## Preface to the Present Volume

The papers contributed to this volume are related to the following two symposia:

"Algebraic groups and related topics" held at the Research Institute for Mathematical Science, Kyoto University during September 5–7, 1983 (organized by E. Abe),

"Invariants and geometry" held at Nagoya University during October 11–14, 1983 (organized by H. Umemura and R. Hotta).

The latter was financially supported by the Ministry of Education. Most of the contributors were speakers of one of the above symposia. In this sense the present volume is the proceedings of these two symposia. The editors, however, have considered that it is desirable in this occasion to invite some of non-speakers who can contribute to these subjects. In particular, "Algebraic groups and their representations", the 12th International Symposium supported by the Taniguchi Foundation, which was held at Katata during August 29— September 3, is closely related to this point. All the speakers from abroad of the RIMS Symposium were also participants of this Taniguchi Symposium.

The editors wish to express their gratitude to the Taniguchi Foundation and also to the referees of the articles submitted for their kind cooperation.

May 25, 1984

R. HOTTA

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