

II. SUBMARINE TOPOGRAPHY

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The submarine topographic survey was carried out by the echo sounder SV-96 (Sanken Co. Ltd.) during the full course of navigation.

The Mariana trench and the Saipan-Tenian-Guam islands arc are situated on the western part of the surveyed area, and the Magellan seamounts, extending in N45°W direction join with the other seamounts, located along the east side of the Mariana trench. Therefore, the Mariana basin is surrounded by both seamounts and also the Caroline islands (Fig. 25).

The characteristics of submarine topography at the sampling stations are shown in Table 2 and Fig. 26.

As the results of the survey, it could be pointed out that the topographic features at some places were different from the previous existing data as listed in Table 3. However, further investigations on the submarine topography at these locations are necessary, because the differences were not confirmed in detail during this cruise.