/gauss second. The use of this

latter value causes the reported readings to be low by a maximum of 5 gammas at high geomagnetic latitudes.

3. Accuracy

A summary of the maximum error of the magnetometer readings is as follows:

| Fluxgate (with first head used) M | laximum error | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Absolute Errors Ship's permanent field Coil constant error Total | 5 gamma 150 155 gamma | | | | | |
| Relative Errors Ship's induced field Balance point drift Misc. reading errors Total | 5 gamma 50 5 60 gamma | | | | | |
| | oo gamma | | | | | |
| Fluxgate (with second head used) | | | | | | |
| Absolute Errors Ship's permanent field Coil constant error | 5 gamma | | | | | |
| Total | 15 gamma | | | | | |
| Relative Errors Ship's induced field Balance point drift Misc. reading errors Total | 5 gamma 50 5 60 gamma | | | | | |
| Proton Precession | | | | | | |
| estable also also also especialistica de a destable de especialistica de la companion de la co | | | | | | |
| Absolute Errors Ship's permanent field | 5 gamma | | | | | |
| Relative Errors Ship's induced field Rounding off in computations | 5 gamma 5 | | | | | |
| Finite counting time of frequency meter | 5 | | | | | |
| Error in gyromagnetic ratio | | | | | | |
| Total | 20 gamma | | | | | |

It is seen that the instrument with the largest possible error is the first fluxgate. Most of this instrument's error comes from its coil constant calibration. The coil was calibrated against another coil which was in turn calibrated against a proton precession magnetometer. The calibration between the two coils had to be made by comparing readings with a previous cruise at common track points. Although this was done for magnetically undisturbed localities, the daily and secular variations can only be estimated.

With the fluxgate, the balance point drift was checked about once in two hours and some interpolation and extrapolation was necessary. On a few occasions a 50 gamma instrument excursion could have occurred. Such occasions were rare and the balance point usually drifted in a smooth fashion and caused no more than about 10 gamma error.

The presence of the ship should contribute less than 10 gammas error. For iron naval vessels the total dipole moment of the vessel is no more than 10^8 cgs units (Fromm, 1952), half of this being induced and half permanent. With the most unfavorable situation, a field of 5 gamma would be created 400 ft from the vessel by induced magnetization. The direction of the permanent magnetization has not been determined, and it may contribute a constant error as large as 5 gamma. The magnetometers were towed with a 400 ft cable. The magnetometership distance was, somewhat, less than 400 ft when the vessel was making a sharp turn or

circling in a tight circle and some erroneous readings are evident during this type maneuver.

III. NOTES ON TIME-VARYING GEOMAGNETIC PHENOMENA

To assist in the distinction of magnetic anomalies caused by the time-varying magnetic field, from anomalies caused by earth structure, the 3-hour K-index is shown. accord with conventional usage the K-index is an integer on the scale 0,1,2,....9 indicating the difference between maximum and minimum values of one of the magnetic intensity vector components during the 3-hour period. The fluctuation range of the horizontal component is frequently used by the magnetic observatory. The K value assigned for a given gamma range is specified by the individual magnetic observatory code. For the observatories mentioned in this report, Table II gives the gamma range of the K-values. All excursions exceeding the upper limit for K = 8 are assigned a K = 9. Inspection of this table shows those K, values which may cause appreciable anomalies. It should be pointed out that the K value may be assigned for a magnetic excursion that takes place in a few minutes. Also, a constant and sustained deviation from the local mean magnetic value would be manifest as a low K number even though an anomalous geomagnetic condition exists.

The diurnal quiet variation (Sq) of the geomagnetic intensity can be predicted fairly accurately and of the order of 100 gammas in equatorial regions (maximum near noon), but

TABLE II
MAGNETIC OBSERVATORY K-INDICES

| MAGI | VETIC OBSE | ERVATORY I | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| Station | | Gamma Ra | nge for K | Values | |
| | K=0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Fredericksburg | 0-5 | 5-10 | 10-20 | 20-40 | 40-70 |
| San Juan | 0-3 | 3-6 | 6-12 | 12-24 | 24-42 |
| Vassouras | 0-6 | 6-12 | 12-24 | 24-48 | 48-84 |
| Hermanus | 0-3 | 3-6 | 6-12 | 12-24 | 24-40 |
| Gnangara | 0-3.5 | 3.5-7 | 7-14 | 14-28 | 28-49 |
| Toolangi | 0-5 | 5-10 | 10-20 | 20-40 | 40-70 |
| Macquarie Island | 0-15 | 15-30 | 30-60 | 60-120 | 120-210 |
| Amberley | 0-5 | 5-10 | 10-20 | 20-40 | 40-70 |
| Argentine Islands | 0-5 | 5-10 | 10-20 | 20-40 | 40-70 |
| Trelew | 0-4 | 4-8 | 8-16 | 16-30 | 30-50 |
| | | Less tha | n 50 gamm | as 👉 — | |
| | | | | | |
| Station | | | nge for K | | |
| Station | K=5 | | | | 9 |
| Station Fredericksburg | K=5 70 - 120 | Gamma Ra | nge for K | Values | 9 500 |
| | _ | Gamma Ra | nge for K | Values | · |
| Fredericksburg | 70-120 | Gamma Ra 6 120-200 | nge for K 7 200-330 | Values 8 330-500 | 500 |
| Fredericksburg San Juan | 70 - 120 42 - 72 | Gamma Ra 6 120-200 72-120 | nge for K 7 200-330 120-198 | Values 8 330-500 198-300 | 500 300 |
| Fredericksburg San Juan Vassouras | 70-120 42-72 84-144 | Gamma Ra 6 120-200 72-120 144-240 | nge for K 7 200-330 120-198 240-396 | Values 8 330-500 198-300 396-600 | 500 300 600 |
| Fredericksburg San Juan Vassouras Hermanus | 70-120 42-72 84-144 40-70 | Gamma Ra 6 120-200 72-120 144-240 70-120 | nge for K 7 200-330 120-198 240-396 120-200 | Values 8 330-500 198-300 396-600 200-300 | 500 300 600 300 |
| Fredericksburg San Juan Vassouras Hermanus Gnangara | 70-120 42-72 84-144 40-70 49-84 | Gamma Ra 6 120-200 72-120 144-240 70-120 84-140 | nge for K 7 200-330 120-198 240-396 120-200 140-231 | Values 8 330-500 198-300 396-600 200-300 231-350 | 500 300 600 300 350 |
| Fredericksburg San Juan Vassouras Hermanus Gnangara Toolangi | 70-120 42-72 84-144 40-70 49-84 70-120 | Gamma Ra 6 120-200 72-120 144-240 70-120 84-140 120-200 | nge for K 7 200-330 120-198 240-396 120-200 140-231 200-330 | Values 8 330-500 198-300 396-600 200-300 231-350 330-500 | 500 300 600 300 350 500 |
| Fredericksburg San Juan Vassouras Hermanus Gnangara Toolangi Macquarie Island | 70-120 42-72 84-144 40-70 49-84 70-120 120-360 | Gamma Ra 6 120-200 72-120 144-240 70-120 84-140 120-200 360-600 | nge for K 7 200-330 120-198 240-396 120-200 140-231 200-330 600-990 | Values 8 330-500 198-300 396-600 200-300 231-350 330-500 990-1500 | 500 300 600 300 350 500 1500 |
| Fredericksburg San Juan Vassouras Hermanus Gnangara Toolangi Macquarie Island Amberley | 70-120 42-72 84-144 40-70 49-84 70-120 120-360 70-120 | Gamma Ra 6 120-200 72-120 144-240 70-120 84-140 120-200 360-600 120-200 | nge for K 7 200-330 120-198 240-396 120-200 140-231 200-330 600-990 200-330 | Values 8 330-500 198-300 396-600 200-300 231-350 330-500 990-1500 330-500 | 500 300 600 300 350 500 1500 500 |

is considerably less as one approaches the polar latitudes. In mid-latitudes, this variation is about 20 gammas. By convention the 3-hour part of the Sq variation is removed from the magnetic record before the K index is determined. Unpredictable disturbances (Sp and Dst) usually occur with larger amplitudes in the auroral zones than at mid-latitudes.

K indices shown on profile sheets have been displayed as functions of local time. The times that particular magnetic observatory data was used, are shown in Table III.

TABLE III
MAGNETIC OBSERVATORIES USED

| | | 2112 | F C4 1 4 F | 3440 01 | | |
|---------------------|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | | | Magnetic Observatory |
| Local Time Interval | | | | | | Providing K-Indices |
| | | | | | | |
| Nov. | | to | 15 | Nov. | (0100) | San Juan |
| Nov. | (0100) | to | 6 | Dec. | (0100) | Vassouras |
| Dec. | (0100) | to | 31 | Jan. | (1500) | Hermanus |
| Jan. | (1500) | to | 9 | March | | Gnangara |
| March | (2100) | to | 23 | March | (0800) | Toolangi |
| March | (0800) | to | 2 | April | (2300) | Macquarie Island |
| April | (2300) | to | 23 | April | | Amberley |
| April | (1400) | to | 19 | May | | Argentine Islands |
| May | (0300) | to | 17 | June | 1 - 7 - 7 | Trelew |
| June | (1400) | | | July | | Vassouras |
| July | (1430) | to | 27 | July | | San Juan |
| July | (0800) | to | | | End | Fredericksburg |
| | Nov. Nov. Dec. Jan. March March April April May June July | Nov. Nov. (0100) Dec. (0100) Jan. (1500) March (2100) March (0800) April (2300) April (1400) May (0300) June (1400) July (1430) | Nov. to Nov. (0100) to Dec. (0100) to Jan. (1500) to March (2100) to March (0800) to April (2300) to April (1400) to May (0300) to June (1400) to July (1430) to | Nov. (0100) to 6 Nov. (0100) to 6 Dec. (0100) to 31 Jan. (1500) to 9 March (2100) to 23 March (0800) to 2 April (2300) to 23 April (1400) to 19 May (0300) to 17 June (1400) to 14 July (1430) to 27 | Nov. (0100) to 6 Dec. Dec. (0100) to 31 Jan. Jan. (1500) to 9 March March (2100) to 23 March March (0800) to 2 April April (2300) to 23 April April (1400) to 19 May May (0300) to 17 June June (1400) to 14 July July (1430) to 27 July | Nov. (0100) to 6 Dec. (0100) Nov. (0100) to 6 Dec. (0100) Dec. (0100) to 31 Jan. (1500) Jan. (1500) to 9 March (2100) March (2100) to 23 March (0800) March (0800) to 2 April (2300) April (2300) to 23 April (1400) April (1400) to 19 May (0300) May (0300) to 17 June (1400) June (1400) to 14 July (1430) July (1430) to 27 July (0800) |

Total intensity values from observatories would have been more useful than K indices, but it was felt that the small increase in accuracy did not merit the increased format and computational difficulties.

IV. TIME ZONES USED

The local time maintained by the scientific party on the ship is used on the magnetic profile sheets for the

indication of day and 3-hour K-index intervals. To change local time to GMT, Table IV should be consulted.

TABLE IV

TIME ZONES

| | | To local times add or |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | | subtract the following |
| | | number of hours to get |
| Local clock t | ime interval | GMT |
| 1 | N 30 | .1. |
| before 0000, | | +4 |
| | to 0000, Nov. 25 | +3 |
| | to 0000, Dec. 3 | +2 |
| 0100, Dec. 3 | | +1 |
| | to 0000, Dec. 16 | 0 |
| 0100, Dec. 16 | | -1 |
| | to 0000, Jan. 7 | - 2 |
| 0100, Jan. 7 | to 0000, Jan. 15 | - 3 |
| | to 0000, Feb. 3 | -4 |
| | to 0000, Feb. 9 to 0000, Feb. 18 | -3 -4 -5 -6 |
| | to 0000, Feb. 18 | - 6 |
| | to 0000, Feb. 21 | - 7 - 8 |
| 0100, Feb. 21 | to 0000, Mar. 5 | - 8 |
| 0030, Mar. 5 | to 0000, Mar. 5 to 0000, Mar. 8 | - 8.5 |
| 0030, Mar. 5 0030, Mar. 8 | to 0000, Mar. 10 | - 9 |
| 0030, Mar. 10 | to 0000, Mar. 29 | - 9•5 |
| | to 0000, Apr. 2 to 0000, Apr. 5 | -1 0 |
| 0100, Apr. 2 | to 0000, Apr. 5 | -11 |
| 0100, Apr. 5 | to 2400, first Apr. 13 | -1 2 |
| 0000, second . | Apr. 13 to 0000, Apr. 19 | +12 |
| 0100, Apr. 19 | to 0000, Apr. 22 | +11 |
| 0100, Apr. 22 | to 0000, Apr. 24 | +10 |
| 0100, Apr. 24 | to 0000, Apr. 27 | +9 |
| 0100, Apr. 27 | | +8 |
| 0100, Apr. 30 |) to 0000, May 1 | · + 7 |
| 0030, May 1 | to 0000, May 2 | +6.5 |
| 0030. May 2 | to 0000, May 3 | +6 |
| 0030, May 3 | to 0000, May 1 to 0000, May 2 to 0000, May 3 to 0000, May 4 to 0000, May 6 | +5.5 |
| 0030, May 4 | to 0000, May 6 | +5 +4 |
| 0100, May 6 | to 0000, May 7 | +4 |
| 0100, May 7 | to 1400, Sept. 18 | +3 |
| 1300, (second | time) Sept. 18 to end of | +3 voyage +4 |
| | | |

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

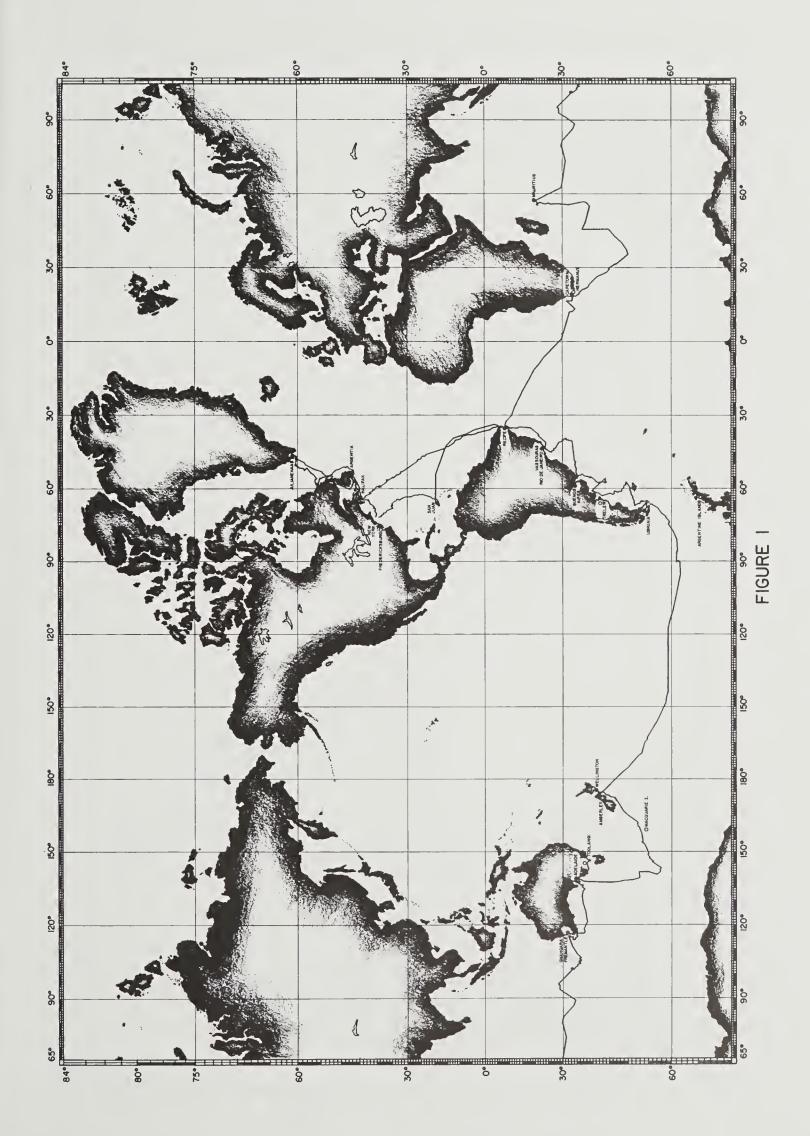
Istvan Gereben operated the magnetometer during the entire cruise. Carolyn Peppin supervised the data reduction and drafting work. Julius Hirshman, assisted by George Peter, assembled the apparatus and assured its operation. The Submarine Geology section at Lamont supplied the record of bottom topography. Other members of the scientific party of the VEMA provided assistance in the recording of the data.

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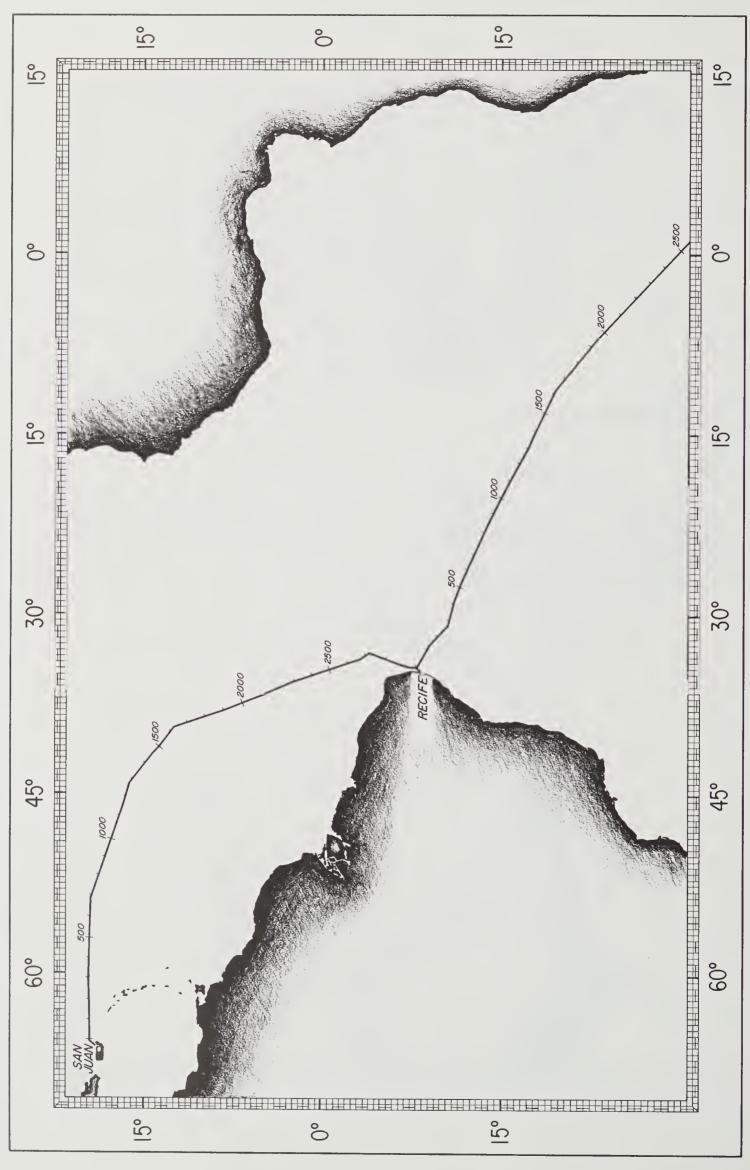
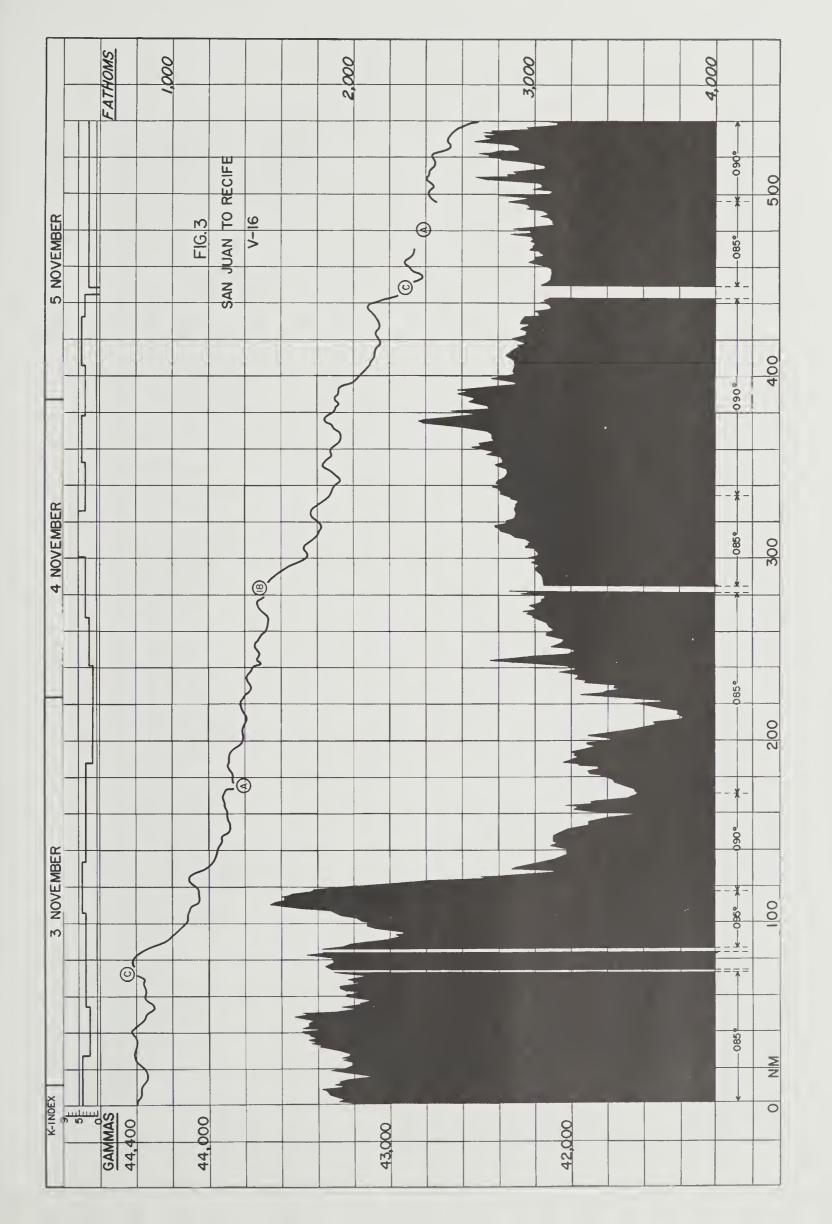
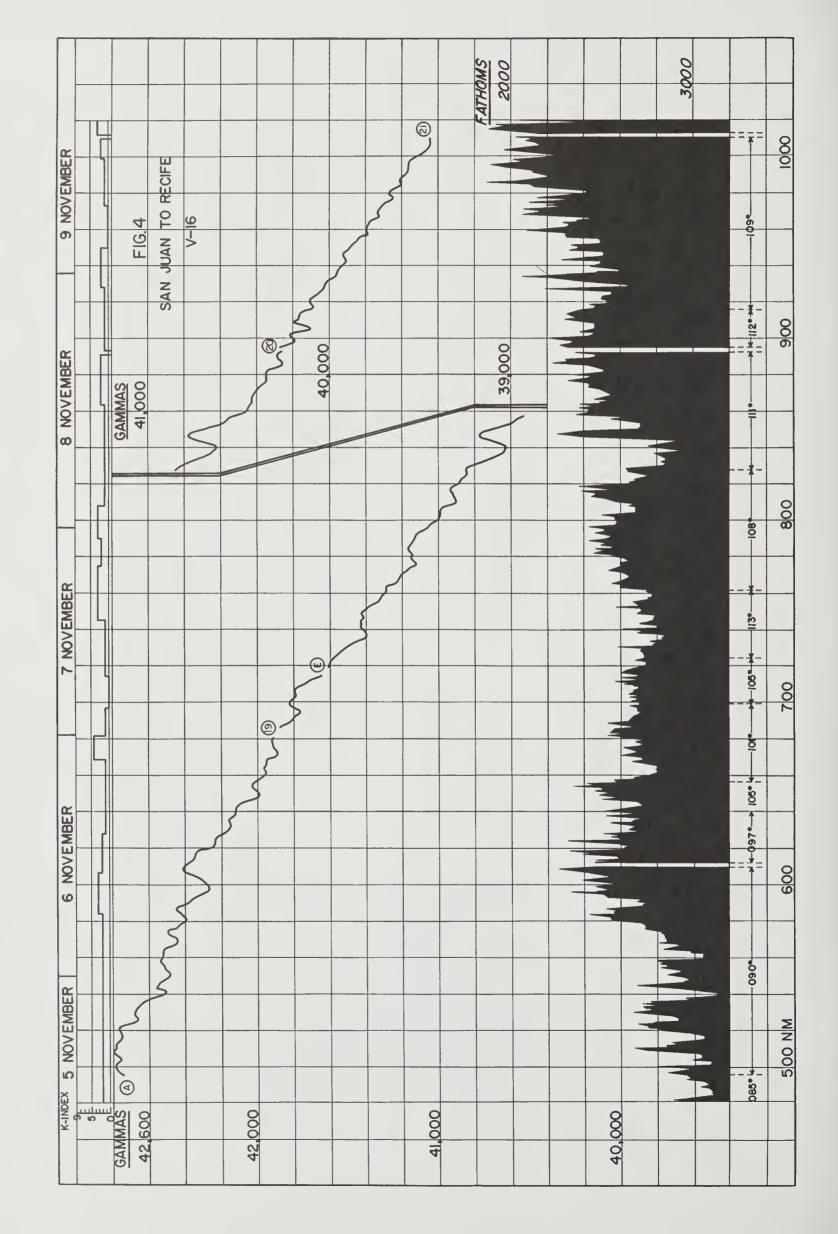
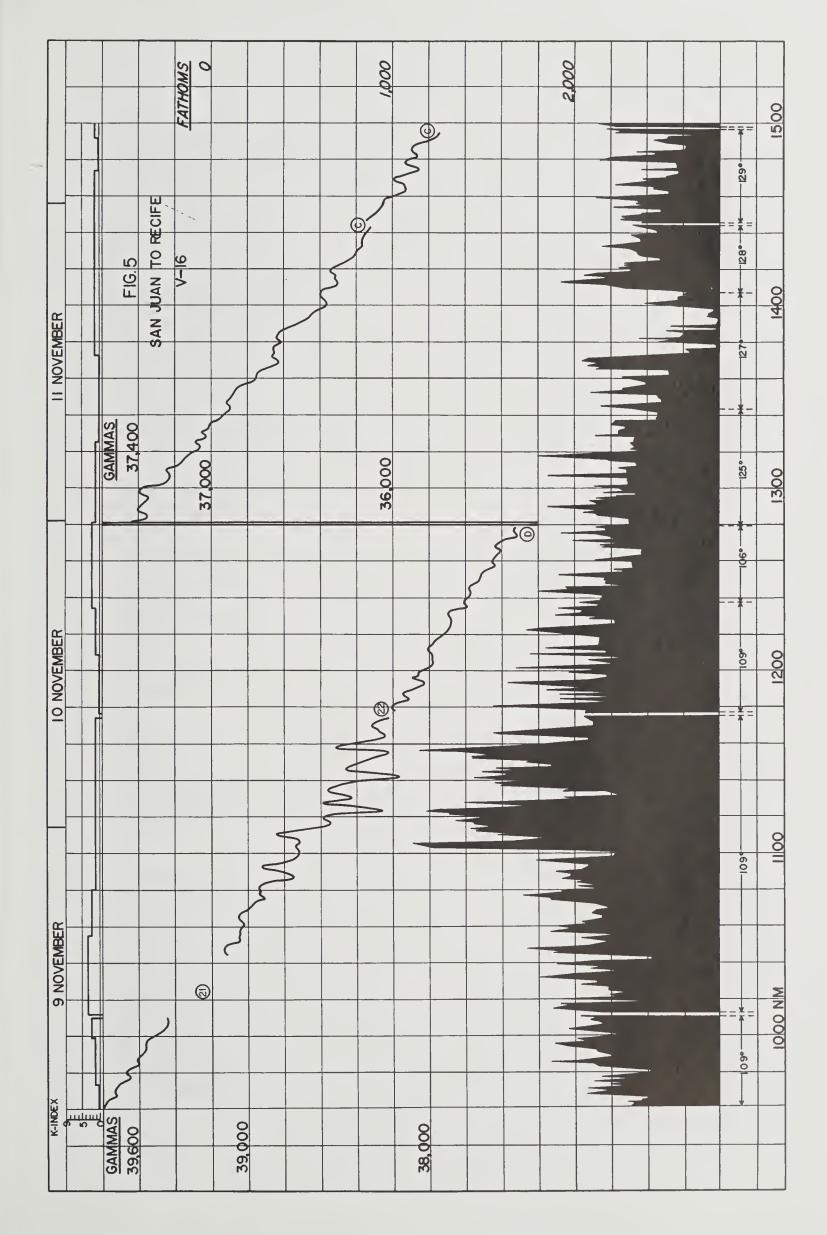
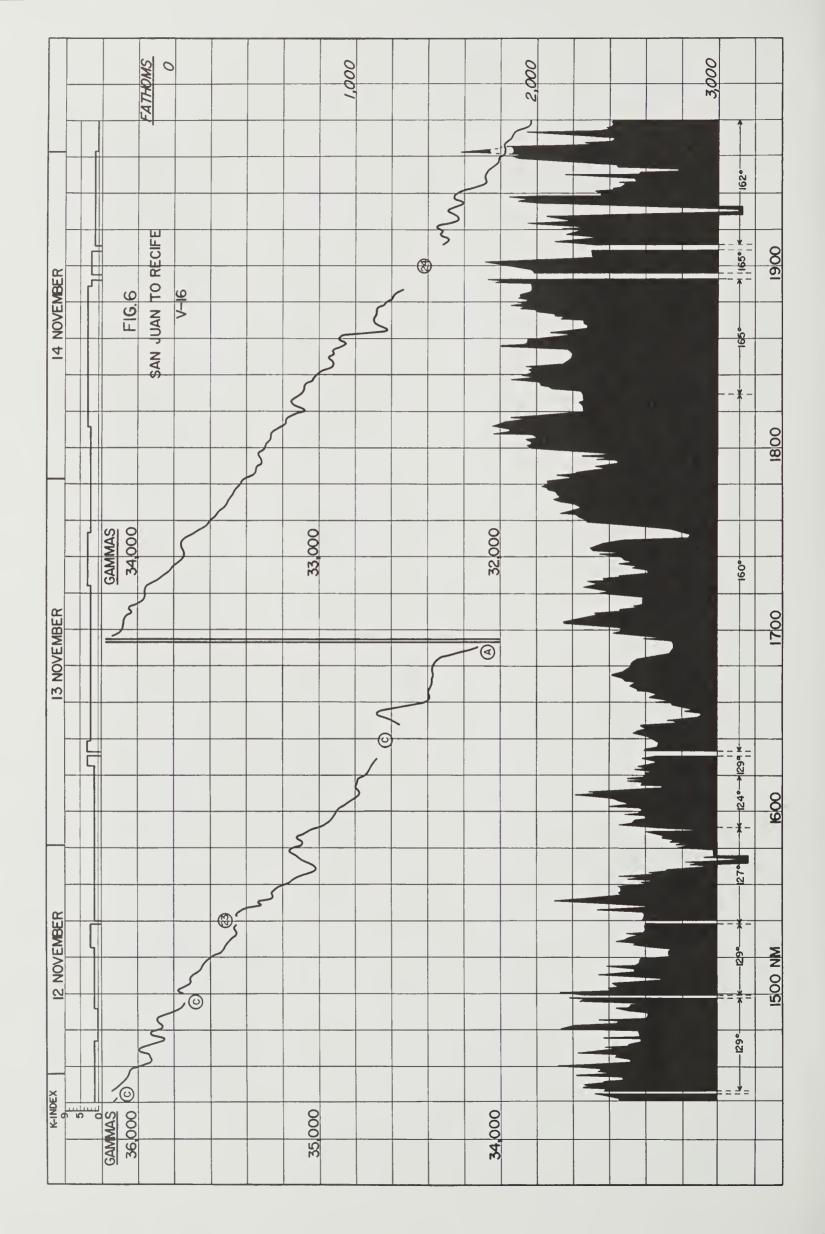


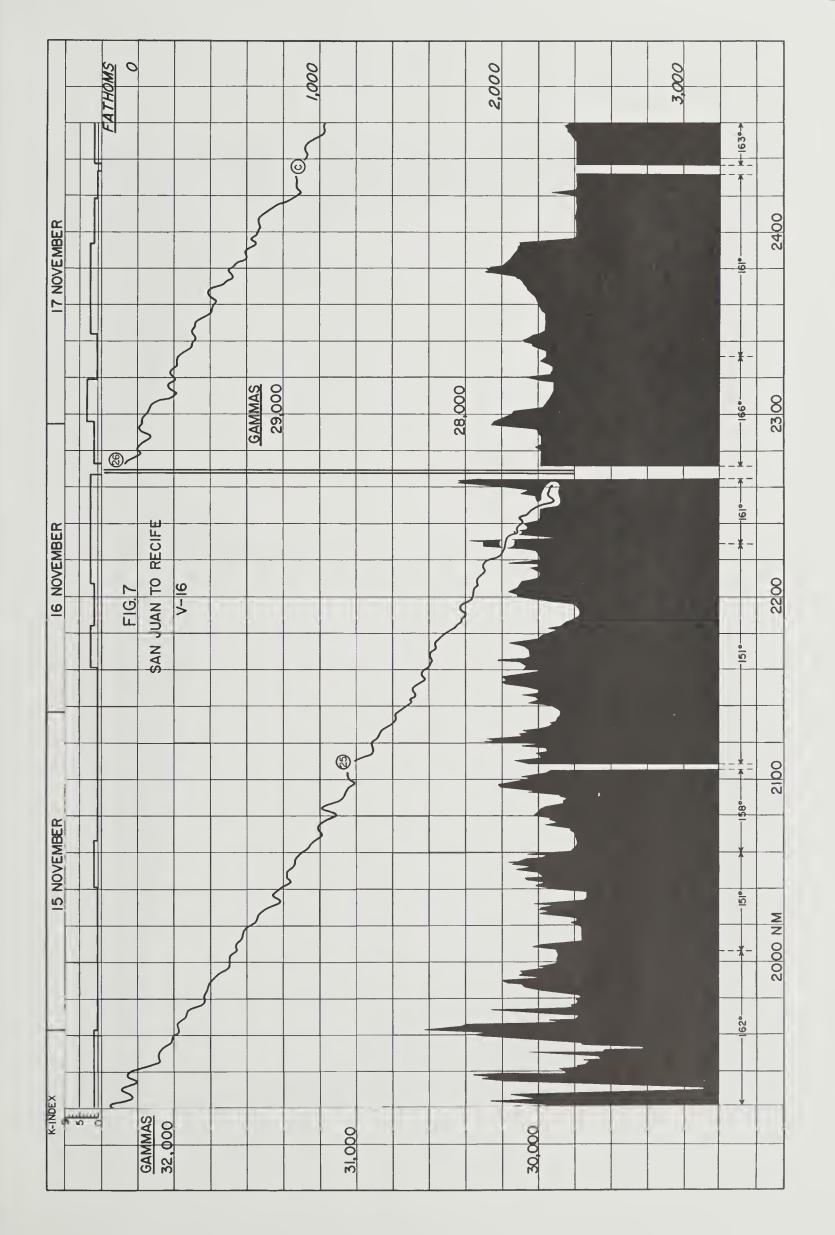
FIGURE 2

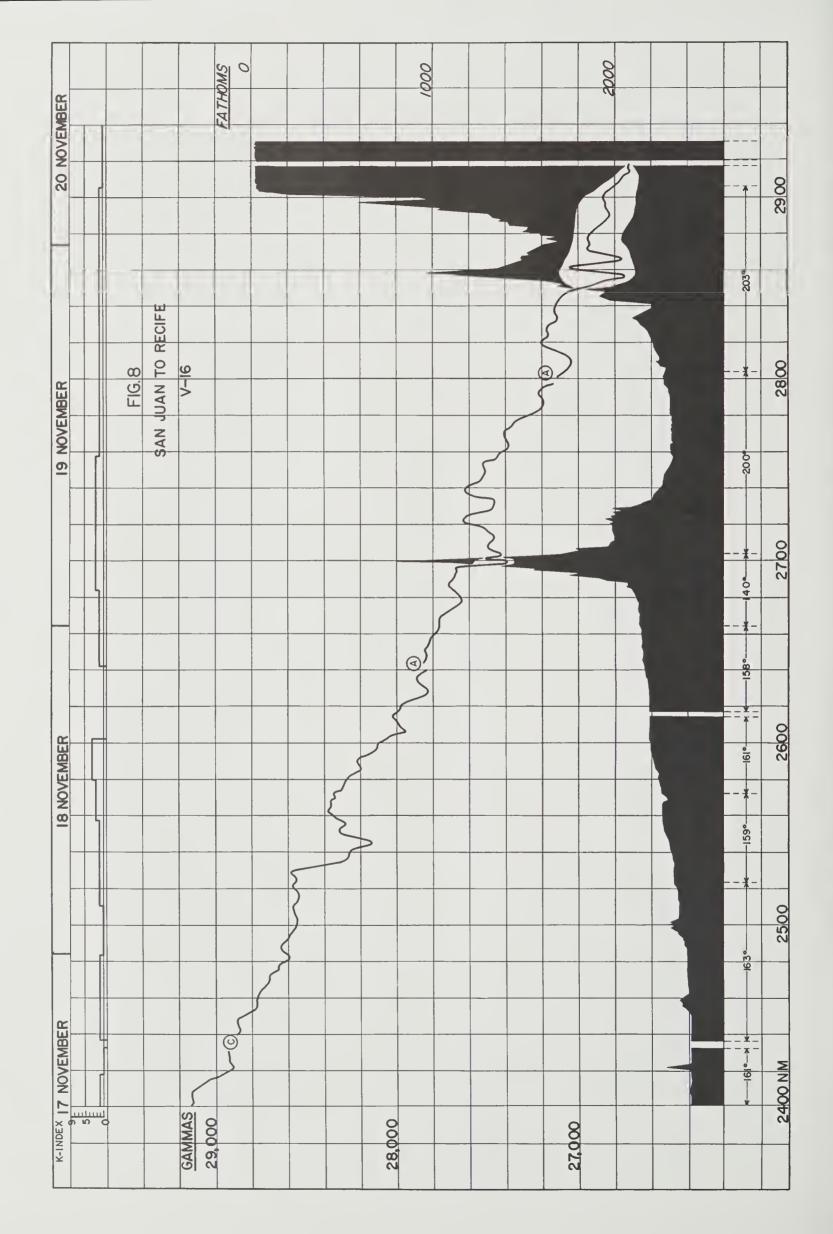


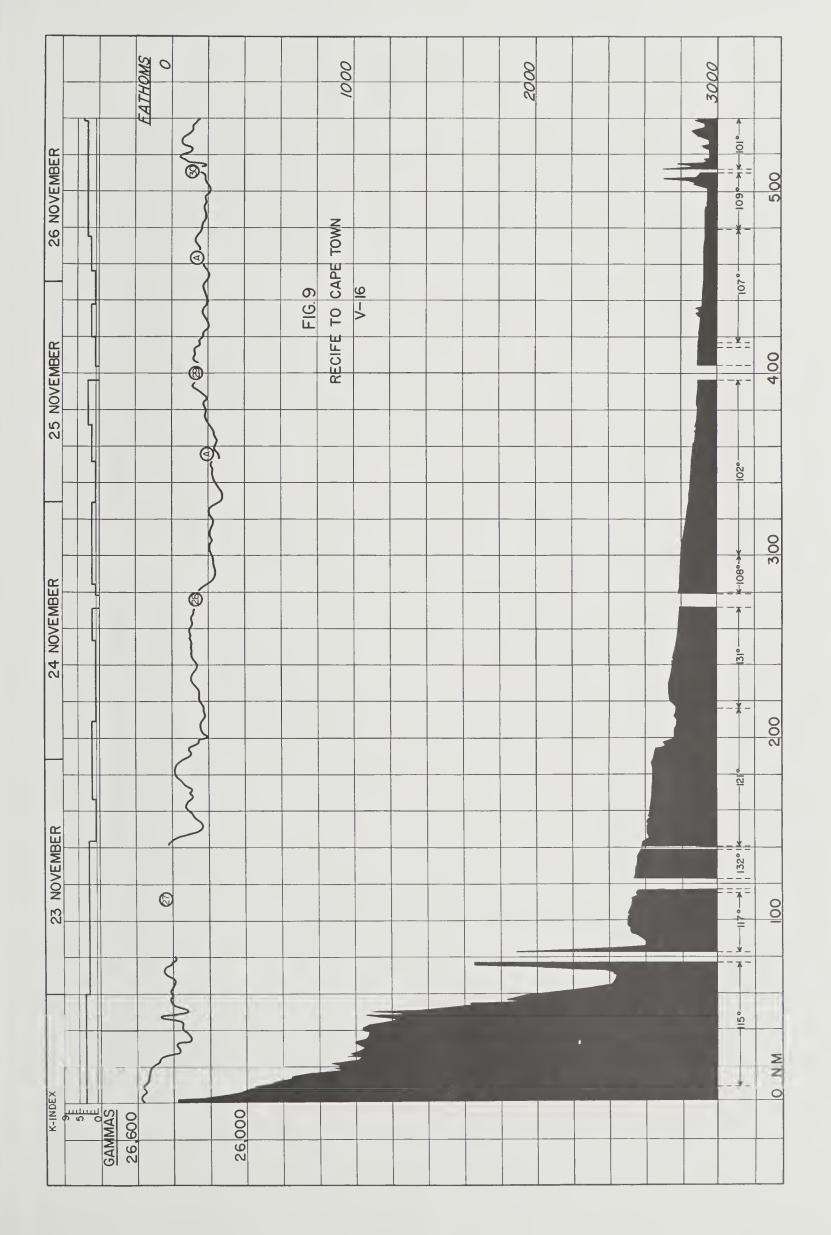


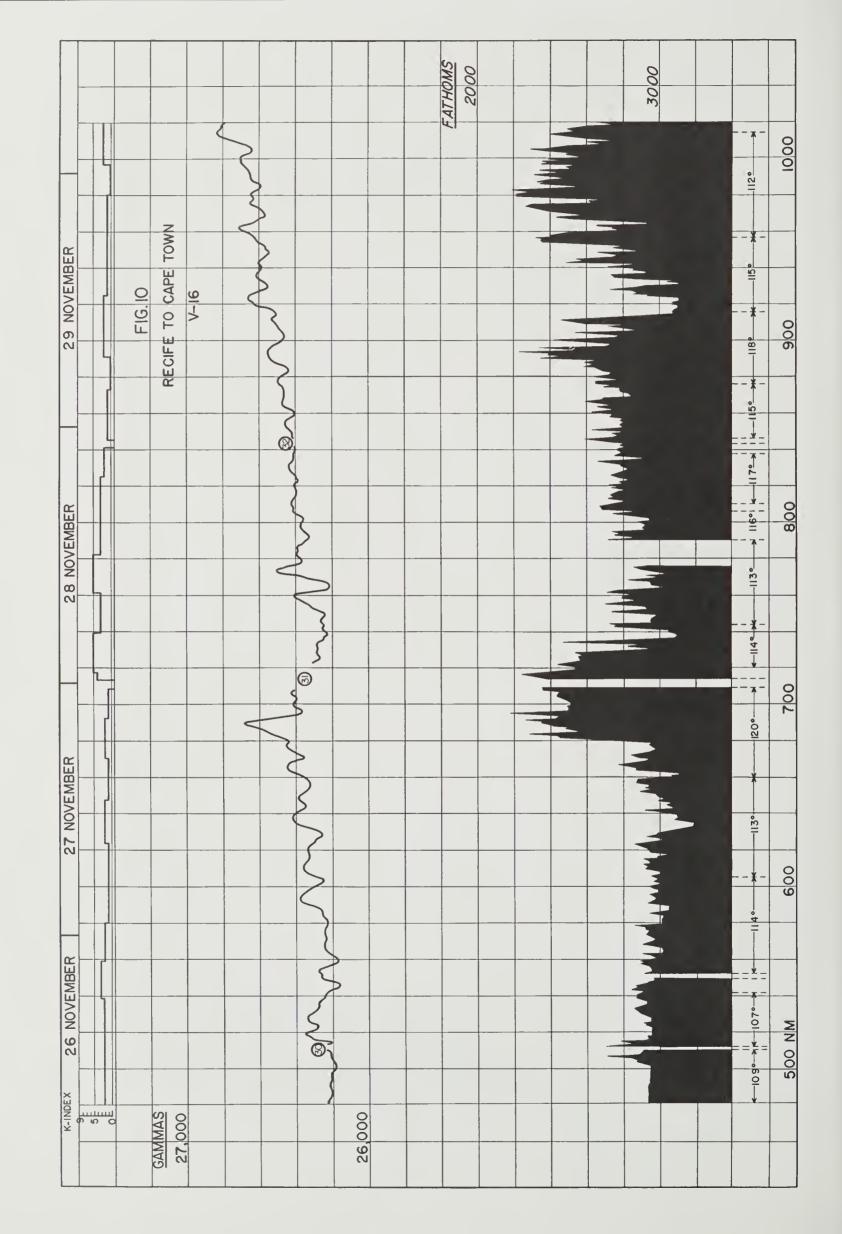


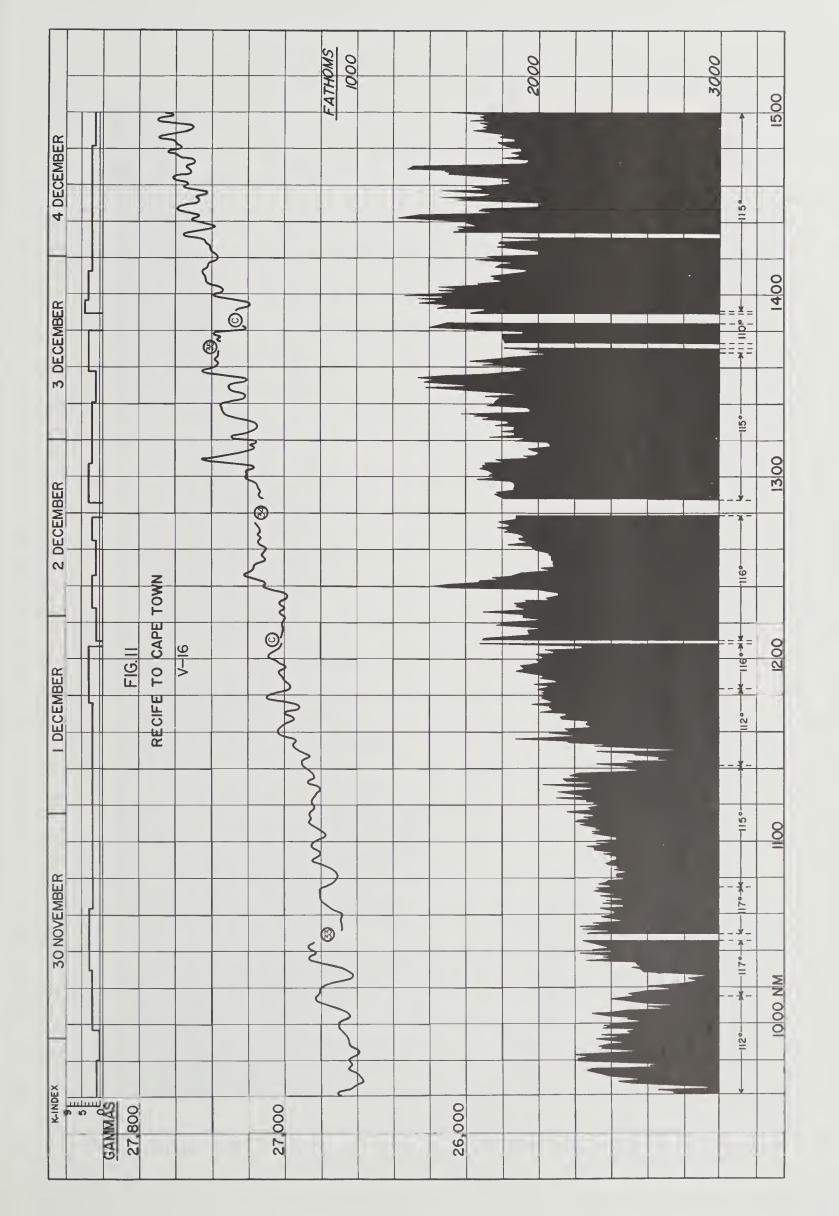


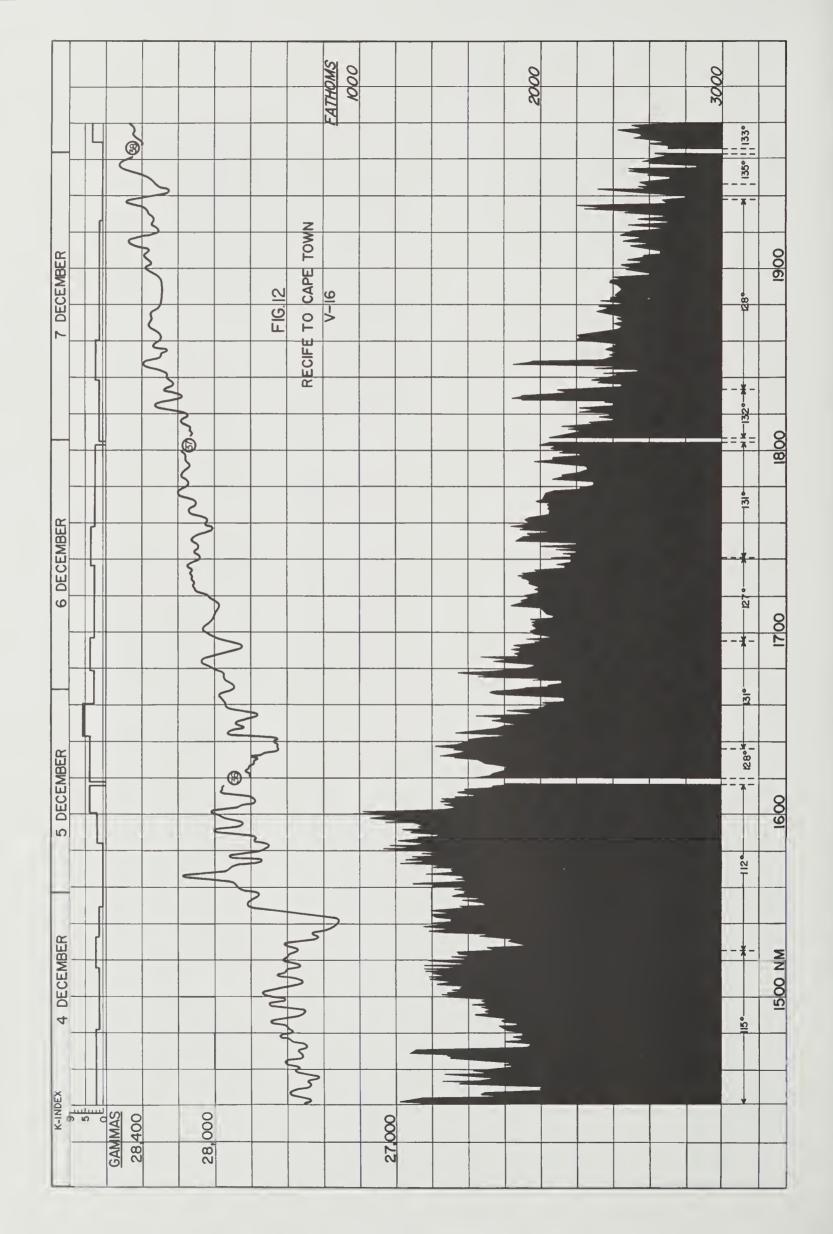












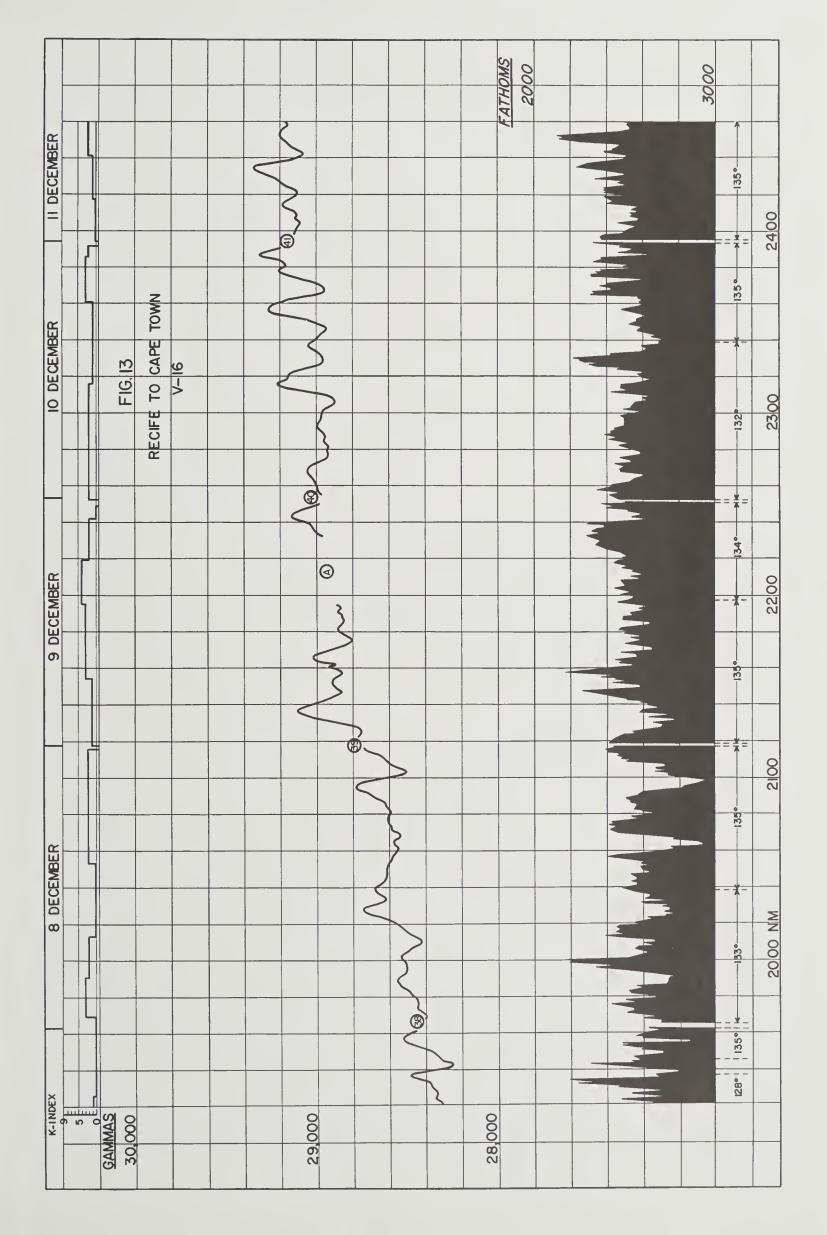
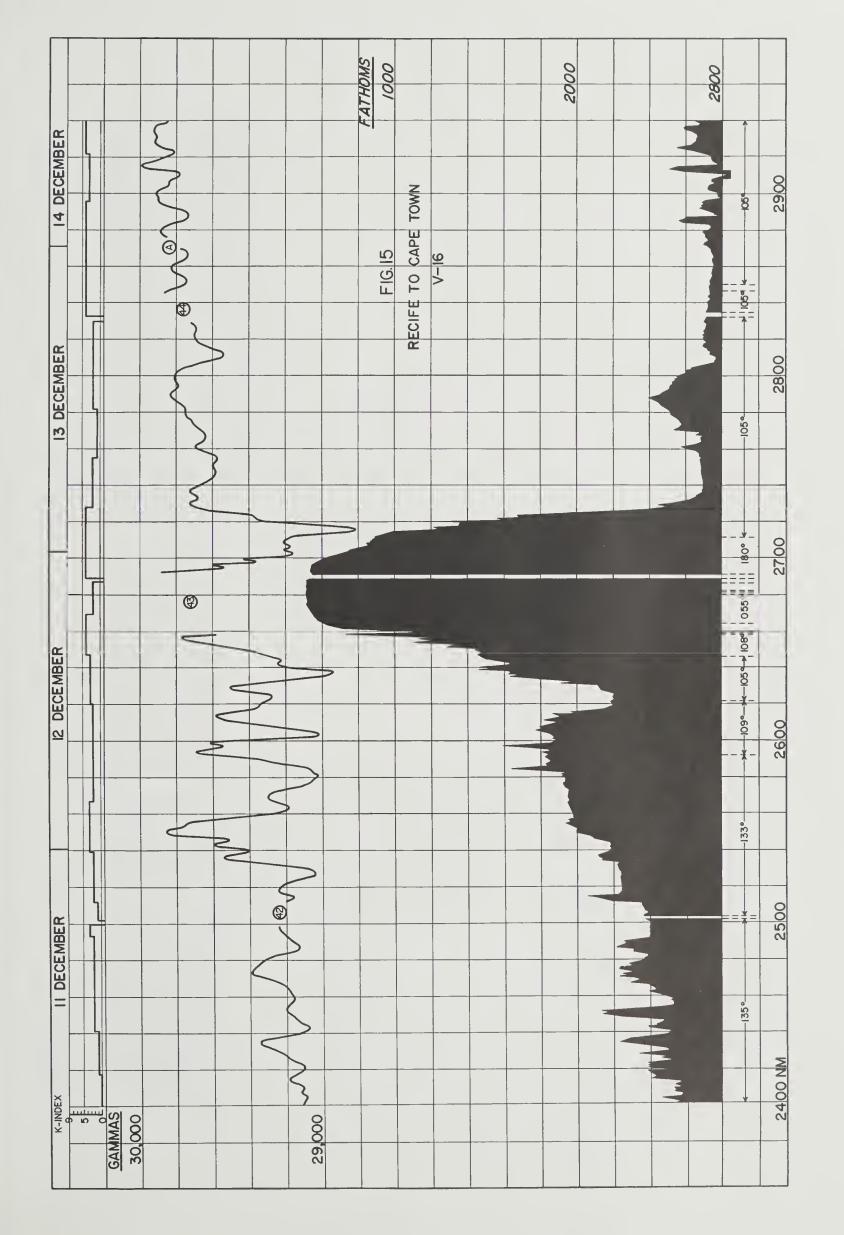
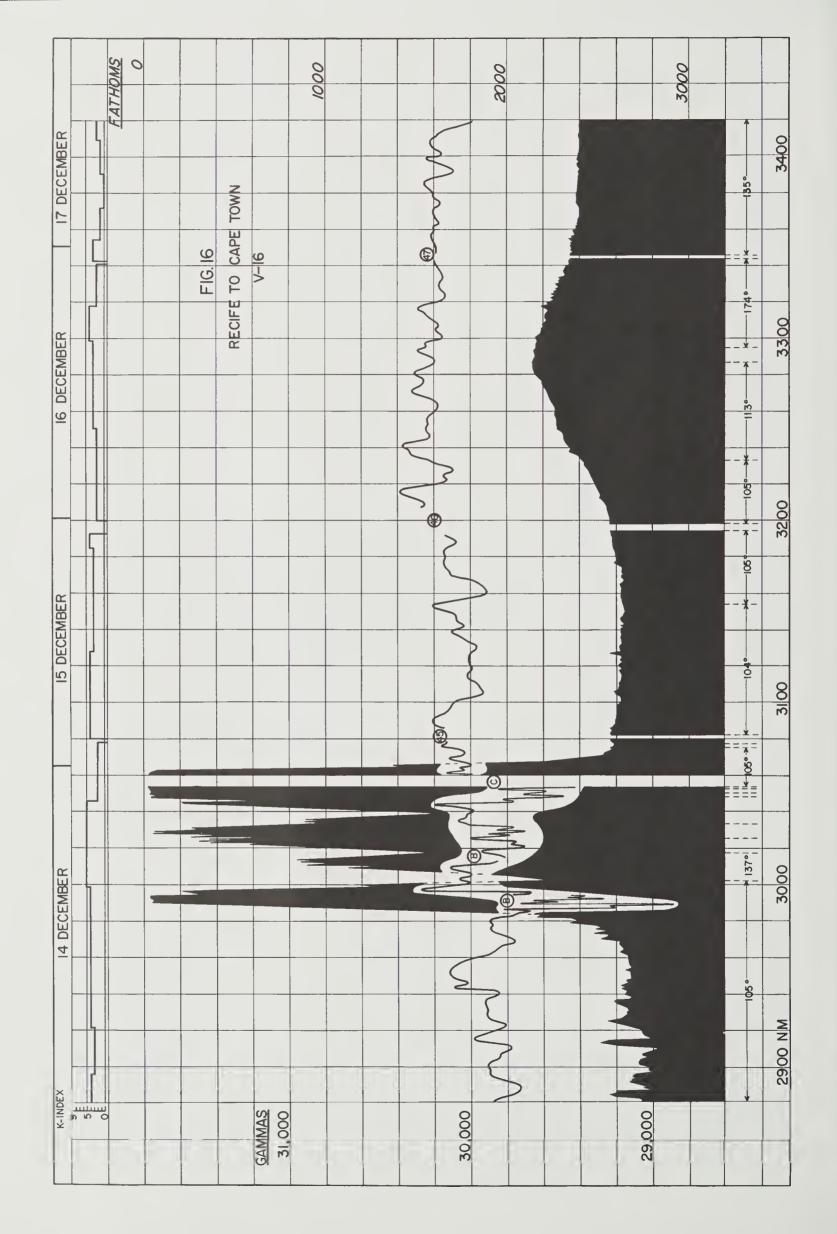
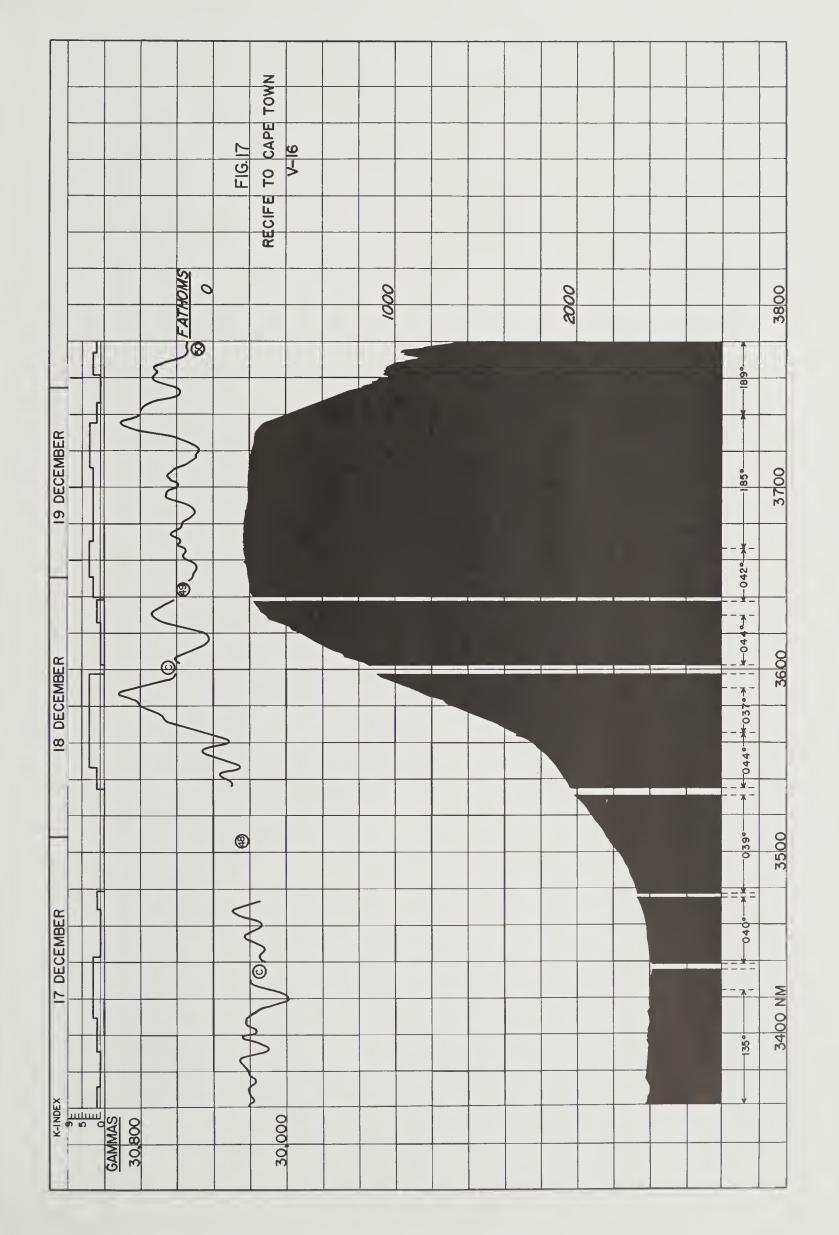


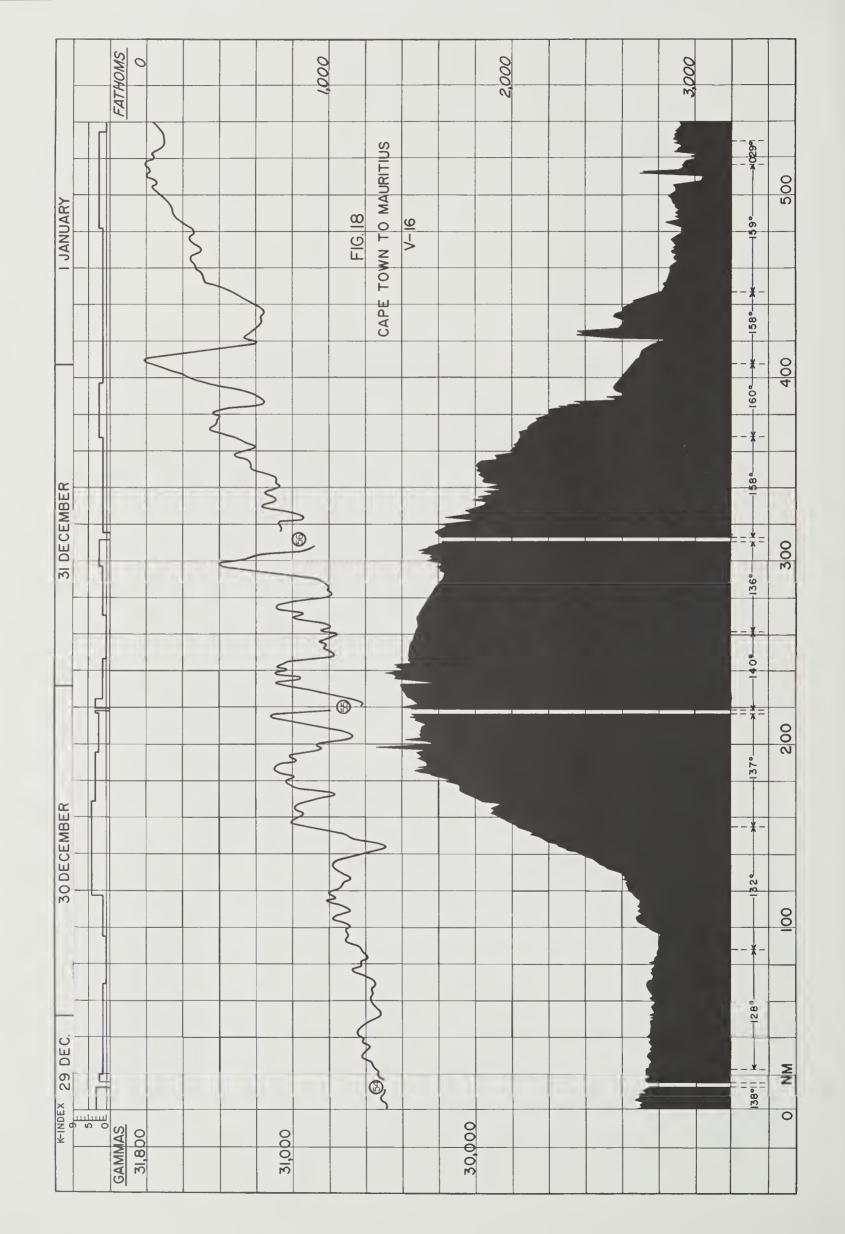


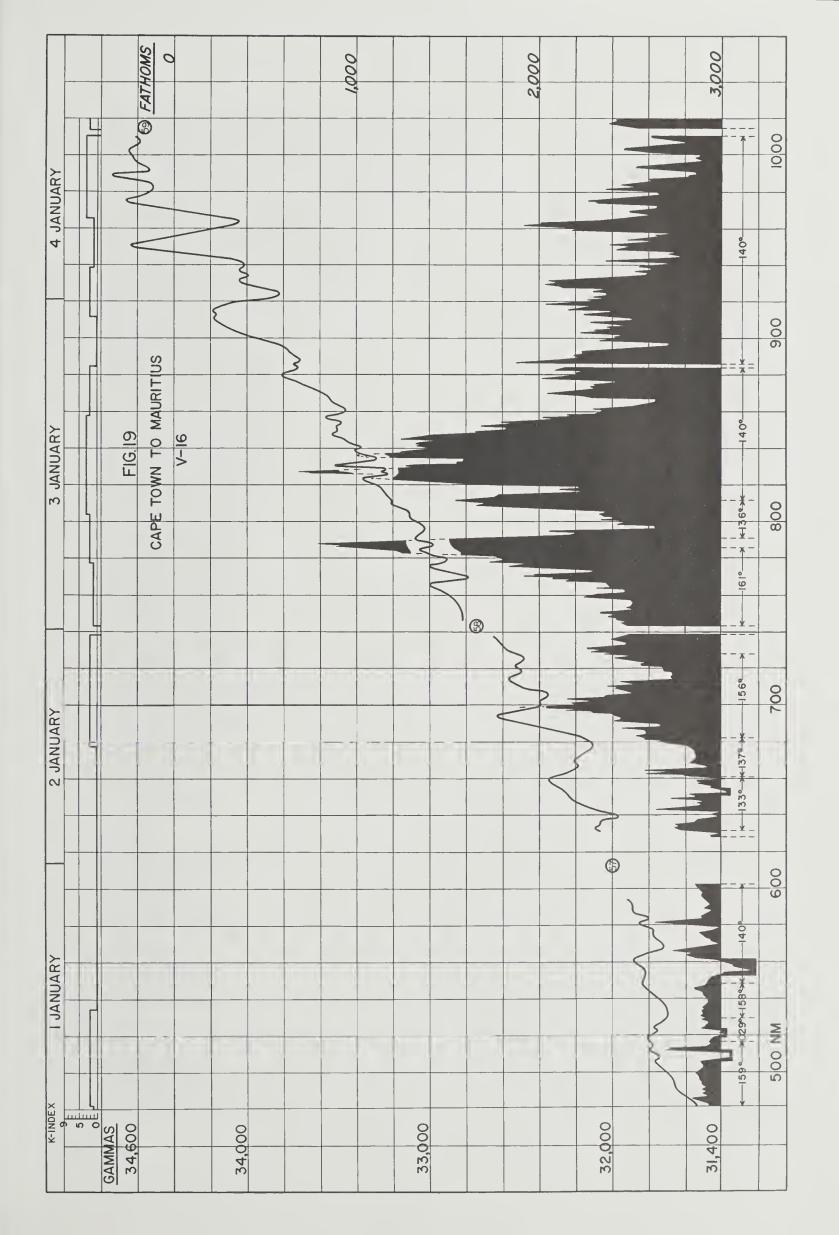
FIGURE 14

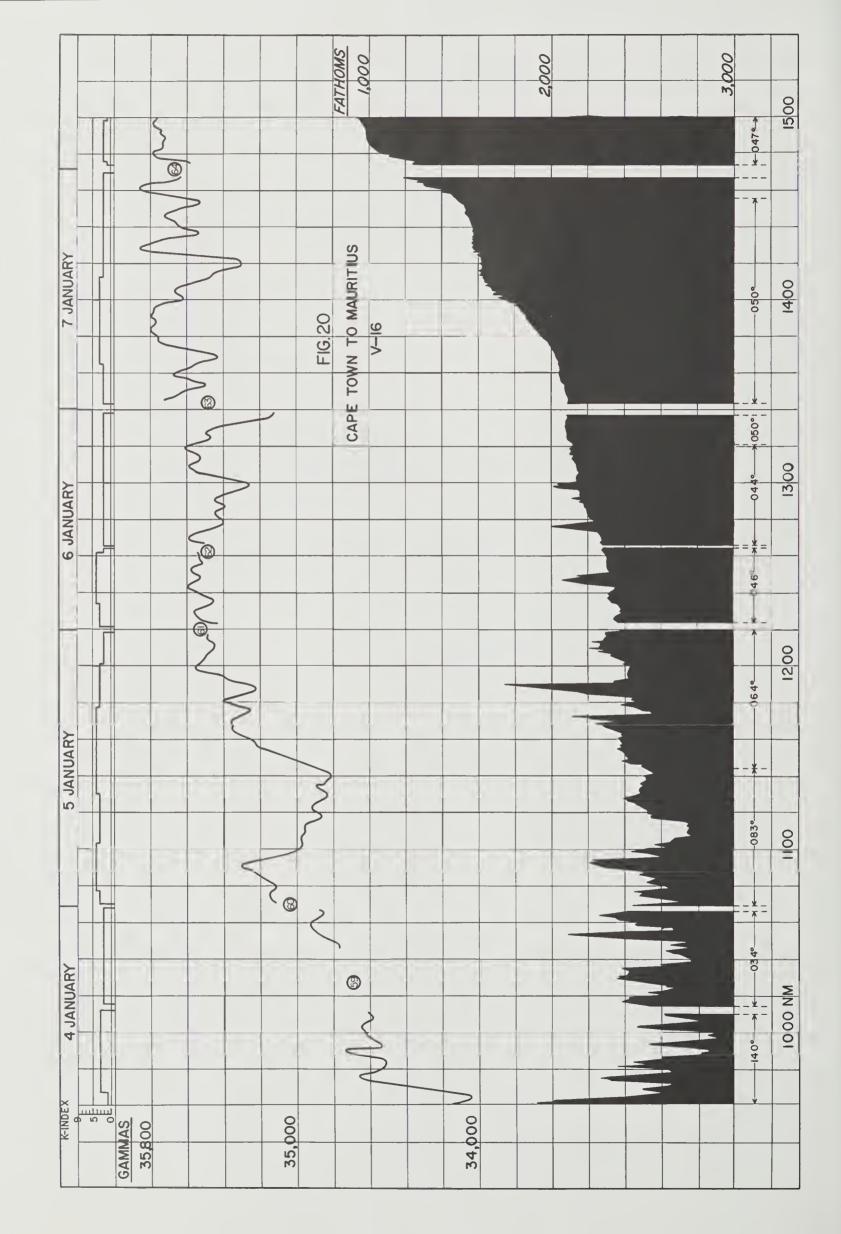


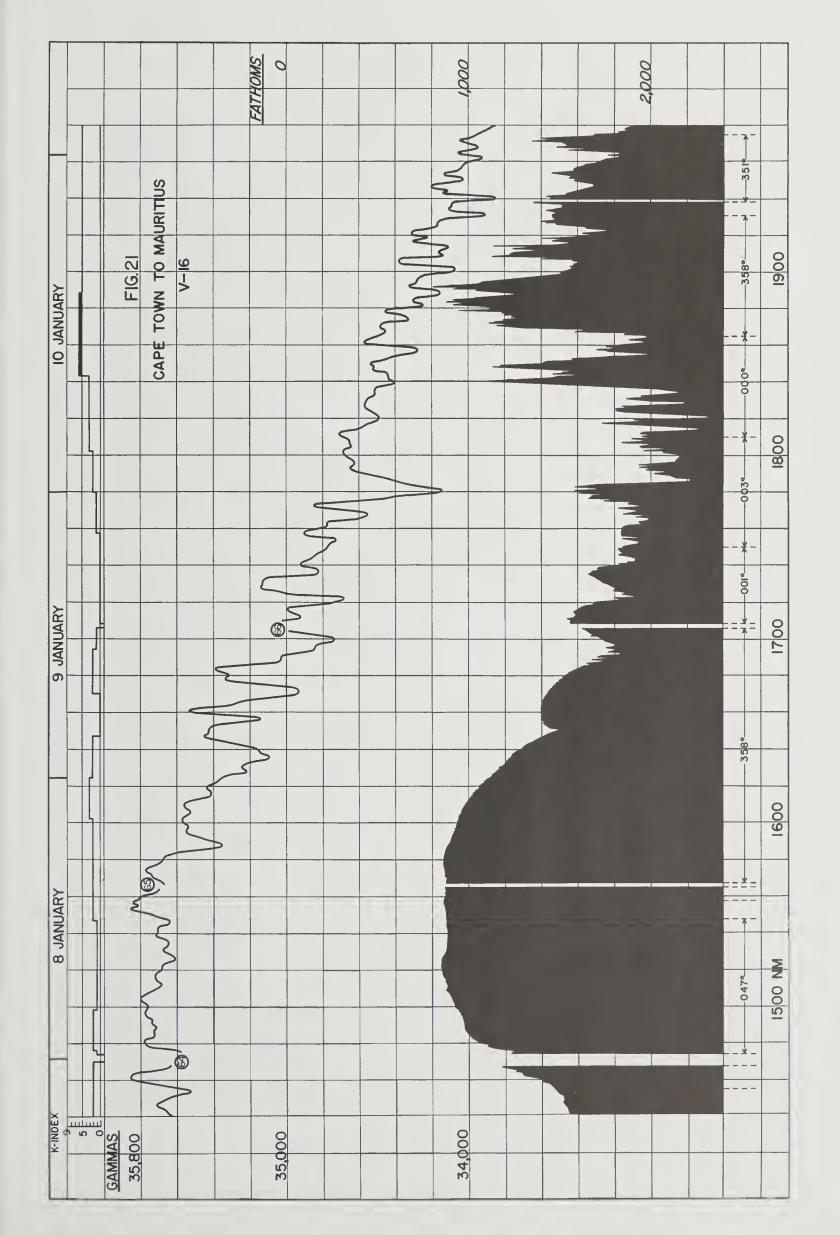


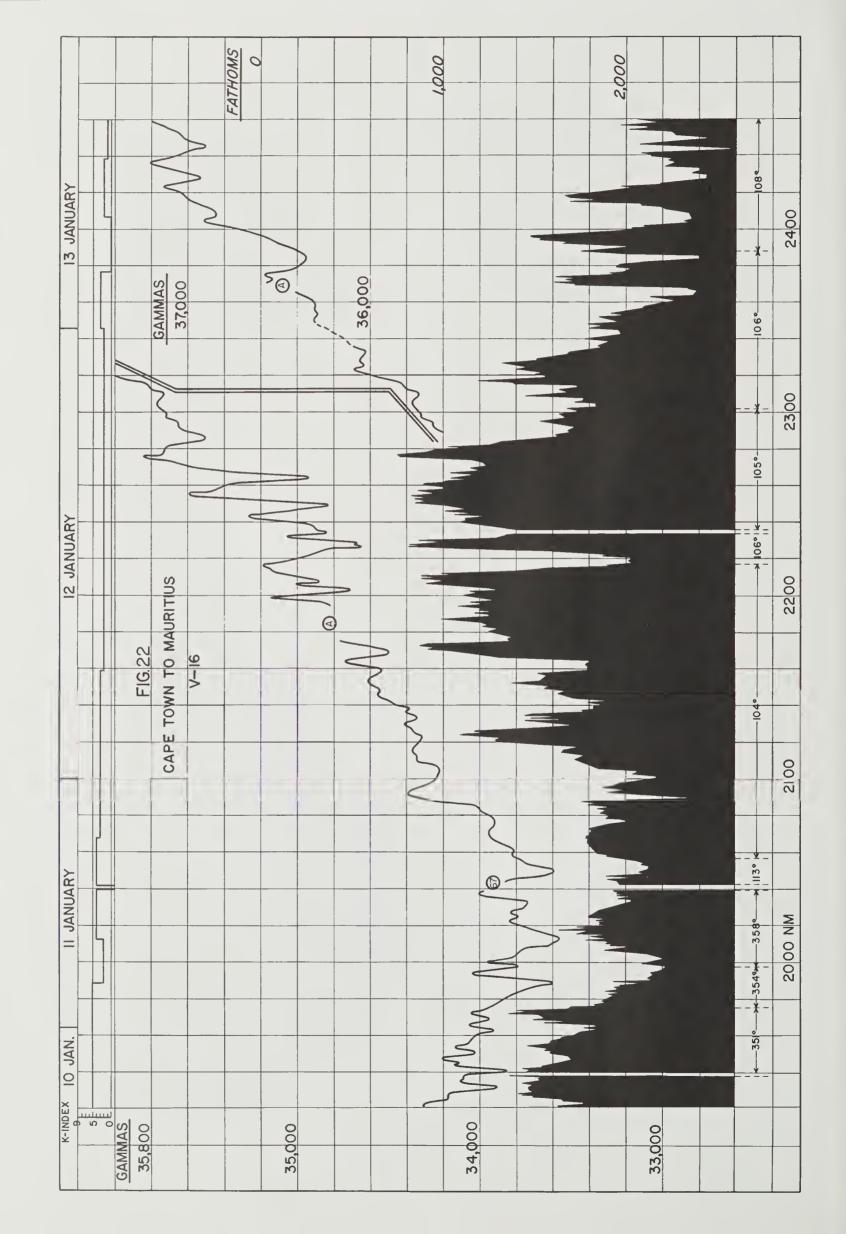


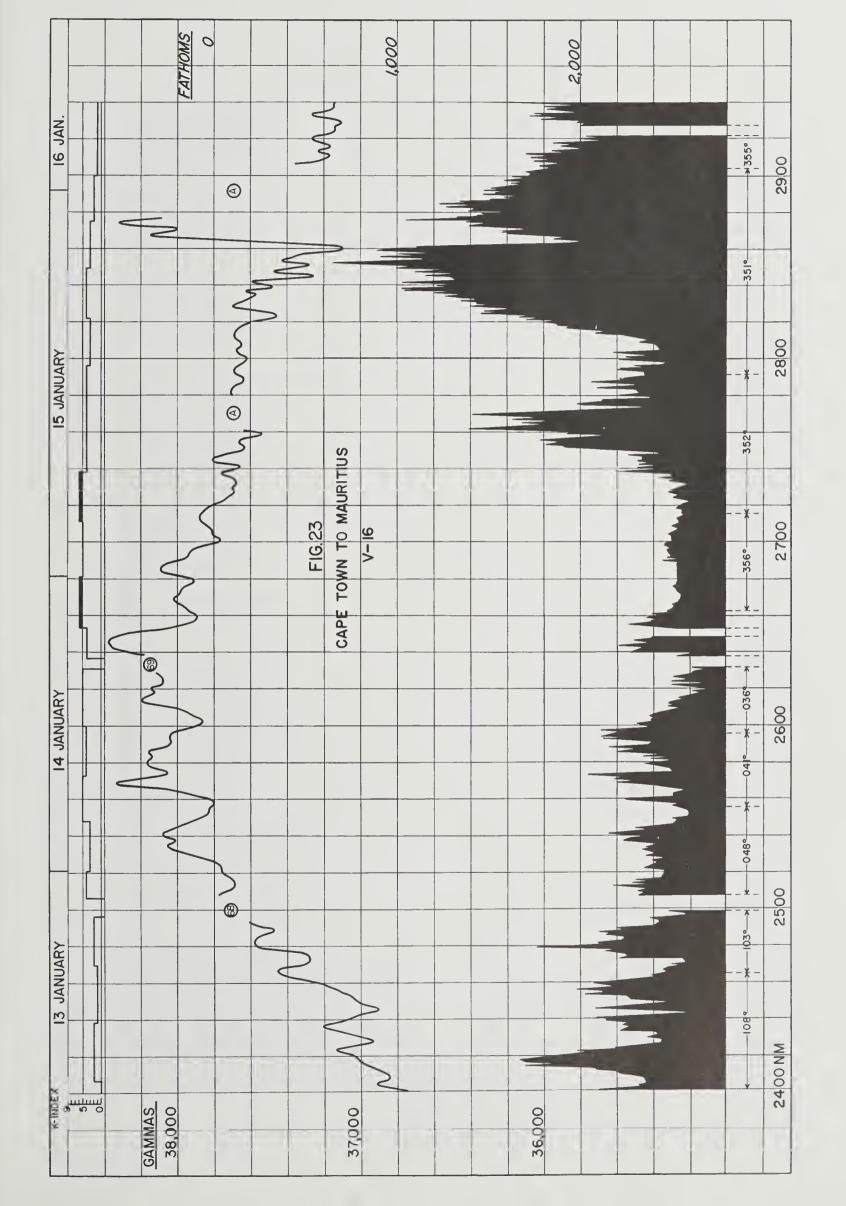


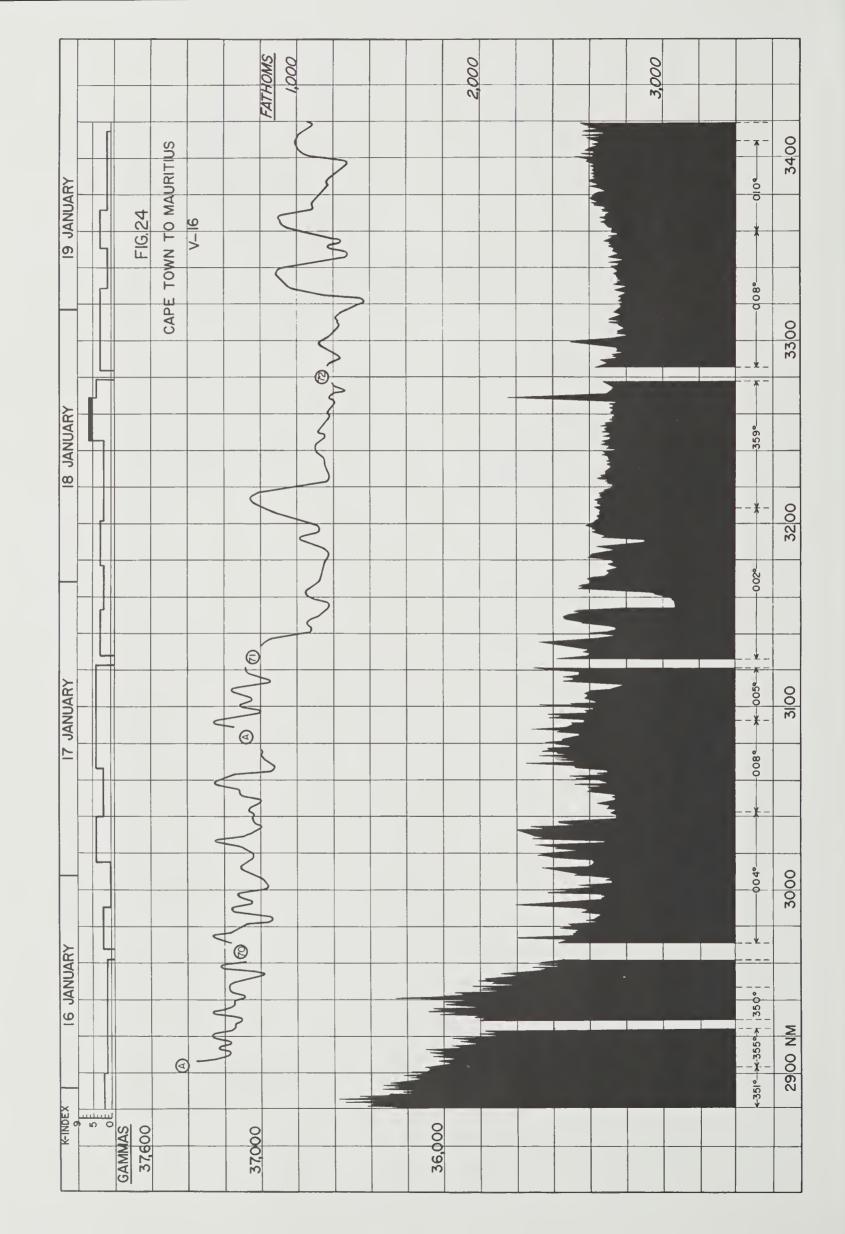


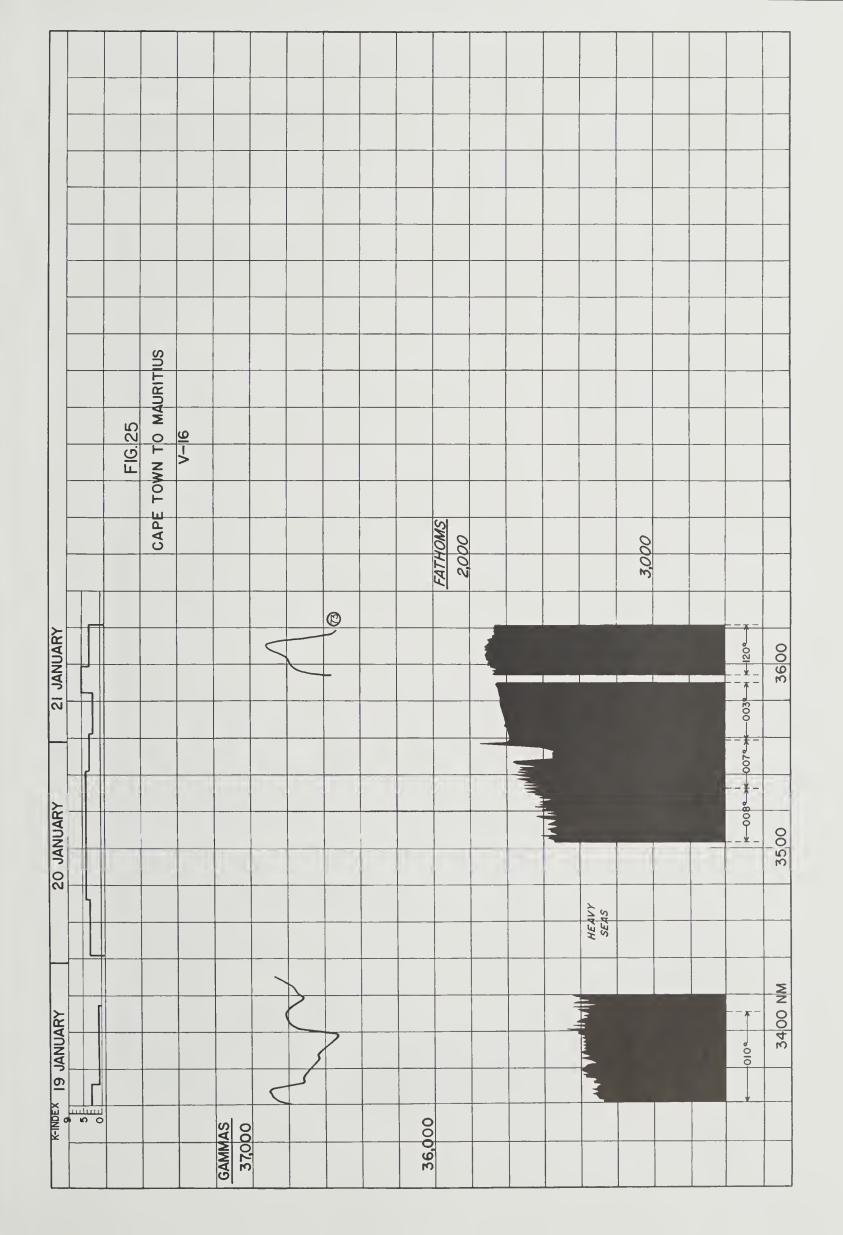


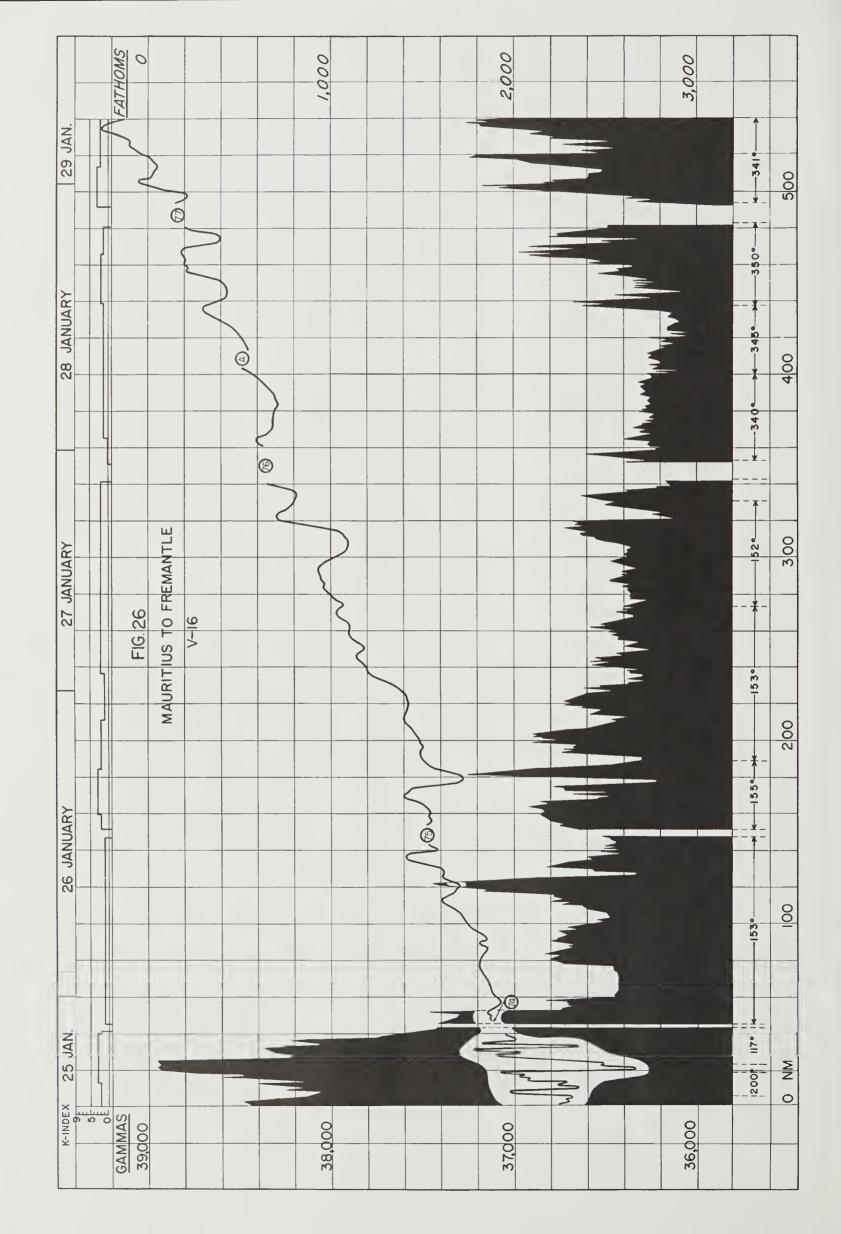


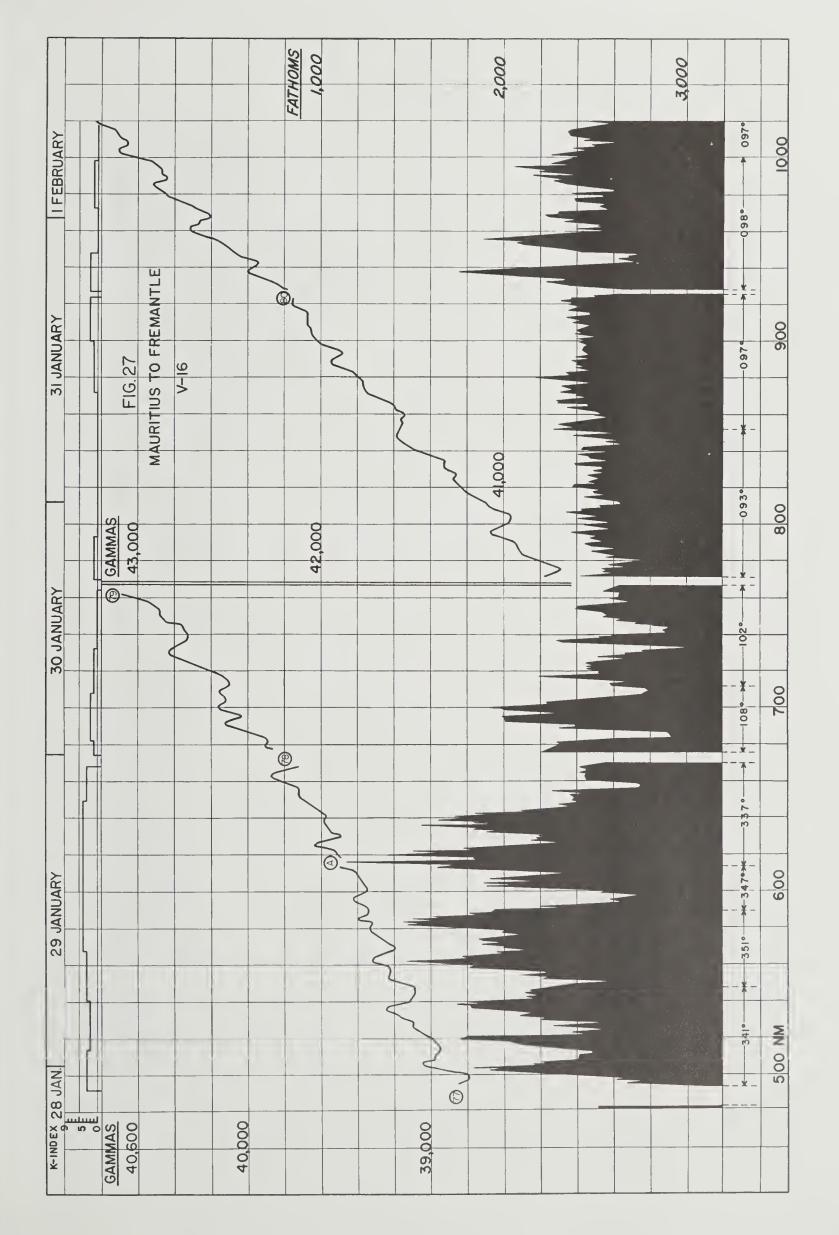


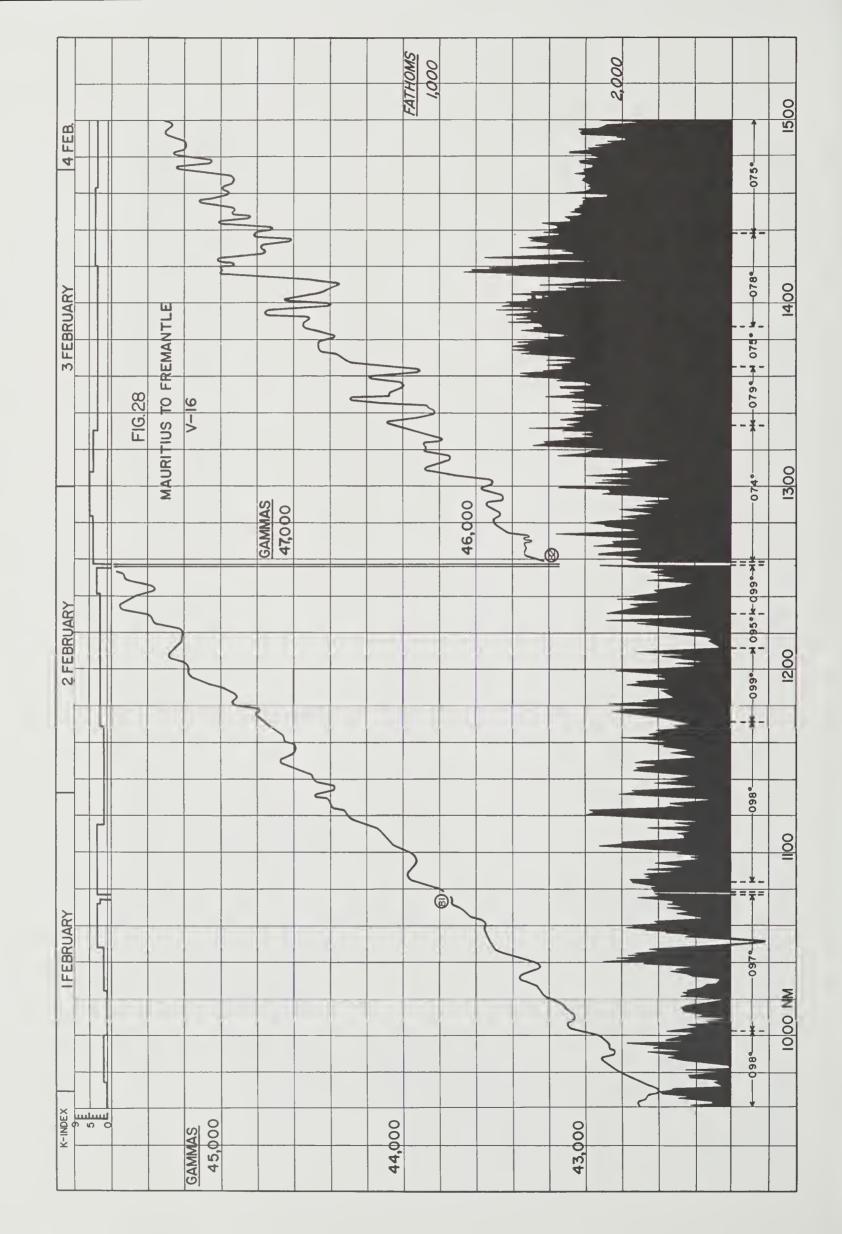


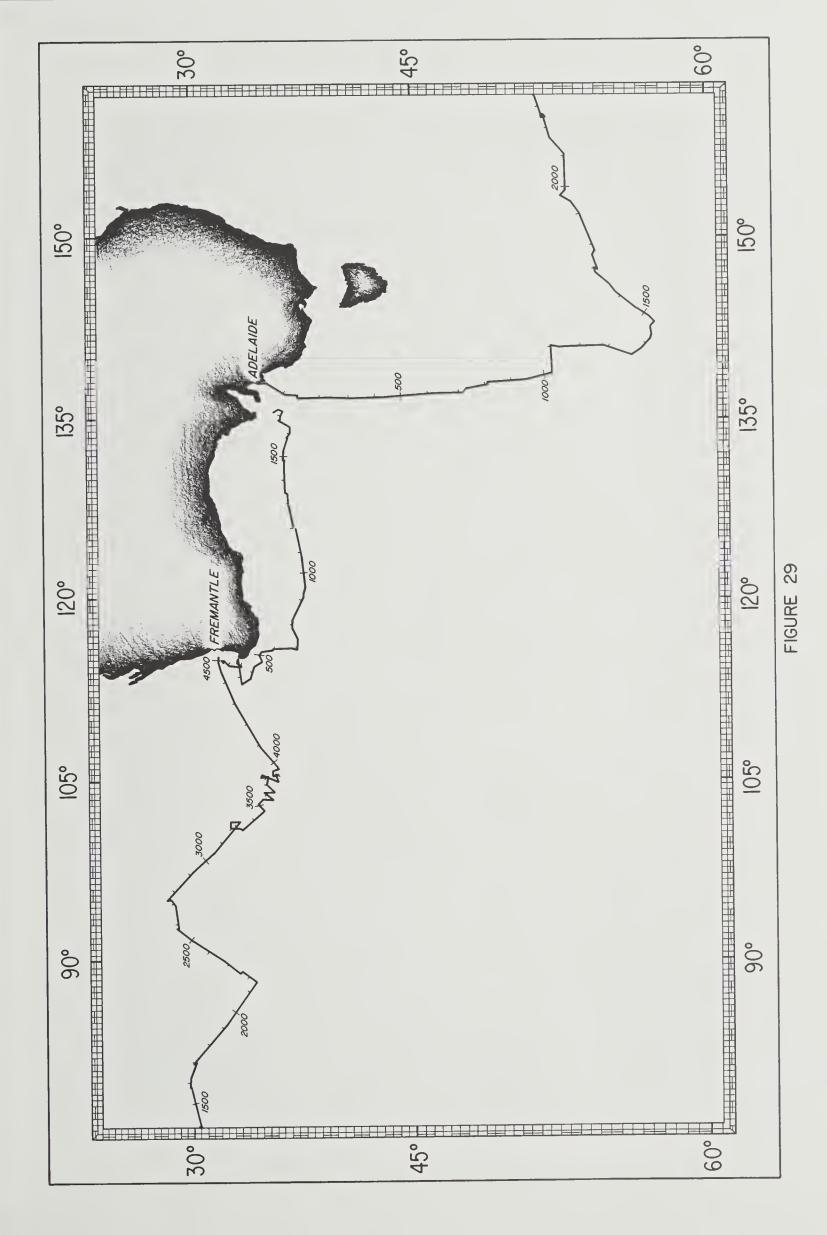


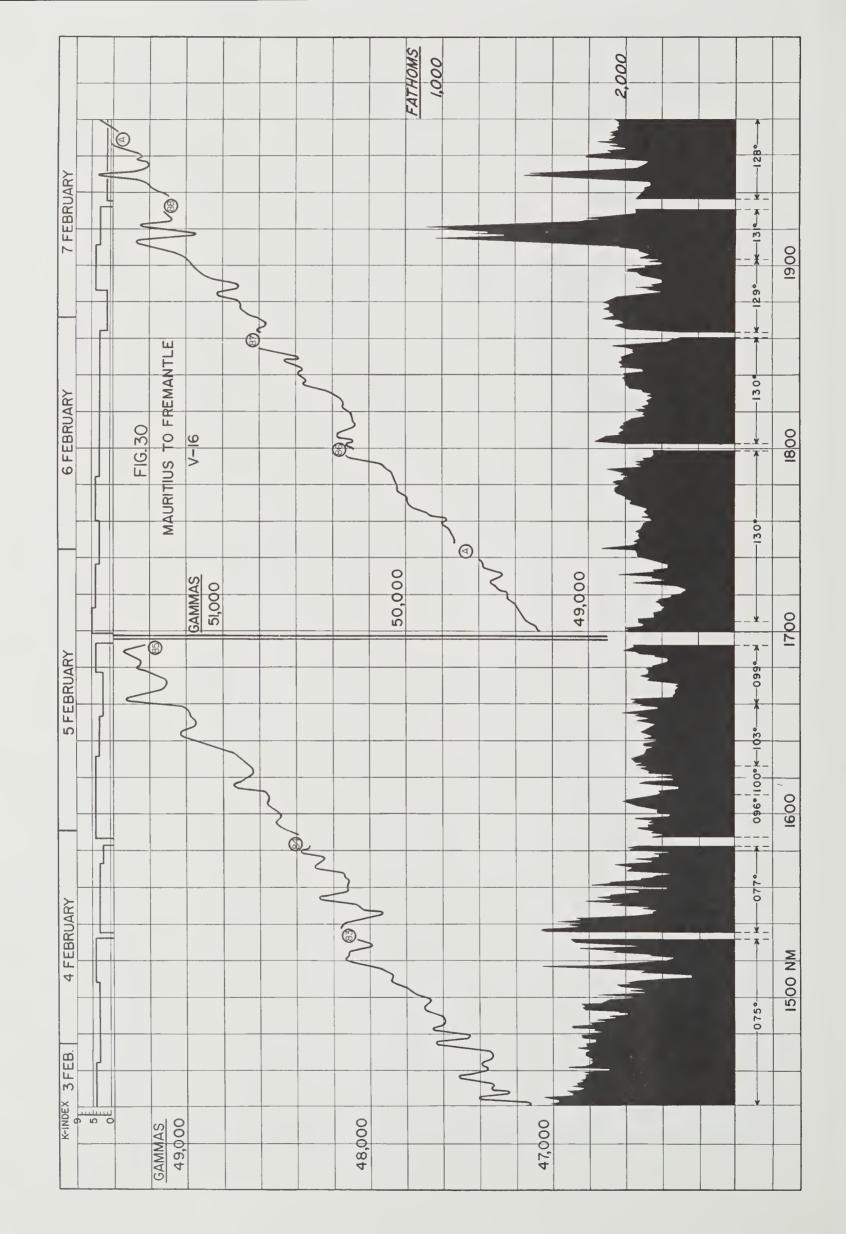


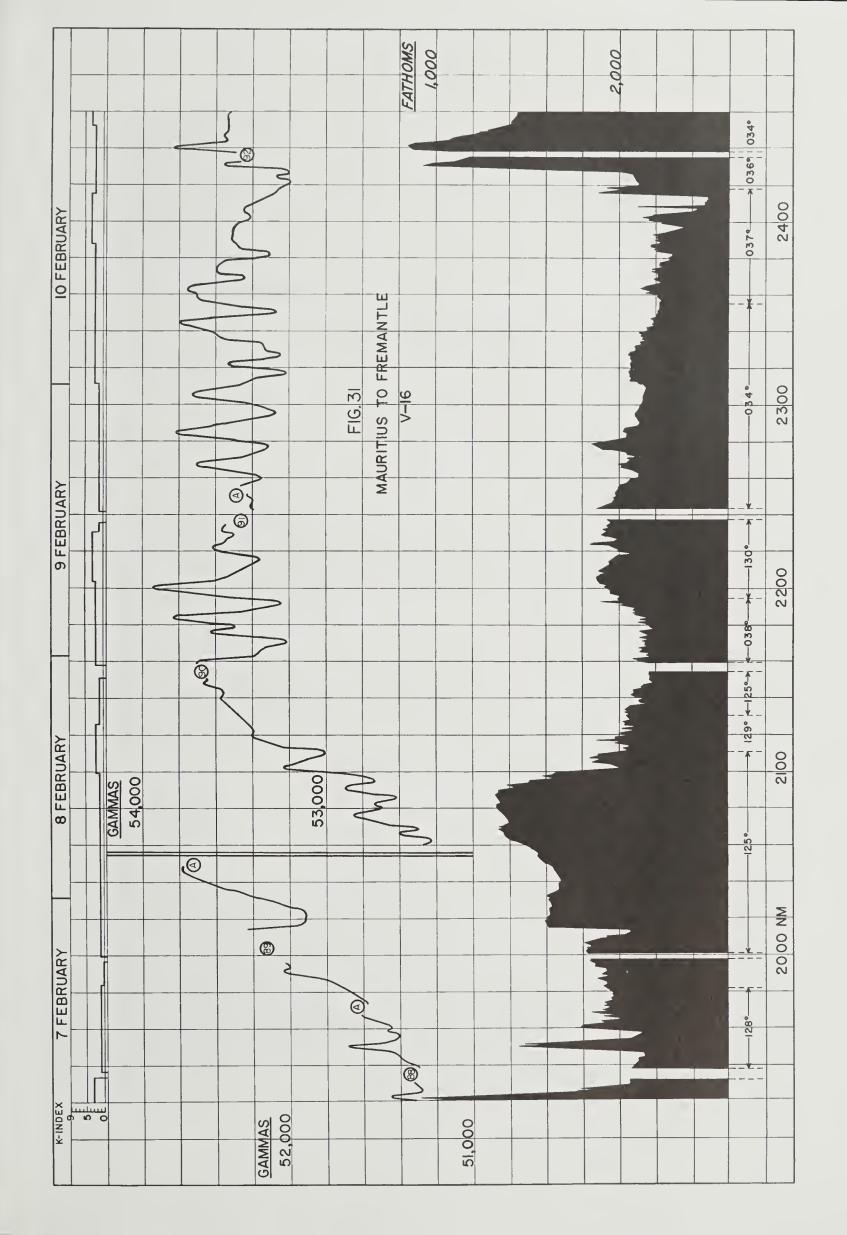


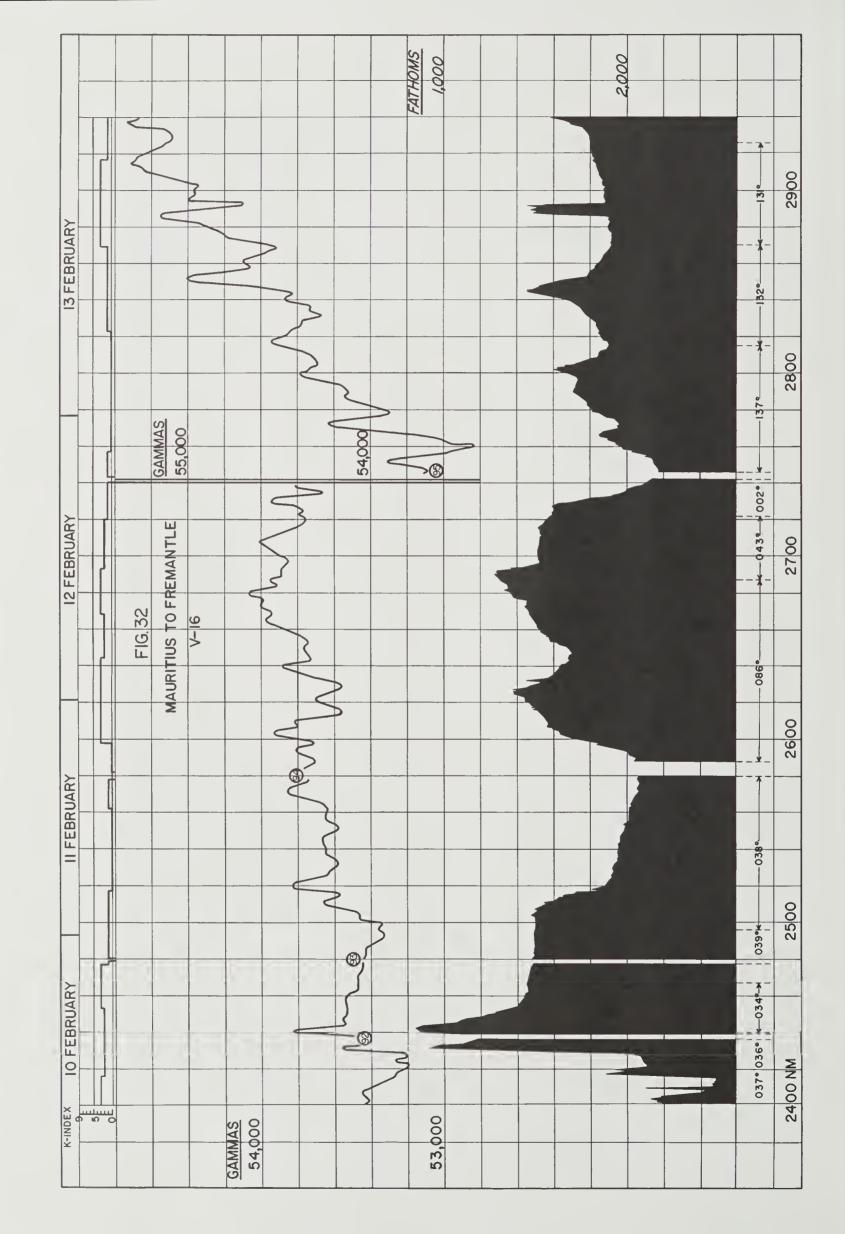


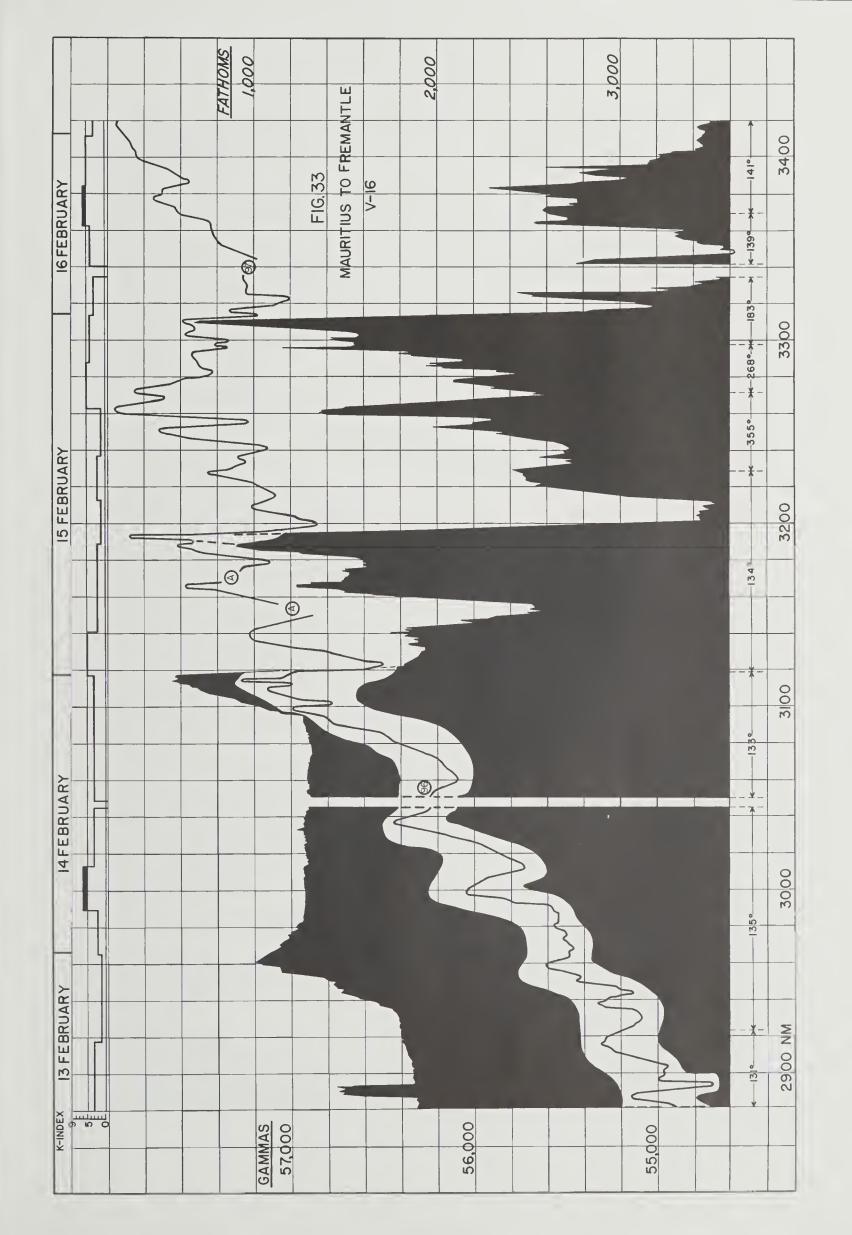


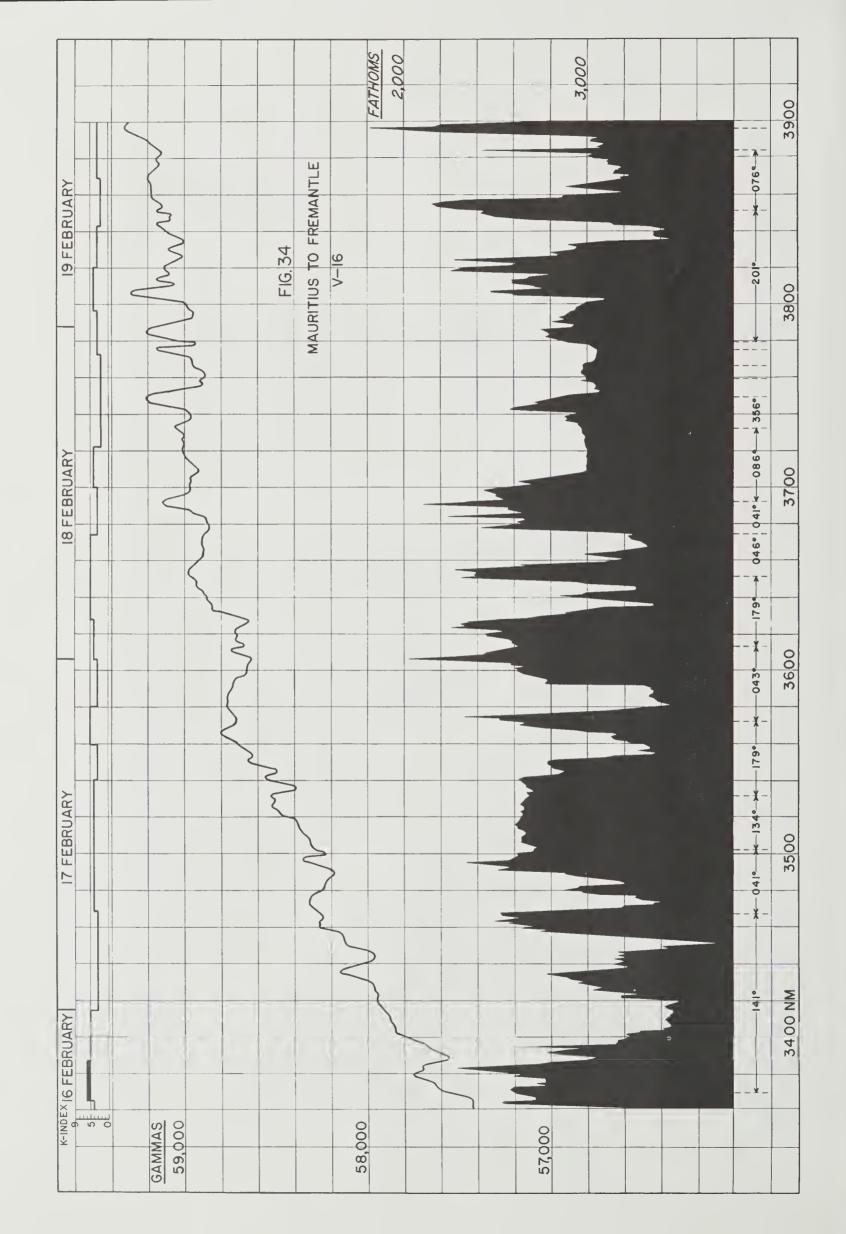


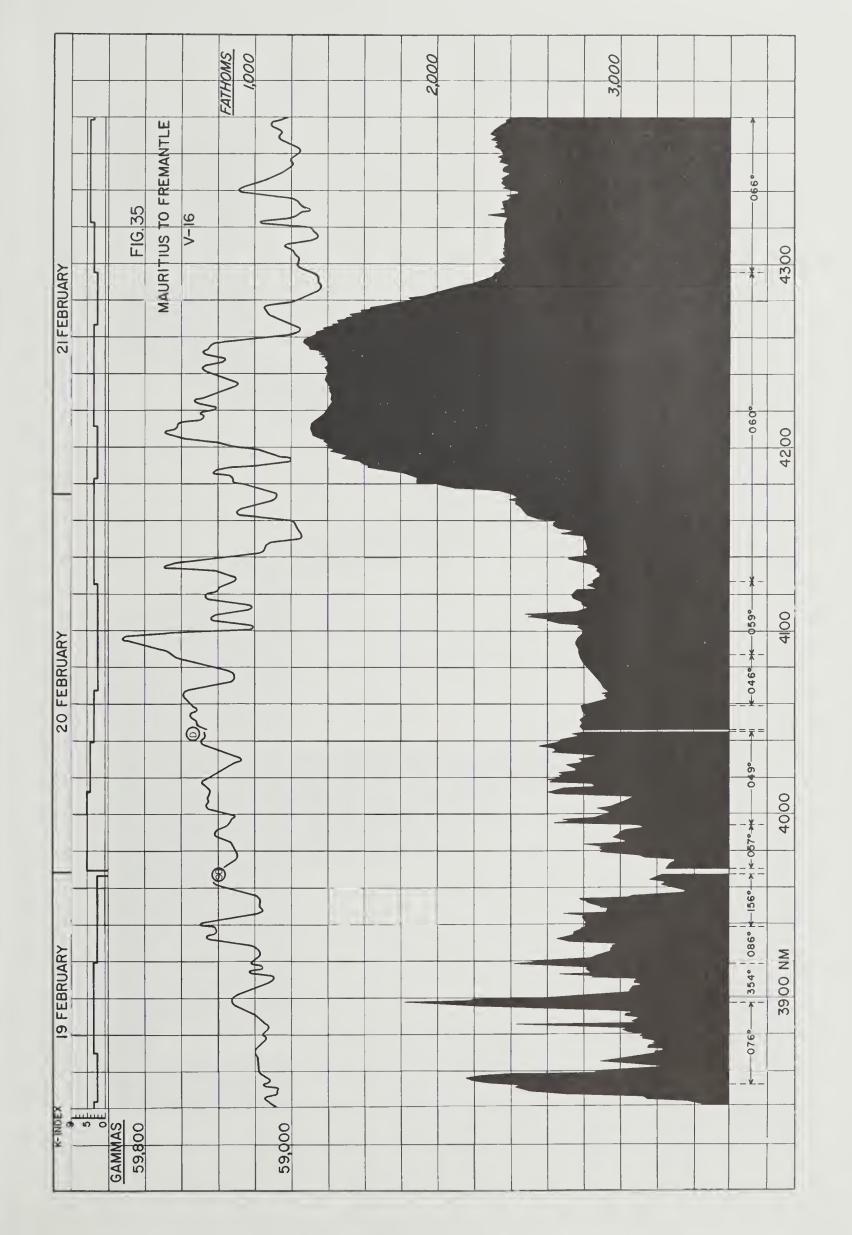


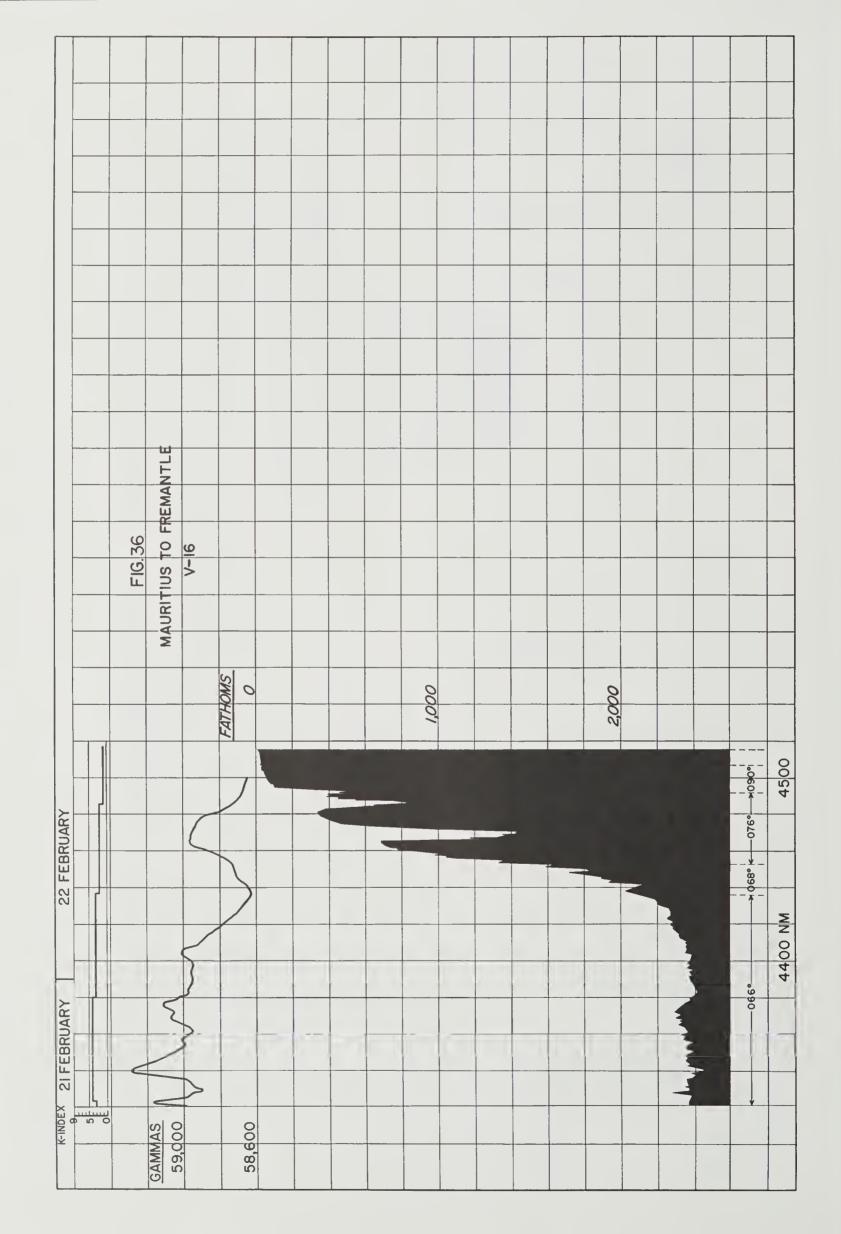


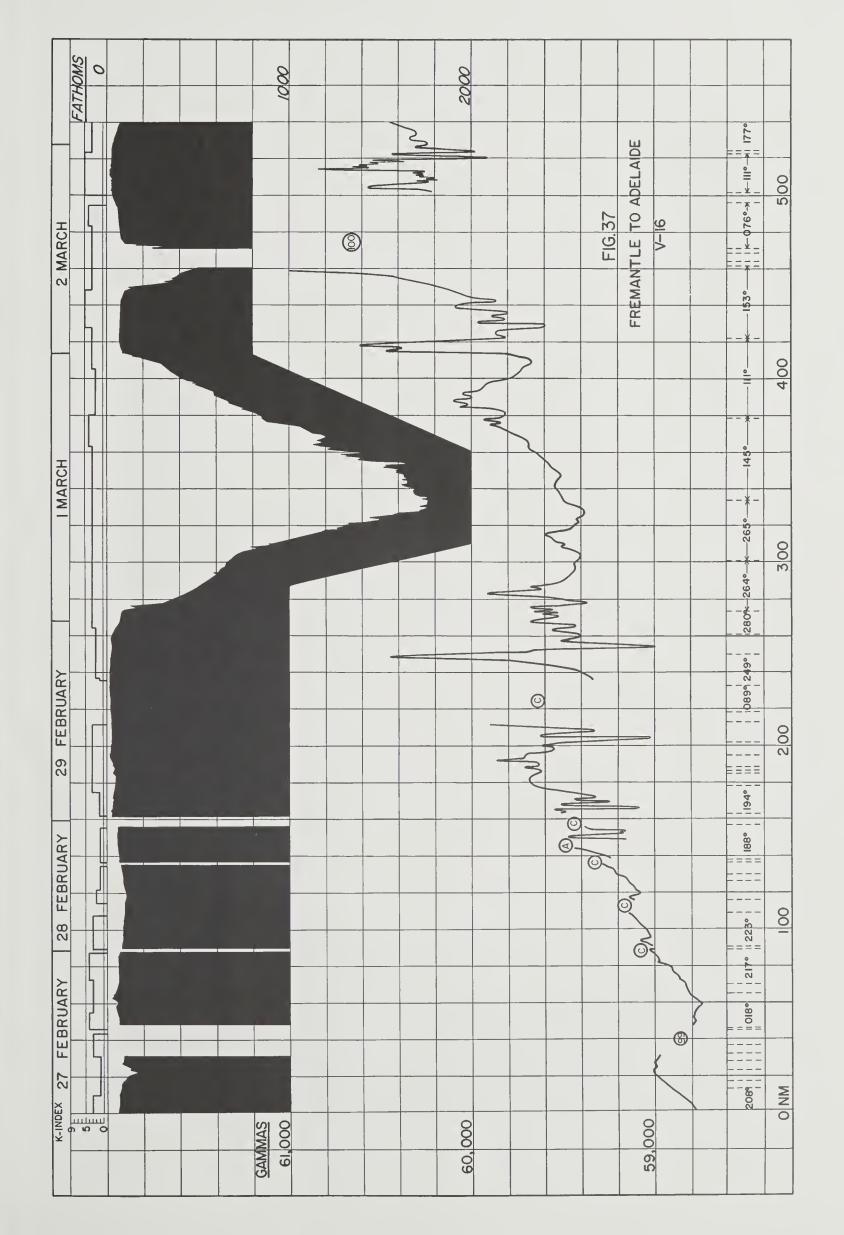


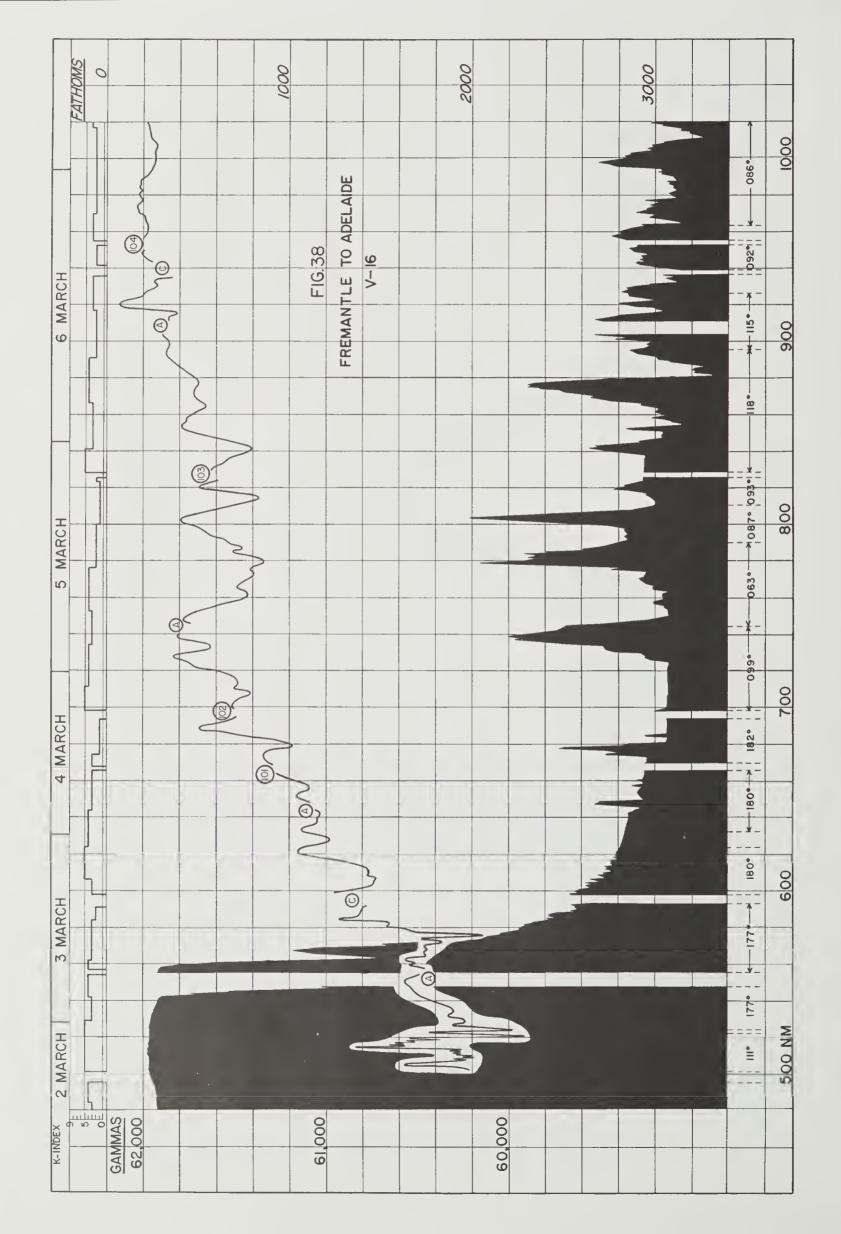


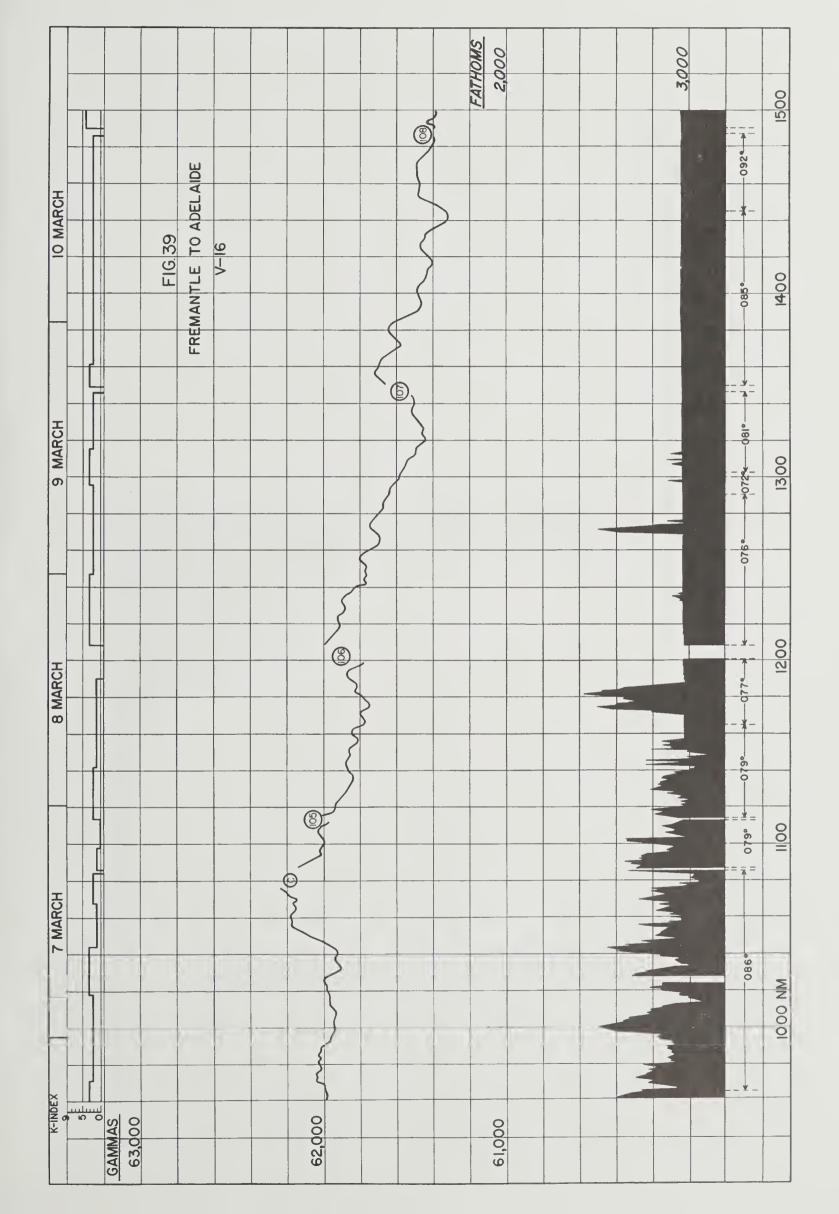


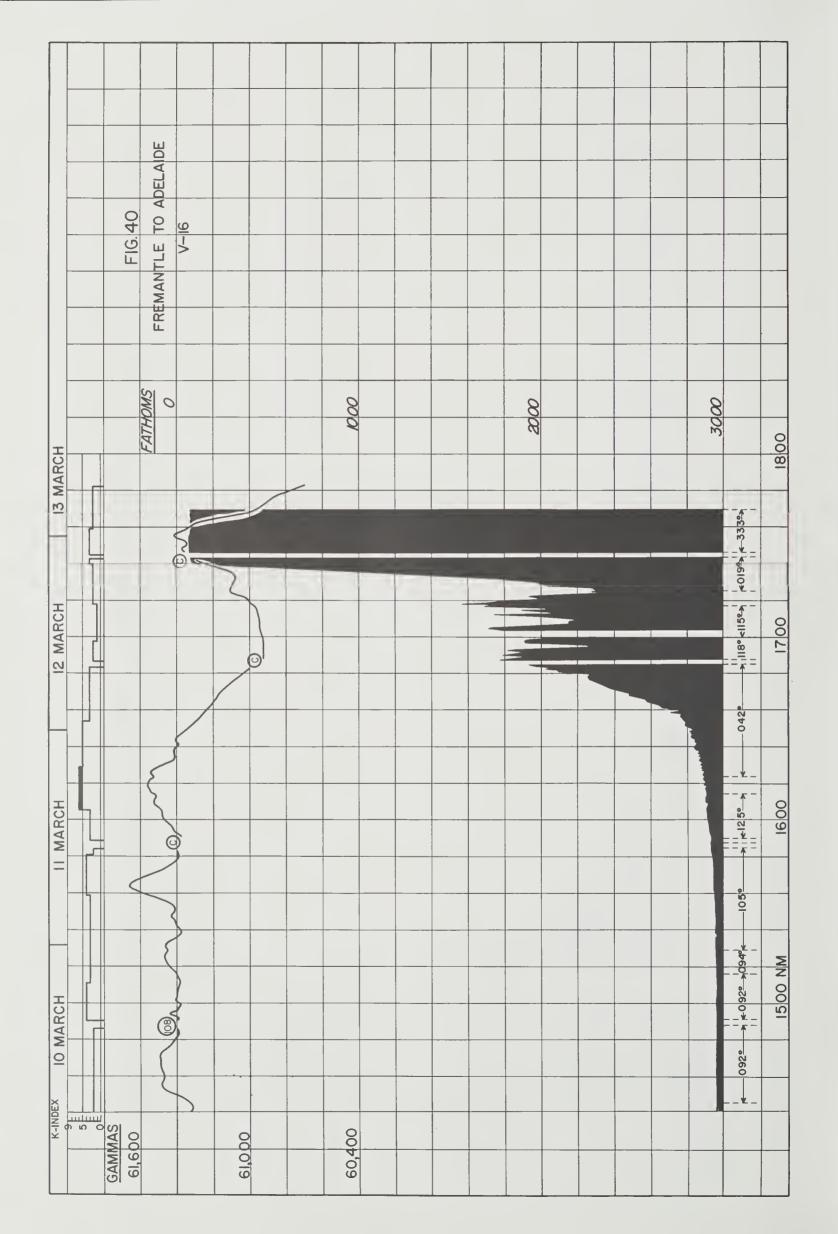


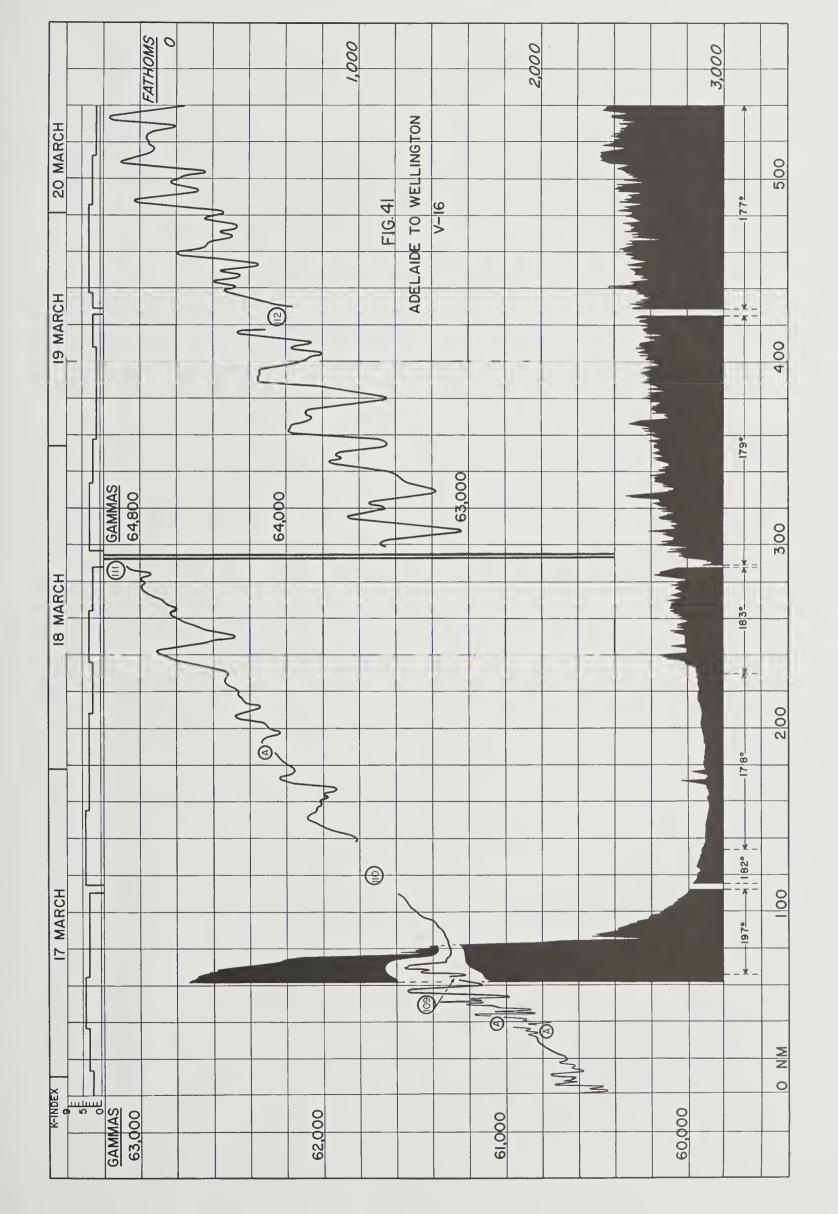


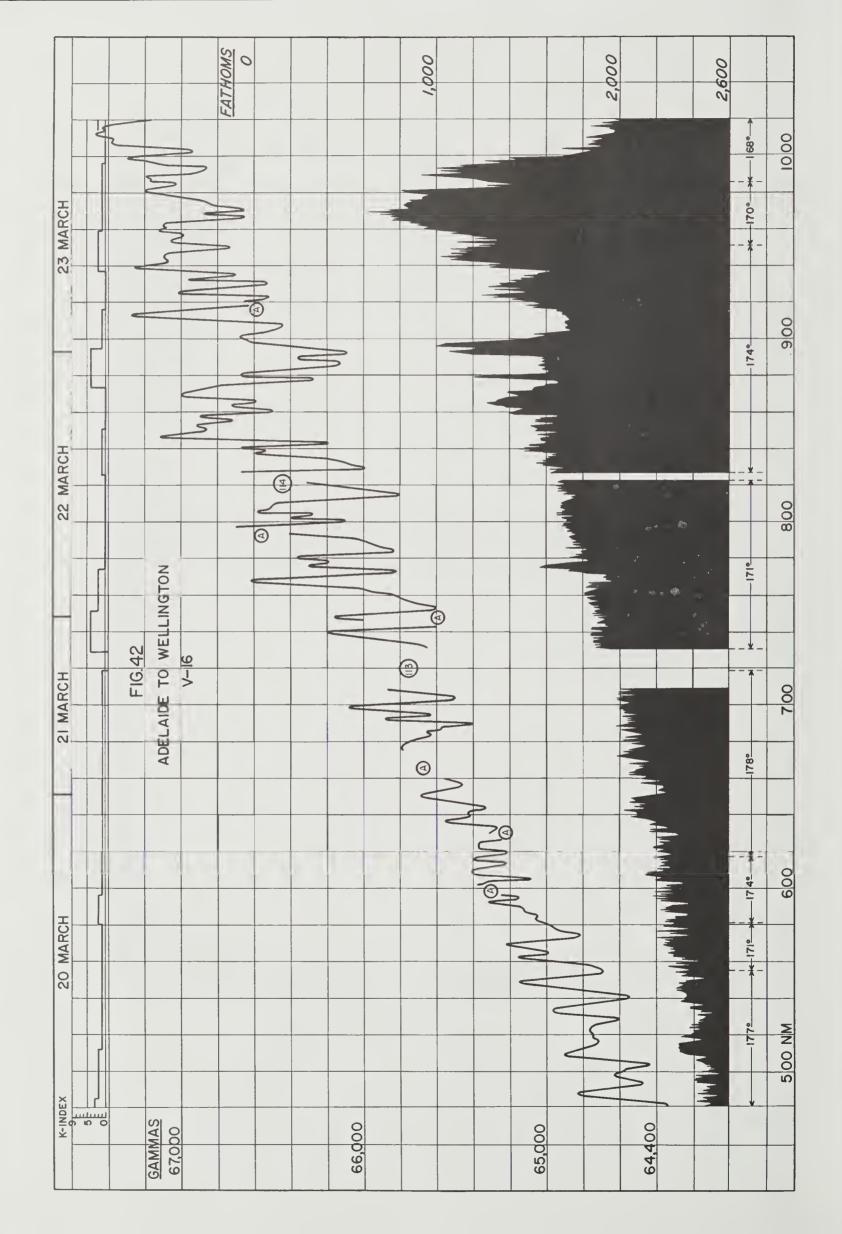


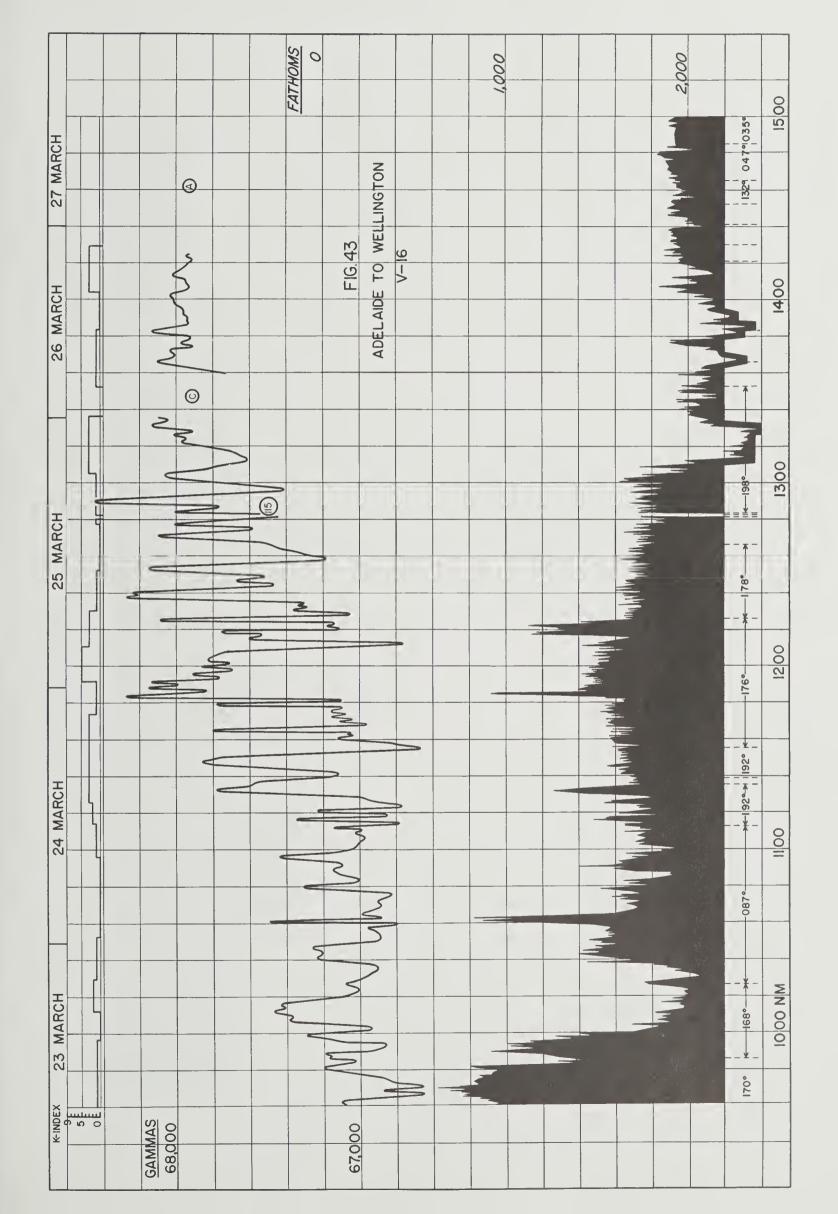


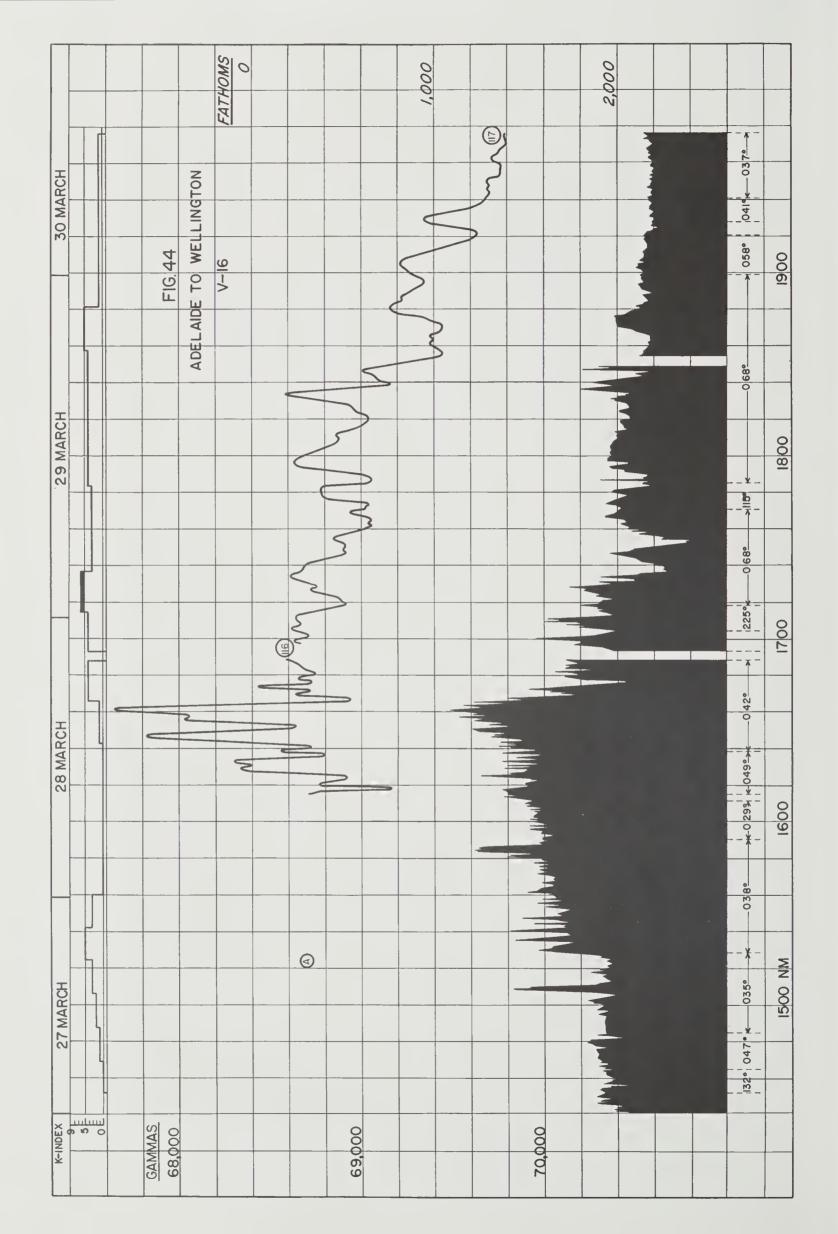


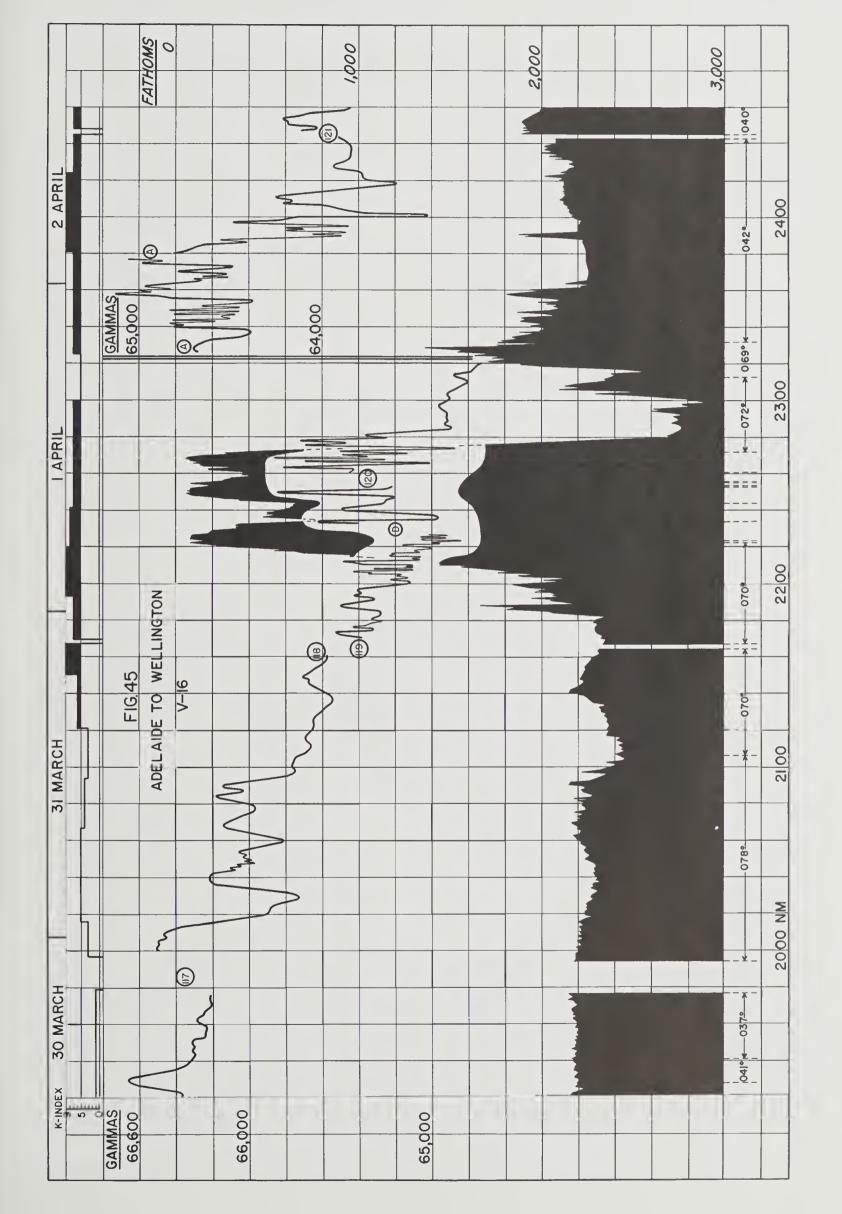












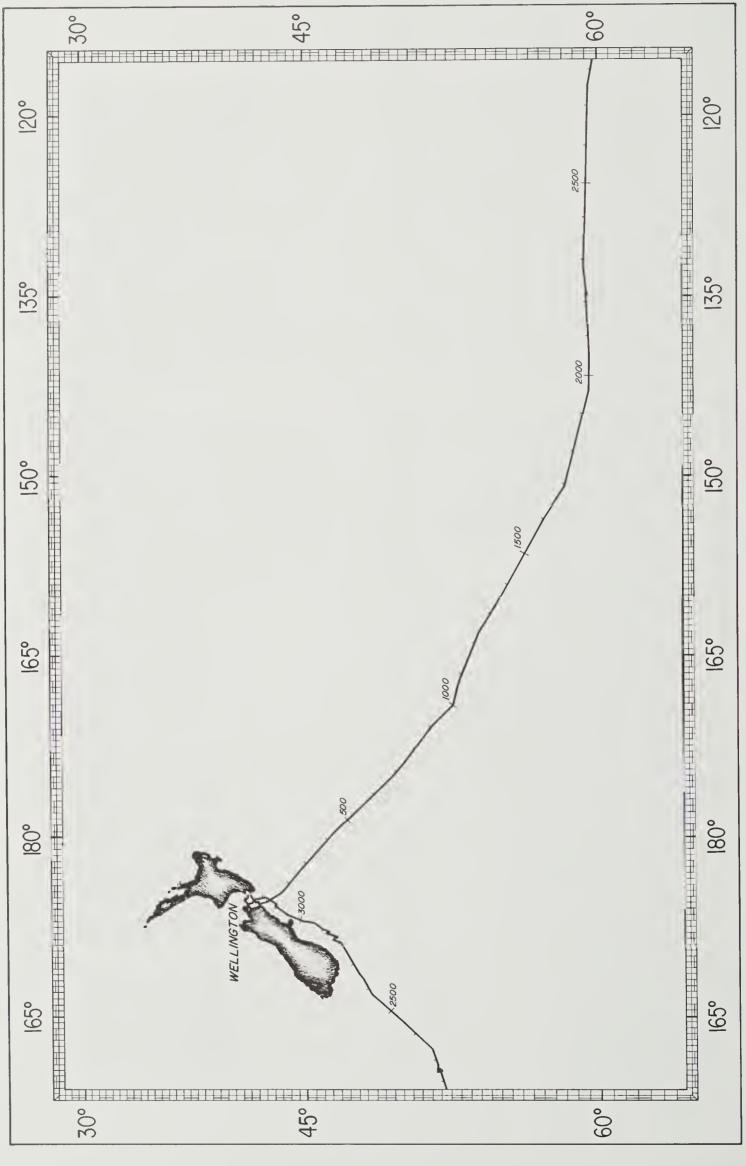
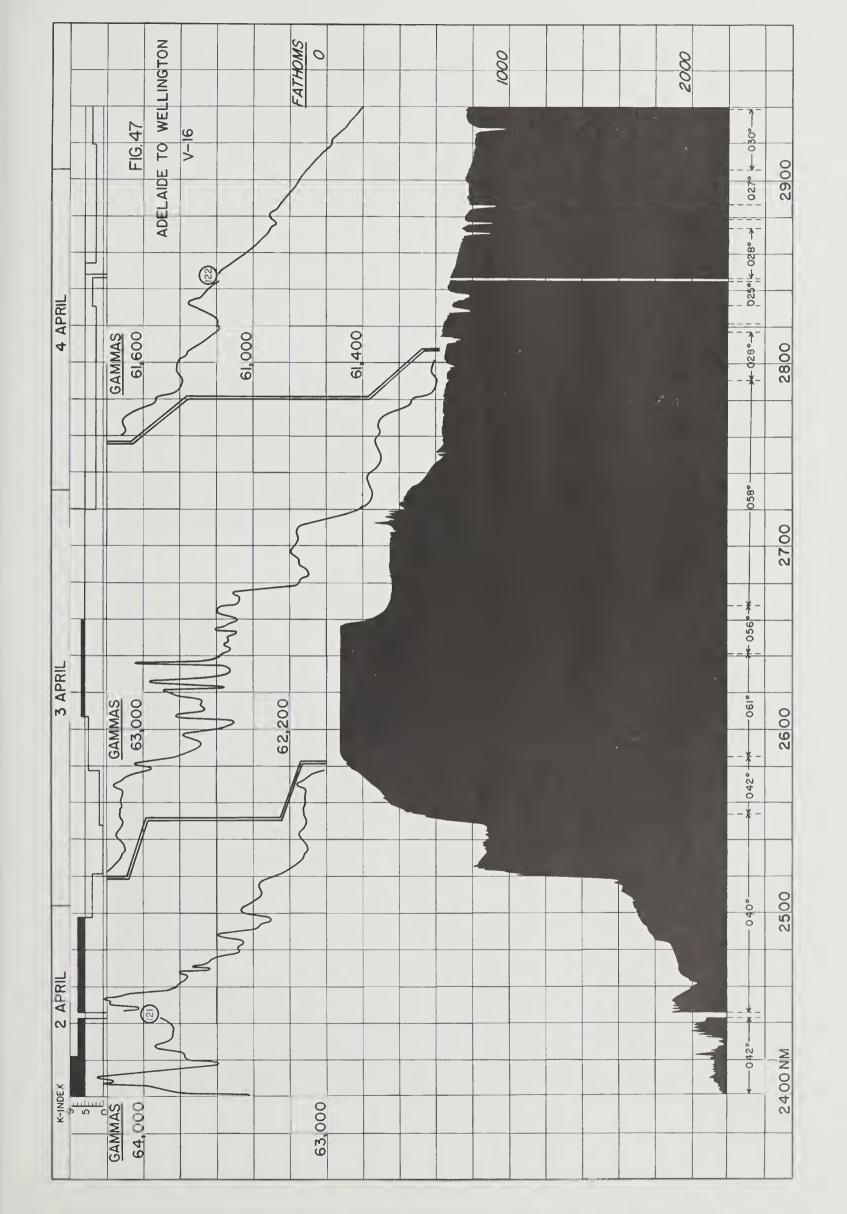
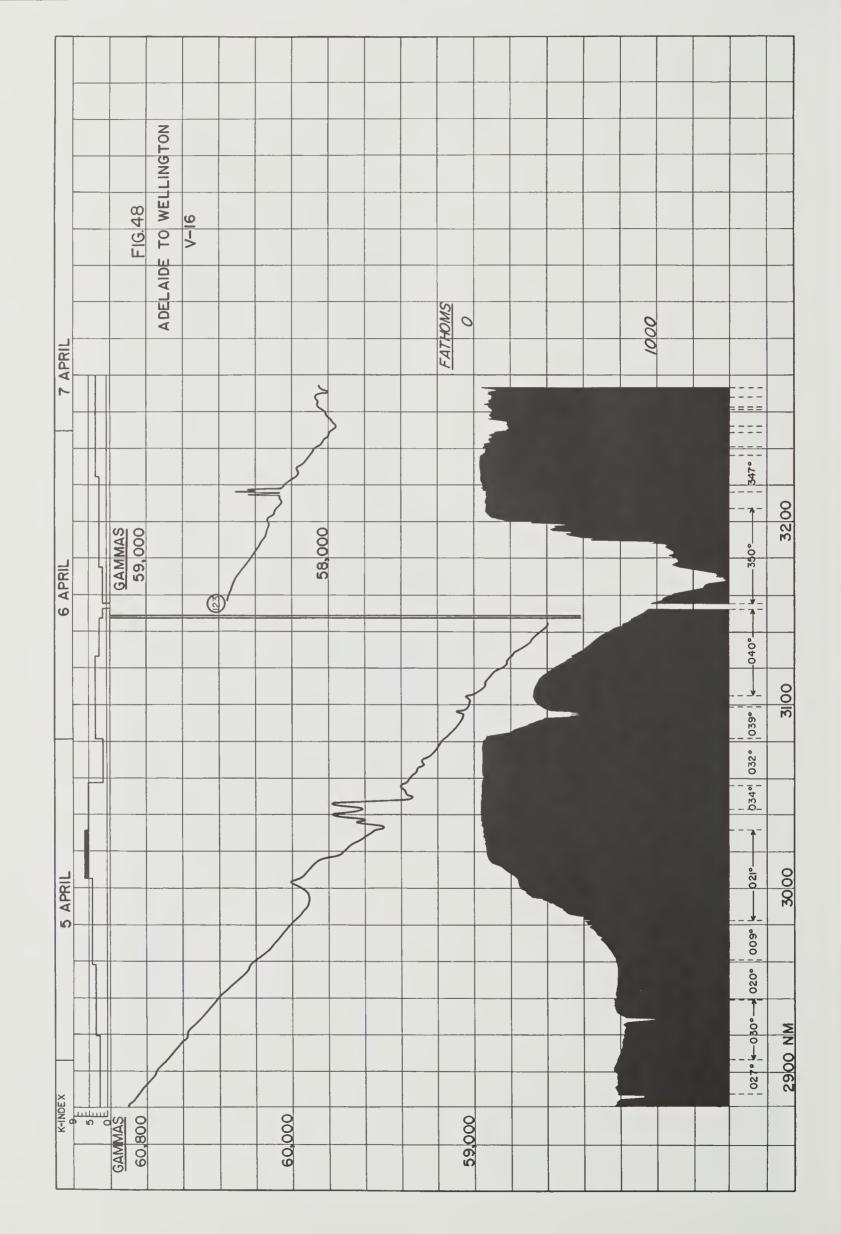
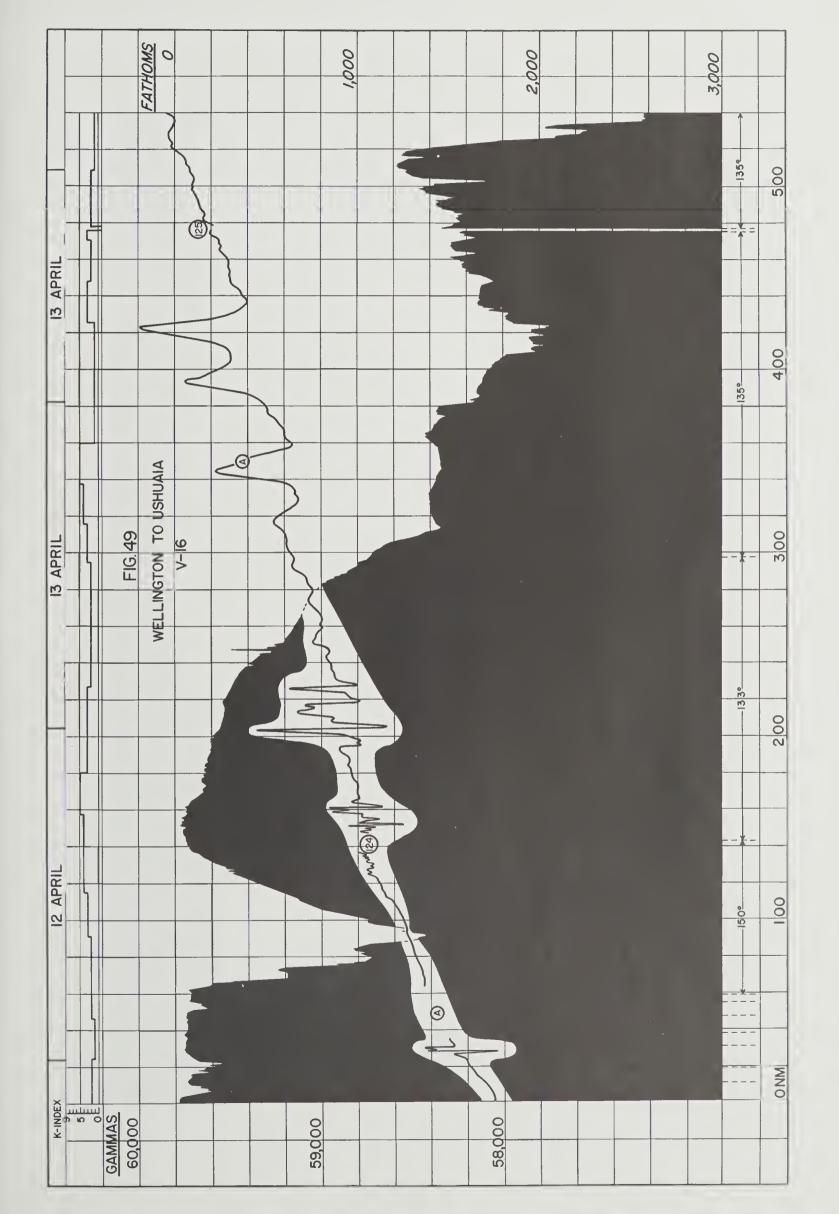
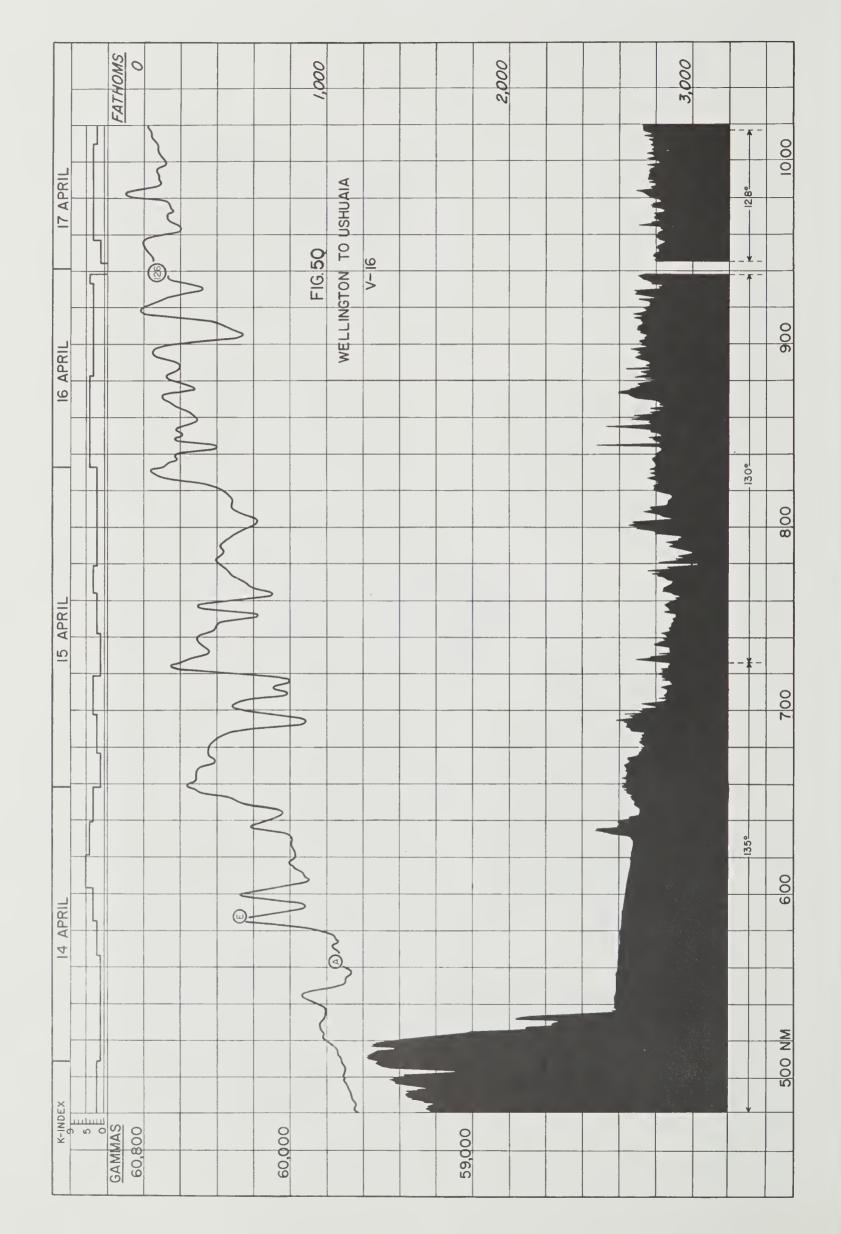


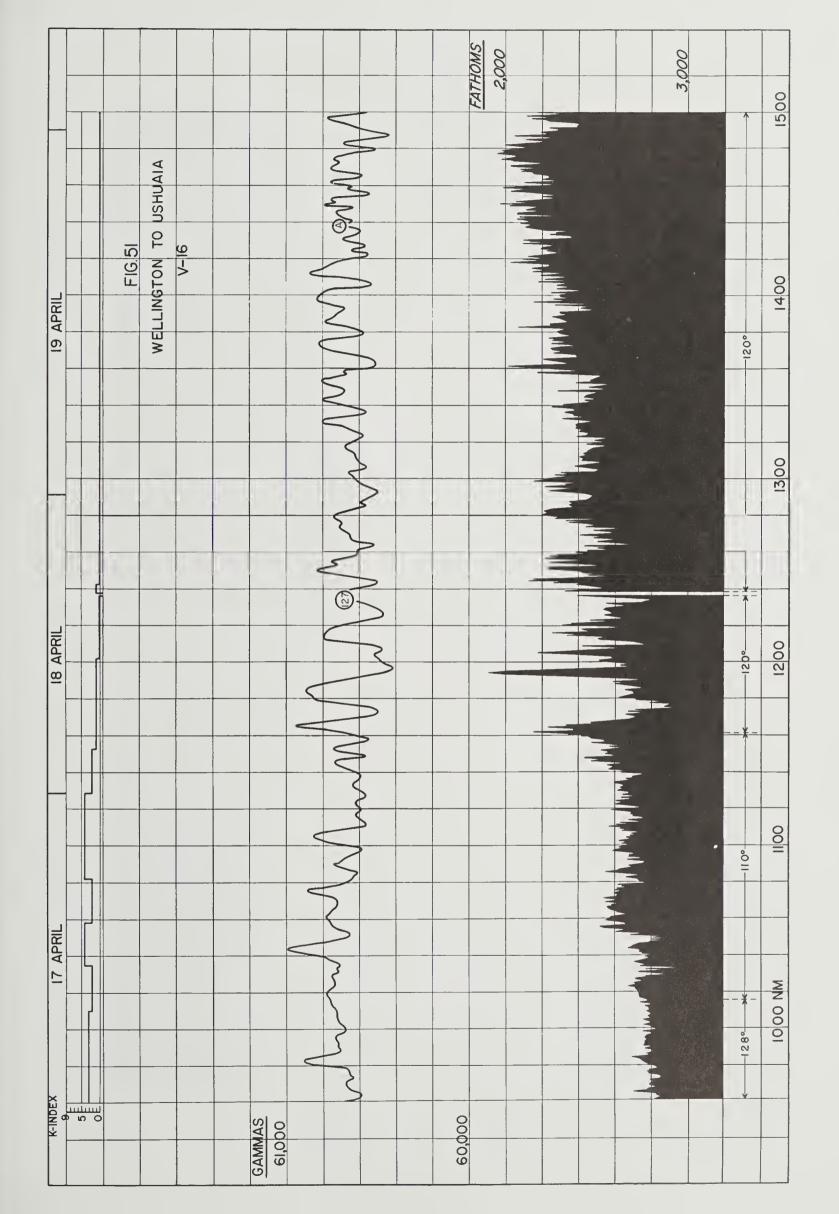
FIGURE 46

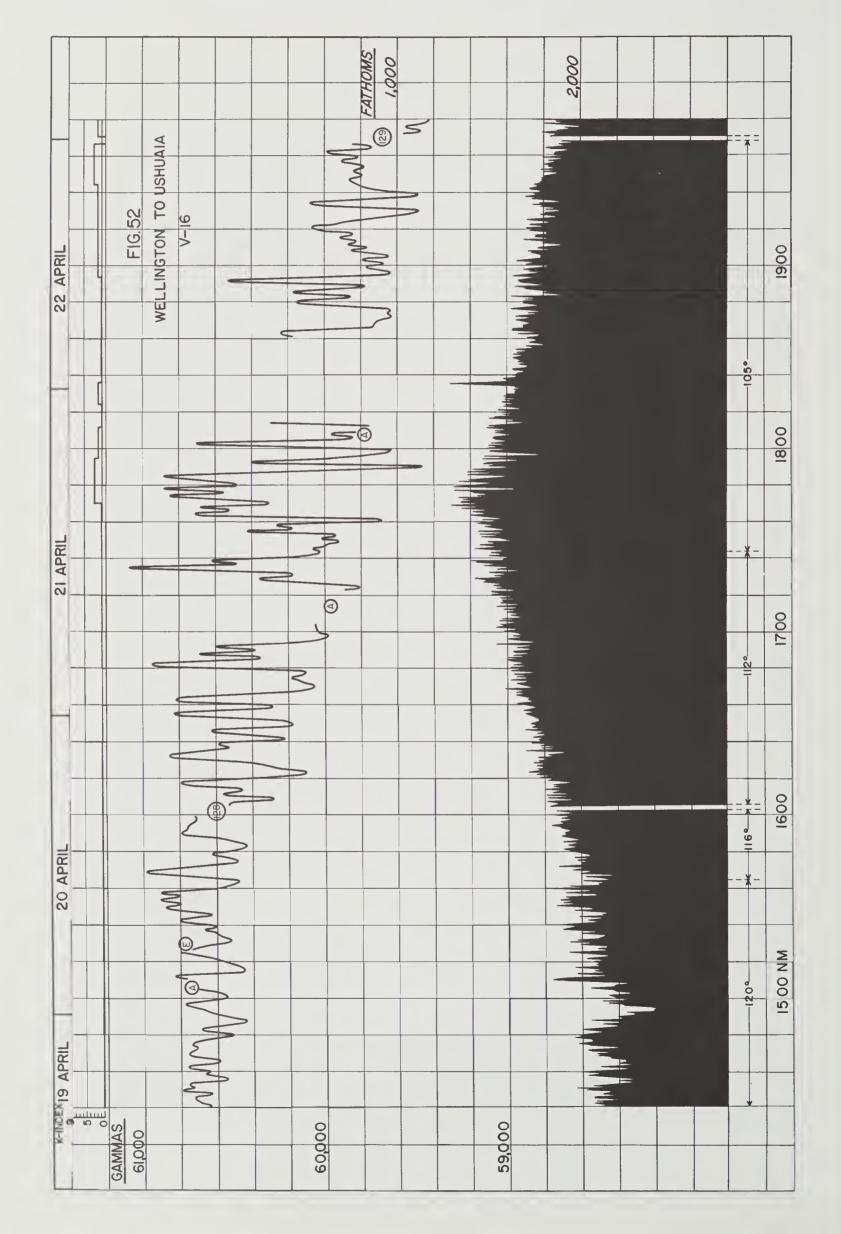


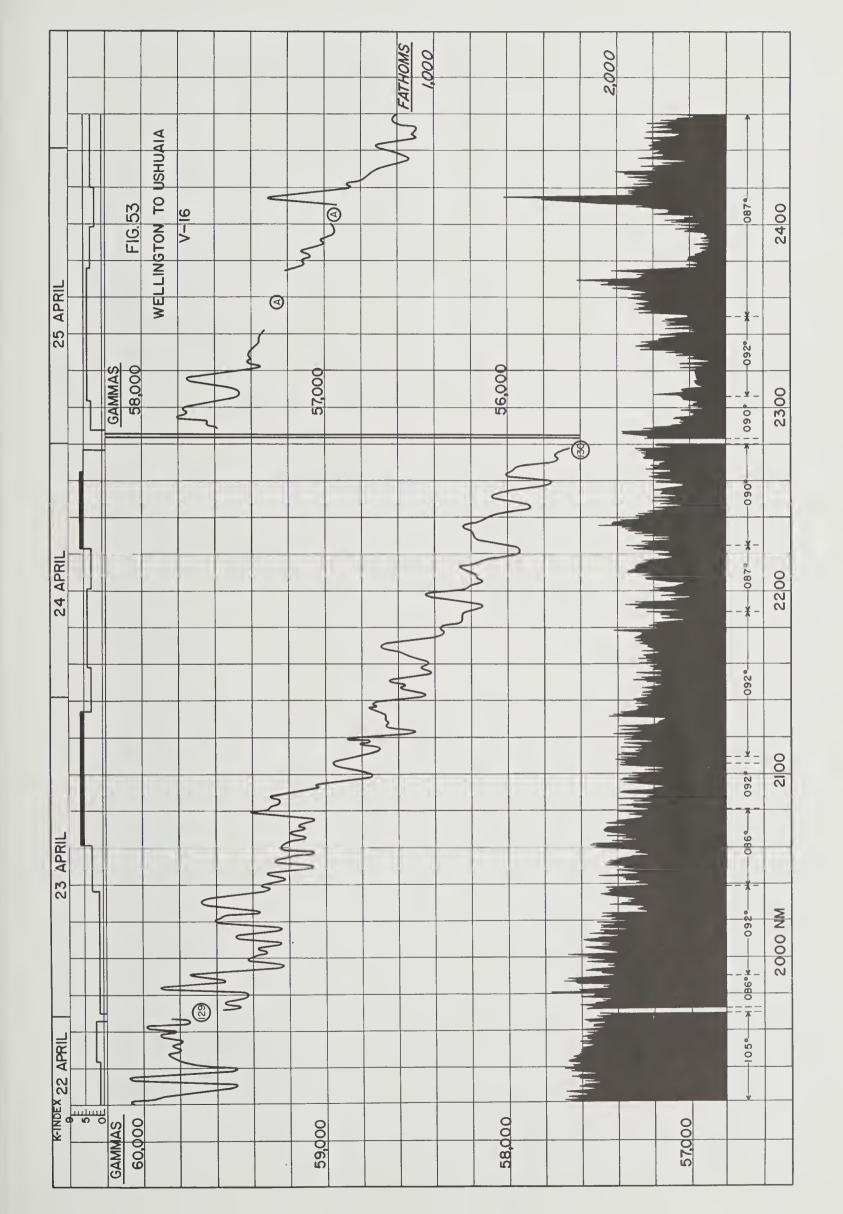


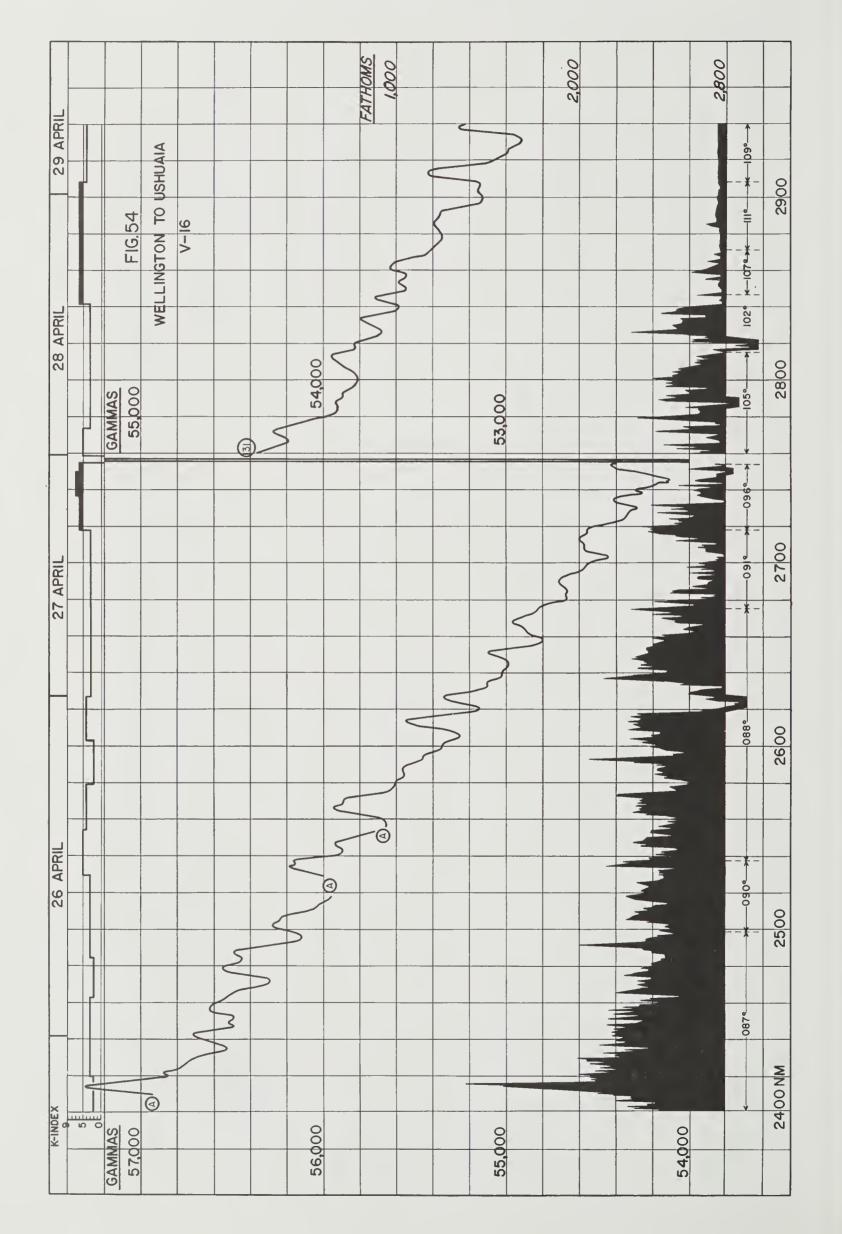












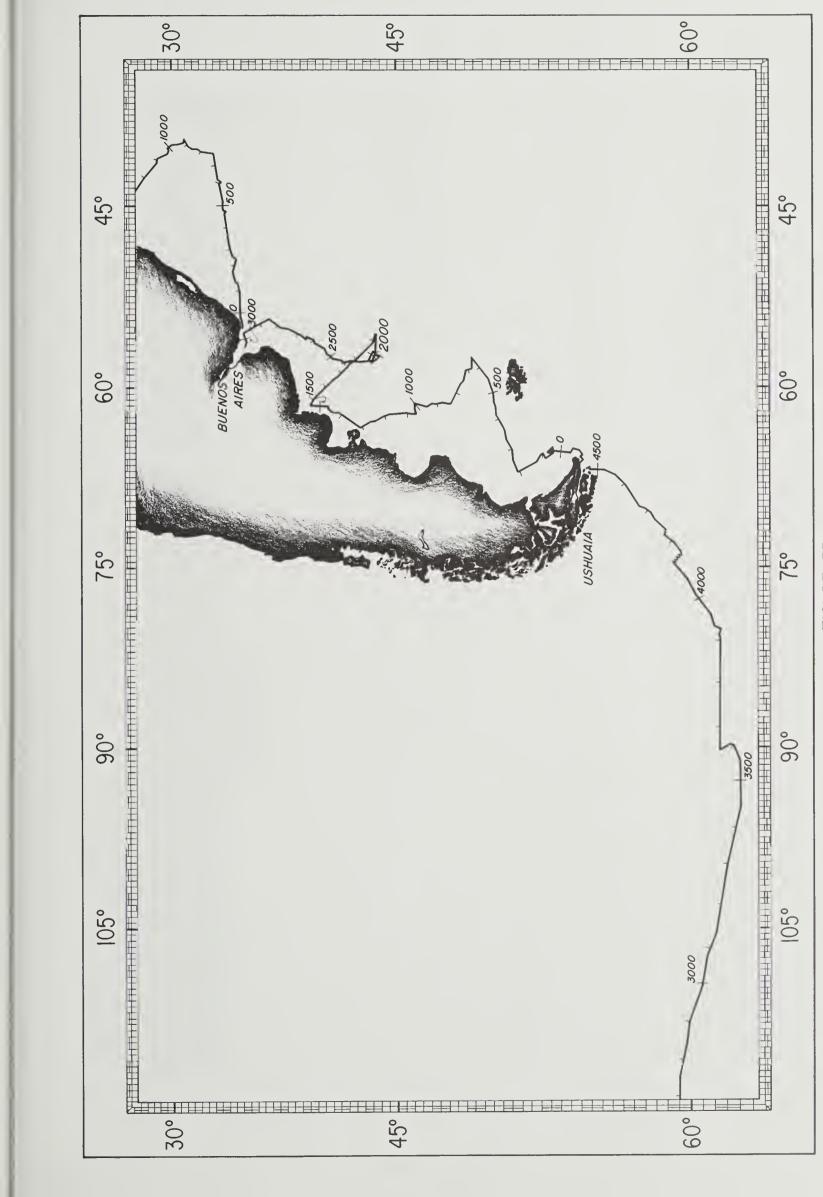
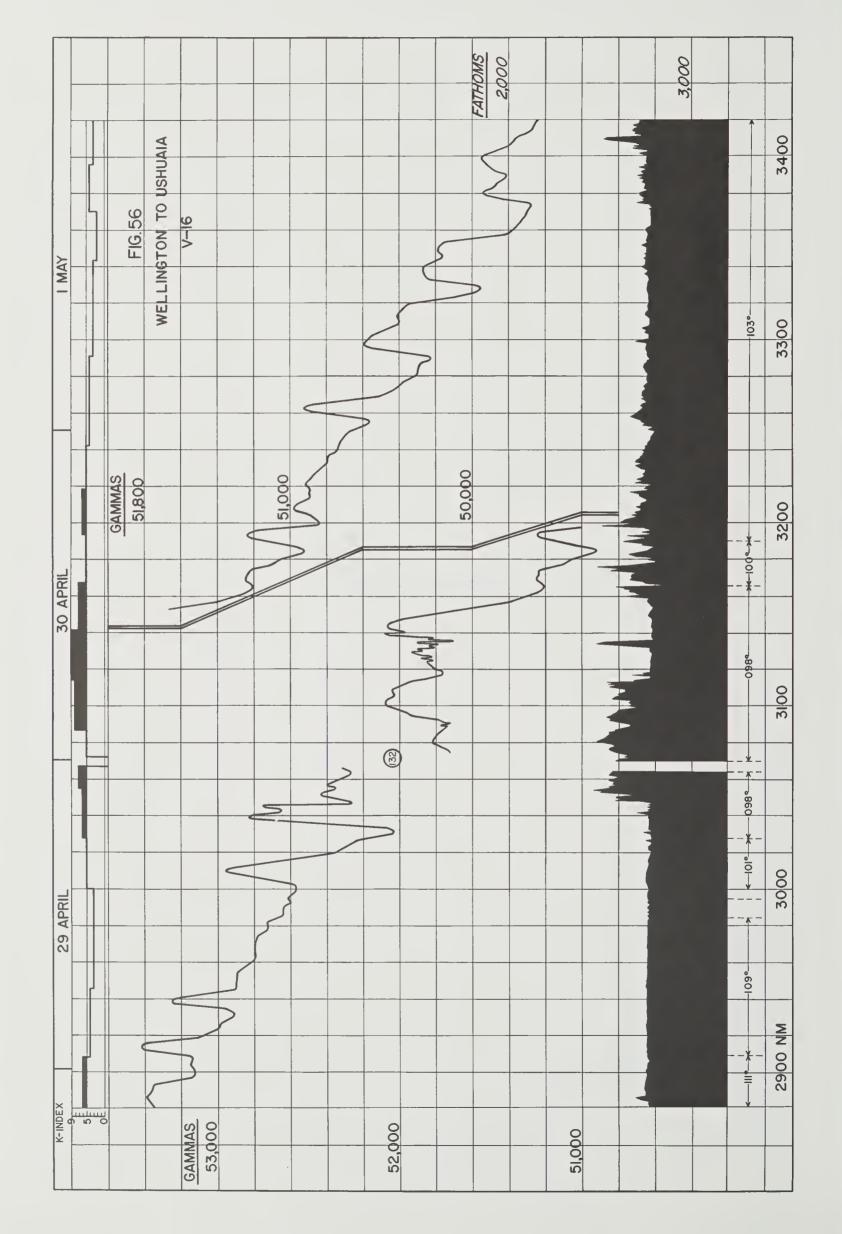
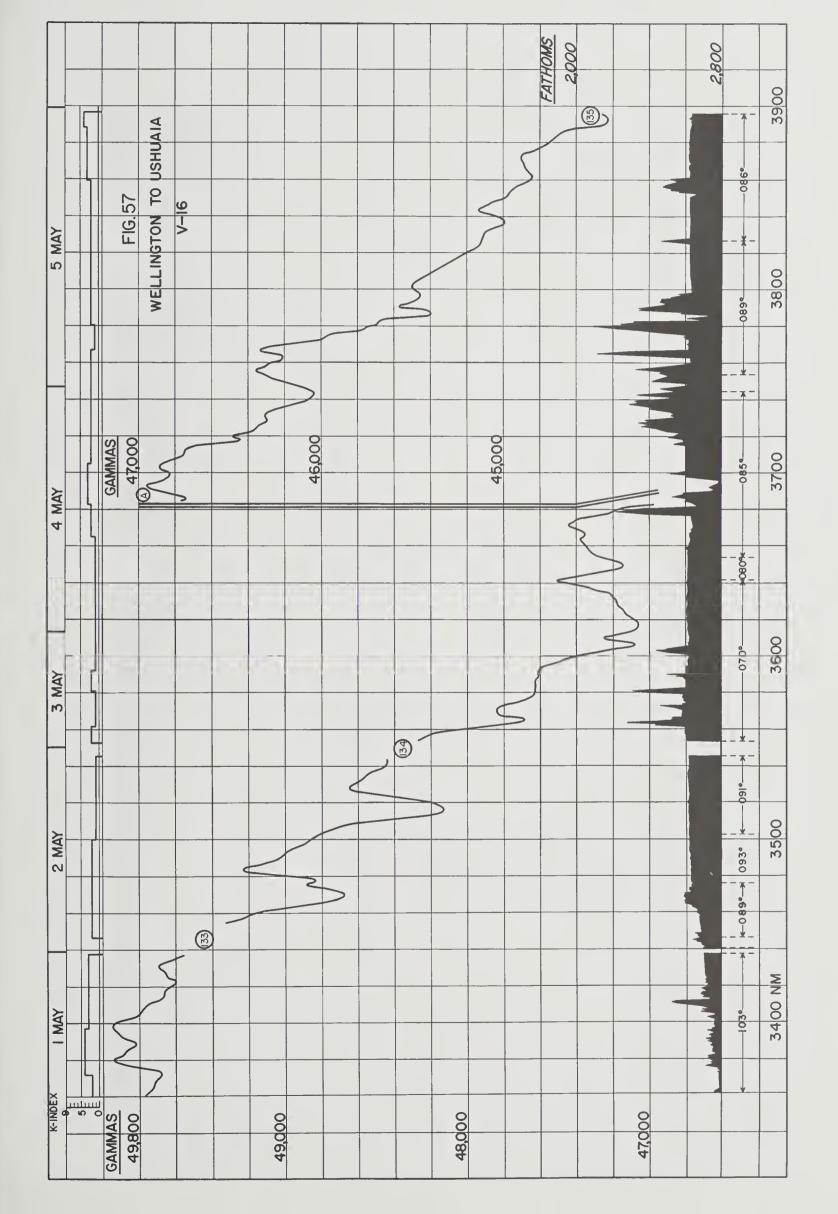
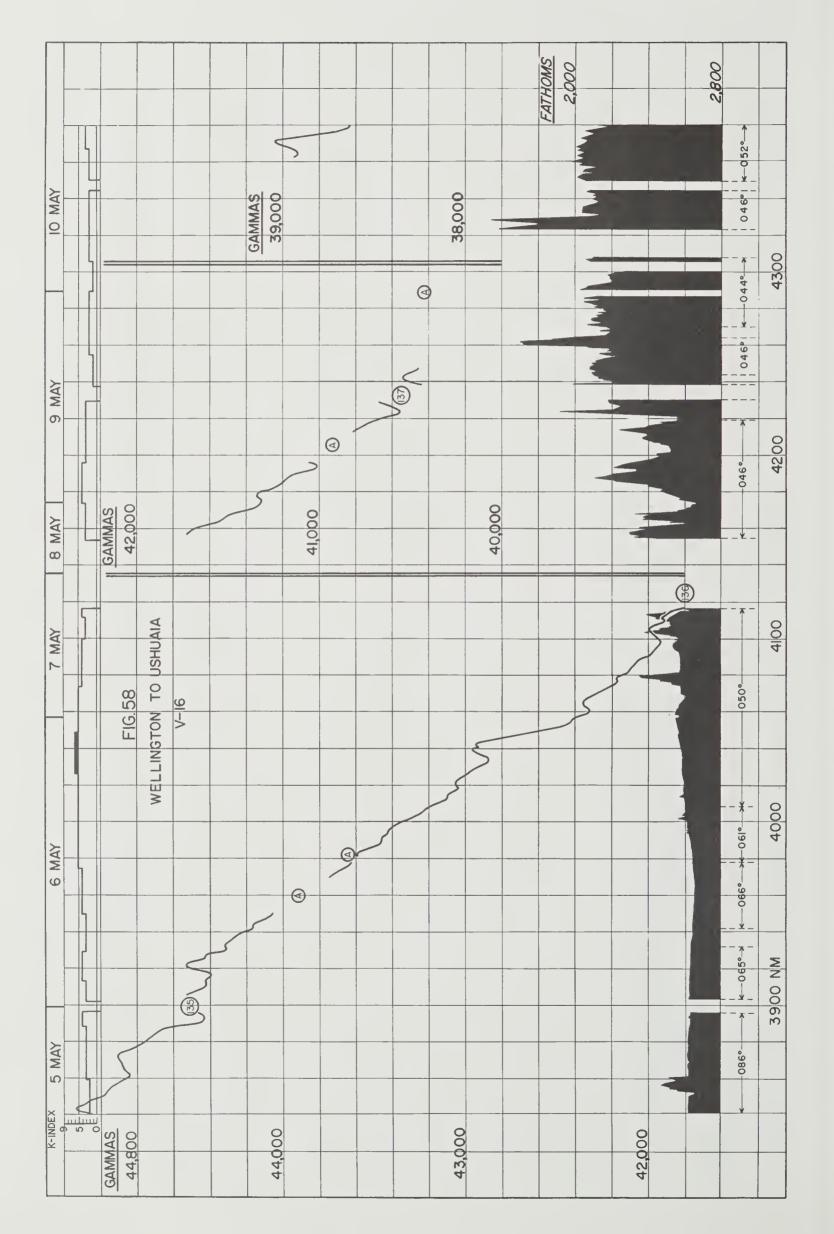
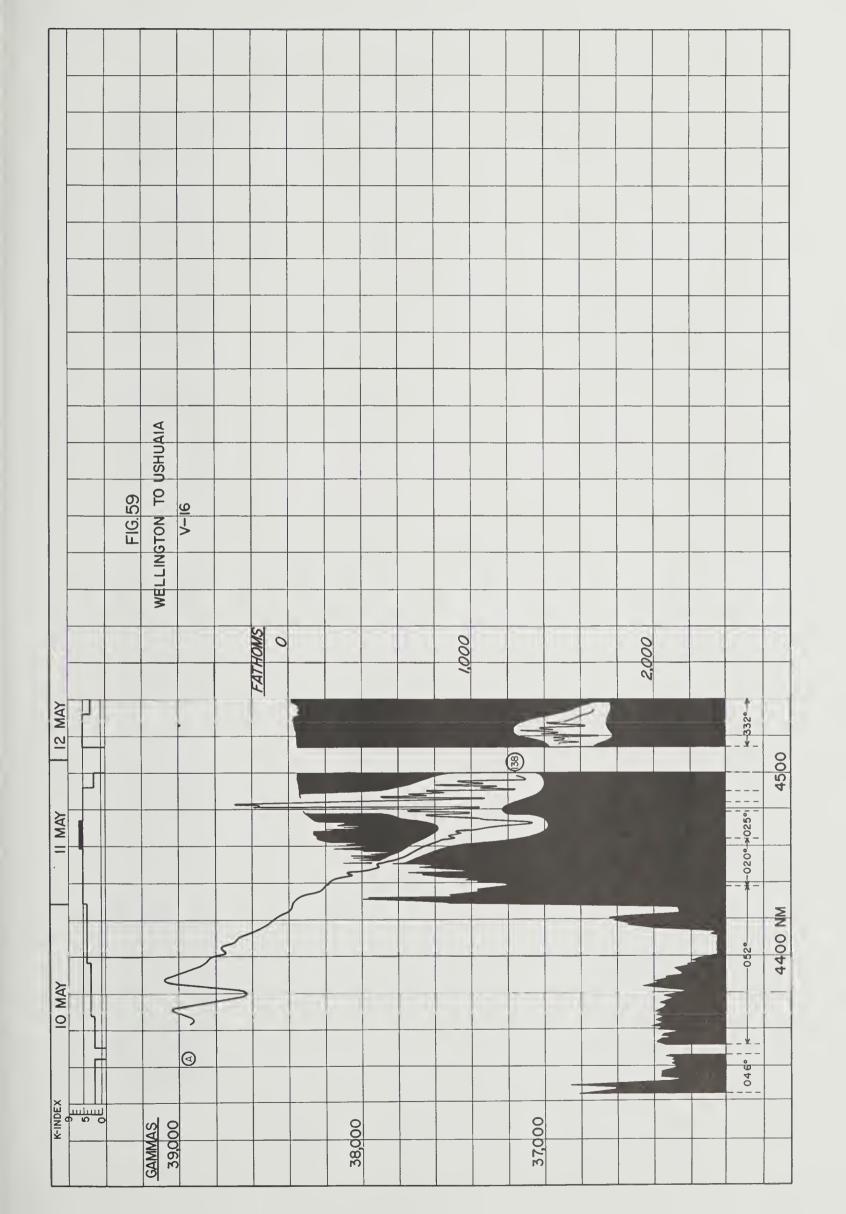


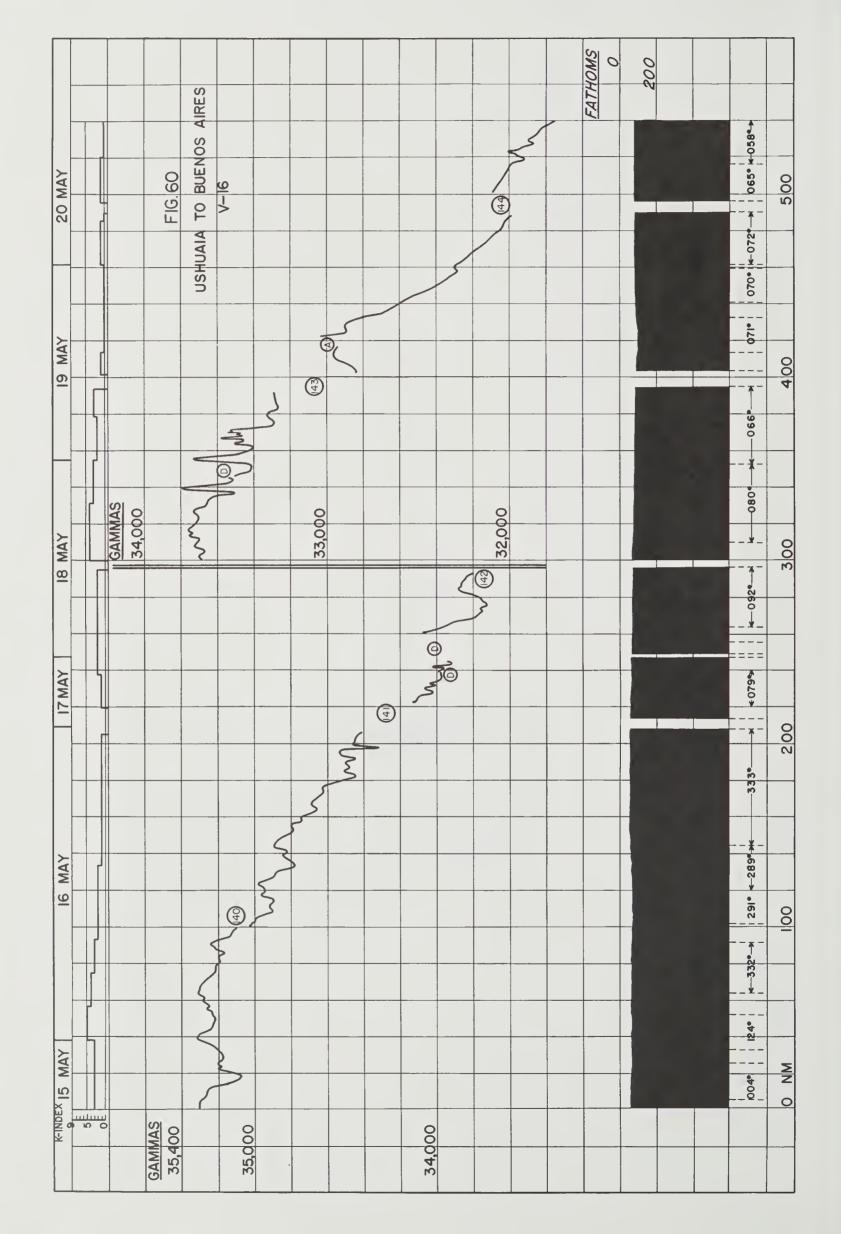
FIGURE 55

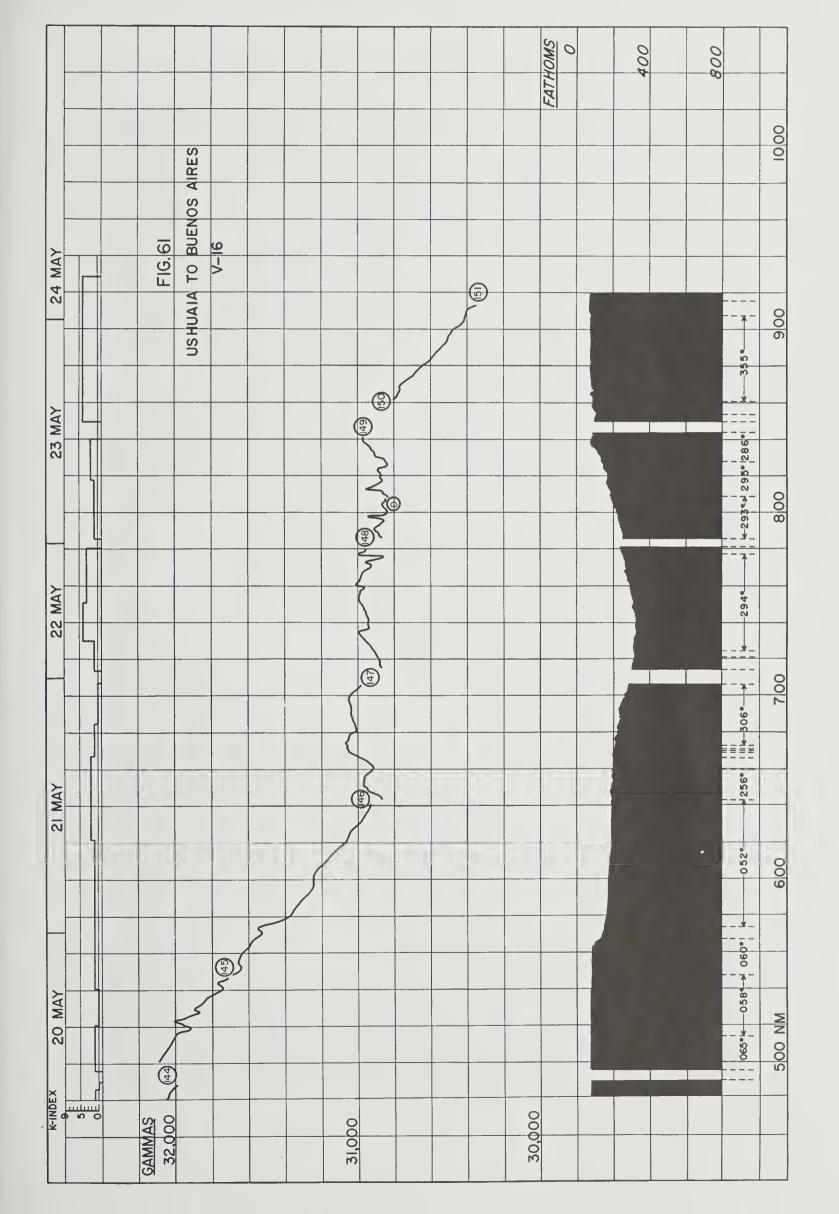


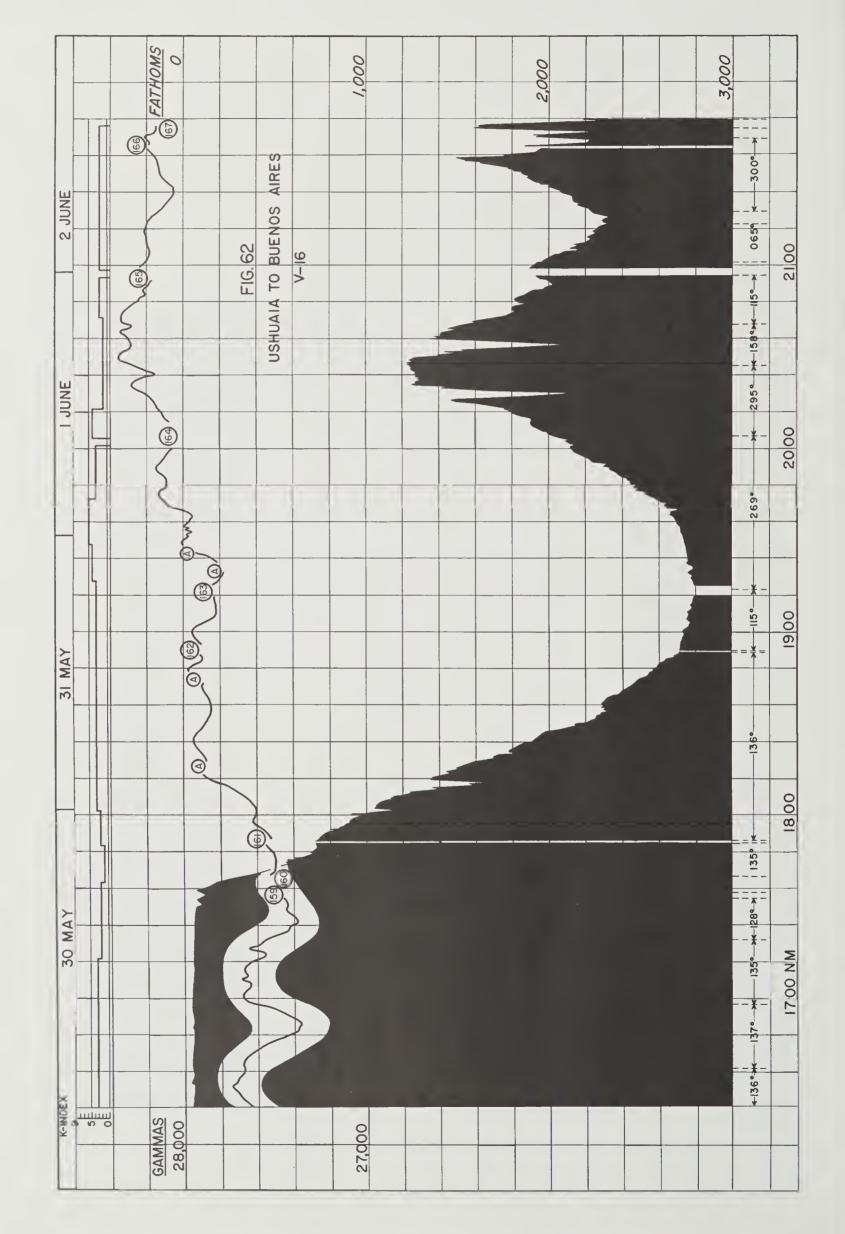


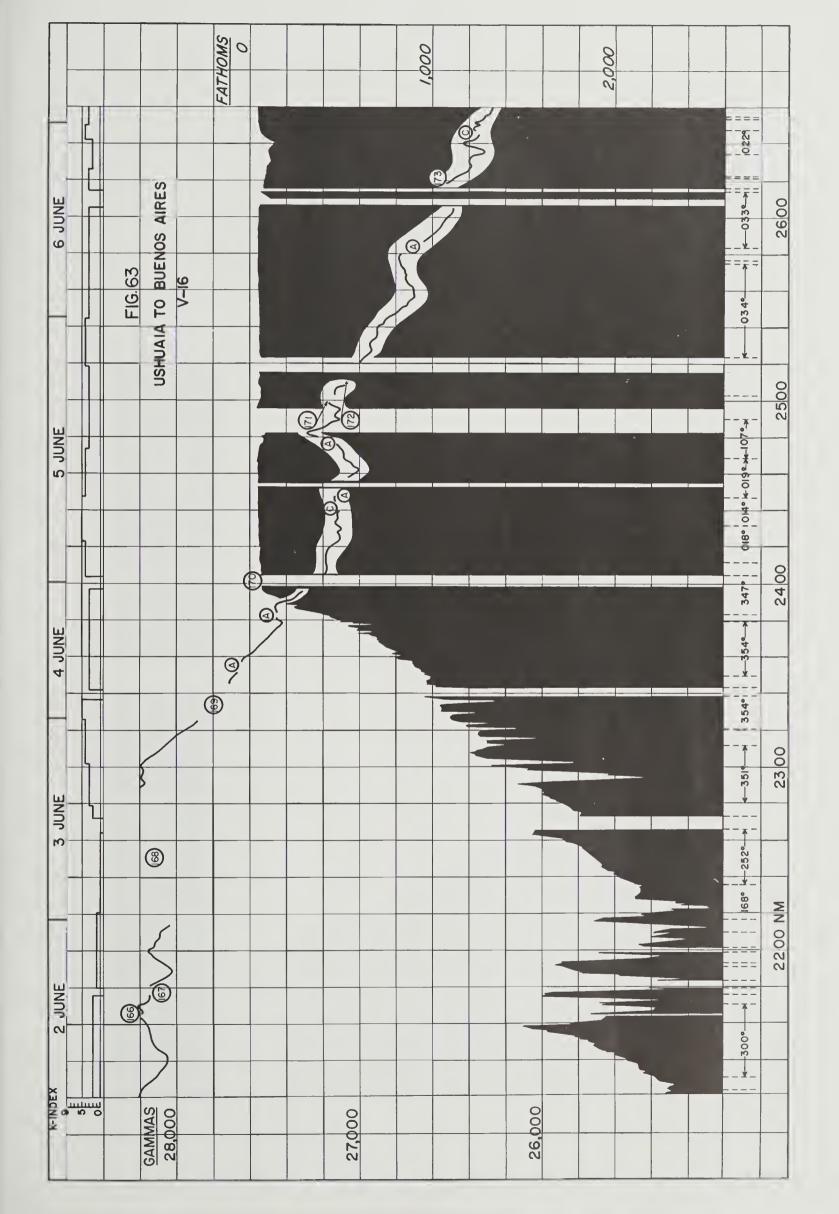


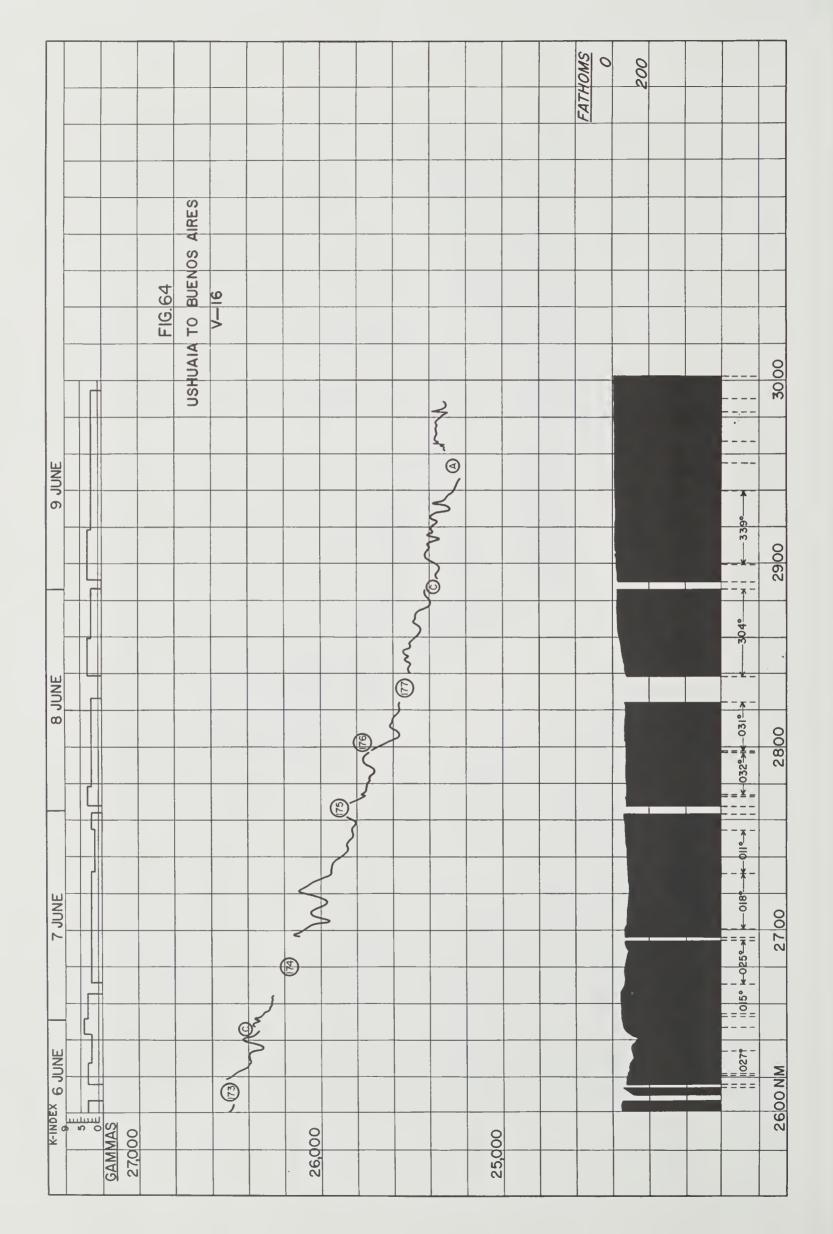


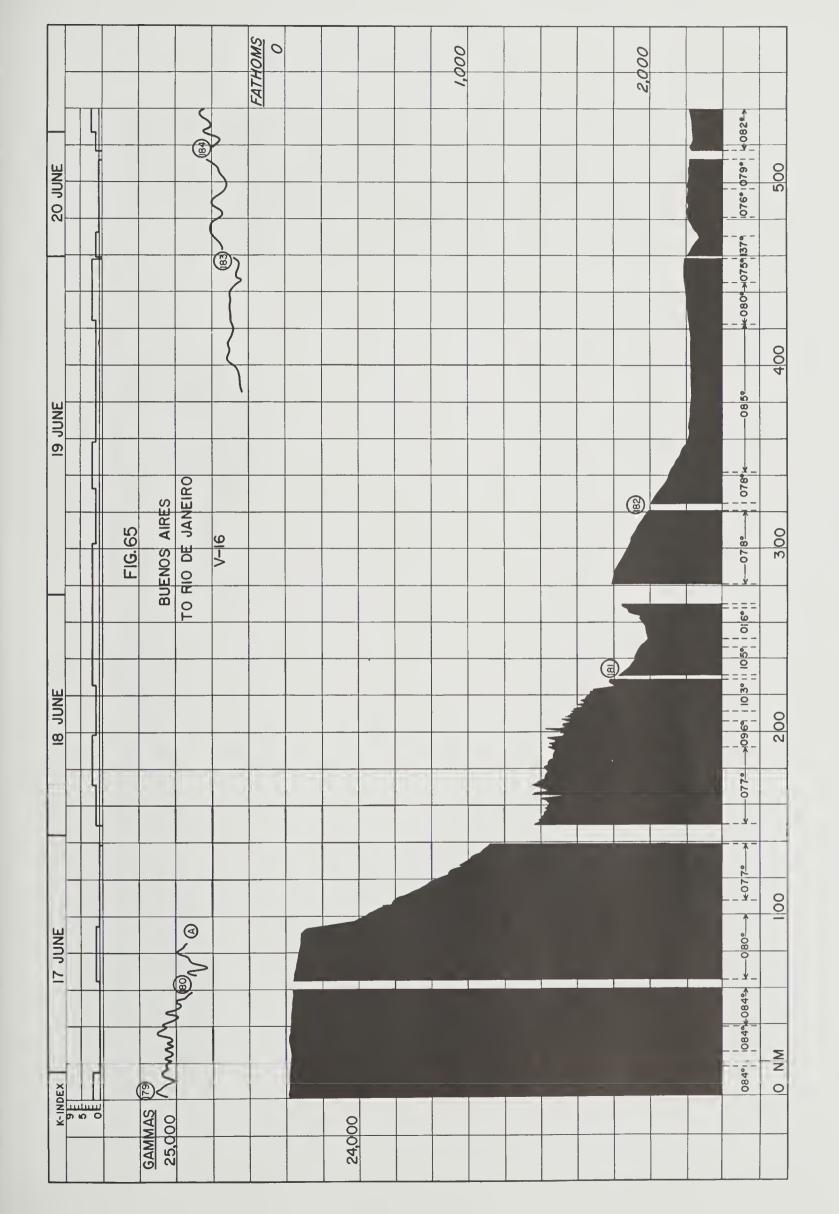


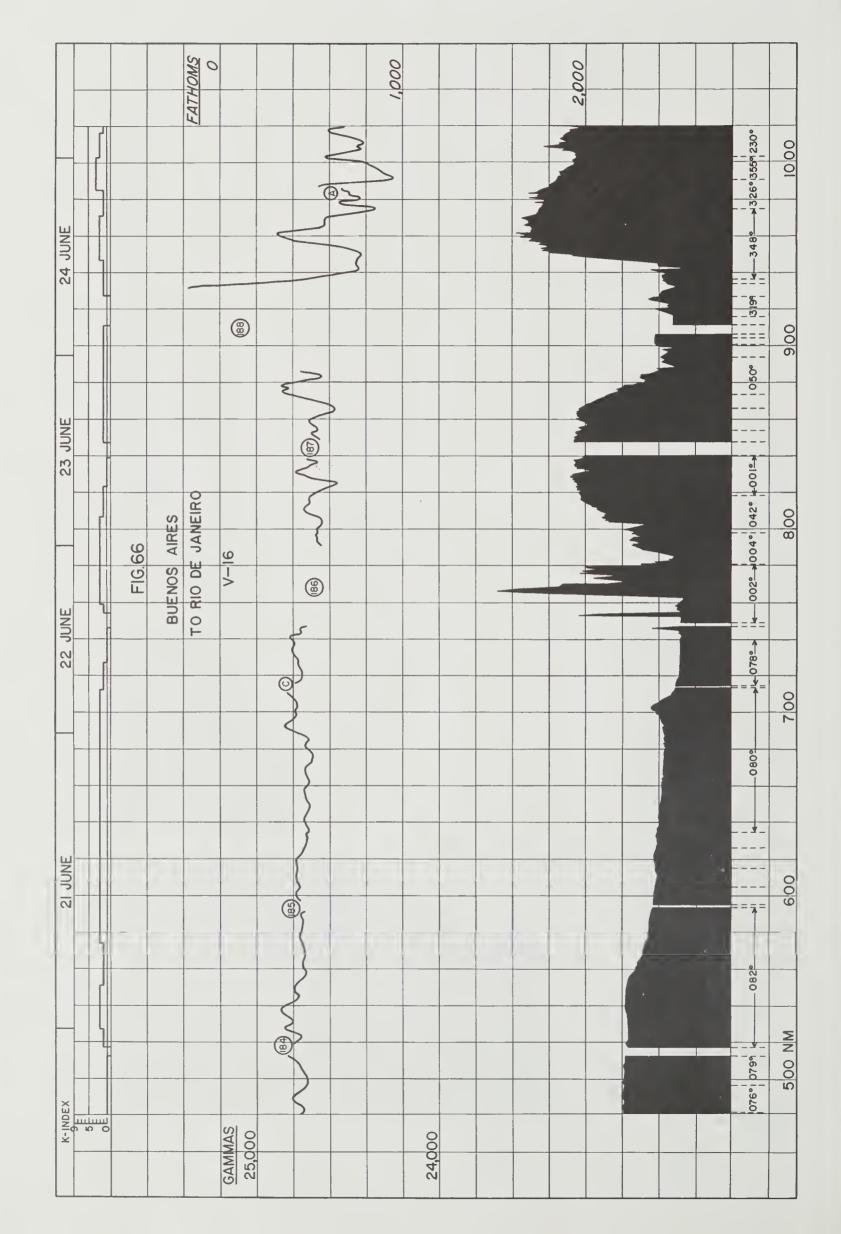


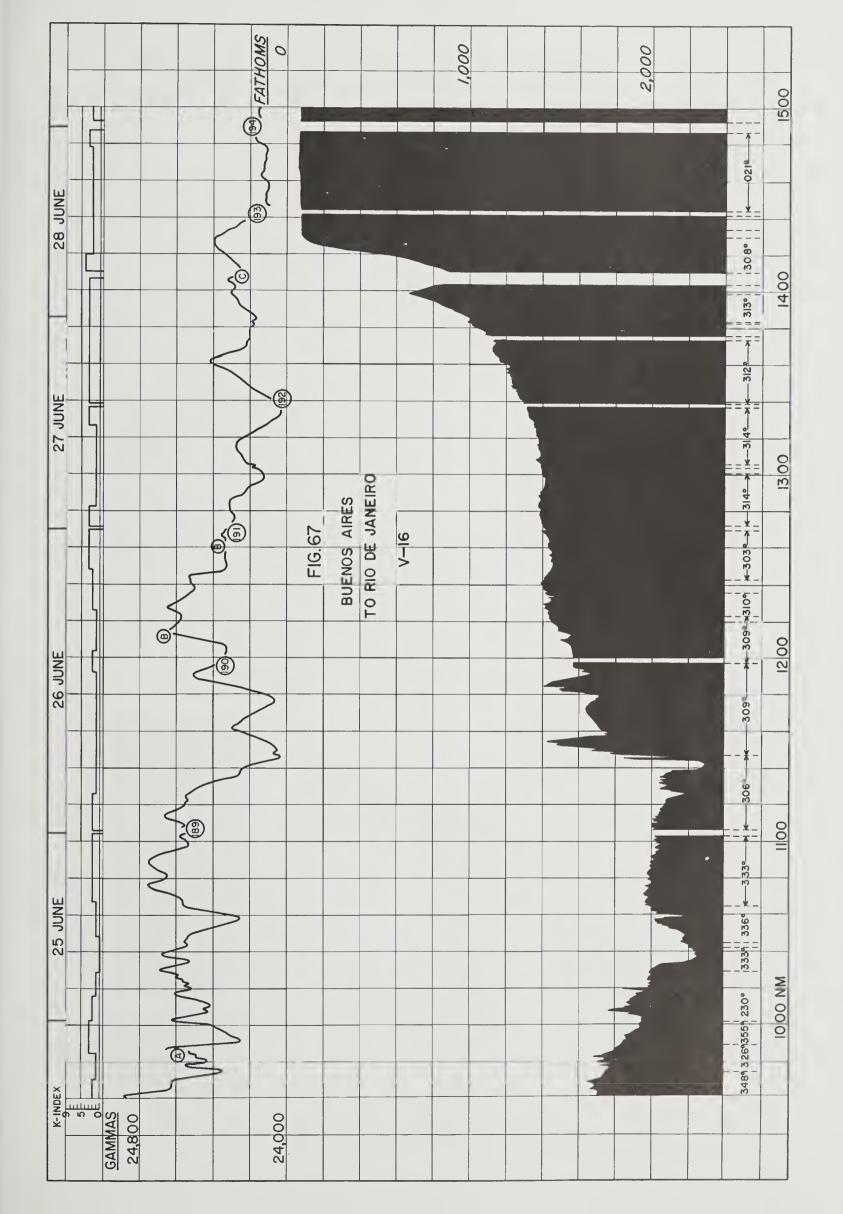


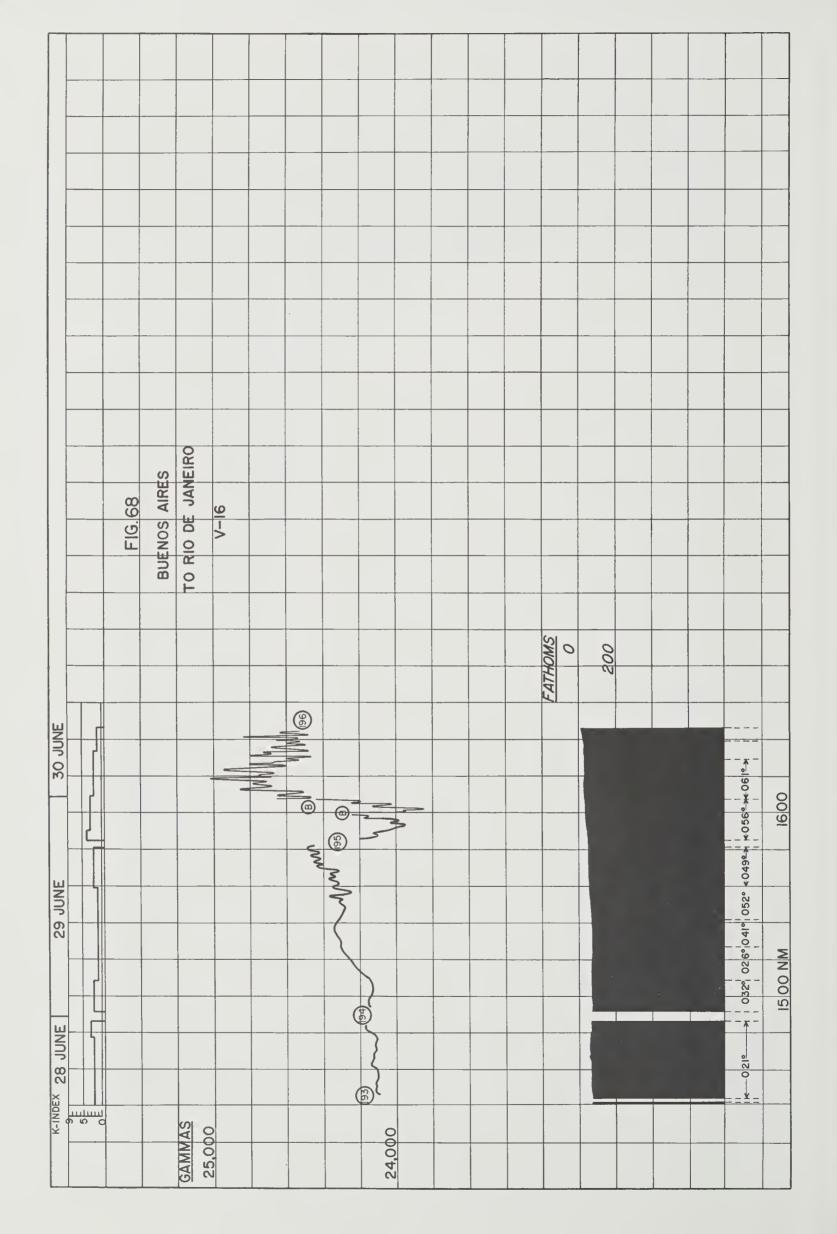


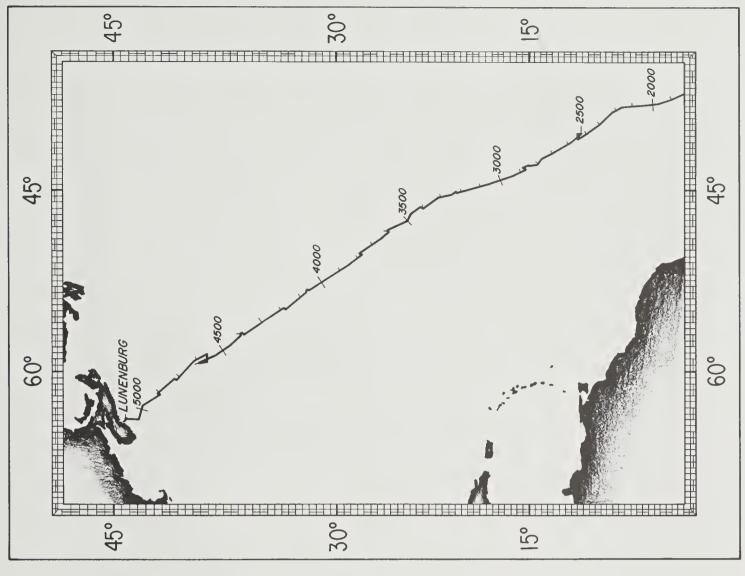


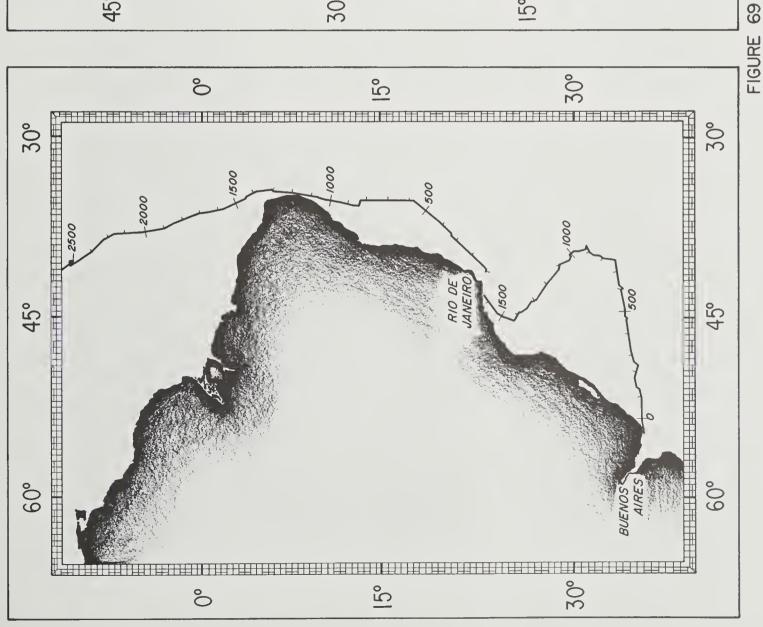


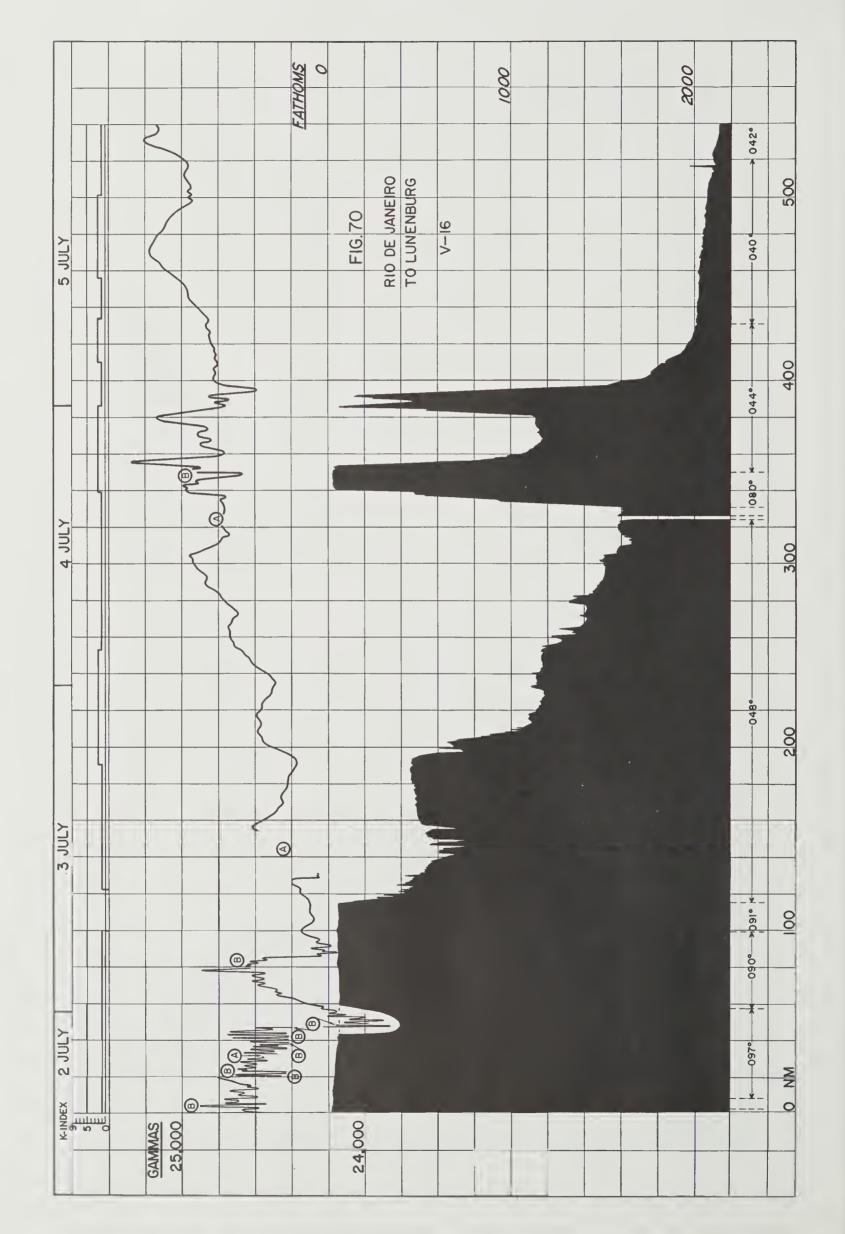


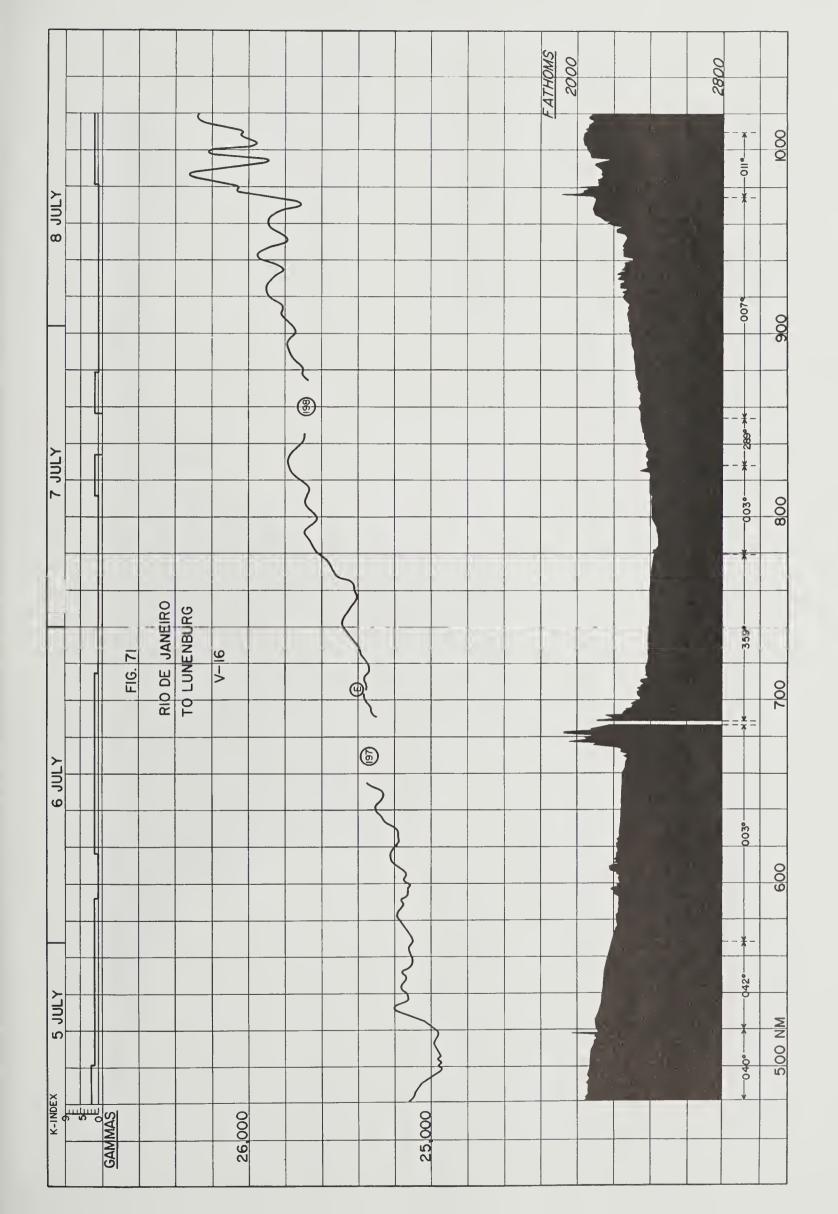


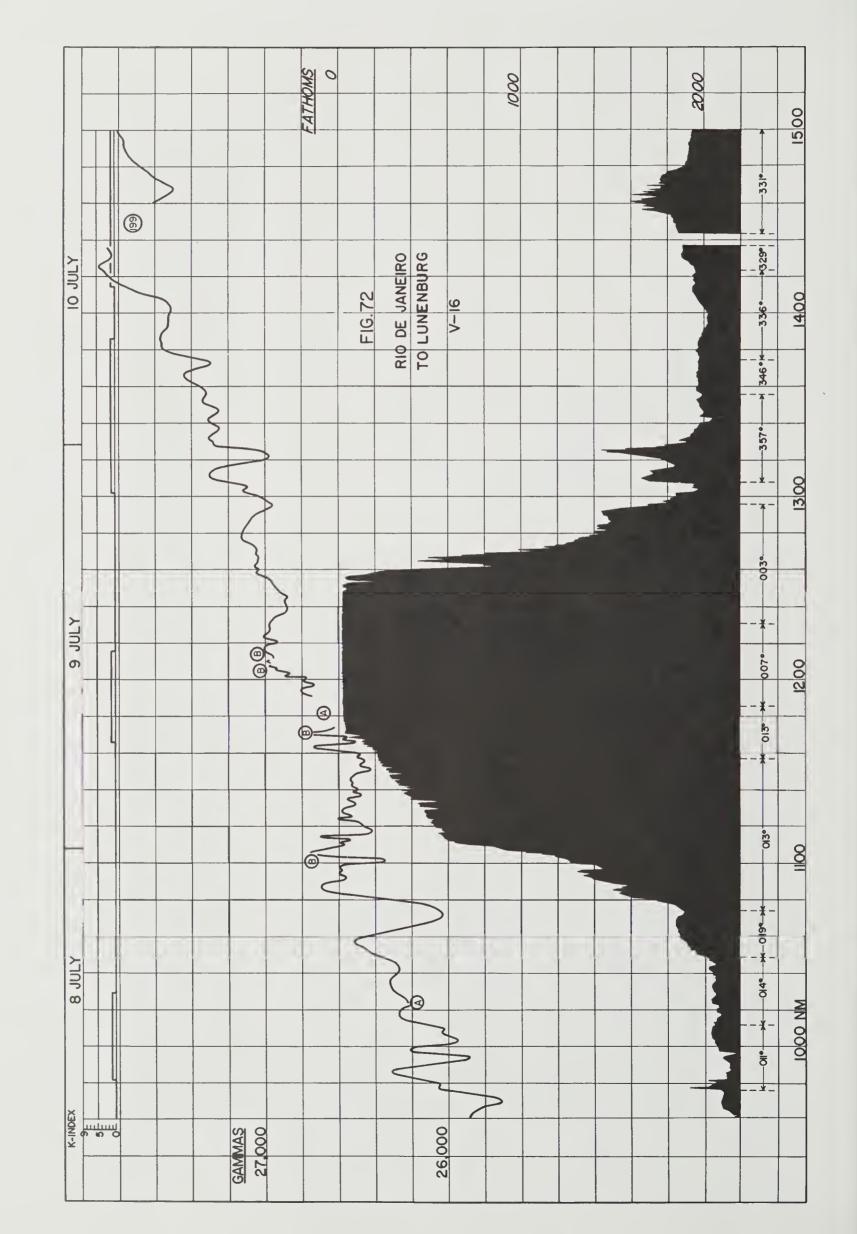


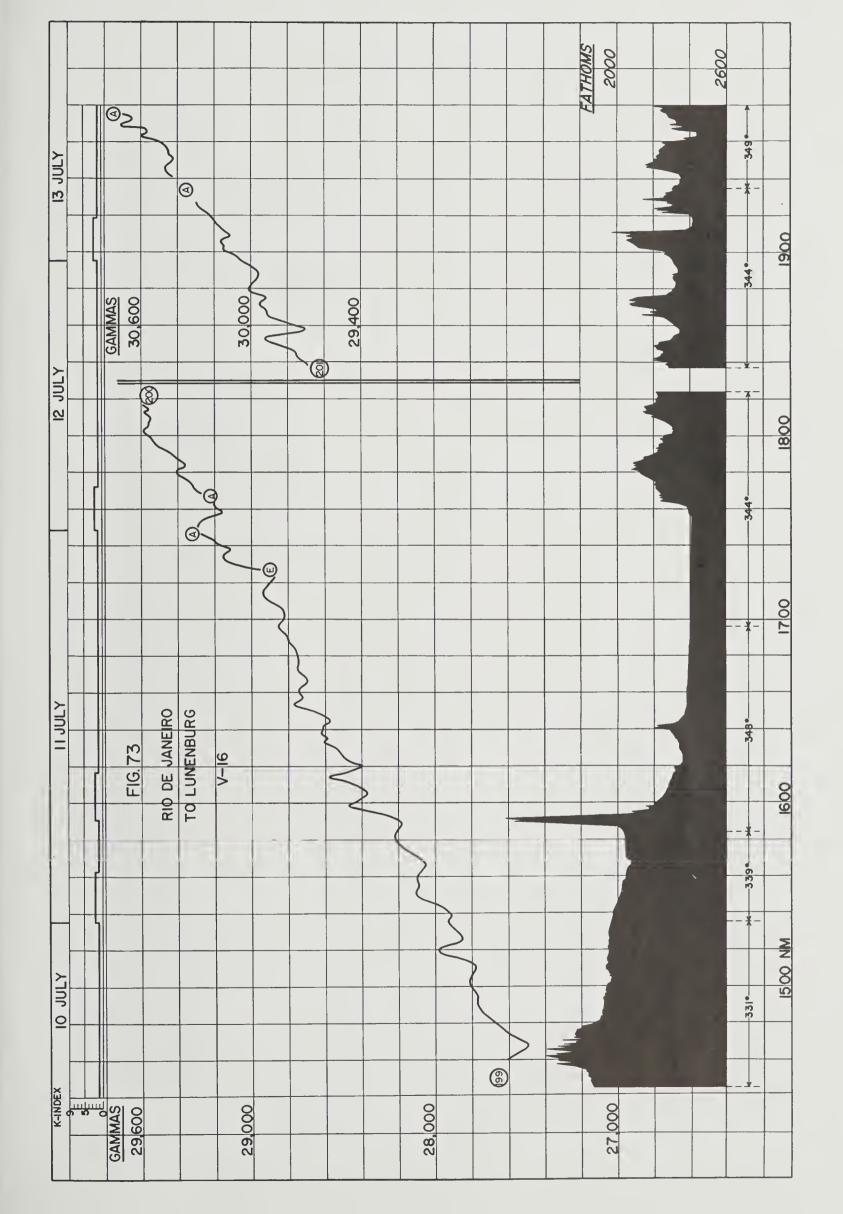


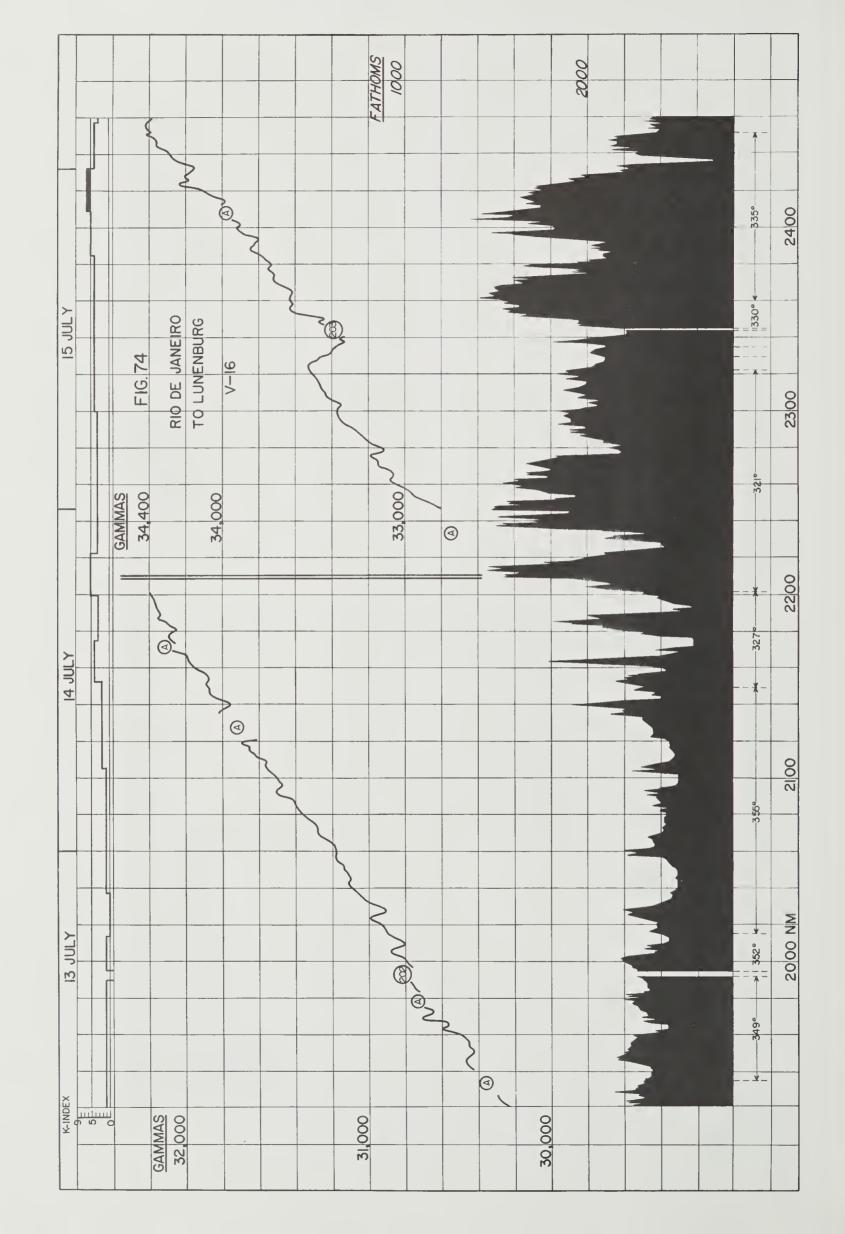


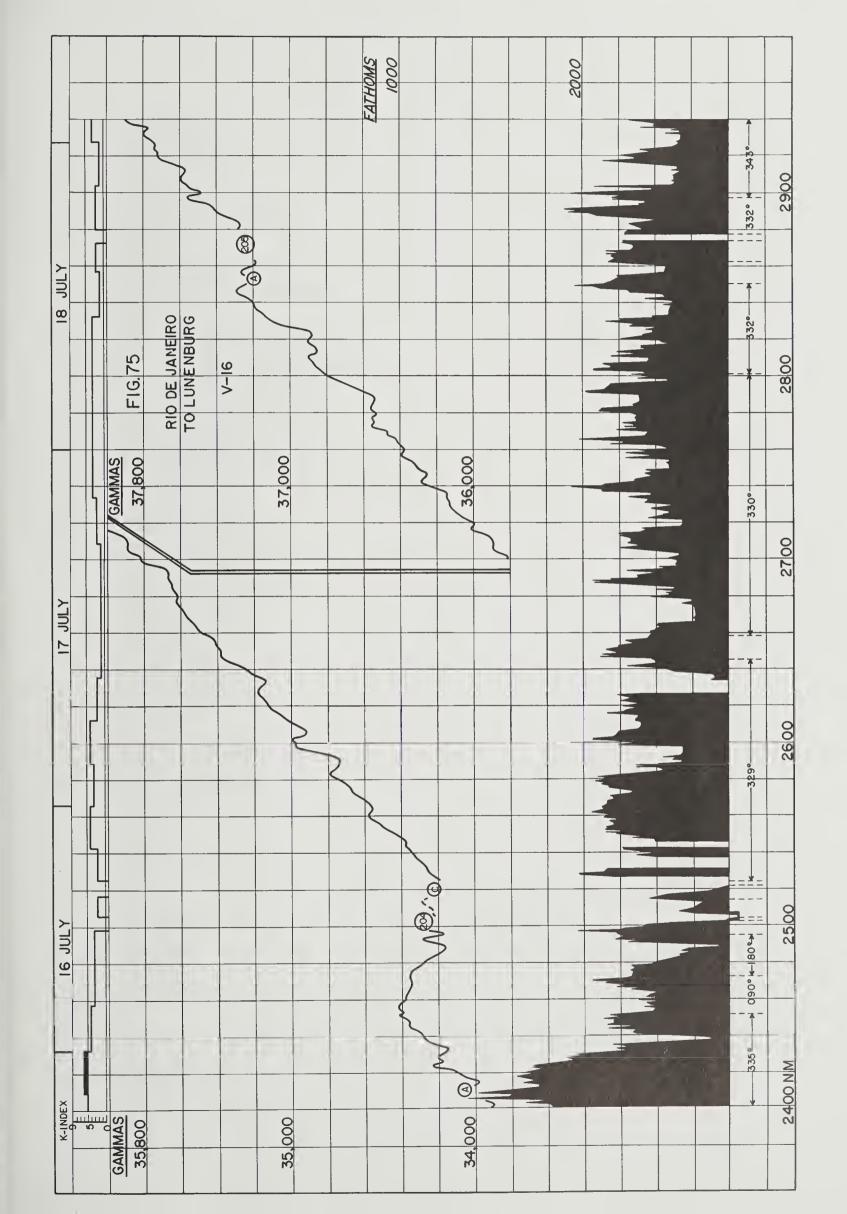


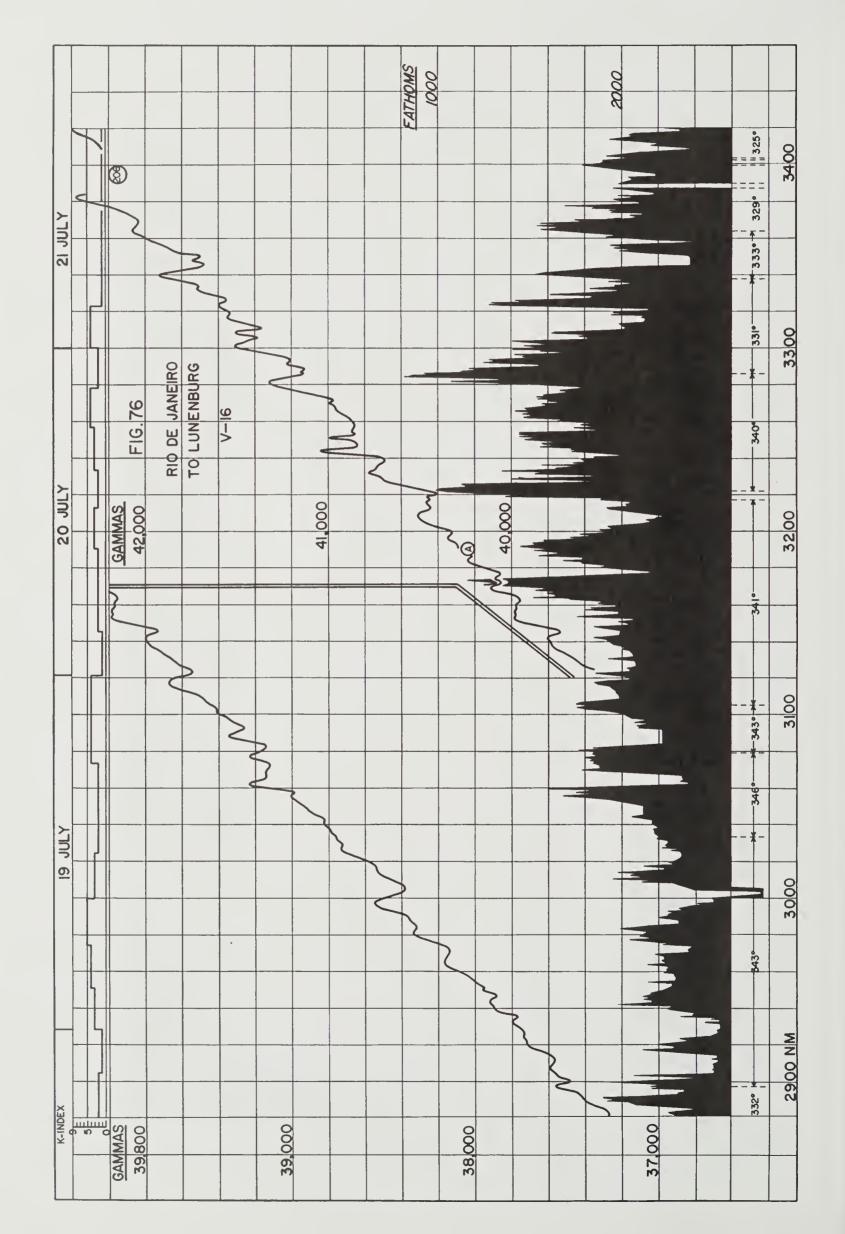


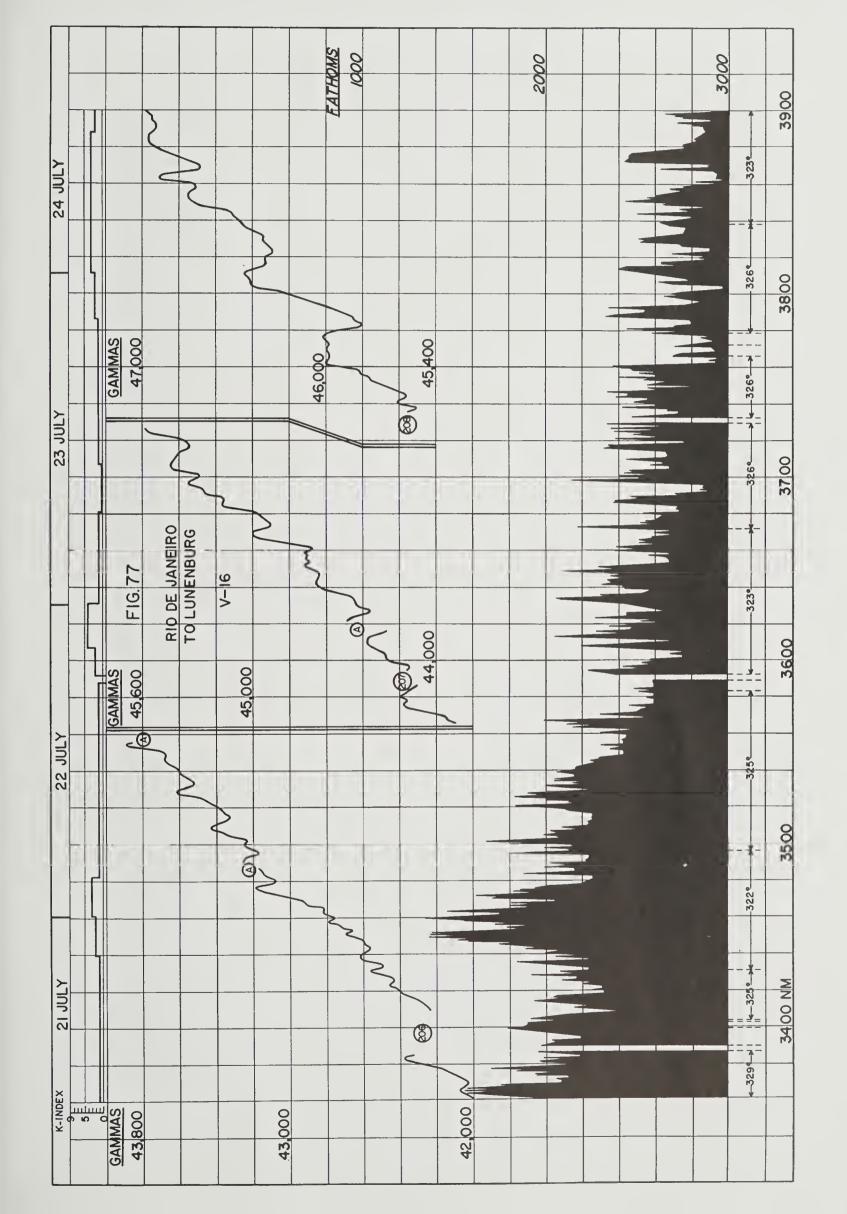


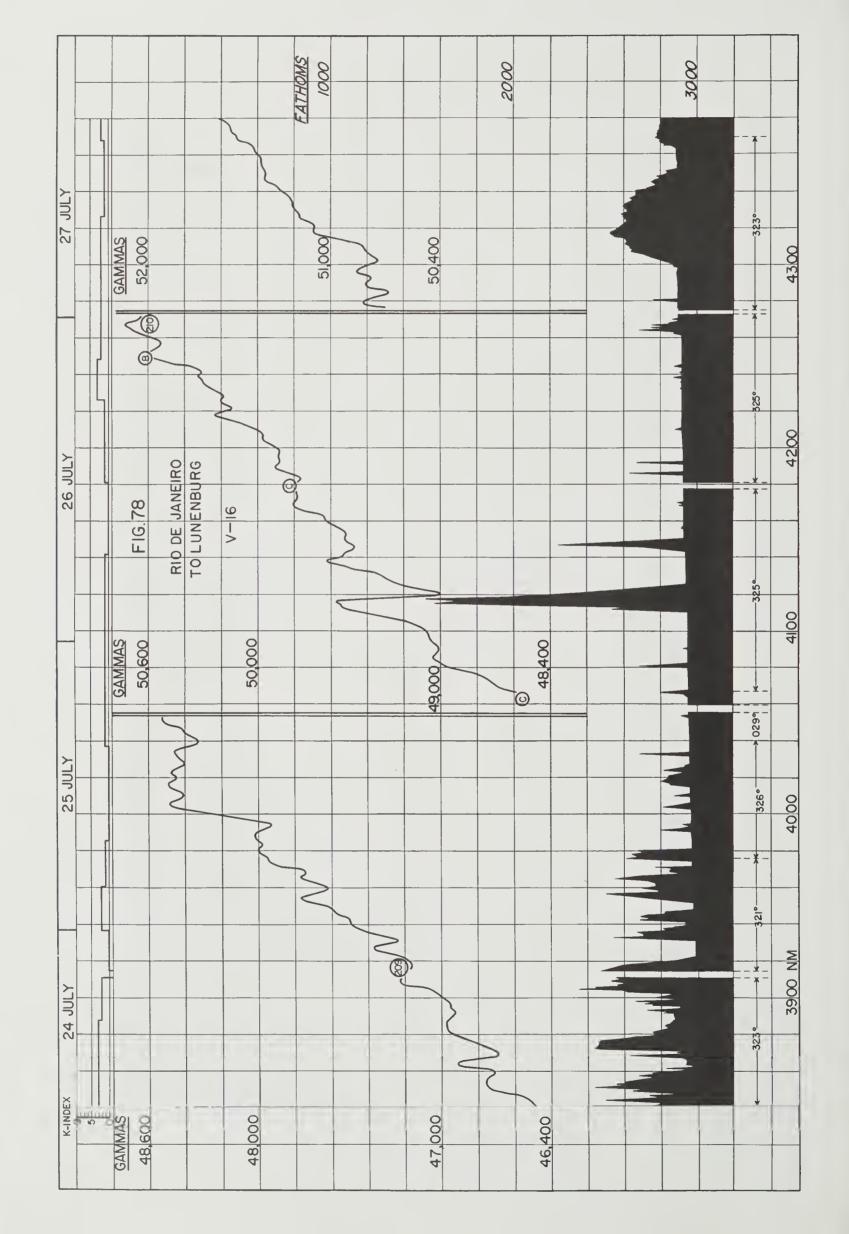


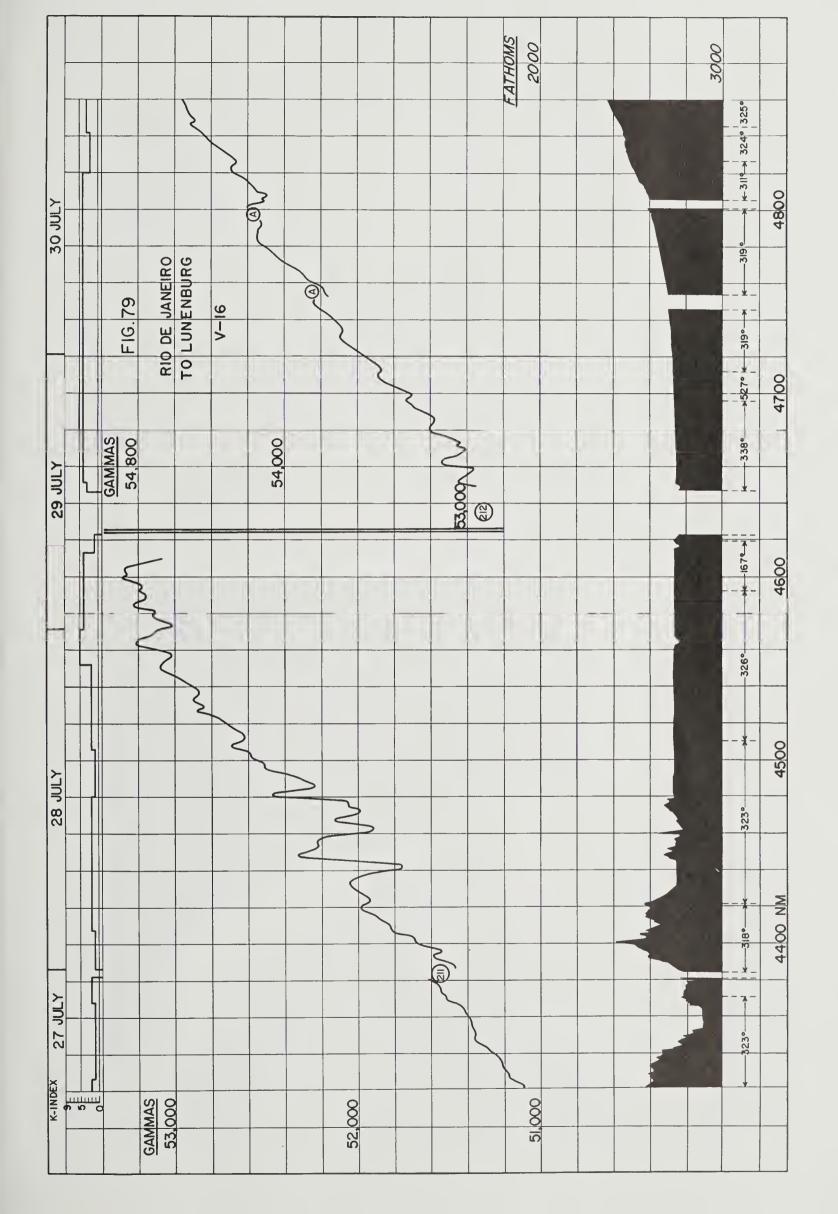


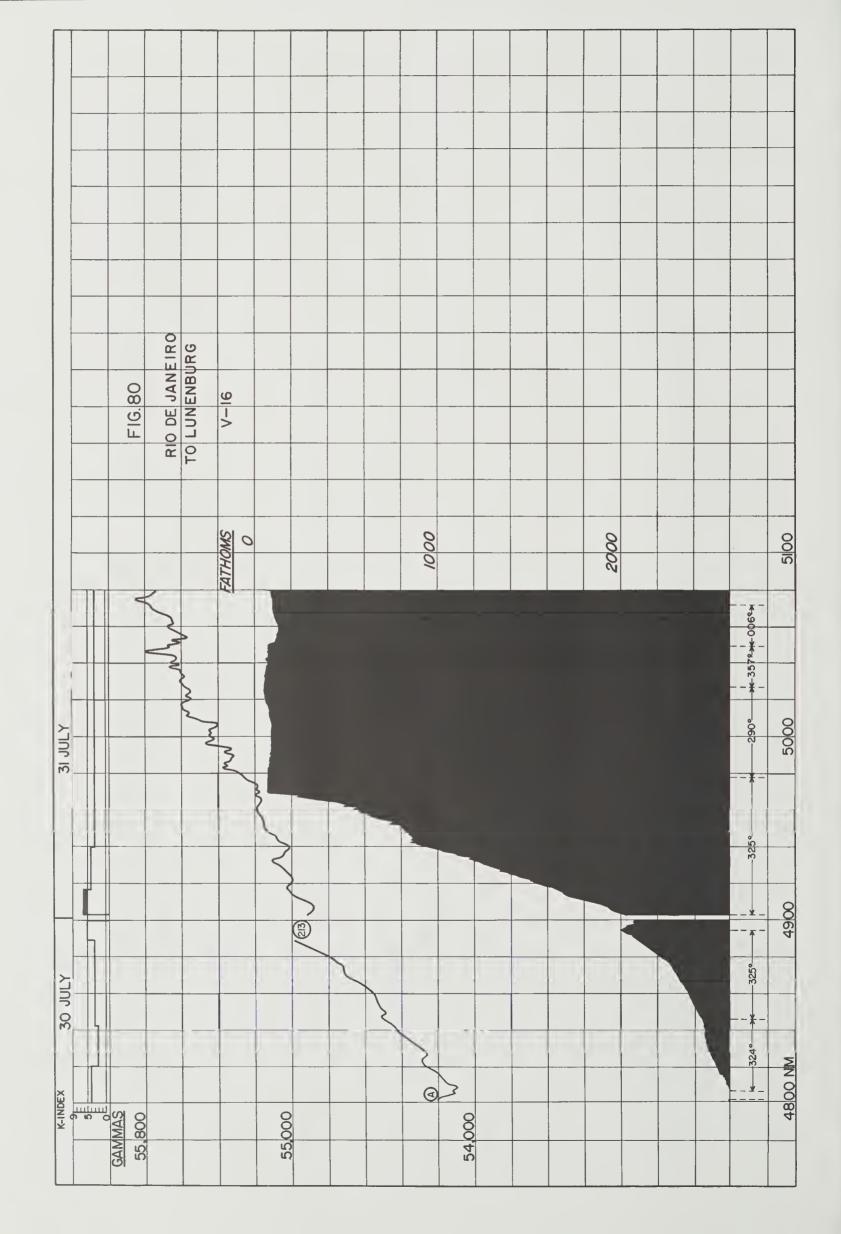












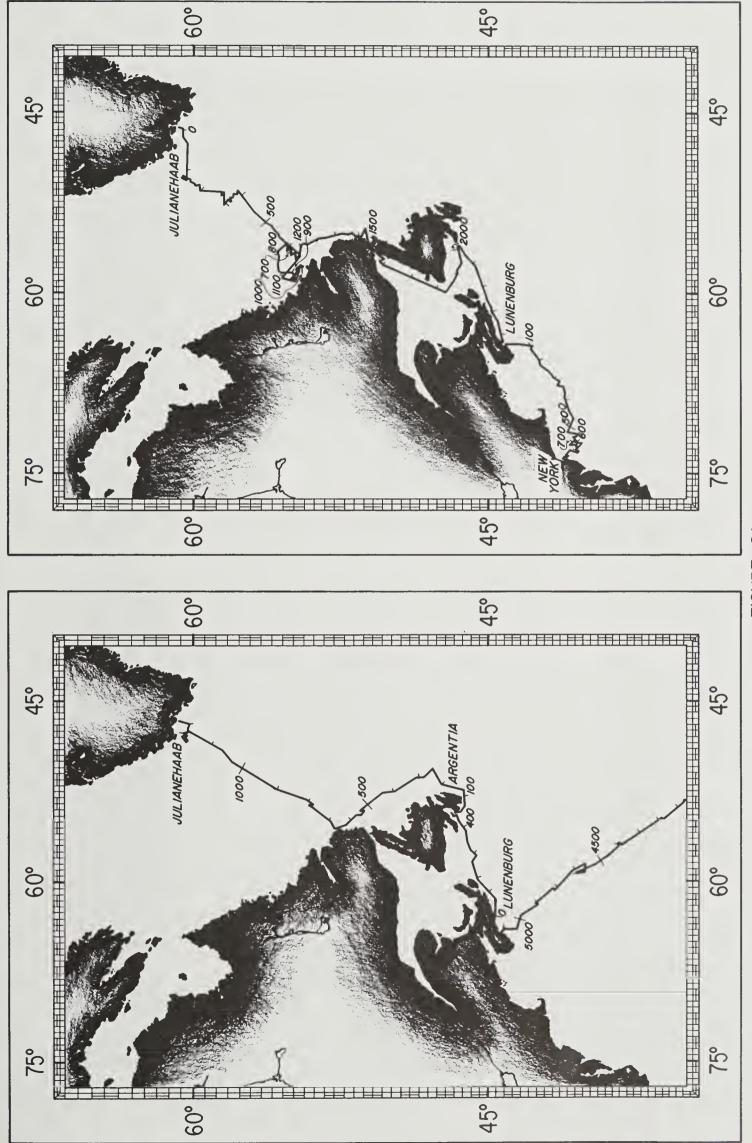


FIGURE 81

