

**Crystal Data:** Monoclinic. *Point Group:* 2/m. Crystals acicular, to 2 mm; in radiating clusters.

**Physical Properties:** *Cleavage:* Perfect on {100}, {010}, and {001}. *Tenacity:* Brittle. Hardness = 3 D(meas.) = 2.32-2.39 D(calc.) = [2.51]

**Optical Properties:** Semitransparent. *Color:* Gold, brown, reddish brown, yellow, tan, rose, lavender, bronze. *Streak:* Yellow. *Luster:* Vitreous, may be silky.

*Optical Class:* Biaxial (+). *Pleochroism:* Distinct; X = nearly colorless; Y = yellowish; Z = golden brown. *Orientation:* Z  $\wedge$  c = 0°-30°.  $\alpha = 1.540(2)$   $\beta = 1.542(2)$   $\gamma = 1.550(2)$  2V(meas.) = n.d. 2V(calc.) = 53°

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:* C2/m.  $a = 15.1(1)$   $b = 17.6(1)$   $c = 5.290(4)$   $\beta = 100.5(2)^\circ$   $Z = 2$

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Lovozero massif, Russia.

11.4 (100), 2.939 (100), 2.650 (100), 4.5 (80), 3.8 (60b), 2.482 (60), 1.640 (60)

Chemistry:	(1)	(1)	
SiO <sub>2</sub>	46.20	MnO	15.00
TiO <sub>2</sub>	3.11	MgO	0.20
ZrO <sub>2</sub>	0.16	CaO	1.24
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.12	Na <sub>2</sub> O	11.24
RE <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.16	K <sub>2</sub> O	0.17
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.86	H <sub>2</sub> O <sup>+</sup>	8.01
(Nb,Ta) <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.44	H <sub>2</sub> O <sup>-</sup>	11.36
FeO	0.37	<u>CO<sub>2</sub></u>	0.40
		Total	100.04

(1) Lovozero massif, Russia.

**Mineral Group:** Palygorskite group.

**Occurrence:** On the walls of fractures filled with nepheline in alkalic pegmatite in a differentiated alkalic massif (Lovozero massif, Russia).

**Association:** Nepheline, aegirine, mountaintite, natrolite, zorite (Lovozero massif, Russia); aegirine, albite, nepheline, sodalite, sérandite, analcime, ancyrite, epididymite, eudialyte, nenankevichite (Mont Saint-Hilaire, Canada).

**Distribution:** In the Jubilee pegmatite, Mt. Karnasurt, near the Ilmajok River valley, Lovozero massif, and in the Khibiny massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia. At Mont Saint-Hilaire, Quebec, Canada.

**Name:** Honors the scientists, led by Thor Heyerdahl, crewing the papyrus ship *Ra* (1969-1970).

**Type Material:** Geology Museum, Kola Branch, Academy of Sciences, Apatity, 3206, 3271; Mineralogical Museum, St. Petersburg University, 19047; Mining Institute, St. Petersburg, 1060/1-4; and the A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia, 74489.

**References:** (1) Mer'kov, A.N., I.V. Bussen, E.A. Goiko, E.A. Kul'chitskaya, Y.P. Men'shikov, and A.P. Nedorezova (1973) Raite and zorite, new minerals from the Lovozero Tundra. *Zap. Vses. Mineral. Obshch.*, 102, 54-62 (in Russian). (2) (1973) *Amer. Mineral.*, 58, 1113-1114 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Khomyakov, A.P., E.M. Es'kova, G.E. Cherepivskaya, V.V. Kaptsov, and A.D. Timchenko (1982) New data on raite. *Nov. Dannye Miner.*, 30, 205-207 (in Russian). (4) (1983) *Chem. Abs.*, 219080 (abs. ref. 3). (5) Mandarino, J.A. and V. Anderson (1989) *Monteregian treasures*. Cambridge Univ. Press, 174. (6) Pushcharovskii, D.Y., I.V. Pekov, J. Pluth, J. Smith, G. Ferraris, S.A. Vinogradova, A.V. Arakcheeva, S.V. Soboleva, and E.I. Semenov (1999) Raite, manganonorderite-(Ce), and ferronordite-(Ce) from the Lovozero Massif: Crystal structures and mineralogical geochemistry. *Crystallographic Reports* 44(4), 565-574.