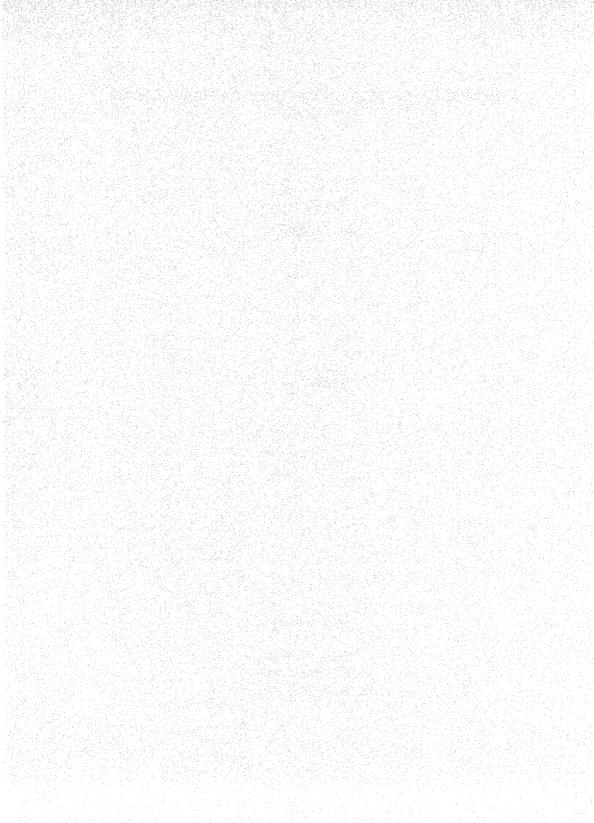
ATMOSPHERIC EFFECTS OF THE VOLCANIC ERUPTION OF EL CHICHON

Special Issue

PART 1

Guest Editors

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On August 19-20, 1983, a special Symposium on the atmospheric effects of the 1982 eruptions of the El Chichón volcano was held during the XVIII General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) in Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany. The purpose of the symposium was to bring together international scientists who had been studying the atmospheric effects of the volcanic eruptions of El Chichón which took place in late March and early April, 1982. In terms of effects on the stratosphere, this eruption now appears to be the most significant at least since that of Katmai in 1912 in the northern hemisphere and probably since Krakatau in 1883 in the southern hemisphere.

Following an opening address by Professor H. H. Lamb, 42 papers were delivered in 4 sessions which covered 1.) early eruption cloud detection, temperature effects and tropospheric measurements, 2.) in situ stratospheric measurements, 3.) remote sensing measurements, and 4.) aerosol, radiative and climate modeling. Authors were invited to submit their findings for possible publication in two special issues of GEOFISICA INTERNACIONAL. This issue represents the first installment of those papers.

The results which appear in these special issues represent the bringing together of the results of numerous studies in one journal. In this sense they are somewhat unique and we hope that they will provide a useful tool in furthering the knowledge of the atmospheric and subsequent climatic effects of major geophysical events such as the eruption of El Chichón.

The guest editor wish to thank the authors for their cooperation; the sponsors of the symposium (ICACGP, ICCL, ICMUA, IRC and IAVCEI) and especially Stanley Ruttenberg, Secretary General of the International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Physics (IAMAP) for encouragement and support.

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