

A routine geochemistry program has been conducted aboard the *Glomar Challenger* since she first sailed on Leg 1 on 11 August 1968. A review of the accumulated data by the JOIDES Panels on Inorganic and Organic Geochemistry led to the concept of placing an emphasis on geochemical studies on one or two cruises each year. Leg 15, in the Caribbean Sea, was selected for the first of a series of cruises where geochemistry was to be stressed. The success of the Caribbean cruise led to a similar program conducted on Leg 25 (Indian Ocean) and another program is presently being planned for Leg 35 (Antarctic waters).

The final size of the Leg 15 Initial Report volume exceeded that which could be conveniently bound in one cover and, because it is now contrary to Deep Sea Drilling Project and National Science Foundation policy to publish more than one Initial Report volume per cruise, we have arranged to have the geochemistry section of Leg 15 included in this Leg 20 volume.

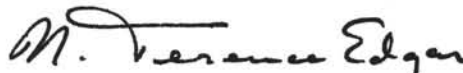
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