

## NEWSLETTER

# New Concepts In Global Tectonics

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Dickson and D.R. Choi

### FROM THE EDITORS

In the last Newsletter we gave some information on the proposed NCGT Symposium at the 2004 IGC, August 20-28, in Florence. We are to have full day symposium but this will limit the number of speakers and there will not be a great deal of time for discussion. In consequence Forese Wezel is proposing to organize a post-Congress meeting at Urbino to allow for additional speakers and so there can be time for discussion on the critical issues which have been raised. We have assured him that we can anticipate a good attendance, so we would be pleased to have any comments on this.

This Newsletter has only a few contributors but we hope these will give our readers much cause for thought. We can report, though, the good financial support we are getting and we thank all those concerned.

Colin Laing has developed a quantitative approach to contraction of the earth and his view that the geosynclinal activity has moved from the west to east. He has emphasized that the present most tectonically active zones are the equatorial zone and the circum-Pacific zone and points to the increasing relief on the earth which he interprets as resulting from continuous contraction of the crust. These are important features of the present earth and require thought and explanation. These are present features but were they always this way in the past? At present active volcanoes are largely confined to the two zones recognized by Colin but even in the Pleistocene basaltic volcanic activity was much more widespread than at present. Why should this be the case? What does Colin have to say about the present continents and oceans being formed only from the Jurassic. All these things need consideration and explanation and should not be ignored as in current orthodoxy.

Dong Choi has developed further his work on lineaments and deep earthquakes with some fascinating results. Clearly the deep earthquakes indicate structures which are not confined to the

crust but the lineaments penetrate deep into the mantle indicating, no doubt, the upper mantle at least has a different composition in different places.

This bears out the work of our colleagues Suzuki and Pavlenkova. Many other things are in Dong Choi's paper.

Dolitsky and Sergeyeva are suggesting the mantle moves over the core (rotates?) according to the rotation of the earth and this can be related to regular affects on the distribution of earthquakes. Is this also related to the activity of the lineaments?

How can this information be tested? This is a challenge to all of us so there is much to discuss and question and can we do it in a dispassionate, friendly and **non-sectarian** manner and in way to advance science which is the object of all of us?

J. M. Dickins

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