

# Initial Reports of the Deep Sea Drilling Project

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A Project Planned by and Carried Out With the Advice of the  
JOINT OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTIONS FOR DEEP EARTH SAMPLING (JOIDES)

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## VOLUME XCI

covering Leg 91 of the cruises of the Drilling Vessel *Glomar Challenger*  
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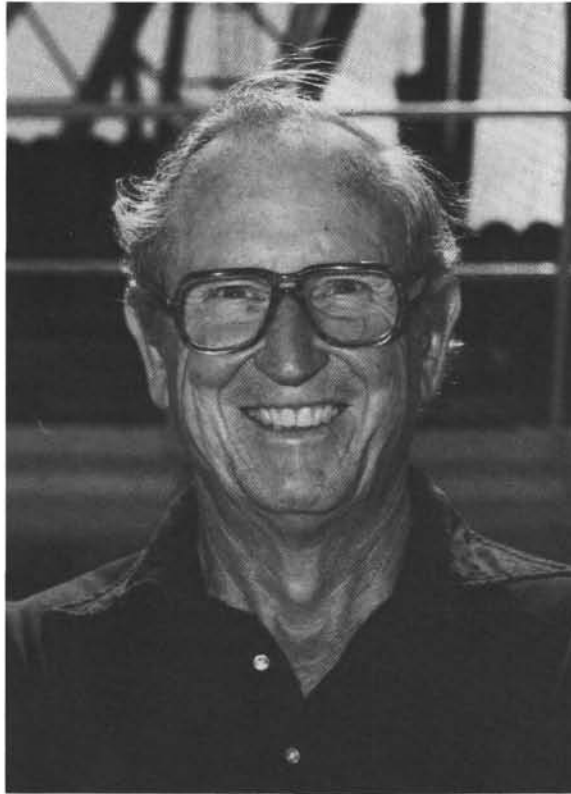
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## A Personal Reminiscence

### H. William Menard (1920–1986)



Bill Menard on the foredeck of *Glomar Challenger*, Leg 91 (photograph by Kevin Reid).

Bill Menard was co-chief scientist with me on board *Glomar Challenger* during Leg 91. Both of us in many ways were peripheral to the main proceedings, emplacement of a complex and large seismic instrument down a hole drilled into basalts in the southwest Pacific. But Bill loved the sea and participating in something new, and both of us were there to provide some foundation of seagoing scientific experience to a difficult undertaking. Much of the leg was spent simply in watching or discussing the vicissitudes of an engineering exercise which more than once held us in thrall from our vantage points on *Glomar Challenger's* superstructure. At some few points, our opinions and decisions influenced what was happening, but if we contributed to the success of Leg 91, it was more in the way of dealing with organizational matters on a day-to-day basis, communicating with *Melville*, which was participating in the experiments, and coping with difficulties, if they arose, from our different backgrounds. In this regard, Bill's decades of oceanographic experience and cheerful optimism were intangible but clearly valuable assets, recognized, I'm sure, by all the scientific and engineering staff on board.

The leg afforded us more than the usual seagoing opportunity for pursuing our own interests and discussing all manner of things. Bill worked on the magnetics and bathymetry of the southwest Pacific and wrote his paper on crenulated ridges. As someone virtually in another field, and who until then knew Bill primarily by reputation, through a course once taken, and the literature, I became aware in dealing with him of an astonishing fecundity of imagination, tempered by an ordered mind, and a vast recollection of marine geological data, which must have taken years to acquire. It is to Bill's great credit that so late in his career, he was still adding to that store of memory by going to sea, developing and testing hypotheses, and using ships, including *Glomar Challenger*. Given our unusual managerial perspective on this leg, his insight into the processes of high-level scientific decision-making, and of organizing scientific enterprise were at one and the same time sobering, instructive, and of surpassing interest.

Most of all, Bill presented himself as having true delight in discovery that came from application of mind. I doubt that in whatever conversation he may have been having, in whatever meetings he may have been running, or even in his times of relaxation, his scientific work was ever far from his thoughts. His rapport was with those who have a similar sense of wonder, and for whom this is a critical part of their sense of happiness and well being. This was his wisdom and the core of his friendship with so many people.

Jim Natland

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We remember our friend Bill Menard and all of his help prior to and during Leg 91, and in the first stages of the organization of this volume. We all share a sense of loss that he was not able to contribute more fully to its completion.