

МЕЛЕКЕСЦЕВ

**MOUNT RANNYAYA AND SHERIDAN BLUFF –
THE OLDEST HIGH-LATITUDE TUYA ON EARTH**

I.V. Melekestsev

Institute of Volcanology and Seismology Far Eastern Branch RAS, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, 683006

Mount Rannyaya (86°58' S, 163°20' W, 2270 m a.s.l., 18-20 Ma) и Sheridan Bluff (87°04' S, 153°46' W, 2720 m a.s.l., ~ 16 Ma) were explored in 1934 and 1962-1963, and studied and dated in 1978-1979 by Antarctic researches. The article shows that these volcanoes are typical tuya, the oldest and high-latitude volcanoes on Earth. It confirms that in early Miocene thick glaciers existed in western Antarctic near the Pole, and subglacial volcanic activity was strong.

Keywords: tuya, englacial volcanism, ice sheet, Antarctic.