

Foreword

This Special Issue No. 28 of Memoirs of National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR) is the Proceedings of the Third Symposium on Antarctic Geosciences, which was held on 21st and 22nd, October 1982 at NIPR, Tokyo. The volume of Proceedings of the Second Symposium of Antarctic Geosciences, which was published in 1982 as Special Issue No. 21 of Memoirs of NIPR, contains only 10 scientific papers, though a much more number of geoscientific papers were presented to the symposium itself. However, the present volume contains 33 scientific papers covering all disciplines of geoscience, namely, geophysics, geology, petrology, mineralogy, geochemistry, glaciology and geomorphology in Antarctica.

Unfortunately, 12 papers among the submitted 33 papers are presented only in a form of abstract. Since some of these abstracts are preliminary reports of relatively large geoscientific research programs in Antarctica, it is hoped that details of these works will be reported separately in a form of full paper in the near future.

As mentioned in the foreword of the proceedings of the previous symposium, the NIPR symposia on Antarctic geosciences are aiming to establish a whole comprehensive figure of the Antarctic continent by use of all available research techniques. It may be difficult in reality, however, to simultaneously promote studies of all geoscientific disciplines evenly every year. In the 1982 symposium summarized in this volume, reports of geophysical research of the Antarctic continent are comparatively dominant as far as the number of presented papers is concerned. In some future symposia, studies of other geoscientific disciplines may possibly become the major topics. The NIPR symposium on Antarctic geosciences is scheduled to be regularly held once a year from 1982, and consequently the proceedings of the symposium will be published every year in series.

It is hoped therefore that this volume could be evaluated as one step in the zigzag course of development of geoscientific research of Antarctica.

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