

FAULTLINE

SEISMIC SCIENCE AT THE EPICENTER

Seismogram on smoked paper

The squiggle is a record of a quake that struck near the town of Coalinga, in central California, in 1983. The earth's movement is recorded on paper that is covered with a layer of smoke particles. When the needle moves across the paper, it scratches off bits of smoke, recording the motion with very fine details.

