## PREFACE

Commission VII, Photo Interpretation, of the International Society for Photogrammetry was allotted to the Netherlands during the Ninth International Congress of the Society in London in 1960. It was decided on that occasion that a Symposium should be organized in 1962 so as to stimulate activities in the various fields of photo interpretation.

The Symposium on Photo Interpretation was organized by the Steering Committee of Commission VII under the auspices of the Netherlands Society for Photogrammetry and in cooperation with UNESCO and FAO. It was held in the International Training Centre for Aerial Survey and adjacent buildings of the Technological University from August 29–September 5, 1962.

The Symposium was the first of its kind and the great interest it aroused internationally proves the ever increasing importance of aerial photo interpretation as a method of scientific research. It is an established practice in several sciences, such as geology for example, but it has only recently been introduced into other disciplines. The fact that 293 specialists from 46 countries attended the Symposium and that a great number of scientific papers were presented in English, French or German, justifies the expectation of rapid further development of photo interpretation as a method of research.

The subjects treated dealt with the application of aerial photo interpretation in many different scientific fields, but special stress was laid upon its importance for the – especially in developing countries – urgent matter of natural resources inventory. This volume contains the scientific contributions to the Symposium and the essential discussions. The purpose of these transactions is to disseminate the gathered knowledge to broader scientific circles. May this aim be fully achieved.

Finally, it is my pleasant duty to express my gratitude to the members of the Steering Committee and all other individuals and institutions who contributed to the success of this Symposium.



