



FIG. 1 Major physiographic features and active plate boundaries of the Woodlark basin region. The stippled area encloses oceanic crust formed during the Brunhes chron at spreading rates labelled in mm/yr. MT and ST, Moresby and Simbo transform faults, respectively; DE, D'Entrecasteaux islands. Top inset, geographical location of the Woodlark basin. Bottom inset, depth profile along the axis of the spreading center, with the five spreading segments numbered.