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W. E. Wrather, Director

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**GEOLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS IN THE  
AMERICAN REPUBLICS  
1944-45**



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## PREFACE

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By W. E. Wrather

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The Geological Survey, United States Department of the Interior, published its first collection of geologic reports on strategic mineral deposits in Latin America as Bulletin 935, Investigations in the American Republics, 1941-43. Bulletin 946, Investigations in the American Republics 1944-45, presents a second collection of the same general type. As during the preceding years, the field work was done under the auspices of the Interdepartmental Committee on Scientific and Cultural Cooperation, supported by transfer of funds from State Department appropriations. During the years 1943 to 1946, these funds were supplemented by allotments from the Board of Economic Warfare and its successor, the Foreign Economic Administration.

Chapter A, Manganese and iron deposits of Morro do Urucum, Mato Grosso, Brazil, by J. V. N. Dorr 2d, describes the largest manganese deposit in the Western Hemisphere, with measured reserves of 4.4 million metric tons, 11.7 million tons of indicated ore, and 17.5 million tons of inferred ore containing about 45.6 percent manganese and 11.1 percent iron. Because this deposit is about 1,700 miles, by river, from the Atlantic seaboard, the problem of ore transportation might be compared with that of barging coal from Pittsburg to New Orleans.

Chapter B, Quicksilver-antimony deposits of Huitzoco, Guerrero, Mexico, by James F. McAllister and David Hernandez Ortiz; Chapter C, Scheelite deposits in the northern part of the Sierra de Juarez, Northern Territory, Lower California, Mexico, by Carl Fries, Jr., and Eduardo Schmitter; Chapter D, Tungsten deposits of the southern part of Sonora, Mexico, by John H. Wiese and Salvador Cardenas; Chapter E, San José antimony mines near Wadley, State of San Luis Potosí, Mexico, by Donald E. White and Jenaro Gonzáles R.; and Chapter F, Geology of the Cuarenta mercury district, State of Durango, Mexico, by David Gallagher and Rafael Perez Siliceo, describe Mexican mining districts that were important sources of strategic minerals during the war. In each district, field work was done by an American and a Mexican geologist, and the reports are their joint product.

As a part of the cooperative plan to make these reports available in the language of the country in which the deposit is situated, all maps have bilingual legends. Chapter A has been republished in Portuguese by the Departamento Nacional da Produção Mineral of Brazil, and chapters B, C, and D have been republished in Spanish by the Comité Directivo para la Investigación de los Recursos Minerales de México.

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