

# Errata

NASA Special Publication 4212

## On Mars

Edward C. Ezell and Linda N. Ezell

On p. 235, lines 21-22, the statement that the Antarctic dry valleys were considered to be sterile before 1972 is incorrect, as reference 70, this chapter, shows. The same error occurs on p. 236, line 20.

On p. 235, lines 25-27, the statement that Norman Horowitz, Roy E. Cameron, and Jerry S. Hubbard failed to detect microorganisms in the soil of the dry valleys of Antarctica in five years of research is incorrect. The cited reference (ref. 70) shows that these authors detected bacteria in 86 percent of soil samples examined; 14 percent were sterile.

On p. 236, line 16, for "drying out" read "thinning out".

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The ICSM '88 second announcement will be mailed November 15, 1987, to those who have requested more information.

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## MARTIAN MISTAKE

We are writing to call attention to an error in our book *On Mars*. On pages

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235 and 236, we state incorrectly that Norman Horowitz, Roy E. Cameron and Jerry S. Hubbard (*Science*, 21 April 1972, page 242) failed to detect microorganisms in the soil of the dry valleys of Antarctica, despite five years of effort. Actually, they detected bacteria in 86% of the soil samples tested; just 14% were found to be sterile. No one, to our knowledge, ever claimed that the dry valleys were sterile, contrary to what our book says. We apologize to Horowitz, Cameron and Hubbard for misstating their findings.

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

G. F. Gilbert, Treasurer

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