



Bathymetric image of the Atlantis II Transform valley and its flanking eastern and western transverse ridges. The view is of the middle section of the transform only and covers approximately 4000 km<sup>2</sup> of seafloor. This giant submarine canyon is approximately 4 times the size of the Grand Canyon of the western United States and is one of many such canyons that mark large left-lateral transform fault offsets of the Southwest Indian Ridge. Hole 735B is situated on the crest of the eastern transverse ridge on a local high seen at the top center of the image. The drill site is at a water depth of 700 m, while the adjoining floor of the transform is more than 6000 m deep. Video images of the seafloor near the drill site show that it is on a wave-cut platform. This indicates that the site was an emergent island that formed by uplift of the seafloor near the intersection of the Atlantis II Fracture Zone and the rift valley of the Southwest Indian Ridge about 10 to 11 m.y. ago. The apparently low ridge lying along the axis of the transform valley is actually 1.5 km high and extends due north-south parallel to the present-day slip direction of the transform fault. Coarse turbidites containing peridotite, gabbro, greenstone, and basalt clasts (shed from the valley walls) were drilled at Site 732 on the crest of this ridge (small white arrow). The image was prepared by Henry J.B. Dick of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and Shef Corey of the NECOR SeaBeam processing facility of the School of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island from data collected during the site survey for Leg 118. The vertical exaggeration is 2:1. A more detailed description of the physiography and tectonic setting of Hole 735B and the Atlantis Fracture Zone is included in Chapter 21 of this volume.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE OCEAN DRILLING PROGRAM

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## VOLUME 118 SCIENTIFIC RESULTS

### FRACTURE ZONE DRILLING ON THE SOUTHWEST INDIAN RIDGE

Covering Leg 118 of the cruises of the Drilling Vessel *JOIDES Resolution*,  
Port Louis, Mauritius, to Port Louis, Mauritius, Sites 732-735,  
17 October 1987-14 December 1987

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# Foreword

By the National Science Foundation

The scientists of the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) have embarked on what could prove to be one of the most important earth science initiatives of the decade—an initiative rivaling in scope and impact the exploration of the frontiers of outer space. The program explores our planet's last frontier—the Earth's structure and history as it is revealed beneath the oceans. The scope of the program's scientific goals excites the imagination, challenges the intellect, and enhances the spirit of cooperation among peoples in countries around the world.

Between 1872 and 1876, HMS *Challenger* undertook the world's first major oceanographic expedition. That expedition greatly expanded man's knowledge of the world's oceans and revolutionized our ideas about planet Earth. From 1968 to 1983, another ship named *Challenger* logged more than 375,000 miles on 96 voyages across every ocean for the Deep Sea Drilling Project (DSDP), operated by Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Among the project's many remarkable discoveries were the confirmation of seafloor spreading and the establishment of the relative youth of the seafloor, thus verifying the dynamic and changing nature of the Earth's crust.

Today, the Ocean Drilling Program, which began in 1983, brings new resources to bear on scientific ocean drilling. A new drillship is in operation—the *JOIDES Resolution*—one of the world's most modern and best equipped drillships with enhanced capability for drilling and coring in polar areas and rough weather, expanded laboratory space, facilities for more scientists, and a major drill-hole logging program. The name of the ship was derived from the international scientific partnership that directs the program—the Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling (JOIDES)—and from the flagship of Captain Cook's second voyage to the Pacific Ocean in the late 18th century. Texas A&M University is responsible for science operations in the program, and Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory is responsible for the logging program.

The Ocean Drilling Program truly has international participation. In 1975, the International Phase of Ocean Drilling began with member nations—the U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, United Kingdom, and France—all providing funds and scientific guidance for the project. Today, ODP partners include the U.S.A., the Canada/Australia Consortium for the Ocean Drilling Program, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the European Science Foundation, which represents Sweden, Finland, Norway, Iceland, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain, Swit-

zerland, Italy, Greece, and Turkey. The National Science Foundation, with funds contributed by the United States and international partners, supports the scientific operations and planning for the ODP through a contract with Joint Oceanographic Institutions, Inc. (JOI).

The information gained by the program leads to a better understanding of the Earth and its dynamic processes. Drilled sediment cores and logs reveal clues to past climatic history and tie into parallel studies of paleoclimates from glacial ice cores drilled on the continents. Understanding these sediment cores will enable scientists to complete the map of major geologically active regions of the Earth, and to identify processes that lead to dynamic change such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and mountain and continental growth. We are far from being able to predict such changes accurately now; but with the new tools and understanding, the accuracy of such predictions can be improved. This better understanding of the Earth's system(s) will allow us to identify regions of potential mineral and energy resource development, an issue of worldwide human interest. The Ocean Drilling Program is not in itself aimed at finding resources, but the knowledge of the Earth's processes that is gained through such a basic research program will inevitably provide pieces of information required for such resource discovery and exploitation.

The program is fully under way in its aim to further the understanding of the Earth's dynamic systems. People of our planet will benefit directly and indirectly from this research in both their daily living and work activities. This multinational endeavor will perhaps foster other cooperative efforts in science or among societies. The Ocean Drilling Program has distinguished ancestors in the original *Resolution* and *Challenger* expeditions and the Deep Sea Drilling Project. The National Science Foundation is proud to be playing a leading role in this program, and we are looking forward to significant and innovative science for many years to come.



Erich Bloch  
Director  
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Washington, D.C.

# Foreword

By Joint Oceanographic Institutions, Inc.

This volume presents results from the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP), where scientists use a specially equipped ocean drilling ship to sample and measure the properties of the submerged part of the Earth's crust. These data are then synthesized with other information to yield new insights into earth processes.

These results address the scientific goals of the program, which include providing a global description of geological and geophysical structures and materials, studying in detail areas of major geophysical activity such as mid-ocean ridges and the associated hydrothermal circulations, and studying passive and active continental margins. In addition, the ODP data support the study of sea-level and ocean-circulation changes, the effects of the Earth's orbital variations on climate, and the study of processes and mechanisms of evolution from the biological records in the cores which are recovered from drilling. The Ocean Drilling Program is a partnership of scientists and governments. Overall scientific policy and management guidance is provided by Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling (JOIDES), which consists of committees and panels made up of representatives of the participating institutions and other scientific and engineering experts. The JOIDES Executive Committee (EXCOM) provides general oversight; the JOIDES Planning Committee (PCOM) is the focal point for all scientific planning for the ODP and is key to the scientific success of the program.

The PCOM has a network of panels and working groups which screen drilling proposals, evaluate instrumentation and measurement techniques, and assess geophysical survey data and other safety and siting information. PCOM uses the recommendations of these panels and committees to select drilling targets, to specify the major scientific objectives of each two-month drilling segment or leg, and to provide the science operator with nominations for co-chief scientists. The science operator, Texas A&M University, in turn is responsible for planning the detailed ship's operations, actual drilling schedules, and final scientific rosters, which are developed in close cooperation with PCOM and the cognizant panels.

Many of the scientific goals can be met only with new technology. Thus the program has identified engineering goals, which include the ability to start a hole and to core on bare rock at mid-ocean ridge sites, to drill in high-temperature and corrosive regions typical of hydrothermal areas, and to core in high latitudes with minimum interference from high seas and sea ice. To meet these needs, the program operates a specially equipped drillship, the JOIDES Resolution, which contains laboratories and equipment that are state-of-the-art, and carries a major new logging program.

The ship, registered as SEDCO/BP 471 after her owners and her length in feet (144 meters), is 70 feet (21 meters) wide, and has a displacement of 16,595 long tons. Her derrick towers 200 feet (61 meters) above the waterline, and a computer-controlled dynamic-positioning system stabilizes the ship over a specific location while drilling in water depths up to 27,000 feet (8230 meters). The drilling system collects cores from beneath the seafloor with a derrick and drawworks that can handle 30,000 feet (9144 meters) of drill pipe. More than 12,000 square feet (1115 square meters) of space distributed throughout the ship is devoted to scientific laboratories and equipment. The ship sails with a scientific and technical crew of 50 and a ship's crew of 65.

Logging is a major part of the overall operation. The program provides a full suite of geochemical and geophysical measurements

for every hole deeper than 1300 feet (400 meters). For each such hole, there are lowerings of basic oil-industry tools: nuclear, sonic, and electrical. In addition, a borehole televiwer is available for imaging the well-bore wall, a 12-channel logging tool provides accurate velocity and elastic property measurements as well as sonic waveforms for spectral analysis of energy propagation near the well bore, and a vertical seismic profiler records reflectors from below the total depth of the hole.

Texas A&M University serves as science operator for the Ocean Drilling Program. In this capacity, they operate and staff the drillship to collect cores from JOIDES-designated sites from around the world. The science operator also ensures that adequate scientific analyses are performed on the cores by maintaining the shipboard scientific laboratories and by providing logistical and technical support for shipboard scientific teams. Onshore, Texas A&M manages scientific activities after each leg, is curator for the cores, distributes samples, and coordinates the editing and publication of the scientific results. Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory (LDGO) of Columbia University manages the program's logging operations, which include processing the data and provision of assistance to scientists in data analysis. The ODP Data Bank, a repository for geophysical data, is also managed by LDGO. Core samples from ODP and the previous Deep Sea Drilling Project are stored for future investigation at three sites: ODP Pacific and Indian Ocean cores at Texas A&M University, ODP and DSDP Atlantic and Antarctic cores at Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, and DSDP Pacific and Indian Ocean cores at Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

International oversight and coordination are provided by the ODP Council, a governmental consultative body of partner country representatives, chaired by the United States, which periodically reviews the general progress of the program and discusses financial plans and other management issues. Joint Oceanographic Institutions, Inc., a nonprofit consortium of U.S. oceanographic institutions, serves as the National Science Foundation's prime contractor and manages the ODP. JOI is responsible for seeing that the scientific objectives and plans are translated into scientific operations consistent with JOIDES recommendations and budgetary constraints.

Scientific achievements of the ODP already include new data on early seafloor spreading and how continents separate and their margins evolve. We have new insight into glacial cycles and the fluctuations of currents throughout geological time. Technical achievements include the first bare-rock coring, and logging data more accurate and complete than ever before. JOI is pleased to have played a facilitating role in the Ocean Drilling Program.



D. James Baker  
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# Preface

The *Scientific Results* volumes of the *Proceedings of the Ocean Drilling Program* contain specialty papers presenting the results of up to one and one-half years of research in various aspects of scientific ocean drilling. I acknowledge with thanks the authors of the papers published in this volume, who thereby have enabled future investigators to gain ready access to the results of their research.

Each of the papers submitted to a *Scientific Results* volume undergoes rigorous peer review by at least two specialists in the author's research field. A paper typically goes through one or more revision cycles before being accepted for publication. Our goal is to maintain a peer-review system comparable to those of the most highly regarded journals in the geological sciences.

The Editorial Review Board for a *Scientific Results* volume is responsible for obtaining peer reviews of papers submitted to the volume. This board usually is made up of the two co-chief scientists for the cruise, the ODP staff scientist for the cruise, and one external specialist who is familiar with the geology of the area investigated. In addition, the ODP staff editor assigned to the volume helps with any manuscripts that require special attention, such as those by authors who need assistance with English expression.

*Scientific Results* volumes may also contain short reports consisting of good data that are not ready for final interpretation. Papers in this category are segregated in a section in the back of the volume called Data Reports. Although no interpretation is permitted, these papers ordinarily contain a section on methodology or procedures. Data Report papers are read carefully by at least one specialist to make sure they are well organized, comprehensive, and discuss the techniques thoroughly.

In acknowledgment of the contributions made by this volume's Editorial Review Board, names of the individual Board members are listed on the title page. Reviewers of manuscripts for this volume, whose efforts are so essential to the success of the publication, are listed in the front portion of the book, without attribution to a particular manuscript.

On behalf of the Ocean Drilling Program, I extend sincere appreciation to members of the Editorial Review Boards and to the reviewers for giving so generously of their time and efforts in ensuring that only papers of high scientific quality are published in the *Proceedings*.



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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## VOLUME 118—SCIENTIFIC RESULTS

### SECTION 1: GEOCHEMISTRY AND MINERALOGY

1. Primary mineralogy of Leg 118 gabbroic rocks and their place in the spectrum of oceanic mafic igneous rocks . . . . . 3  
R. Hebert, M. Constantin, and P. T. Robinson
2. Textural and mineralogical variations in gabbroic rocks from Hole 735B . . . . . 21  
S. H. Bloomer, P. S. Meyer, H.J.B. Dick, K. Ozawa, and J. H. Natland
3. Mineralogy and textures of iron-titanium oxide gabbros and associated olivine gabbros from Hole 735B . . . . . 41  
K. Ozawa, P. S. Meyer, and S. H. Bloomer
4. Magmatic oxides and sulfides in gabbroic rocks from Hole 735B and the later development of the liquid line of descent . . . . . 75  
J. H. Natland, P. S. Meyer, H.J.B. Dick, and S. H. Bloomer
5. Mineralogy and isotopic composition of sulfur in layer 3 gabbros from the Indian Ocean, Hole 735B . . . . . 113  
J. C. Alt and T. F. Anderson
6. Geochemistry and isotopic composition of gabbros from layer 3 of the Indian Ocean crust, Leg 118, Hole 735B . . . . . 127  
P. D. Kempton, C. J. Hawkesworth, and M. Fowler
7. Geochemistry and mineralogy of sediments, Atlantis II Fracture Zone, southwest Indian Ocean . . . . . 145  
E. van der Flier-Keller
8. Metamorphic stratigraphy of Hole 735B . . . . . 153  
D. Stakes, C. Mével, M. Cannat, and T. Chaput
9. Fluids in oceanic layer 3: evidence from veined rocks, Hole 735B, Southwest Indian Ridge . . . . . 181  
D. A. Vanko and D. S. Stakes

### SECTION 2: LOGGING AND GEOPHYSICAL STUDIES

10. Seismic stratigraphy in a transverse ridge, Atlantis II Fracture Zone . . . . . 219  
S. A. Swift, H. Hoskins, and R. A. Stephen
11. Seismic velocities and elastic properties of oceanic gabbroic rocks from Hole 735B . . . . . 227  
G. J. Iturrino, N. I. Christensen, S. Kirby, and M. H. Salisbury
12. Reflectivity modeling of the layer 3 gabbroic sequence drilled at the Atlantis II Fracture Zone . . . . . 245  
G. J. Iturrino and N. Christensen
13. Ultrasonic attenuation measurements in gabbros from Hole 735B . . . . . 253  
D. Goldberg, M. Badri, and W. Wepfer

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| 14. Fracturing, alteration, and permeability: <i>in-situ</i> properties in Hole 735B,<br>Atlantis II Fracture Zone, southwest Indian Ocean . . . . . | 261 |
| D. Goldberg, C. Broglia, and K. Becker   |     |
| 15. Statistical analysis of geochemical logging tool data from Hole 735B,<br>Atlantis II Fracture Zone, southwest Indian Ocean . . . . .             | 271 |
| R. Pelling, P. K. Harvey, M. A. Lovell, and D. Goldberg  |     |
| 16. Magnetic properties of gabbros from Hole 735B, Southwest Indian Ridge . . . . .  | 285 |
| E. Kikawa and J. E. Pariso   |     |
| 17. A magnetic logging study of Hole 735B gabbros at the Southwest Indian Ridge . . . . .  | 309 |
| J. E. Pariso, J. H. Scott, E. Kikawa, and H. P. Johnson  |     |
| 18. Electrical conduction in oceanic gabbros, Hole 735B, Southwest Indian Ridge . . . . .  | 323 |
| P. A. Pezard, J. J. Howard, and D. Goldberg  |     |
| 19. <i>In-situ</i> bulk permeability of oceanic gabbros in Hole 735B . . . . .   | 333 |
| K. Becker  |     |
| 20. Thermal modeling for Hole 735B . . . . .   | 349 |
| R. P. Von Herzen and J. H. Scott   |     |

**SECTION 3: GEOLOGY AND TECTONICS**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| 21. Tectonic evolution of the Atlantis II Fracture Zone . . . . .  | 359 |
| H.J.B. Dick, H. Schouten, P. S. Meyer, D. G. Gallo, H. Bergh,<br>R. Tyce, P. Patriat, K.T.M. Johnson, J. Snow, and A. Fisher               |     |
| 22. Plastic deformation at an oceanic spreading ridge: a microstructural study<br>of Site 735 gabbros (southwest Indian Ocean) . . . . .   | 399 |
| M. Cannat  |     |
| 23. Partial reorientation of the deformational structures at Site 735<br>using paleodeclination measurements . . . . .                     | 409 |
| M. Cannat and J. Pariso  |     |
| 24. Normal ductile shear zones at an oceanic spreading ridge:<br>tectonic evolution of Site 735 gabbros (southwest Indian Ocean) . . . . . | 415 |
| M. Cannat, C. Mével, and D. Stakes   |     |
| 25. Gravels in the Atlantis II Fracture Zone . . . . .   | 431 |
| S. A. Swift  |     |
| 26. Lithostratigraphic evolution of an <i>in-situ</i> section of oceanic layer 3 . . . . .   | 439 |
| H.J.B. Dick, P. S. Meyer, S. Bloomer, S. Kirby, D. Stakes, and C. Mawer  |     |

**SECTION 4: SYNTHESSES**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 27. Metamorphism and alteration in oceanic layer 3: Hole 735B . . . . .                                       | 541 |
| P. T. Robinson, H.J.B. Dick, and R. P. Von Herzen   |     |
| 28. Downhole measurements and physical properties, Hole 735B:<br>summary and tectonic relationships . . . . . | 553 |
| R. P. Von Herzen, H.J.B. Dick, and P. Robinson  |     |

**SECTION 5: CORRECTIONS TO SCIENTIFIC RESULTS VOLUME 114**

Vol. 114: Figure 5: Islas Orcadas Rise and Meteor Rise: the tectonic and depositional history of two aseismic plateaus from Sites 702, 703, and 704 . . . . .558  
C. A. Raymond, J. L. LaBrecque, and Y. Kristoffersen

Vol. 114: Figures 1 through 6: Synthesis of oxygen and carbon isotopic results from Site 704: implications for major climatic-geochemical transitions during the late Neogene . . . . .560  
D. A. Hodell, D. W. Müller, P. F. Ciesielski, and G. A. Meade

**SECTION 6: POLICY**

JOIDES advisory groups . . . . .565

Sample-Distribution Policy . . . . .571

**SECTION 7: INDEX**

Index . . . . .574

**BACK-POCKET FOLDOUT**

Chapter 21: Appendix A—Bathymetric Map of Atlantis II Fracture Zone