REMARKS ON THE SCYTHIAN-ANISIAN BOUNDARY

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Key-words: Stratigraphy, Scythian-Anisian boundary, Boreal and Tethyan provinces, Ammonites.

Abstract. Different definitions of the Scythian—Anisian boundary are discussed. Based on taxa and sequence of Keyserlingites faunas at 19 Boreal localities and 6 Tethyan localities, Keyserlingites faunas are considered to be Late Spathian in the Boreal province and Early Anisian in the Tethyan province. Keyserlingites is not appropriate for cosmopolitan zoning. The base of Lenotropites—Japonites zone of Central Qinghai, China appears to indicate base Middle Triassic: it has abundant earliest Anisian ammonite faunas of mixed Boreal—Tethyan character (ecotone) providing direct correlation between these provinces.

Correlations of Early Anisian (Aegean), Spathian and the Anisian—Scythian boundary are made between different localities, particularly between the Tethyan and Boreal provinces and between basin and platform facies. Olenikites zone is coeval to Subcolumbites zone; Lenotropites caurus zone to Lenotropites—Japonites zone; Columbites zone to Tirolites cassianus zone; and Subcolumbites zone to Tirolites carniolicus zone.

Scythian-Anisian mixed faunas and stratigraphic condensation are also discussed.

The purpose of this paper is intended to deal with the marine Scythian — Anisian boundary, namely the Lower—Middle Triassic boundary. The proposals of Spath (1934) and Kummel (1957) concerning the boundary had been used by most of the authorities and led to no acute argument, before the sixties of this century. Since the last decade, it has become one of the most acutely debated problems in Triassic stratigraphic boundaries. Various divergences on the definition and division of the Scythian—Anisian boundary, have been raised. These divergences are mainly as follows: the problems of

- (1) the geological age of Keyserlingites fauna;
- (2) stratigraphic condensation leading to trouble on the division of the Scythian Anisian boundary;
 - (3) the top of Scythian and the base of Anisian;
- (4) the correlation of the Scythian Anisian boundary between both biogeographic provinces of the Tethys and the Boreal.

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The argument of the geological age of Keyserlingites fauna.

Before discussing this problem, the genus Keyserlingites has to be defined. The consideration of the present writer agrees with Dr. Tozer's opinion that Robustites Philippi, 1901; Durgaites Diener, 1905; and Anastephanites Spath, 1930, all of them, are synonyms of Keyserlingites Hyatt, 1900 (Type species: Ceratites subrobustus Mojsisovics).

The inner whorls of "Durgaites" dieneri from Central Qinghai province of China seem to be somewhat Tirolites—like (see Pl. 62, figs. 4, 5) just as those of "Durgaites" dieneri from Ellesmere Island and N. E. British Columbia, Canada (Tozer, 1965, p. 30). Thus, "Durgaites" dieneri should be referred to Keyserlingites of its more affinitive than Keyserlingites middendorffi of which, the inner whorls are Olenikites—like (Tozer, 1965, p. 30).

As regards Robustites and Anastephanites, the writer likes to assign them to Keyserlingites as Spath (1934), Kummel (1957) and Tozer did (1971, 1981). Besides, the writer recognizes «Sibirites» prahlada Diener (1897, p. 37, pl. 7, fig. 5a—d) to be a species of «Anastephanites». In our hands, there is a specimen identified as «Sibirites» prahlada (see Pl. 63, figs. 15—17), collected from central Qinghai of which, the whorls are quite like the inner whorls of Keyserlingites dieneri from the same level of the same locality, indicating Tirolites—like feature.

The writer agrees with Dr. Tozer that both species of «K.» bearlakensis Kummel and «K.» bearriverensis Kummel (Kummel, 1969) from the Prohungarites beds of Idaho might represent an undescribed genus (Tozer, 1971, p. 1016).

	(1) Tozer, 1965, 1967, 1971, 1974, 1981	(2) Assereto et al., 1980; Jacobshagen et al., 1981	(3) Spath, 1934; Zakharov, 1968; Kummel, 1969	(4) The present writer
ites fauna	Late	Early	"Durgaites" Early Anisian	E. Anisian in the Tethyan province
Keyserlingites fauna	Spathian	Anisian	Keyserlingites Spathian	L. Spathian in the Boreal province

Table 1 - Schemes of the geological age of Keyserlingites fauna.

		anada er, 1965	Norway Tozer et al. 1968		\
. —	Ellesmere Island	N.E. British Columbia	Svalbard	I Verki reg	noyansk Lon
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Olenikites canadensis Tozer O. spiniplicatus (Mojsisovics) O. altus (Mojsisovics) O. glacialis (Mojsisovics) Svalbardiceras freboldi Tozer S. chowadei Tozer S. spitzbergense (Frebold)	•	•			•
S. spiriture (Mojsisovics) S. dentosum (Mojsisovics) S. dentosum (Mojsisovics) S. asiaticum Zakharov S. sp. Popovites borealis Tozer P. occidentalis Tozer Monocanthites monoceras Tozer Arctomeekoceras rotundatum (Mojsisovics) Boreomeekoceras keyserlingi (Mojsisovics) B. sp. Arctotirolites menensis (Popow)	•	•		•	
Arctoprionites sp. Sibirites eichwaldi (Keyserling) S. pretiosus Mojsisovics S. subpretiosus Popow S. sp. Parasibirites grambergi (Popow) P. rariaculeatus Popow Zenoites arcticus Tozer Pseudosageceras bicarinatum Tozer P. multilobatum Noetling P. longilobatum Kiparisova P. boreale Zakharov	•	•	2	•	٠
P. Sp. Procarnites modestus Tozer Isculitoides minor Tozer Metadagnoceras pulcher Tozer Preflorianites multiplicatus (Mojsisovics) Proptychitoides kummeli (Popow) Prosphingites czekanowskii Mojsisovics P. insularis Kiparisova P. cf. globosus Kiparisova P. cf. coombsi Kummel		90			
P. sp. Nordophiceras pseudosimplex Kummel N. euomphalum (Keyserling) N. schmidti (Mojsisovics) N. alexeevae Popow N. ex gr. karpinskii (Mojsisovics) N. sp. Tirolites morpheos (Popow) Keyserlingites subrobustus (Mojsisovics) K. middendorffi (Keyserling) K. nikitini (Mojsisovics) K. sp. Leiophyllites sp. Ussurites sp. Czekanowskites decipiens (Mojsisovics)	•	••	•	•	0

Table 2- Composition of Keyserlingites faunas in the Boreal province.

nlchai	unnek	Ko Lva	a region	NF 9	Sibiria, U.S.S.R.	
			et al.,		1	
		_			IV Yana-Kolyma region	Popow, 1961
(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	
•	•	•	0	0	•	•
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9			•	9	• ex.gr.	•
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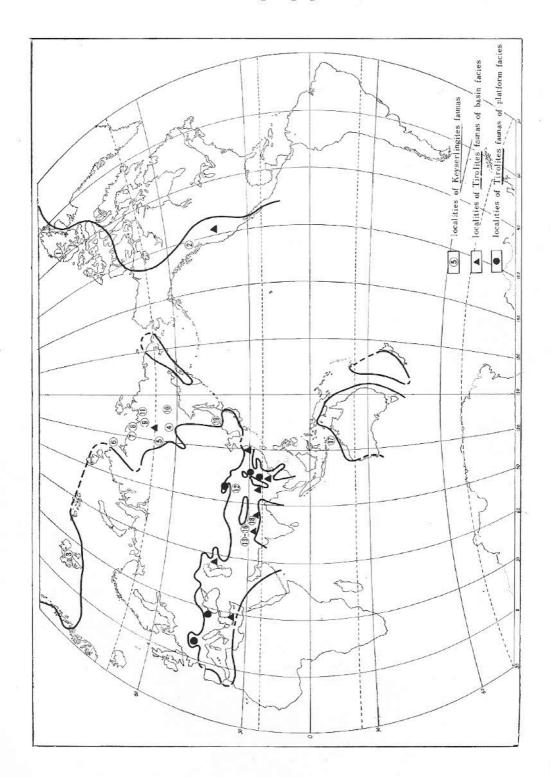
So that, the premise is essentially coincident with Dr. Tozer's, when we discuss the problem of the geological age of Keyserlingites fauna.

As far as known, there are several different proposals in determining the geological age of Keyserlingites fauna, which are indicated in Table 1. Table 1 shows that Keyserlingites fauna is (1) restricted to the beds of the Late Scythian wherever found (Tozer, 1965, 1967, 1971, 1974, 1981), (2) restricted at the base of Anisian wherever found (Assereto et al., 1980; Jacobshagen et al., 1981), (3) considered that Keyserlingites (s.s.) is limited to the beds of Late Scythian, and «Durgaites» appears in Anisian, and (4) the present writer has tried out some rules for the stratigraphic and geographic distribution of Keyserlingites fauna on the basis of their features and the levels yielded Keyserlingites faunas from 19 localities almost the world over (see Fig. 1). It seems to the writer that both biogeographic provinces of Keyserlingites fauna, viz. the Boreal and the Tethyan ones can be recognized.

The Boreal province (see Fig. 1 locs. 1-11 and Table 2).

The Keyserlingites fauna in this province is mainly found in the following localities: Ellesmere Is. (loc. 1) and N. E. British Columbia (loc. 2), Canada; Svalbard, Norway (loc. 3); and Verkhoyansk–Kolyma regions, N. E. Siberia, USSR (loc. 4–11).

The members of the faunas associated with Keyserlingites from 11 localities are listed in Table 2. There are totally 57 species belonging to 28 genera among which, there are 11 genera, restricted or being common in the Boreal province, including Olenikites, Svalbardiceras, Sibirites, Parasibirites, Popovites, Monocanthites, Arctomeekoceras, Arctotirolites, Boreomeekoceras, Czekanowskites and Karangatites?. The rest are cosmopolitan genera, but the species are remarkably different from those of the Tethyan province, and also restricted in the Boreal province except two or three. Such being the case, the Keyserlingites faunas in this province show pronounced Boreal colour. From the analysis of another aspect, all of these genera and species (in Table 2) are uniformly common members of Late Scythian, except the last two genera. Facts of great significance are that owing to sufficient stratigraphic control, the accurate basis for determining the succession of Keyserlingites faunas are provided in this province, especially in N. E. Siberia, USSR, where the stratigraphic positions of the Keyserlingites fauna occupy the interval between the Karangatites evolutus Subzone, i.e. the Lower Subzone of Grambergia taimyrensis Zone representing Lower Anisian and the Dieneroceras demokidovi zone regarded as Lower Spathian (Dagys et al., 1979, pp. 39, 44). It is worthy to note that in the S. Primorye region, there are two levels of Keyserlingites faunas (see Fig. 1, loc. 19).



	He, ¥	uo. C. Qi ang & Ch	Maduo. C. Qinghai (12) He, Wang & Chen (in press)	*	% M.	Himalaya	W. & M. Himalayas (13-16, 18)	, 18)		Timor (17)		Chlos	Caucasus
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	Zone I	I	Zone II	Lilang, Spiti	Po, Solti	Shalshal	and a	(18) Fx. block		. 2	3 -	1981	3
	Subz. Ia	Subz. Tb		(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	Chitichun			+		
Grambergia laevis Wang G.of.olenekensis Popow	•	<	•	l Hogsen									
G.tetsaensis Mclearn Lenotropites qinghalensis Wang & Chen	,	1	8					147-			-		
L.feeblis Wang . L.sinensis Wang	• •		•								- 10		
L.sp. Arctohungarites kharaulakhensis Popow	•	⊲											
A.umbilicus Mang Groenlandites simplements Wang	, •		•	242		75						800 11	
G.plicatus Wang Pearylandites(Tienjunites)spinosus Wu	• • •		9 0								-	SSS SSS SSS	
P.(T.)sp. Loncobardites caucasius (Shevvrev)	•	٥											
Norites psilodiscus Arthaber	⊲							20.00					•
Danubites by.			•										•
Paradanubites kansa (Diener)		•	•				100	•			-0.2.76	5-1,1	i.
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P. phyllus He December (Welton)		•	•							- (91.2	12.00	
P.alternecostatus (Welter)							200					183	254
P.assereto; Fantini Sestini								•			2000		
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Parasageceras gracile Spath		•							0.00		,		
Sageceras of welteri Mojstsovics		•			420						•	,	
Japonites kueichowensis Hau	1,00	•	•								-		
J.denticulatus He		• 0	0 9							•			
J.vastesellatus (Welter)									Sec. y		•		
J.volzi (Welter)				•						-	•	3	
J. asseretoi Fantini Sestini		•		•									
Joseph (Diener)				0.00	AZPI		9	1.75%					. 72
Gymnites depauperatus Diener				•				•		•		•	50.05
Gy. humboldti Mojsisovics				•							•		200
cy.meridianus Weller Psilosturia mondolica (Diener)			1					100			•		
P.strigatus Chen		0 0	•				200	•		•	-		
Procladiscites brancoi Mojsisovics	*	• (
P.globosus Chen	٥	•	• •								0.000		
P.qingbalensis Chen			0 6								-		
P.yasoda Diener							101			•			

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Table 3 - Composition of Early Anisian ammonoid faunas in the Tethys province.

A rare

abundant or common

In the lower level, Keyserlingites miroschnikovi, Olenikites sonticus etc. are associated with abundant Tethyan forms such as Prosphingites, Columbites, Subcolumbites, Prenkites, Paranannites, Hellenites, ?Eophyllites, Leiophyllites?, Preflorianites, Tirolites, ?Danubites and some endemic genera Procolumbites, Neocolumbites and ?Subdoricranites (Zakharov, 1978, pp. 12, 15, 22–26). Another Keyserlingites fauna occurs in the upper level, where an Anisian «Durgaites» aff. dieneri is associated with abundant Anisian Tethyan elements such as Leiophyllites?, Acrochordiceras, Hollandites, Balatonites, Arctohungarites, Phyllocladiscites, Japonites, Ussurites and Sturia, etc. (Zakharov, 1978, pp. 22–26). The writer regards the faunas from S. Primorye as transitional ones between the Boreal and the Tethyan types. So, S. Primorye should be excluded from the Boreal province and regarded as a transitional area.

The Tethyan province (see Fig. 1, locs. 12-17, and Table 3).

As far as our information goes, the *Keyserlingites* fauna in this province has been known from Central Qinghai, China (loc. 12), the Himalayas (locs. 13–16) and Timor, Indonesia (loc. 17).

The characters of Keyserlingites faunas from the six localities of this province shown on Fig. 1, precisely form a sharp contrast to those of the Boreal province, and are all the Anisian common genera and species, except ? Stacheites and ? Dalmatites (see Table 3).

Tables 3 and 4 show that the Keyserlingites fauna from C. Qinghai is the most abundant one both in genera and species, totally being 47 species referred to 19 genera (see Tables 3, 4 and Plates) as comparing with those of other localities in the same province. However, the C. Qinghai fauna is of great significance in biostratigraphy, chronostratigraphy and biogeography.

Abundant specimens of Keyserlingites fauna of C. Qinghai were mainly collected from Subzone Ib (i.e. subz. Japonites meridianus) of Zone I (Lenotropites—Japonites zone), and only a few fragments of Keyserlingites were collected from Subzone Ia (i.e. subz. Lenotropites qinghaiensis) of Zone I (see Table 3, Fig. 2).

According to He, Wang and Chen's current studies, Subzone Ia of C. Qinghai is relatively more monotonous and characterized by the predominance of Longobarditidae containing *Grambergia*, *Arctohungarites*, *Lenotropites*, *Groenlandites*, *Pearylandites* (*Tienjunites*) which show obviously Early Anisian

Fig. 1 – Localities of Keyserlingites faunas and Tirolites faunas. 1) Ellesmere Is.; 2) N. E. British Columbia; 3) Svalbard; 4–5) Verkhoyansk region; 6–8) Lena-Anabar region; 9–10) Baky-Nelgehe region; 11) Yana-Kolyma region; 12) C. Qinghai; 13) Lilang; 14) Po; 15) Shalshal Cl.; 16) Bambanag; 17) Timor; 18) Exotic block no. 1 of Chitichun; 19) S. Primorye.

	Unit	e			-F2															
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Naocar	Unit A (Beds 15-19) L. Anisian	Lenotropites- Japonites Zone (Zone I)	beds Subz. Im Subz.		-F48-1-7 -F46-8-18	• 4 € € €		δ Δ			△ △ 38	(20)	(22.)			△ (67)	(30.00	(33.)	\(\frac{1}{2}\) (ii)	∆ (68)
chuan Group	Upper part	(Spathian)	Subcolumbites b		-F55 -F64				(16.3)	100 mm (1 mm) (1				W 28-14						
3			beds	3 8 1 7 L 2 0																
Hongshuichuan	Lower part	(Smithian)	Anasibirites beds	1, 1 1, 1	- F73 - F71 - F78		16.1	€(8)	9	(33) (140) (151) (151)	• (16.)									

The Locality (see fig.1)	(12) C.Qinghai	(13) Lilang	(14) Po	(15) Shalshal	(16) Bambanag	Exotic	(13)-(16)	(17) Timor	Chios	(1)(2 Canada
number of genera of the each region	18	7	1	2	5	7	11	9	8	13
abundance*	64.2%	25%	3.5%	7,1%	17.8%	25 %	39,2 %	32,1%	28.5%	
similarity rate**		57 %	100 %	100 %	80 %	85.7%	63.6 %	77.7 %	75 %	53.8%

Table 4 - Comparison of Early Anisian ammonoid faunas.

* abundance =

number of genera of each region in Table 3

total number of genera in Table 3 (28 genera)

number of common genera between those of C. Qinghai and other region

** similarity rate =

number of genera of that region

aspect of the Boreal province, only a few specimens of Paradanubites, Leiophyllites, Megaphyllites, Keyserlingites, Procladiscites and Norites with some Tethyan features. In Subzone Ib of Zone I, Boreal forms of Longobarditidae remarkably fall into decline and finally disappear. On the other hand, the common elements with Tethyan feature mainly including Japonites, Psilosturia, Paradanubites, Megaphyllites, Keyserlingites and Procladiscites become rapidly abundant. Besides, there are also a few specimens of Parasageceras, Sageceras and Psilocladiscites. Table 4 shows that the similarity rate shows high as comparing the Lenotropites—Japonites zone of C. Qinghai both with those of correlatives in the Tethyan province and with Lower Anisian Lenotropites caurus zone in Boreal province. In this case, the Lenotropites—Japonites zone of C. Qinghai with Keyserlingites seems to be also a transitional fauna similar to the "Durgaites" fauna of the upper level of S. Primorye, S. E. USSR.

The stratigraphic relations of the Lenotropites-Japonites zone containing Keyserlingites are well displayed in C. Qinghai (see Fig. 2, Lenotropites-Japonites zone overlies Subcolumbites beds and underlies Hollandites-Beyrichites zone). So that, the Keyserlingites fauna of C. Qinghai should undoubtedly represent Early Anisian.

Fig. 2 - Naocangjianguo section, Maduo county, the southern slope of Mt. Burhan Budai, the eastern branch of Mts. Kunlun, Central Qinghai.

As concerning the Keyserlingites faunas of the Himalayas and Timor (see Table 3), the writer formerly tended to assign those forms associated with Keyserlingites, to Stacheites, Dalmatites, «Sibirites», Japonites, Ussurites and Leiophyllites and pointed out that they belonged to «non-typical Anisian forms», owing to the fact that the Ziyun fauna was regarded as a natural assemblage at that time (Wang, 1978).

The writer thanks to Prof. Jacobshagen who kindly wrote me to call attention that «would it be possible that your association is a result of stratigraphic condensation?» (Prof. Jacobshagen per. commun., 1978) (see next part of this paper about the discussions of stratigraphic condensation and Ziyun fauna).

Having compared the Keyserlingites faunas of the Himalayas and Timor with those of C. Qinghai (see Table 3), the writer considers that similarity rates between those faunas of C. Qinghai and the Himalayas or Timor are also comparatively high. And it has to be firstly considered that among the members of Keyserlingites faunas of the Himalayas and Timor, none typical Scythian elements are known, while the similarity rates of these Keyserlingites faunas are also comparatively high as comparing with those of classic L. Anisian ammonoid faunas without Keyserlingites, such as the faunas of Chios (Assereto, 1974; Fantini Sestini, 1981), the exotic block no. 1 of Middlemiss crag near Chitichun (Diener, 1897) and Caucasia, S. USSR (Shevyrev, 1968). However, the writer now tends to assign the Keyserlingites faunas of this province to Aegean in age as those of Chios and the exotic block no. 1 of Chitichun.

It is very interesting to note that the geological age provided by the brachiopod fauna associated with the Keyserlingites fauna in the Himalayas is not contrary to the geological age determined by the Keyserlingites fauna itself. The brachiopod faunas from the same level associated with Keyserlingites in the Himalayas contain «Rhynchonella mutabilis Stoliczka, Rhynchonella griesbachi Bittner, Rhynchonella dieneri Bittner, Retzia himaica Bittner, Spirigera stoliczkai Bittner, Mentzelia koeveskalliensis (Suess), Spiriferina stracheyi Salter and Dielasma himalayensis Bittner». Recently, a correlative brachiopod fauna has already been known from Laibuxi formation (Anisian) at Nyanang and Dingri counties, S. Tibet, China (Yin, Wang & Chang, 1974; Ching et al., 1976; Sun, 1980). The brachiopod fauna of S. Tibet contains Nudirostralina griesbachi (Bittner) (= «Rhyn.» griesbachi), N. mutabilis (Stoliczka) (= «Rhyn.» mutabilis), Tulungospirifer stracheyi (Salter) (= «Spiriferina» stracheyi), Aequispiriferina koeveskalliensis (Boeckh) (= «Mentzelia» koeveskalliensis). They are associated with typical Anisian ammonoids such as Hollandites, Beyrichites, Leiophyllites and Paracrochordiceras etc. The aspect of brachiopod fauna from S. Tibet is thus very similar to those from W. Himalayas. They are more monotonous and seem to correspond to the correlatives in the Lower Muschelkalk in Germany, Hungary, Yugoslavia, S. USSR and others. The appearance of *Tulungospirifer stracheyi*, which is a common element within both the Tethyan and Boreal provinces, is particularly significant. It was also found in the Middle Triassic of Spitsbergen Island (Kublov, 1965; Pchelina, 1965), N. E. Siberia (Dagys, 1965), N. E. Japan (Yabe & Shimizu, 1927; Westermann, 1962) and Rocky Mountains, Canada (Westermann, 1962).

Recently, H. Kozur considered that the holothurian fauna of the *Subrobustus Zone* is typical Aegean, the ostracode fauna of the *Subrobustus Zone* is not only universally the same in the whole Aegean but also similar to the Spathian assemblages, and the sporomorph assemblage has also Anisian character.

Based on the above discussion, the present writer favours to offer the fol-

lowing summary:

(1) In the Boreal province, the Keyserlingites faunas are restricted to Late Spathian, and in contrast, in the Tethyan province restricted to Early Anisian. Therefore, it is not so appropriate to regard the Keyserlingites faunas as a

cosmopolitan typical zone, instead of a local zone."

(2) From the stratigraphic and geological distributions of Keyserlingites faunas, a migratory rule of Keyserlingites in the relation between space and time could be ascertained that the Boreal province was the original region of Keyserlingites during Spathian stage, then they migrated southward through transitional region (S. Primorye, C. Qinghai) during Spathian to Early Anisian, and later moved further to the S. Tethyan province before Middle Anisian.

(3) The writer thus proposes that in the Boreal province, Olenikites zone

represents Spathian more accurately than Keyserlingites zone.

(4) It seems that the ammonoid faunas associated with Keyserlingites in the Tethyan province and its correlatives may represent Early Anisian (see Table 7). However, the Lenotropites—Japonites zone of C. Qinghai or Aegeiceras ugra horizon of Chios can be regarded as the representatives of the typical earliest Anisian ammonoid faunas in the Tethyan province, and especially the Qinghai fauna is more appropriate representative, because it is a direct link between the Tethyan province and the Boreal province, which leads better correlation of the Early Anisian between both provinces.

On the Scythian-Anisian $\mbox{\tt wmixed}$ ammonoid faunas» and stratigraphic condensation.

Since the last decade, more and more stratigraphers and palaeontologists have paid attention to the Scythian-Anisian «mixed ammonoid faunas». As it is well known that the *Neopopanoceras haugi* fauna of Nevada, USA was firstly known as a Scythian-Anisian mixed one (Smith, 1914; Silberling & Wallace, 1969). Subsequently, the present writer recorded two localities of the «mixed fauna», viz. Ziyun, Guizhou and Derong, Sichuang, China (Wang, 1978). Assereto et al., (1979) also reported another «mixed fauna» from E. Chios, Greece

and pointed out that "this Chios assemblage is due to stratigraphic condensation" and in their opinion, however, "the possibility of stratigraphic condensation can not be excluded" for Ziyun fauna from Guizhou (Assereto et al., 1979, p. 728).

The present writer has already paid attention to the palaeogeographic position and environments of the mixed ammonoid fauna of Ziyun on the basis of two field observations in 1963 and 1978, and results of other Chinese collegues' studies (Ho et al., 1980) (see Fig. 3). According to sedimentary development, deposits in Guizhou can be divided into two lithological facies, viz. the basin facies and the platform facies along a «S-shaped» line drawn approximately from south of Xinyin, Ceheng counties in the south, through Zhengfeng, Anshun, Qingyan to Fuquan in the east. The area north and west of this line, U. Scythian – L. Anisian deposits are of platform facies, and south and east of this line, the deposits are of basin facies during Late Scythian to Early Anisian. Ziyun is just located right in the area of the least deposit thickness of basin facies of the S. Guizhou – N. Guangxi open sea basin during that time (see Fig. 3 and Fig. 4).

Besides, the conodont fauna from the bed yielding the Ziyun ammonoid fauna has been recently studied by Wang, Zhi-hao who is the writer's collegue (Wang, Zhi-hao, 1982). The conodont fauna is also very interesting, and contains Neospathodus timorensis (Nogami), N. homeri Bender, Gladigondolella tethydis (Huckriede), Cypridodella muelleri (Tatge), C. unialata Mosher, Enantiognathus ziegleri (Diebel), Hindeodella multihamata Huckriede, H. suevica (Tatge), Ozarkodina tortilis Tatge, Diplododella sp., Hibbardella sp., Xaniognathus sp., Gondolella excelsa (Mosher), G. bidentata (Wang, Zhi-hao,

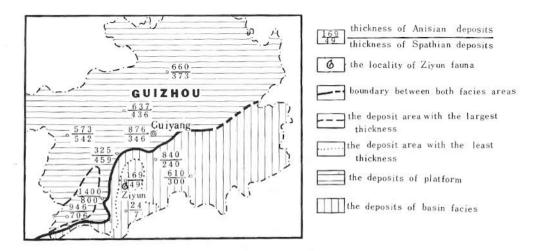


Fig. 3 - Distribution of basin and platform facies of Guizhou (thickness in metres).

1982) among them, most elements are typical forms of Early Triassic, however Gladigondolella tethydis and Gondolella excelsa hitherto are known from Middle Triassic. Seemingly, the fauna also appears to be a mixed assemblage.

Thus, a condition of starved sedimentation might be existent. Consequently, the writer also considers that it can not be excluded that the Zivun fauna was possibly a result of stratigraphic condensation. However, when drawing the Scythian - Anisian boundary, the problem is how to treat those beds with mixed fauna, since stratigraphic condensation leads to some troubles for drawing the boundary. Assertto et al. (1979) expressed their opinion for solving the problem that "the Scythian-Anisian boundary is drawn at about 12.25m, within a thin layer of reduced sedimentation which yielded an ammonoid fauna of Scythian and L. Anisian types" (Assertto et al., 1979, pp. 715, 731-732). The present writer agrees with their opinion that the mixed fauna was a result of stratigraphic condensation, but dissents in drawing the Scythian-Anisian boundary. Having considered the fact that the starved sedimentation happened in a short span of time during the earliest Anisian, instead of during Spathian, the present writer thus prefers to draw the Scythian-Anisian boundary at the top of the thin layer containing a mixed ammonoid fauna of Scythian and Early Anisian types, instead of drawing it within the thin layer.

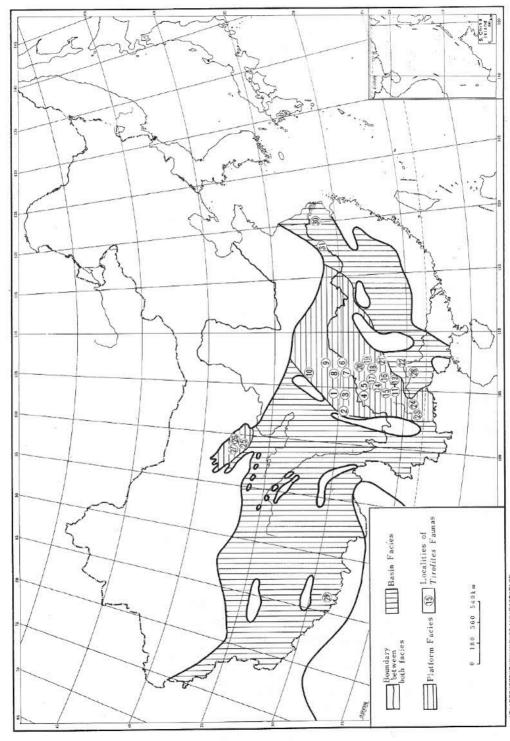
Correlation of the Scythian-Anisian boundary between basin facies and platform facies.

It is still a ticklish problem, how to correlate the Scythian-Anisian boundary between basin facies and platform facies.

In the area with the deposits of platform facies, the earliest Anisian ammonoid fauna is not clearly known and the latest Spathian ammonoid fauna is more monotonous and characterized by predominance of Dinaritidae, mainly including *Tirolites*, *Dinarites*, *Dalmatites*, *Hololobus*, *Stacheites* and *Doricranites* etc. As far as our information goes, the most abundant fauna is well known from the Campil Member of the Werfen Formation in Central Europe (Kittl, 1903). The Campil beds in Bulgaria contain *Lanceolites*, *Balkanites*, *Tirolites*, *Dinarites* etc. (Ganev, 1966; Kummel, 1969).

The *Tirolites* faunas of platform facies in China are also widespread in vast areas, covering most part of Sichuan, N. and W. Guizhou, E. Yunnan and N. Qinghai (see Fig. 4), mainly including *Dinarites, Tirolites, Doricranites, Dalmatites* and *Hololobus* etc. The *Tirolites* faunas from different localities in China are given herein Table 5, which shows as follows:

(1) The most predominant members of *Tirolites* faunas in China are *Tirolites* and *Dinarites*. *Tirolites* generally occurs in the upper part of Lower Spathian (Unit B of Kialingkiang Group or Yongningchen formation), a few forms even range upward to the lower part of Upper Spathian (Unit C of Kialingkiang Group or Yongningchen formation) at a few localities (Wang et al., 1981).



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Generally speaking, the levels of *Dinarites* are higher than those of *Tirolites*, usually situated from Unit C to Unit D of Kialingkiang group or Yongningchen formation corresponding Upper Spathian. *Dinarites*, however, more frequently occurs in Unit D.

In addition, only a few specimens of *Doricranites*, *Dalmatites* and *Hololobus* are found in China.

(2) The arranged sequences of stratigraphy which provide *Dinarites* bed as the upper horizon, and *Tirolites* bed as the lower horizon are well displayed in those sections of Gong Xian, Chongqing and Guangan counties in Sichuan.

In Zhijin section nearly over 100 km west of Guiyang, the beds yielding *Tirolites* faunas were overlain by *Procarnites* bed containing *Procarnites* and *Dagnoceras*. There is a specimen identified as *Leiophyllites* cf. *pitamaha*, which is associated with *Dinarites* from a bed of Unit D of Kialingkiang Group at Chongqing.

Based on these facts mentioned above (see Table 5 and Table 6), the writer thus distinguishes two ammonoid zones, viz. *Tirolites* zone at below and *Dinarites* zone at above for platform facies (Wang & He, 1980; Wang et al., 1981). Further more based on the synthetical analysis of the horizons of *Tirolites* faunas (s.l.) from different localities in the platform facies as well as in the basin facies, where they are associated with other Spathian ammonoid faunas all over the world, the writer tabulates the following table concerning their appearance, vicissitude and disappearance of some main genera in *Tirolites* faunas (s.l.) (see Table 5 and Table 6). Therefore, in China both ammonoid zones of platform facies probably correlate with the *Columbites* zone and the *Procarnites—Subcolumbites* zone of basin facies respectively. While they also may correspond to the *Tirolites cassianus* zone and *T. carniolicus* zone of platform facies in C. and E. Europe, established by L. Krystyn (1974) separately.

The link between Early and Middle Triassic ammonoids.

The writer remarked this problem in 1978. Progress in recent years promotes the knowledge of this problem. In order to further recognize the Lower-Middle Triassic boundary, it is necessary to discuss the present problem.

According to the writer's present knowledge, there are about 9 or more linking genera between Scythian and Anisian, such as Leiophyllites, Japonites,

^{Fig. 4 - Localities of Tirolites faunas in China. 1) Leshan; 2) Ebian; 3) Weiyuan; 4) Gao Xian; 5) Gong Xian; 6) Chongqing; 7) Jiangjin; 8) Hechuan; 9) Guong'an; 10) Wangcang; 11) Qinglong; 12) Langdai; 13) Guanling; 14) Pu'an; 15) Shuicheng; 16) Zhijin; 17) Dafang; 18) Bijie; 19) Zunyi; 20) Renhuai; 21) Duyun; 22) Luodian; 23) Kaiyuan; 24) Qiubei; 25) Ulan; 26) Gangca; 27) Tianjun; 28) Fengshan; 29) Nyanang; 30) Nanjing; 31) Chao Xian.}

Dalmatites Hololobus	Doricranites	Tirolites	Dinarites				
1101010003		Ть	, . , .	(1) Leshan	T		
			Td	(2) Ebian			
	Tc		Tc	(3) Weiyuan	1		
		Ть Тс	21	(4) Gao Xian	1		
	Тс	Ть Тс	Tc	(5) Gong Xian	Sid		
		Ть	Td	(6) Chongqing	Sichuan		
		Ть		(7) Jiangjin			
		Ть		(8) Hechuan			
		Ть	Td	(9) Guong'an	1		
	23	Ть		(10) Wangcang	1		
		Ть		(11) Qinglong			
Tb(Dalm.)		ТЬ		(12) Langdai			
		Ть		(13) Guanling			
			Tc- d	(14) Pu'an			
		Ть		(15) Shuicheng			
		ТЬ		(16) Zhijin	Guizhou		
		Ть		(17) Dafang			
		Ть		(18) Bijie	Ĕ		
		Ть		(19) Zunyi	1		
		Ть		(20) Renhuai			
		Ть		(21) Duyun			
		Ть		(22) Luodian			
		Ть	Tc?	(23) Kaiyuan	Ϋ́ш		
		Ть		(24) Qiubei	Yunnan		
(Holol.) T ₁ ²				(25) Ulan	7		
		T_1^2	T_1^2	(26) Gangca	Qinghai		
	T 2	T_1^2		(27) Tianjun	2 E.		
Lower	Triassic	M. Tri.					
Kia	lingkiang Gr	oup	C: 1				
Unit Un (Ta) B (Unit Unit (Td) E (Te)	Sichuan	*			
Yongning	chen formation		01				
L. Mem. L. Pt. U. F. (Ta) (Tb		J. Pt.	Guizhou and Yunnan	T2 - C - 1			
B ('ongning	Tb) C (Tc) D chen formation U. Mem ct. L. Pt. U	(Td) E (Te)	Guizhou and Yunnan	T ₁ ² = Spathiar	e U		

Table 5 — Localities and horizons of Tirolites faunas of platform facies in China.

	Upper	Scythian			
Smith	nian	Spath	iian		
Eufleming- ites romun- deri zone	Wasatch- ites tardus zone	Kazakhstan- ites pilaticus zone	Keyserling- ites subro- bustus z	Boreal Province	Basin facies
Owenites zone	Anasibir- ites zone	Columbites zone	Prohungar- ites Subco- lumbites	Tethyan Province	es
		Tirolites cassianus zone	Tirolites carniolicus zone	M. & E. Europe	Platfor facies
Meeko	ceras	Tirolites zone	Dinarites zone	S. China	Platform facies
		Tirolites		Guangxi Z hao, 1959	
		Tirolites ?		S. Tibet Wang et He, 1976	China
		Tirolites	-	S. Jiangsu and Anhui Guo et al,1980	
		Tirolites		Idaho Smith, 1932	U. S.
			Tirolites	Utah Kummel, 1969	A
Tirol	lites			W. Himala Krafft and Di	
			Tirolites	Albani Arthaber,	a
	8	Tirol	ites	N.E. Siberia Popov, 1961	Ľ.
		Tirolites		S. USSR Astachova	s. S
3		Tirolites		S. Primorye Zakharov,1968	R.
		Tirolites			
2.0000000000000000000000000000000000000			Dinarites		
	Do	oricranites	<u> </u>		
			Stacheites		

Table 6 - Horizons of *Tirolites* faunas of basin facies and geological range of main genera in *Tirolites* faunas.

Procladiscites, Beyrichites, Ussurites, Keyserlingites, Ziyunites, Beneckeia, Czekanowskites, and ?Karangatites, ?Hungarites, ?Stacheites and ?Dalmatites. Among them, Leiophyllites is the common element in both the Tethyan and Boreal provinces found from Lower and Middle Triassic, Ussurites is more common from Middle Triassic than from Lower Triassic and their species from Middle Triassic are quite different from those of Lower Triassic.

Originally, *«Acrochordiceras»* was listed as one of the linking genera by the writer in 1978 on the basis of *Neopopanoceras haugi* fauna of USA. Currently during visiting Geological Survey of Canada in Ottawa, the writer examined the casts of *Neopopanoceras haugi* fauna, and therefore considers the so-called *«Acrochordiceras»* is a inner whorls of *Keyserlingites*.

Beneckeia is both from Lower Triassic and from Middle Triassic of platform facies.

As discussed above, the geological range of *Keyserlingites* is also from Late Spathian to Early Anisian, however it is restricted to Spathian in the Boreal province, and limited to Early Anisian in the Tethyan province, except that from S. Primorye, USSR.

Japonites, Procladiscites, Beyrichites and Czekanowskites were all formerly known only from Middle Triassic, however recently, a few species of these genera with simpler characters and quite different from those of the Middle Triassic are also found in the Lower Triassic.

As regards ?Hungarites, ?Karangatites, ?Stacheites and ?Dalmatites, it is not completely clear that whether or not they can be really referred to these genera separately.

It was pointed out as early as 1978 that some Late Scythian ammonoid forms were closely related to their corresponding Anisian genera.

Scythian form
Pseudosageceras
Procarnites
Albanites
Eodanubites
Eoacrochordiceras
Eosturia

Anisian form
Parasageceras
Megaphyllites
Norites
Paradanubites
Paracrochordiceras
Sturia

Conclusion.

(1) In order to draw a relatively complete and realizable definition of the Scythian-Anisian boundary, it is very important to determine that what is the base of Anisian or Middle Triassic and what is the top of the Spathian or Scythian or Lower Triassic, and how to correlate the boundary between basin and platform facies.

(2) The present writer prefers to use the top of Prohungarites zone or

S	cythian			Ani	sian]	
s	pathian		Aeg	e an		Bithynian		
Subcolu	umbites zon	e	Aegeiceras ugra horizon	Paracroch- Japonites bed		8	Chios, Greece	
	mites bed — mites bed		Ussurites bed	Procladiscites bed	. Leiophylli bed	Anagymnotoceras ismidicus bed	C. Iran Tozer, 1972	
Stache	eites beds		"Prosphingite beds ?	s" Lowe	r part of N prometheus	degaphyllites beds	S, USSR	
	hungarites llemissi bed	i	···Keyserling	gites beds''	2000000000	part of Ptychites ugifer beds	West Himala- yas	Tethyan
			Paraeroch Japonite	ordiceras es block			Chitichur exotic block	
100.00	of Procar		Jap	ponites magnus 2	one	L. part of Anacrochordi ceras nodosun zone		Liovince
	carnites — umbites zon		•	3	? Para	popanoceras nanum zone	Guizhou and Guangxi China	
	carnites — umbites zon		bed 3 ''Keyserlingites bed''	bed 2 Japonites meridianus bed	bed 1 Gymnite bed	s	Timor Indonesia	
Subcolumbites zone Columbites Subcolumbites bites subzone subzone		Arnautoceltite Zone	Leiophylli	tes zone -	2	wer part of landites zone	Japan	
	oites multifo Keyserlingi		Leiophyllites p	pradyumna zone	Lov Phy basar	South Primorye USSR	-	
			Lenotropites-J	Japonites zone	Beyrichit	0	ransı	
Subcolu	umbites bed	s	Lenotropites qinghaiensis subzone	Japonites meridianus subzone	Gymnites subzone	Nicomedites — Anagymnotoceras subzone	Qinghai China	Transitional region
Subcolun Prohungar		Neopopa. haugi zone	Lenotropites	caurus zone	1	diceras hyatti zone	Nevada USA	ion
	lenikites licatus zon	ie	Grambergia taimyrensis zone	Lenotropites tardus zone	Cz	of Malletoptychites chetkovi zone ekanowskites piens subzone	N.E. Siberia USSR	
	scrlingites ustus beds'	«	Lenotropi	tes caurus		With agymnotoceras, Handites etc.	Svalbard Norway	Doreal I
	serlingites ustus zone"	ii.	Lenotropites	caurus zone		part of Anagymnoto- as varium zone	Canada	1 FONTRCE
			Groenland	dites beds			Greenland Denmark	

Table 7 - Correlation of Spathian and Aegean between Tethys and Boreal provinces.

Subcolumbites zone (including Neopopanoceras haugi zone regarded as the upper part of Subcolumbites zone) in the Tethyan province and the top of Olenikites zone in the Boreal province as the top of Scythian or Spathian or Lower Triassic rather than the Keyserlingites subrobustus zone in the Boreal province since the latter is not appropriate for a cosmopolitan zone. On the other hand, the top of the Scythian of platform facies may be well represented by the top of the Tirolites carniolicus zone or Dinarites zone.

As regards the base of Anisian, generally speaking, the base of Lenotropites caurus zone of Canada is justified as the representative of the base of Anisian in the Boreal province, and the base of the Aegeiceras ugra bed of Chios may represent the base of Anisian in the Tethyan province, however the present writer prefers to offer the base of Lenotropites—Japonites zone of C. Qinghai, China as the base of Anisian or Middle Triassic, not only because it contains the most abundant earliest Anisian ammonoids, but also it lies in a region of a «linking bridge» providing the possibility of directe correlation between the Tethyan and the Boreal provinces.

(3) Finally, the correlations of Aegean or early Anisian and Spathian or Upper Scythian and the Scythian—Anisian boundary are given in Table 7.

Acknowledgements.

The writer owe sincere gratitude to Dr. E. T. Tozer for his great assistance and a promise of examining the concerned specimens and casts which are deposited in Geological Survey of Canada in Ottawa, when the writer visited there, and to Dr. N. Fantini Sestini (University of Milano, Italy) for reading the manuscript and her kind advice.

The writer is also deeply indebted to Dr. G.E.G. Westermann (McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada) and Dr. M. Gaetani (University of Milano, Italy) for their valuable as-

sistance.

This paper was revised and completed in Department of Geology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada, when the writer visited there.

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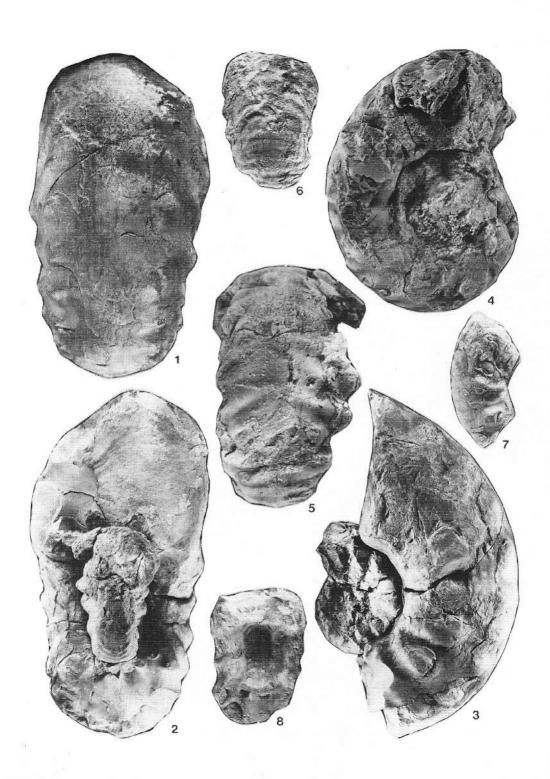
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Fig. 1 - 8 — Keyserlingites dieneri Mojsisovics. 1-3) Ventral, anterior and side views (cat. no. 69206). Ib subzone, L. Anisian; x 1/2. 4, 5) Side and ventral views (inner whorls of the specimen cat. no. 69206). Ib subzone, L. Anisian; x 1. 6-8) Ventral, side and anterior views (cat. no. 69205). Ib subzone, L. Anisian; x 1.

All of figured specimens in Plate 62, 63 and 64 were collected from Naocangjianguo, Maduo, Qinghai province, except cat. no. 69276, 69292 (i. e. the specimens of Pl. 64, figs. 3, 4, 20–22) from Golmud, Qinghai province.

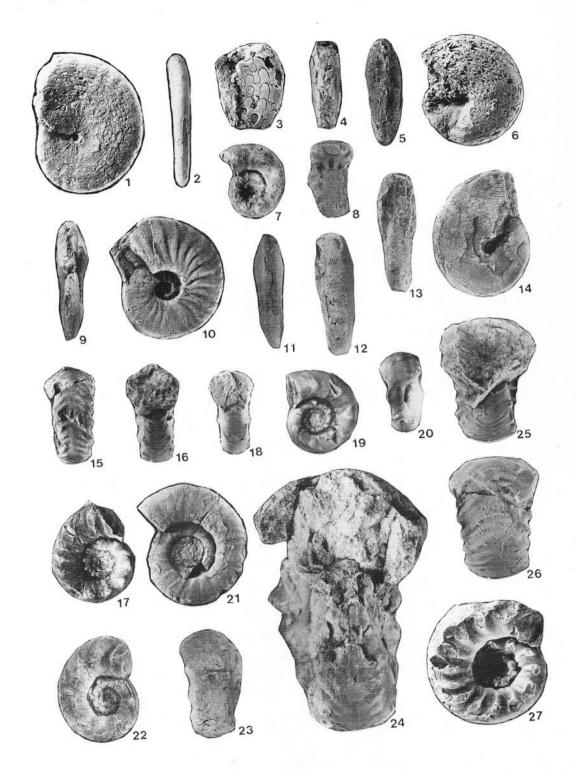
All of figured specimens are deposited in Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeonto-

logy, Academia Sinica.



- Fig. 1, 2 Parasageceras gracile Spath. Side and ventral views (cat. no. 69181). Ib subzone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 3, 4 Norites psilodiscus Arthaber. Side and ventral views (cat. no. 69190). Ib subzone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 5, 6 Psilosturia complex Chen (in He, Wang & Chen). Ventral and side views (cat. no. 69409). I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 7, 8, 22, 23, 25-27 Keyserlingites qinghaiensis Wang (in He, Wang & Chen). 7, 8) Side and anterior views (cat. no. 69217). I zone, L. Anisian. 22, 23) Side and ventral views (cat. no. 69212). I zone, L. Anisian. 25-27) Anterior, ventral and side views (cat. no. 69211). Holotype. I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 9-11 Nicomedites barbarossae (Toula). Anterior, side and ventral views (cat. no. 69325). IIb subzone, M. Anisian.
- Fig. 12 14 Procladiscites brancoi Mojsisovics. Ventral anterior and side views (cat. no. 69373). Ia subzone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 15 17 Keyserlingites prahlada (Diener). Ventral, anterior and side views (cat. no. 69210). I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 18 20 Keyserlingites sinensis Wang (in He, Wang & Chen). Anterior, side and ventral views (cat. no. 69207). Holotype. I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 21 Japonites asseretoi Fantini Sestini. Side (cat. no. 69391). Ib subzone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 24 Keyserlingites dieneri Mojsisovics. Anterior view (cat. no. 69206). Ib subzone, L. Anisian.

All figures natural size.

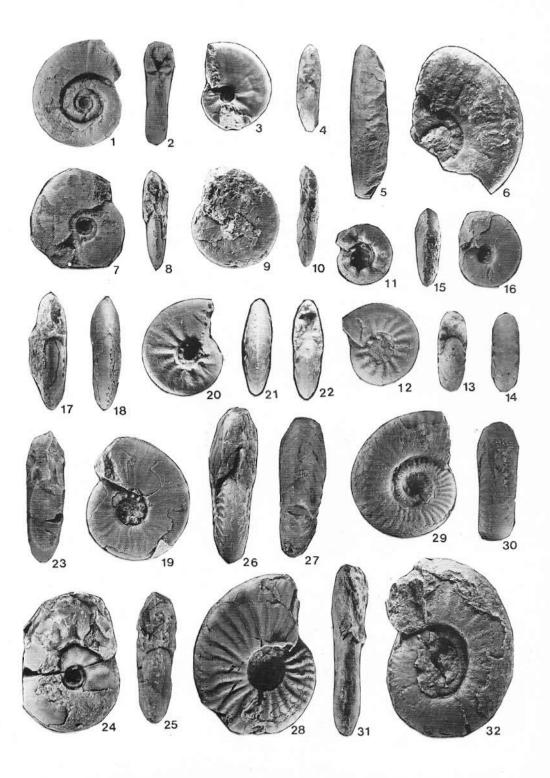


- Fig. 1, 2 Ussurites hara (Diener). Side and anterior views (cat. no. 69433). I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 3, 4 Lenotropites cf. tardus Mclearn. Side and anterior views (cat. no. 69276). I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 5, 6 Arctohungarites umbilicus Wang (in He. Wang & Chen). Ventral and side views (cat. no. 69270). Ia subzone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 7,8 Arctohungarites kharaulakhensis Popow. Side and anterior views (cat. no. 69261). I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 9, 10 Grambergia tetsaensis Mclearn. Side and ventral views (cat. no. 69243). I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 11 14 Pearylandites (Tienjunites) spinosus Wu (nom. nud.). 11) Side (cat. no. 69310).

 Ia subzone, L. Anisian. 12–14) Side, anterior and ventral views (cat. no. 69313).

 I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 15, 16 Grambergia laevis Wang (in He, Wang & Chen). Ventral and side views (cat. no. 69247). I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 17 19 Lenotropites qinghaiensis Wang & Chen. Anterior, ventral and side views (cat. no. 69277). Ia subzone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 20 22 Lenotropites sinensis Wang (in He, Wang & Chen). Side, ventral and anterior views (cat. no. 69292). Holotype. I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 23-25 Groenlandites qinghaiensis Wang (in He, Wang & Chen). Ventral, side and anterior views (cat. no. 69296). Holotype. I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 26 28 Nicomedites osmani Toula. Anterior, ventral and side views (cat. no. 69324). IIb subzone, M. Anisian.
- Fig. 29, 30 Paradanubites kansa (Diener). Side and ventral views (cat. no. 69340). I zone, L. Anisian.
- Fig. 31, 32 Japonites meridianus Welter. Anterior and side views (cat. no. 69383). Ib subzone, L. Anisian.

All figures natural size.



- Fig. 1 *Tirolites cassianus* (Quenstedt). Side (cat. no. 33971, collected from Tianjun, Qinghai province). Spathian.
- Fig. 2-4 Anagymnotoceras cf. helle (Mclearn). Ventral, side and anterior views (cat. no. 69337, collected from Maduo, Qinghai province). IIb subzone, M. Anisian.
- Fig. 5, 6 Dalmatites cf. morlaccus Kittl. Ventral and side views (cat. no. 84782, collected from Langdai, Guizhou province). Spathian.
- Fig. 7,8 Hololobus evolutus Wang & Chen. Ventral and side views (cat. no. 33973, collected from Ulan, Qinghai province). Spathian.
- Fig. 9, 10 Dinarites puanensis Zhao & Wang. Side and anterior views (cat. no.22032, collected from Pu'an, Guizhou province). Spathian.
- Fig. 11, 12 Arnautoceltites cf. arnauticus (Arthaber). Side and anterior views (cat. no. 69197, collected from Maduo, Qinghai province). Subcolumbites zone, Spathian.
- Fig. 13, 14 Subcolumbites sp. Ventral and side views (cat. no. 69194, collected from Maduo, Qinghai province). Subcolumbites zone, Spathian.
- Fig. 15, 16 Ussurites yabei Diener. Anterior and side views (cat. no. 69438, collected from Maduo, Qinghai province). Ib subzone, L. Anisian.

All figures natural size.

