

Seismic Activity beneath the Ontake Volcano

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We successively report the results of the temporal seismic observation around the Ontake volcano in 2004.

At the southeastern to northern foot of this mountain, the prominent swarm activity succeeds since 1976. In 1984, the M6.8 earthquake occurred in the swarm area. At the time of the volcanic eruption in 1979 and of the succeeding small volcanic activity, we recognized no correlation with the seismic activity change in the swarm. Though there seems no relation between these activities apparently, the problem remains that the mechanism or the tectonic structure which caused these activities as a chain of succeeding tectonic process.

From June to December in 2004, we developed 11 temporal observation sites surrounding the mountain in addition to the established telemetered observation stations around the Ontake volcano.

As the result of the analysis, we found or confirmed the next features: (1) Swarm activity succeeds in the foot of the volcano. (2) Low seismicity area develops surrounding the Ontake volcano with radius of around 6-7 km. (3) We could determine the small seismic activity just beneath the summit with good accuracy.