

S U R T S E Y   R E S E A R C H  
P R O G R E S S   R E P O R T

III.

The Surtsey Research Society  
Reykjavik - Iceland

May 1967

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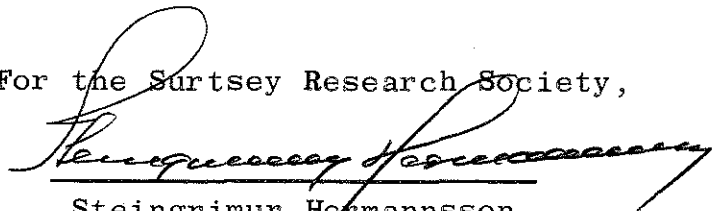
### Introduction

The Surtsey eruption has now lasted for three years and five months. It has become the longest lasting eruption in historic times in Iceland, and few natural phenomena have offered as excellent opportunities for scientific studies. In order to make the most of this unique opportunity, the Surtsey Research Society was founded for the purpose of organizing and planning the scientific effort.

This third annual progress report gives a summary of the results obtained in the year 1966. As compared to earlier annual reports it is evident that the main scientific work is now shifting from volcanology to biology. This is in accordance with the natural course of events in Surtsey, where the invasion of life is enforced as the volcanic activities diminish. It is, therefore, to be expected that the earth scientists will soon deliver some of their final reports to scientific journals, whereas the biologists are still in the beginning stages of their work.

The Surtsey Research Society wishes to acknowledge generous support from the Icelandic Government, the Icelandic Science Fund, the National Research Council of Iceland, the Icelandic Coast Guard and various Icelandic research institutes. Furthermore, the Society wishes to express its appreciation of generous support from various foreign funding agencies, such as the U.S. Office of Naval Research, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and the Bauer Scientific Trust.

For the Surtsey Research Society,



Steingrímur Hermannsson  
Chairman

### Acknowledgements

The Surtsey Research Society wishes to acknowledge technical and financial support from several agencies, institutes and individuals.

Direct funding has been received from the following funding agencies: The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission for studies in terrestrial biology (see reports by S. Fridriksson, A. Kolbeinsson, C. Lindroth, F. Gudmundsson, E. Einarsson), the U.S. Office of Naval Research for studies in marine biology (see reports by W. Nicolaisen, S. Jónsson, S. Rist), The Bauer Scientific Trust to help erect an observatory in Surtsey. Valuable assistance has been given by the Icelandic Coast Guard by transporting scientists and equipment to Surtsey. Special thanks are due to all scientific institutes which have provided manpower and equipment for the Surtsey research.

To all those mentioned above and numerous individuals, which in various ways have contributed to the Surtsey studies, the Society expresses its sincere thanks.