

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

An international tectonic project in Eastern Countries

Professor W. Jaroszewski writes: Since 1974 in Eastern Europe there exists an international system of scientific co-operation in geology, called *Multilateral Co-operation of Academies of Science of Socialist Countries* (Russian abbreviation MSANSS). Commission 9 on 'Geosynclinal processes and formation of the Earth's crust' has recently been renamed 'The Earth's crust (structure, evolution and metallogeny)'. The Commission is headed by Professor O. Fusan of Czechoslovakia. The current general research project for 1986–1990 with a final horizon in 1995, is 'Comparative geodynamics and metallogeny of the Earth's crust', headed by Dr M. G. Leonov of the U.S.S.R.

There are seven special projects within the general project, most of which are connected with tectonic problems.

(1) Primary nature and special features of metamorphism and ore-forming processes in Precambrian crust in fold areas of different age.

(2) Review of Riphean–Palaeozoic and Mesozoic ophiolitic complexes and their comparison with contemporary oceanic crust.

(3) Magmatic evolution of structures of different age in Central Europe, Asia and Cuba.

(4) Mechanisms of structure-forming processes in the lithosphere.

(5) Sedimentation, paleogeography and paleotectonics of fold areas and their margins.

(6) Radioactive dating of geological processes and isotope geochemistry.

(7) Metallogeny of fold areas of different age and of their platform surrounding.

The organizer of the most structural-based project (4) is Professor W. Jaroszewski of Poland. This project has been split into three subprojects.

(4.1) Comparative analysis of structure-forming processes in various SPT-conditions (Professor P. Bankwitz, E. Germany).

(4.2) Lineaments at the contacts between folded areas of different age, and their metallogeny (Dr I. Boianov, Bulgaria).

(4.3) Neotectonics and the deep structure of orogenic zones, based on remote sensing and field studies (Dr V. G. Trifonov, U.S.S.R.).

The object of this project is to involve a number of contributors in the production of a special publication of common work: a type of great atlas with text. The co-operation consists of common field work and discussions (usually one meeting for each subproject p.a., by rotation in successive countries), theoretical conferences, bilateral exchange, collective papers and volumes, and co-ordination of individual studies. Each participant is financed by his own institution, but the cost of personal exchange is mostly covered by reciprocity. On average, each subproject has one to three participants from each country. Research so far has concentrated on selected geotraverses considered as most representative for the problems under investigation.

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