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MEMORIAL OF VLADI MARMO

April 20, 1914–August 23, 1969

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Professor Vladi Marmo, director of the Geological Survey of Finland, when driving home from field work, died in a traffic accident at Vaajakoski, Finland, on August 23, 1969.

Vladi Marmo was born in Orel, Russia, April 20, 1914, the son of Wilhelm Fredrik Forsblom and Vera Nefedjeva. He was survived by his wife, Kaija Kinnunen, son Lauri, and mother, who died in 1970.

Vladi Marmo received his early education in Helsinki, Finland, and entered in 1935 the University of Helsinki, where he studied geology and mineralogy under the stimulating influence of Professor Pentti Eskola. The study was interrupted for several years during the World War II. In 1945 he received his Mag. Phil. and in 1950 his Ph.D. degree in geology and mineralogy from the University of Helsinki.

After two years as an industrial research chemist Vladi Marmo joined the staff of the Exploration Department of the Geological Survey of Finland in 1948. During the years 1953-1956 he was employed by the Geological Survey Department of Sierra Leone with exploring and mapping services. After returning to Finland, he served as State Geologist in the Exploration Department of the Geological Survey and later as a geologist of the Outokumpu Company to take care of its exploration activities in Finnish Lapland from 1958 to 1960. In 1960, at the age of 45, he was appointed Director of the Geological Survey of Finland.

During Marmo's leadership the expansion of the Survey continued vigorously. Research and exploration activities were intensified, new laboratories organized and equipped, and notable results obtained. During his leadership, from 1960 to 1969, the number of personnel employed by the Survey grew from 150 to 254, respectively.

As Director of the Survey Marmo participated in many national and international cooperative projects in the field of geo-sciences: He was president of the Finnish National Organizing Committee of the XXI International Congress, Norden, in 1960. He was elected a member of the Organizing Committee of the Union appointed by

the Paris meeting, where the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) was founded. He worked with the Commission for the Geological Map of the World as Bureau Member of the Subcommittee for the Metallogenic Map of Europe. When the Finnish National Committee for Geology was founded, Vladi Marmo became its president. As Consulting Member of the Board of the Finnish Geodetic Institute and a member of the National Committee of Geodesy and Geophysics, he worked to enhance the collaboration among scientists in different branches of the geosciences.

Further, he was a member of the editorial boards of the journals "Geoexploration" and "Mineralium Deposita". In addition, he acted as organizer in Finland of abstracts for "Mineralogical Abstracts", and was a member of the Commission on Abstracts of the International Mineralogical Association. He was elected a Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America in 1963.

Vladi Marmo's scientific activity covered a period of twenty-five years, during which he published approximately 100 papers in various fields of geology. His Ph.D. thesis, which appeared in 1949, was a petrological study of the Suoju volcanic complex of East Karelia. It was followed by several studies in ore geology and ore mineralogy, dealing mainly with Finnish occurrences. He focused his attention on the genesis of ore, especially on the origin of sulfide ores. Ore prospecting, particularly by biogeochemical methods, likewise attracted him.

Marmo's three-year sojourn in Sierra Leone was highly stimulating and led to a long series of petrological and mineralogical studies. The main results of his field work were presented in two extensive bulletins issued by the Sierra Leone Survey. In addition, he published special studies on serpentinites, banded ironstones, chloritoid schists, and anthophyllite asbestos of Sierra Leone.

It was during this period that Marmo entered upon his granite studies. Back in Finland he continued his research in the granite problems also during his directorship of the Survey. The total number of papers dealing with granites and their petrology, chemistry, classification, emplacement, absolute ages, mineralogy, and origin, of which he is the author or senior co-author, amount to about 30. His granite studies were internationally known and acknowledged. He actively participated in the International Colloquium of Granite Geology organized by IUGS and sponsored by UNESCO, attended its meeting in West Africa in 1965 and acted as its chairman in NE Brazil in 1967. Marmo's last papers on granites, and especially his book *Granite Petrology and the Granite Problem*, published posthumously, reflect



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his long, intensive research to establish a valid model for the origin of granites.¹

Marmo's admirable promptness and energy as well as his tall and slender stature always drew attention. As an active sportsman he had a good physical form—a circumstance that evidently contributed positively. Despite his many duties as Director of the Survey he allowed himself time also for petrological field work and prepared two petrological map sheets with explanatory texts. His liveliness and good knowledge of languages—in addition to Finnish and Swedish he spoke and wrote English, German, and Russian—effectively aided in the creation of human contacts and in his research.

Also his other merits bear witness of his capability. During the war besides other services he acted as the leader of a long range patrol and was promoted Captain in 1944 and Major of the reserve in 1967. His contributions to philately need especially be noted. He acted in various bodies of the philatelic organization of Finland, as editor of the journal "Philatelia Fennica" and wrote articles.

Vladi Marmo was an outstanding man, not only as a scientist and leader but, also as a warm person with many friends. His sudden passing away, in the midst of his creative period, was a great loss for the geological research of Finland.

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MEMORIAL OF VICTOR BEN MEEN

July 1, 1910–January 7, 1971

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Victor Ben Meen, the son of Benjamin and Mary (Tidy) Meen, was born in Toronto where he also pursued his schooling through elementary, secondary, and university levels. He received his B.A. in 1932, his M.A. in 1933, and his Ph.D. in 1936 in Mineralogy—all from the University of Toronto. He joined the Department of Mineralogy and Petrography as a lecturer in that year, a post which he

¹To obtain a copy of a selected bibliography of Marmo's work, order NAPS Document Number 01710 from National Auxiliary Publications Service of the A.S.I.S., c/o CCM Information Corporation, 866 Third Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022; remitting \$2.00 for microfiche or \$5.00 for photocopies, in advance, payable to CCMIC-NAPS.