The Proceedings of the Second International Conference on The Combined Effects of Environmental Factors (ICCEF86), held in Kanazawa, Japan.

September 28 - October 1, 1986.
We human beings, are surrounded by many kinds of environmental factors, and our health is greatly affected by our environment. The influences of environmental factors are sometimes harmful or dangerous in our daily lives and occupational situations. Many researchers have been studying the effects of these factors on human beings. However, in almost all cases, the interests of researchers were on only one of various environmental factors. But I would like to emphasize that human beings are often affected by a combination of environmental factors - physical, chemical, psychological and social. From this aspect, especially in greatly industrialized environments, there is naturally a demand for study of the combined effects of environmental factors on man. I think that this field of study must be pursued more intensely.

This book consists of 66 papers which deal with these combined effects of environmental factors. The authors of these papers are from over thirty countries. I believe the information in this book is truly up-to-date, based on the presentations at The Second International Conference on The Combined Effects of Environmental Factors held in Kanazawa, Japan, Sep. 28 to Oct. 1, 1986. This book consists of a wide variety of research aspects, such as physiological and pathological effects, psychological effect, changes in work output, methodology and technics, the relationship between effects and exposure periods, evaluation methods, permissible levels of the effects, control systems, possibilities of utilizing the study results, and future research needs.

I hope that this book will be of interest to research workers and professionals related to areas of environmental health. Moreover I hope it will contribute to the progress of studies in this field.

Professor Akira Okada

President of The Second International Conference on The Combined Effects of Environmental Factors (ICCEF 86)