TWENTY FIVE YEARS OF STUDIA GEOPHYSICA ET GEODAETICA

The international scientific journal of geophysics, meteorology and climatology, and geodesy was established in 1956. Its publishing was authorized by the Office of the President of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences under supervision of the Section of the Academy for Mathematics and Physics. The purpose of the new journal, the first issue of which appeared in 1957, was to publish important original contributions in all branches of geophysics, in the sense including meteorology and scientific hydrology, as well as subjects of all disciplines of geodesy, cartography and geodetic astronomy. Papers submitted to the journal are published in English, Russian, French and German.

In his letter of welcome Professor J. Ryšavý, Member of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and President of the Czechoslovak National Committee of Geodesy and Geophysics, a geodesist himself, emphasized his wish and belief that the new journal would fulfil the most important task of a scientific periodical, i.e. to ensure good relations between and a profound co-operation in all scientific fields associated in the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) in the broader framework of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), united in their endeavour for a harmonic development of science for the benefit of mankind.

Professor Ryšavý stated with pleasure that the idea of a journal, specialized in these fields of science was expressed by young scientists of the Geophysical Institute of the Academy of Sciencies in their desire to establish and develop scientific contacts with their colleagues abroad and to facilitate the exchange of data, results and documentation and, to a certain extent, also, to receive some recognition and appreciation of their own results. It was also expected that a systematic way of publication and exchange of publications in geophysics and related disciplines would be established in consideration of the existence (since 1953) of the Travaux Géophysiques, collected papers in the same disciplines, but rather on Czechoslovak topics, with contributions of monographic character and, in a certain cases, with the original data published in full.

In this way, the two publications together enabled an active and systematic evolution in the sciences of interest and helped to their further general progress on a worldwide scale throughout the twenty five years following the publication the first issue of Studia geophysica et geodaetica. In the journal itself, on suitable occasions, individual stages of the evolution and development have been described and critically commented upon in the form of Final Reports or otherwise, when the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic was successful in fulfilling international programmes. On a regional scale similar tasks have been reported in the volumes of the Travaux Géophysiques.

On the whole, the Studia geophysica et geodaetica contributed to the general development of geophysics and geodesy in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,

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which could only have been achieved thanks to the support and understanding of the supreme Party and Government authorities. This development have been taking place in the closest contacts and co-ordination with the world-wide trends in advancing the study of the Earth's body, the atmosphere and planetary space.

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