CONTRIBUCION A LA GEOLOGIA DE LAS PROVINCIAS DE LA HABANA Y CIUDAD DE LA HABANA

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During the Geological Meeting held in Havana on February 1968, delegates of the Academies of Sciences of socialist countries agreed to adopt uniform international standards in the multilateral collaboration for geologic mapping and its explanatory texts. The geological mapping and complementary texts for areas of provinces formerly named Las Villas, Pinar del Rio and Oriente, was begun practically at the end of 1969, with the valuable scientific-technical collaboration of qualified geologists and specialists from the Academies of Sciences of Bulgaria, Poland and Hungary.

When the surveying work of mapping was already advanced in the three mentioned provinces, similar activities were begun in the provinces of Havana on May 3, 1974, although only with a limited group of Cuban personnel, which, with great enthusiasm and effort, accomplished, this task Official delivery of their 1:250,000 scale Geological Map of the Havana provinces, together with all graphical representation, annexes and explanatory notes, was made on April 12, 1977.

While going through its complex activities, the Havana Team received valuable field and laboratory collaboration from the Ministry of Mining and Geology, as well as valuable help from the personnel of the paleontologic and petrographic laboratories and also the Services and Geologic Support Departments of our own Institute. Besides, the Hydroeconomy Institute and the General Direction of the construction Applied Research (DIGIAC) cooperated by affording useful local and regional informations.

The material included in this book, based on this Report deals with geomorphic, stratigraphic, paleontologic, tectonic and engineering-geological features of the studied area. New data and interpretations are offered of this highly complex region of Cuba.

In the chapter of geomorphology, classifying the territory according to morphology and genesis, is offered a rather general description of relief features.

The stratigraphy studies of the territory is presented in three independent articles in which are described forty-one lithostratigraphic units of variable ranks (group, formation, member and bed), some of them mentioned by several authors, while other five are published for the first time. Many problems have been solved in connection with this themes but others should be subject for further studies.

The analysis of the tectonics of Havana regions is carried out through the study of three questions closely inter related. These are: structural-facial zonation, structural-facial stages and tectonic position of the gabbro-peridotitic complex. In the first article, it is attempted to establish the independent structural-facial zones for the different stages of geological development, which affords a methodological innovation as concerning the tectonic classification in Cuba. It is an striking fact how to observe how to each structural-facial zone corresponds a different subdivision of stages, which allows to express better the idea of the relatively independent zone development. The study of actual tectonic position of gabbro-peridotitic complex is another contribution in regard bodies nomenclature as well as in regard to the problem of genesis and age of their original location.

Two articles provides a general review of the geologic history and paleogeography of Mesozoic and Paleogene. In this are discussed the history of magmatism and the main geological events which characterized the geologic structure and composition of Havana territory.

Some aspects of the paleontologic problems are considered in three articles written in collaboration with specialists of the Ministry of Mining and Geology. In these articles were systematized the documentation compiled regarding the stratigraphic distribution of radiolarian, ostracoda and large foraminifera in diverse lithostratigraphic units in Havana provinces.

Relying on the results of the geological survey accomplished by the Cuban Team and the files of existing data at the General Direction of Applied Research, in another article is offered a preliminary evaluation for engineering-geological conditions including their engineering-geological sketch. This work should prove to be of great value for different government organizations, mainly for the Planning and the Construction Departments.

The bibliography is not exhaustive. It refers principally to the articles mentioned above.
Finally, this book set at the disposal of professionals and technicians who work in our country, the main results obtained through the 1:250,000 scale geologic survey of the provinces called at present: La Habana and Ciudad de La Habana. We hope that this modest work is the first step for further scientific study of the complex and varied geology of the Havana provinces; and it should also be of interest to others research workers who, in general, are engaged with problems related to Cuba and Caribbean geology.

On publishing this book, the result of longs hours of dedication and effort, the Direction of the Institute of Geology and Paleontology takes advantage of the opportunity to congratulate the authors as well as all auxiliary and service personnel which, directly or indirectly, made it possible.

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