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ON THE CAMBRIAN SEDIMENTS IN NORTH VIETNAM

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The Cambrian in the Laocai area, Vietnam, begins with lower Cambrian phosphate-bearing terrigenous sediments of the Camduong Formation consisting of conglomerates, gravelites, micaceous schist, quartz-carbonate schist, apatite-carbonate schist, and sandstone. The formation yields *Medularites lineolatus* (oncolites) and *Archaeohystrichosphaeridium* sp., *Tetraedrixium* sp., and *Octaedrixium* sp. etc. (acritarchs). The Camduong Formation unconformably overlies on the dolomite marble of the Late Proterozoic Sapa Formation. The sedimentation cycle from the Middle Cambrian to Early Ordovician included in North and North West Vietnam, and from the Middle to Late Cambrian, in North East Vietnam, sediments of Thansah type. In the extreme north the Changpung-type strata are composed of: 1) Hagiang Formation (Middle Cambrian) sericite shale and marl, containing *Annamitia*, *Paracoosia* and *Damesella* (trilobites), inarticulate brachiopods, and microphytolites (*Osagia* sp.); 2) Changpung Formation (Upper Cambrian) limestone, oolite limestone intercalated with shale, siltstone, and yielding *Drepanura*, *Blackwelderia*, *Cyclolorenzella*, *Prochuangia*, *Irvingella*, *Pagodia*, *Haniwa*, *Proceratopyge*, *Prosaukia*, *Tsinania*, *Dictyella*, and *Calvinella* (trilobites), and brachiopods (*Billingsella*, *Eoorthis*). In the North West, Changpung-type strata are characterized by: 1) Songma Formation (Middle Cambrian) comprising sericite quartz shale, coal matter-bearing shale, sandstone, and lenses of limestone, and yielding *Solenoparia*, *Metanomocare*, and *Inouyia* (trilobites), inarticulate brachiopods, and oncolites; 2) Hamrong Formation (Upper Cambrian-Lower Ordovician) comprising micritic limestone, oolite limestone, and dolomite limestone intercalated with shale, sandstone, and yielding *Drepanura*, *Prochuangia*, *Proceratopyge*, and *Calvinella* (trilobites), *Billingsella* (brachiopods), and *Oneotodus*, *Drepanodus* (conodonts). The sediments of Changpung-type unconformably overlie on the Late Proterozoic-age sediments and pass upwards continuously to Early Ordovician ones. The Thansa-type strata consist of: 1) Modong Formation (Middle Cambrian) with thin-banded shale, and micaceous siltstone, yielding *Ptychagnostus atavus*; 2) Thansa Formation (Upper Cambrian) comprising shale, marl, sandstone, and lenses of limestone, and yielding *Lotagnostus*, *Charchaquia*, and *Hedinaspis*. The lower boundary of the Modong Formation was not observed. The Thansa Formation is unconformably overlain by the lower Devonian sediments.