

22 June 2019

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USA

Dear JCUFN Committee Members:

I named and published papers on many of the features surveyed and mapped by the US Naval Oceanographic Office. While recently scanning the Gazetteer I have noticed several discrepancies on the history of who named what as far as the guyots go in relation to my work.

In 1981 I submitted the feature names for Smoot (named by Fred Sorensen), Castor, and Pollux guyots. In 1983 names accepted included Dutton Ridge, Michelson Ridge, Lowrie, Hemler, Fryer, Vogt, Saga, Showa, Ninigi, and Godaigo guyots. In 1984 Gosanjo, Goshirakawa, Taisho, Genji, and Toba guyots and Uyeda Ridge were accepted. Most all are in the 1990 Gazetteer of Undersea Features published by the Defense Mapping Agency and approved by the United States Board on Geographic Names. All of the features were surveyed using the one-degree beam width multibeam SASS system with total bottom coverage. And, these names are my legacy. All are included in many papers as well as: Smoot, N.C., 1991. *North Pacific Guyots*, (Naval Oceanographic Office Technical Note TN 01-91), 101 p.

In 1989 guyots were named by me after NAVOCEANO surveyors who had compiled at least 100 surveying and mapping cruises: Vibelius, Beatty, and Jennings. Two more were named after the heads of the Ocean Survey Program: Samson and McDonnell. Two ridges were named after the workhorse survey vessels in the Pacific: the USNS DUTTON (T-AGS-22) and the USNS MICHELSON (T-AGS-23). Arnold, Batiza, and Delilah guyots seemed appropriate. And, in 1991 the surveying and mapping of the Magellan Seamounts were completed, and I published a paper on same. The feature names: Lapulapu Ridge; Victoria, del Cano, Pigafetta, and Enrique guyots; and Trinidad, Concepcion, and Quesada seamounts, were submitted and accepted in 1992.

All of the previous names are still listed in the June 2019 Geo Names Search of the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency's NGA GEO Net Names Server (GNS). All of the accepted names were named by me from NAVOCEANO multibeam survey data. When I see that ships named Takuyo and Shoyo "discovered" these features between 2004-2006, and that the Japanese scientists had named them, I have to wonder who's driving the ship over there. They may have remapped them, but they did not discover any of these features, and they certainly did not name them.

Therefore, in the interest of historical and scientific accuracy, delving a little deeper into the archives might improve the authenticity of the Gazetteer. It would please me for you to change/add the actual publisher and namer of certain of these features; to wit: Hemler Guyot, Castor Guyot, Pollux Guyot, Lowrie Guyot, Fryer Guyot, and Vogt Guyot. Also add the other names that you have not listed. As I am aging, I only have my legacy left. I do not want to see it usurped by someone who came along at a later date. It is like rewriting history.

Sincerely



N. Christian Smoot