FORMATION OF THE SEDIMENTARY SEQUENCE ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OFF MIHO PENINSULA, CENTRAL JAPAN

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Formation of the sedimentary sequence and changes in the depositional environments on the continental shelf off Miho Peninsula, Central Japan, are studied in detail on the basis of the geomorphology, surface sediment distribution, and acoustic stratigraphy. The sequential analysis on seismic reflection records defines an acoustic stratigraphy of this region.Acoustic units consist of the para-sequences, A0, A1, A2, B and the acoustic basement in descending order. The boundaries of these units are marineflooding surface (Ref.L, K, J), maximum flooding surface (Ref. I) and major erosional surface. The major changes in sedimentary environment are indicatedby internal sedimentary structure and sediment distribution pattern whichare shown by construction of isopach maps of each acoustic unit. These isomach maps indicate northwestward migration of depositional centers of the shelf sediments. The migration of the depositional centers is appears to be largly influenced by the 1) direction of the coastal drift sediments and 2) the sealevel changes which alterd passages and shifed levels of the drift. Many submarine spit platforms were left onthe seafloor and they were formed as a result of in completed sediment. This study strongly shows changes in depositional environments andsedimentary regime are closely related with the sea-revel fluctuations during last 18,000 years. Sea-level analysis on the basis of the published sea-level fluctuation carves for the Tokai and Kanto districts shows close correlation between acoustic stratigraphy and sea-level fluctuations. Refrecter L is correlated with the sealevel of 18,000yBP, Refrecter K 10,000□`9,000yBP, and Refrecter I 7,500yBP.