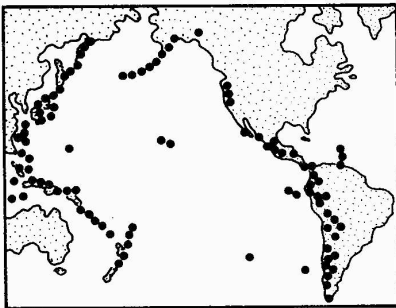
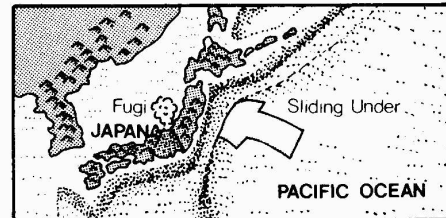


Science Shorts -6

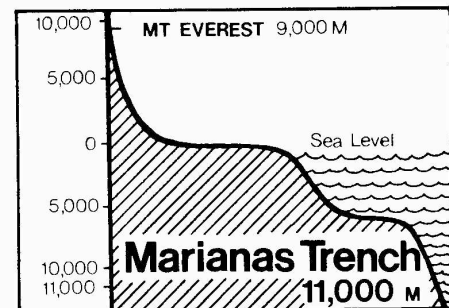
THE RING OF FIRE

The deepest places in the ocean are called **TRENCHES**. Trenches are made where one plate in the earth's crust pushes down under another plate. Volcanoes and earthquakes are also made where one plate pushes under another, so trenches, volcanoes, and earthquakes are often near each other.



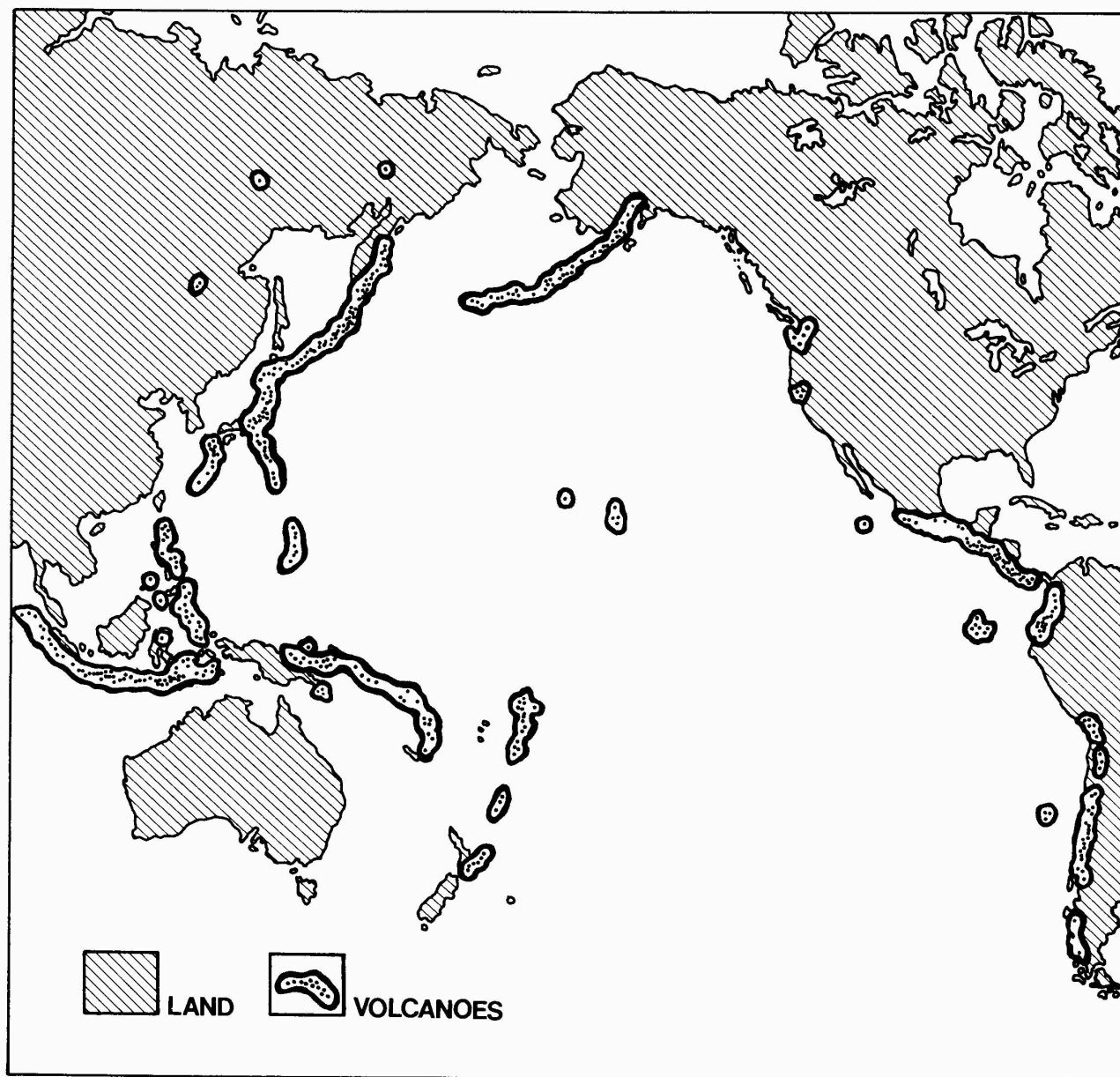
Most of the deep trenches are around the Pacific Ocean, so many of the world's earthquakes and volcanoes are also around the Pacific Ocean. This area is called the **RING OF FIRE** because of all the volcanoes and earthquakes there.

The deepest trenches in the world are deeper than the tallest mountains in the world. The top of Mt. Everest, the tallest mountain, is about 9,000 meters above sea level. The bottom of the Marianas Trench, the deepest trench, is about 11,000 meters below sea level. Both Mt. Everest and the Marianas Trench were formed by plates of the earth's crust moving and pushing against each other.



1. Because the plates of the earth's crust move around and press and rub against each other,
 - a. trenches in the ocean are 11,000 meters deep.
 - b. lakes and rivers are formed.
 - c. mountains and trenches are formed.
2. If there is a deep trench in the ocean, you can predict that
 - a. the land nearby will have volcanoes or earthquakes.
 - b. the mountains nearby will be very tall.
 - c. the cities nearby will have very deep harbors.
3. If an area has many volcanoes, that area probably also has
 - a. a ring of fire.
 - b. many earthquakes.
 - c. many hurricanes.

RING OF FIRE



First label the Pacific Ocean and the continents around it: North America, South America, Australia, and Asia.

Then color those areas red where there are many earthquakes or volcanoes.

Then color the land green and the ocean blue. Be sure you can still read the labels.