PROGRESS IN COMPILATION OF THE 1:2,000,000-SCALE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP SERIES OF MARS

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The application of special photogrammetric techniques (Wu et al., 1982) has enabled the systematic mapping of Mars' topography at a scale of 1:2,000,000, using high-altitude Viking Orbiter pictures. In fiscal year 1986, compilation was completed of the 24 subquadrangles that make up the quadrangles MC-12, MC-13, MC-14, MC-15, MC-20, and MC-21. This work completes compilation of the 60 topographic maps covering the equatorial belt (lat ±30°). The remaining 80 subquadrangles of Mars are planned to be completed within 3 years (27, 27, and 26 subquadrangles, in fiscal years 1987, 1988, and 1989, respectively).

Elevations on all topographic maps are relative to the Mars topographic datum (Wu, 1981). The maps have a contour interval of 1 km and a precision of ±1 km. The equatorial-belt maps are Mercator projections having true scale at lat ±27.476°. These maps provide more precise information than do those previously available and they will help in understanding the geologic processes that have shaped the Martian surface.

References

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