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### Research Article


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The American Association for the Advancement of Science was founded in 1848 and incorporated in 1874. Its objectives are to further the work of scientists, to facilitate cooperation among them, to foster scientific freedom and responsibility, to improve the effectiveness of science in promoting the welfare of mankind, to advance education in science, and to increase public understanding and appreciation of the importance and promise of the methods of science in human progress.
COVER A cloud pouring over the western face of the Sentinel Range, Ellsworth Mountains, Antarctica. Fission-track analysis of samples from the Vinson Massif, Antarctica's highest mountain (4897 meters; 8 kilometers south of this photo), indicates that the Ellsworth Mountains were uplifted more than 4 kilometers during the Early Cretaceous (between 141 and 117 million years ago) and that at least 1.8 kilometers of relief has persisted since then. See page 92. [Photo by Ed Stump]