

Fig. 6. Venera 13 (side A) panorama in Viking lander survey mode perspective.

consisting of semicontinuous, subhorizontal exposures, many of which are polygonal in outline. Layering of bedrock exposures is suggested by the characteristics of fragments and their relationship to bedrock. The bedrock displays a variety of surface textures, some of which suggest a regular pattern of depressions, ridges, or undulations on their surfaces. Most of the bedrock plates are subhorizontal, but in the far field there are examples which appear to be more highly tilted relative to the plane of the surface. The boundaries of the bedrock exposures are of two basic types similar to those observed at Venera 10: (1) sharp and often polygonal in outline, and (2) diffuse and gradational with soil zones separating exposures. These diffuse boundaries suggest a burial effect in which bedrock is mantled by a layer of fine materials several centimeters

thick. The sharp boundaries often display a few centimeters of relief.

The bedrock exposures or plates at the site are up to a meter in extent and have textured surfaces reminiscent in form of those at Venera 10 (Figures 5 and 6). In addition, 5–10 cm of surface topography can be observed on the exposures, manifesting itself in the form of cusped scarp and a variety of surface depressions. The cusped scarps resemble the cuestas-like scarp identified at the Venera 10 locality. The depressions on the bedrock surfaces are often filled with dark, fine material producing an apparently mottled surface. Several bedrock plates have surfaces with subparallel depressions filled with deposits of dark soil. Linear fractures also occur in abundance on the bedrock surfaces but appear to be more irregular in

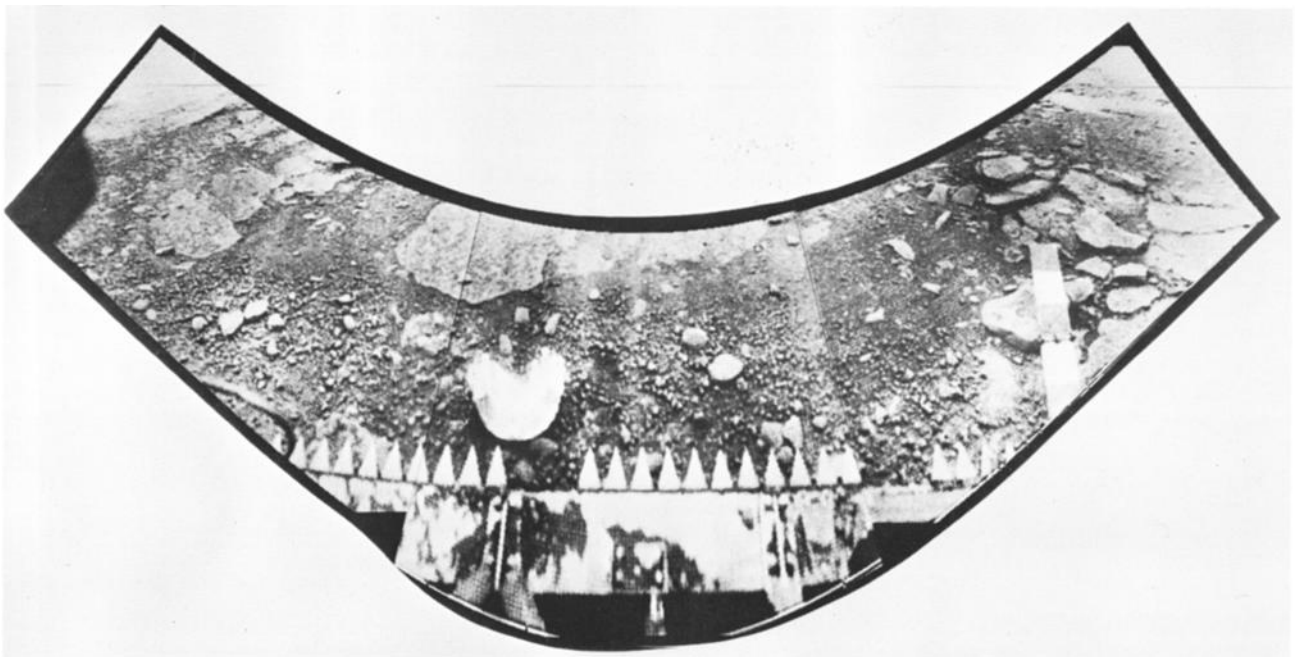


Fig. 7. Venera 13 (side B) panorama in Viking lander survey mode perspective.