Monbusho International Scientific Research Program Reports by 1990 and 1991 Grants for Field Research

Kyoto University Overseas Research Reports of New World Monkeys VIII

Kyoto University Primate Research Institute 1992

Monbusho International Scientific Research Program

Reports by 1990 and 1991 Grants for Field Research

1. Research Institute Number: 14301

2. Research Institute: Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University

3. Term of Project: 1990 to 1991

4. Project Number: 02041050

5. Title of Project: Phylogenetic Studies of South American Monkeys

6. Head Investigator:

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9. Finance:

1990: 8,500,000 Yen 1991: 2,000,000 Yen

- 10. Results: Results of research are referred to the following papers in this volume.
- 11. References:

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PREFACE

I am very pleased that the Kyoto University Overseas Research Reports of New World Monkeys are published here. This volume consists of the results of Kyoto University Field Research of New World Monkeys surveyed in the fiscal year of 1990 and summarized in the fiscal year of 1991. All the financial support needed was geneously given by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (Monbusho).

Kyoto University has now sent primatological expeditions to South America nine times, including preliminary research in the fiscal year of 1976. In 1977, the first large-scaled expedition was organized, with research conducted on both extinct and extant New World monkeys in Colombia, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil. In 1979, the second expedition was sent to Colombia and Bolivia. This resulted in the discovery of the upper dentition of *Stirtonia tatacoensis*, the lower dentition of which had been known solely from the La Venta badlands of Colombia. During the field season of 1981, geological and palaeontological studies in the area where *Stirtonia* was obtained became the most important project for research.

During 1982, 1984, 1986 and 1988, phylogenetic studies of South American monkeys were emphasized more than in the proceeding years. Geological and palaeontological studies continued in Colombia, in cooperation with Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Geológico-Mineras, Colombia. These studies were sometimes extended into Bolivia as well. Morphological and genetical studies were also conducted in Bolivia and Brazil, in the field as well as in museums. Especially in Bolivia, blood and parasite samples were collected from more than 500 individuals of six genera, *Saimiri*, *Aotus*, *Callicebus*, *Alouatta*, *Cebus* and *Saguinus*.

During the field season of 1990, geological and palaeontological studies constituted a continuation of programs from the proceeding years in Colombia. These studies achieved a significant success by recovering an almost complete mandible and more than 200 isolated teeth belonging to about ten individuals. Morphological studies were actively carried out mainly in Brazil. Some of the results obtained are mentioned in this volume.

I am very grateful to the Governments of Colombia and Brazil for their kind permission and helpful cooperation in completing our research projects. It is my hope that our research program may contribute to a better understanding of, and friendship between Japan and these countries.

Yasuo NOGAMI Professor

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