

Preface

Intensive glaciological studies in the Mizuho Plateau-West Enderby Land area have been actively discussed since 1965 by a group of Japanese glaciologists under the supervision of the late Professor Hirobumi Ōura of the Institute of Low Temperature Science, Hokkaido University, Sapporo. These discussions have been projected into the Glaciological Research Program in the Mizuho Plateau-West Enderby Land. The program aims ultimately at estimation of a local mass balance of the ice sheet in this area through interdisciplinary studies of glaciology, meteorology, geography and geophysics on the basis of observations by the Japanese Antarctic Research Expeditions, JARE 10 - 16, during the period from 1969 to 1975.

The program consists of two major projects, namely (1) Glaciological studies by means of oversnow traverses by JARE 10, 11, 14 and 15; (2) A pilot study of deep cores of the inland ice sheet by means of drilling and analyses by JARE 12, 13 and 16. After the passing of Professor Ōura in 1969, I have succeeded to the post of chief investigator. The first observational period of the traverse project was completed by JARE 10 and 11 in March 1971, and a pilot study of deep cores of the ice sheet is now under way.

This volume comprises the data of observations and surveys carried out by JARE 10 and 11, with an aim to have these data shared by researchers who may make effective use of them prior to completion of the final report of the program.

Dr. K. Kusunoki, leader of JARE 10, and Dr. T. Matsuda, leader of JARE 11, have contributed extensively and willingly to the research. I wish to express my obligations to them. Many thanks also go to the members of the research parties for their energetic efforts in conducting observations and surveys in the field. Finally I owe a special debt of gratitude to the authors of each report for completing this volume.

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