

## PRELIMINARY STATEMENT ON THE ONSHORE AND OFFSHORE MESO-CENOZOIC TECTONIC DATA IN WESTERN BELGIUM AND NORTHERN FRANCE

by

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(1 figure)

**ABSTRACT.**- A first comparison between the onshore and offshore informations leads to a tectonic sketch of the South North-Sea and the *Detroit du Pas-de-Calais* (Strait of Dover). The more striking feature is that, significant structures (North Hinder and Gravelines structures) seem to extend offshore the transverse faults known in the Paleozoic beds of Pas-de-Calais and Boulonnais.

This set of deformations can be interpreted as reactions of the thick Meso-Cenozoic cover to fractures acting in the Paleozoic basement.

Towards the South, between the *Zone de Cisaillement Nord-Artois* and the *Faille de Montreuil - Bassurelle*, along the *Weald Artois Axis*, where the Meso-Cenozoic cover is thinner, the transverse faults, probably dependent upon the same fractures, have a dextral strike-slip character both in Paleozoic basement and in the Cretaceous strata.

The size and significance of this assumed deep faults are discussed in the framework of a model of this part of the Southern North-Sea.

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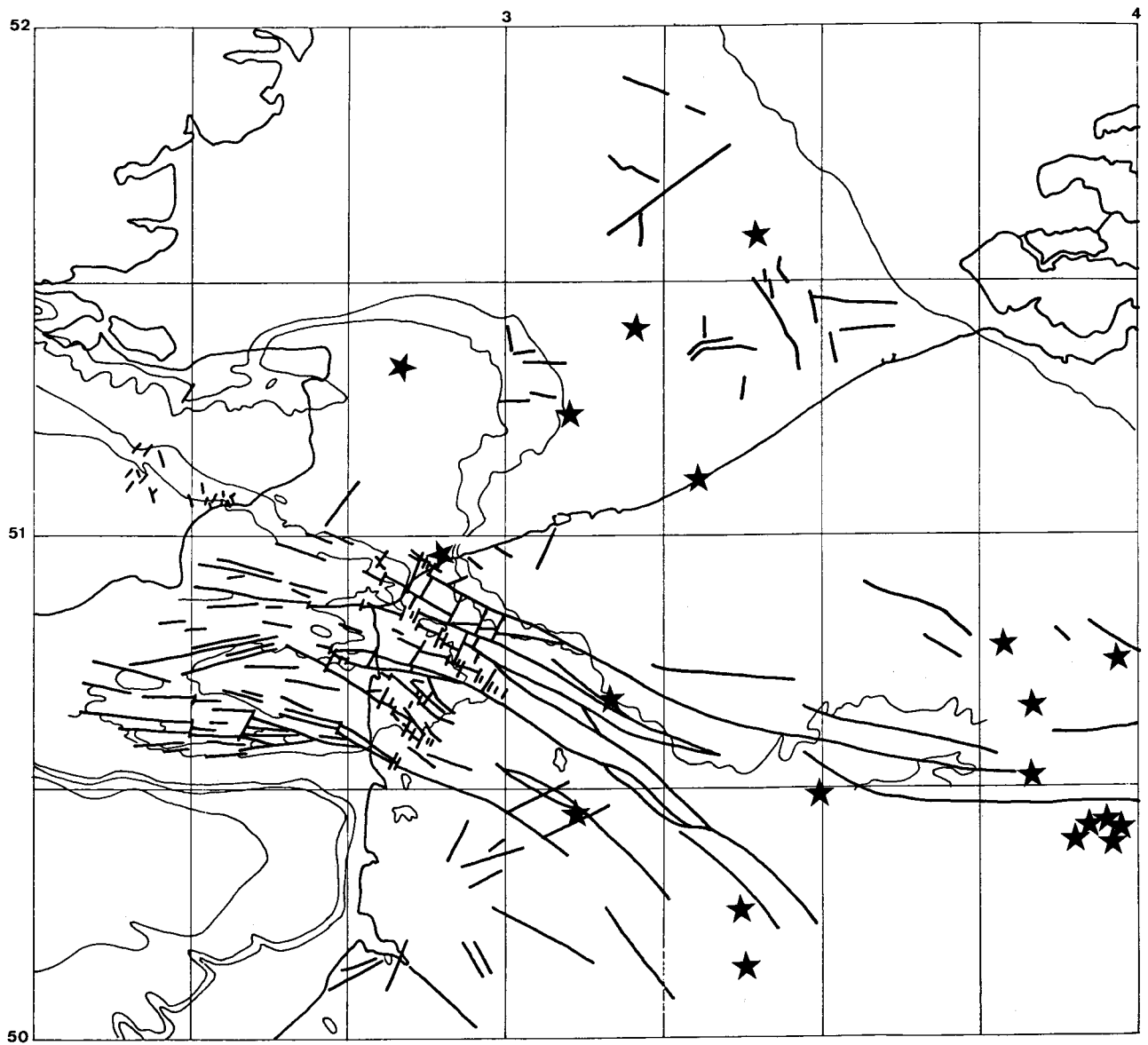


Fig.1.- Main faults (after Colbeaux *et al.*, 1977 and Henriët & de Batist, this issue) and epicentres (after Camelbeeck, this issue) onshore and offshore in western Belgium and northern France.