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localities of uppermost Cretaceous and Paleogene in the Netherlands, Belgium, Southern France, Northern Spain and Northern Italy have been visited. A visit at the Geological Institute of the Academy of Science of the Soviet Union in Moscow during August 1963 has been very instructive.

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INTRODUCTION

The last two decades have been marked by a rapid increase in the research on planktonic foraminifera and their application to the stratigraphical subdivision of the Paleogene. Two main centres of research have greatly contributed to this progress:

For the Western Hemisphere, it is the Caribbean region and mainly Trinidad, where a detailed zonation of world-wide applicability has been worked out (BOLLI, BRÖNNIMANN, BERMUDEZ, H. H. RENZ, CUSHMAN).

In the European part of the Southern Soviet Union, equivalent work has been done by Soviet specialists (SUBBOTINA, MOROZOVA, SHUTZKAYA, ALIMARINA and others).

By this almost independent and parallel development concerning the knowledge of planktonic foraminiferal faunas during the Paleogene, numerous differences, concerning the interpretation of different species and their stratigraphic range, have been inevitable.