Mineral compositions and thermobarometry of basalts and boninites recovered during IODP Expedition 352 to the Bonin forearc

SCOTT A. WHATTAM^{1,*,†}, JOHN W. SHERVAIS², MARK K. REAGAN³, DANIEL A. COULTHARD JR.^{3,4}, JULIAN A. PEARCE⁵, PETER JONES⁶, JIEUN SEO⁷, KEITH PUTIRKA⁸, TIMOTHY CHAPMAN^{9,10}, DANIEL HEATON¹¹, HONGYAN LI¹², WENDY R. NELSON¹³, KENJI SHIMIZU¹⁴, AND ROBERT J. STERN¹⁵

¹Department of Geosciences, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dhahran 31261, Saudi Arabia ²Department of Geology, Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84322-4505, U.S.A.

³Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242, U.S.A.

⁴Volcanic Risk Solutions, Massey University, Palmerston North 4414, New Zealand

⁵School of Earth, Ocean and Planetary Sciences, Cardiff University, Cardiff CF10 3YE, U.K.

⁶Department of Earth Sciences, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5B6, Canada

⁷Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Korea University, Seoul 02841, South Korea

⁸Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, California State University, Fresno, California 93740, U.S.A.

⁹School of Geosciences, University of Sydney, New South Wales 2006, Australia

¹⁰Earth Science, School of Environmental and Rural Science, University of New England, New South Wales 2351, Australia

¹¹College of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, Oregon State University, Corvalis, Oregon 97331-5503, U.S.A.

¹²State Key Laboratory of Isotope Geochemistry, Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guangzhou 510640, PR China

¹³Department of Physics, Astronomy and Geosciences, Towson University, Towson, Maryland 21252, U.S.A.

¹⁴Kochi Institute for Core Sample Research, Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, Monobe-otsu 200, Nankoku,

Kochi, 783-8502, Japan

¹⁵Geosciences Department, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas 75083-0688, U.S.A.

Abstract

Central aims of IODP Expedition 352 were to delineate and characterize the magmatic stratigraphy in the Bonin forearc to define key magmatic processes associated with subduction initiation and their potential links to ophiolites. Expedition 352 penetrated 1.2 km of magmatic basement at four sites and recovered three principal lithologies: tholeiitic forearc basalt (FAB), high-Mg andesite, and boninite, with subordinate andesite. Boninites are subdivided into basaltic, low-Si, and high-Si varieties. The purpose of this study is to determine conditions of crystal growth and differentiation for Expedition 352 lavas and compare and contrast these conditions with those recorded in lavas from mid-ocean ridges, forearcs, and ophiolites. Cr# (cationic Cr/Cr+Al) vs. TiO₂ relations in spinel and clinopyroxene demonstrate a trend of source depletion with time for the Expedition 352 forearc basalt to boninite sequence that is similar to sequences in the Oman and other suprasubduction zone ophiolites. Clinopyroxene thermobarometry results indicate that FAB crystallized at temperatures (1142–1190 °C) within the range of MORB (1133-1240 °C). When taking into consideration liquid lines of descent of boninite, orthopyroxene barometry and olivine thermometry of Expedition 352 boninites demonstrate that they crystallized at temperatures marginally lower than those of FAB, between ~1119 and ~1202 °C and at relatively lower pressure (~0.2–0.4 vs. 0.5–4.6 kbar for FAB). Elevated temperatures of boninite orthopyroxene (~1214 °C for low-Si boninite and 1231-1264 °C for high-Si boninite) may suggest latent heat produced by the rapid crystallization of orthopyroxene. The lower pressure of crystallization of the boninite may be explained by their lower density and hence higher ascent rate, and shorter distance of travel from place of magma formation to site of crystallization, which allowed the more buoyant and faster ascending boninites to rise to shallower levels before crystallizing, thus preserving their high temperatures.

Keywords: International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP), JOIDES Resolution, Expedition 352, Izu-Bonin-Mariana Fore Arc, forearc basalt, boninite, ophiolite, Sites U1439, U1440, U1441, U1442; New Advances in Subduction Zone Magma Genesis