



THE ANTARCTIC SOCIETY

905 NORTH JACKSONVILLE STREET
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22205

HONORARY PRESIDENT — MRS. PAUL A. SIPLE

Vol. 90-91

November

No. 2

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ANTARCTIC PROTECTION ACT OF 1990 PASSED BY CONGRESS!!!

THE INTERNATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL YEAR (ICY) AT WILKES STATION

by

Ralph Glasgal

Chief Auroral Physicist, Wilkes, 1957

and

President, Glasgal Communications, Inc.

Northvale, New Jersey

on

Tuesday evening, 27 November 1990

8 PM

National Science Foundation

18th and G Streets N.W.

Room 543

Ralph is going to narrate his own film of the scenic wonders of Antarctica's Banana Belt, including traveling to Antarctica, penguins at Hallett, real live scientists at work, life in camp, and great footage of our Founding President, the late Carl R. Eklund. To the best of our knowledge, this is the only full length film shot by a U.S. scientist in Antarctica during the 1GY. It's an excellent film - we have seen it.

Ralph holds a degree in Engineering Physics from Cornell University and a master's degree in Electrical Engineering from New York University. He is the founder and president of Glasgal Communications, Inc., a leading data communications systems integrator. Ralph has authored books on advanced techniques in data communications, holds one patent, and publishes the annual Network Products Directory, widely recognized as the bible of the Dataconnect Industry.

Ralph has journeyed to Greenland, Spitzbergen, and the Palmer Peninsula just for the fun of it. He has also authored Music on Ice, a semi-serious magazine treatise on the musical tastes of early Antarctic explorers. Glasgal Island off Wilkes Coast is named after Ralph. It is amazing, after a year with Eklund, Honkala, and Cameron, that he could overcome such influences and become such an outstanding man!

These mailings are erroneously referred to as newsletters. They have to be called something, so "newsletters" is about as flattering a name as can be given, considering the nature of the writings. But this one more or less qualifies as a newsletter, as most of the items are newsworthy about Antarctica: The Antarctic Protection Act of 1990; a campaign to save the GLACIER; the opening of the International Antarctic Center in Christchurch; the new opportunities presented by the Pegasus airstrip; an upcoming International Symposium of Policy Makers at McMurdo; the honoring of an Antarctic by The Nature Conservancy; and reviews of two brand new books, one by an 84-year old survivor of the first Byrd Antarctic Expedition, the other a splendidly illustrated book by a British publishing house.

Unfortunately, there are two obituaries, one of a very dear, special friend who was probably the kindest, most gentle, and most revered man ever to set foot on the South Pole, and the other of a long-standing Antarctic. So this is one newsletter for which we won't: have to fabricate stories, stretch the truth, or write tongue-in-cheek style about people. It's going to be hard to write honestly, but we will try! Bear with us!

NEW OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Occasionally we change the Home Guard, so at our last meeting those in attendance unanimously voted to go along with a fine slate of nominees. Our aim is to try and vote in those who show up at our meetings, because we figure if they come out after dark in downtown Washington, they are the kind we want to run our Society. Seriously, all nominees are people who normally come to our meetings.

Our new incoming president is Guy Guthridge, a long-term employee in the Division of Polar Programs at NSF, where he is Manager, Polar Information Program Office; and our new vice-president is Walt Seelig, past mayor of Christchurch, New Zealand, ardent fisherman, and long-time member of our Society. Ruth Siple occupies a non-voting position, also a thankless position, that of treasurer. A relatively new member becomes secretary, Jack Sawicki. His credentials are that he owns two Siberian huskies, is very cooperative, is an expert on polar clothing, and lives within a half mile of the Nerve Center.

The Board of Directors are, in alphabetical order: Dale Andersen, the underwater diver from NASA who has worked many austral summers in the Dry Valleys; Pam Davis, loquacious, effervescent, cooperative Antarctic lover who in a few short months will be a graduate student at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge, England, where she will be an undercover spy for our Society on what goes on in those hallowed halls; CDR Orland French (USCG Ret), a debonair retired icebreaker navigator (NORTHWIND) who adds a little class to our group; Ron Naveen, ex-lawyer who went clean and became a naturalist, photographer, and writer (see WILD ICE, new Smithsonian publication on Antarctica); Judy Reusswig, whose sole reason for being on the Board is that she is a good-looking blonde who thinks this column is interesting, but she has also been to Antarctica twice as a tourist/adventurer/whatever; and Si Roman, retired NOAA meteorological technician who was at the South Pole back in 1963-64. Si is a good old beer-drinking boy who comes to all our meetings and keeps his mouth shut, making him a most worthy member of our organization. Boat rockers we don't need!

ANTARCTIC PROTECTION ACT OF 1990 (H.R. 3977).

Section 1. Short Title. This Act may be cited as the "Antarctic Protection Act of 1990".

Sec. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS—Congress finds that—

(1) the Antarctic continent with its associated and dependent ecosystems is a distinctive environment providing a habitat for many unique species and offering a natural laboratory from which to monitor critical aspects of stratospheric ozone depletion and global climate change;

(2) Antarctica is protected by a series of international agreements, including the Antarctic Treaty and associated recommendations, the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Seals, and the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, which are intended to conserve the renewable natural resources of Antarctica and to recognize the importance of Antarctica for the conduct of scientific research;

(3) recurring and recent developments in Antarctica, including increased siting of scientific stations, poor waste disposal practices, oil spills, increased tourism, and the over-exploitation of marine living resources, have raised serious questions about the adequacy and implementation of existing agreements and domestic law to protect the Antarctic environment and its living marine resources;

(4) the parties to the Antarctic Treaty have negotiated a Convention on the Regulation of Antarctic Mineral Resources Activities which the United States has signed but not yet ratified;

(5) the Convention on the Regulation of Antarctic Mineral Resources Activities does not guarantee the preservation of the fragile environment of Antarctica and could actually stimulate movement toward Antarctic mineral resource activity;

(6) the exploitation of mineral resources in Antarctica could lead to additional degradation of the Antarctic environment, including increased risk of oil spills;

(7) the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties have agreed to a voluntary ban on Antarctic mineral resource activities which needs to be made legally binding;

(8) the level of scientific study, including necessary support facilities,

has increased to the point that some scientific programs may be degrading the Antarctic environment; and

(9) the planned special consultative meeting of parties to the Antarctic Treaty and the imminence of the thirtieth anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty provide opportunities for the United States to exercise leadership toward protection and sound management of Antarctica.

(b) PURPOSE.— The purpose of this Act is to—

(1) strengthen substantially overall environmental protection of Antarctica;

(2) prohibit prospecting, exploration, and development of Antarctic mineral resources by United States citizens and other persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States;

(3) urge other nations to join the United States in immediately negotiating one or more new agreements to provide an indefinite ban on all Antarctic mineral resource activities and comprehensive protection for Antarctica and its associated and dependent ecosystems; and

(4) urge all nations to consider a permanent ban on Antarctic mineral resource activities.

Sec. 3. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) the term "Antarctica" means the area south of the Antarctic Convergence as defined in section 303(1) of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention

Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 2432).

(2) The term "Antarctic mineral resource activity" means prospecting, exploration, or development in Antarctica of mineral resources, but does not include scientific research within the meaning of article III of the Antarctic Treaty, done at Washington on December 1, 1959.

(3) The term "development" means any activity, including logistic support, which takes place following exploration, the purpose of which is the exploitation of specific mineral resource deposits, including processing, storage, and transport activities.

(4) The term "exploration" means any activity, including logistic support, the purpose of which is the identification or evaluation of specific mineral resource deposits. The term includes exploratory drilling, dredging, and other surface or subsurface excavations required to determine the nature and size of mineral resource deposits and the feasibility of their development.

(5) The term "mineral resources" means all nonliving natural nonrenewable resources, including fossil fuels, minerals, whether metallic or nonmetallic, but does not include ice, water, or snow.

(6) The term "person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, trust, association, or any other entity existing or organized under the laws of the United States, or any officer, employee, agent, department, or other instrumentality of the Federal Government or of any State or political subdivision thereof.

(7) The term "prospecting" means any activity, including logistic support, the purpose of which is the identification of mineral resource potential for possible exploration and development.

(8) The term "Under Secretary" means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

Sec. 4. PROHIBITION ON ANTARCTIC MINERAL RESOURCE ACTIVITIES.

Pending a new agreement among the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties in force for the United States, to which the Senate has given advice and consent or which is authorized by further legislation by the Congress, which provides an indefinite ban on Antarctic mineral resource activities, it is unlawful for any person to engage in, finance, or otherwise knowingly provide assistance to any Antarctic mineral resource activity.

Sec. 5. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

(a) It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should enter into negotiations with the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to conclude one or more new international agreements to—

(1) conserve and protect permanently the natural environment of Antarctica and its associated and dependent ecosystems;

(2) prohibit or ban indefinitely Antarctic mineral resource activities by all parties to the Antarctic Treaty;

(3) grant Antarctica special protective status as a land of science dedicated to wilderness protection, international cooperation, and scientific research;

(4) ensure that the results of all scientific investigations relating to geological processes and structures be made openly available to the international scientific community, as required by the Antarctic Treaty; and

(5) include other comprehensive measures for the protection of the Antarctic environment.

(b) It is the sense of Congress that any treaty or other international agreement submitted by the President to the Senate for its advice and consent to ratification relating to mineral resources or activities in Antarctica should be consistent with the purpose and provisions of this Act.

Sec. 6. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A violation of this Act or any regulation promulgated under this Act is deemed to be a violation of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Conven-

tion Act (16 U.S.C. 2431-2444) and shall be enforced under that Act by the Under Secretary or another Federal official to whom the Under Secretary has delegated this responsibility.

(b) PENALTY.—If the Under Secretary determines that a person has violated section 4—

(1) that person shall be ineligible to locate a mining claim under the mining laws of the United States; and

(2) the Secretary of the Interior shall refuse to issue a patent under the mining laws of the United States, or a lease under the laws of the United States related to mineral or geothermal leasing, to any such person who attempts to perfect such patent or lease application after the Under Secretary has made such determination.

Sec. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated—

(1) to the Under Secretary not more than \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1991 and 1992 to carry out the purposes of this Act; and

(2) to the Secretary of State not more than \$500,000 for each of fiscal years 1991 and 1992 to carry out section 5 of this Act.

PERSONAL COMMENTS. This Act was a compromise bill spearheaded by the Massachusetts politicians, Senator Kerry and Representative Conte, with the final version being more or less Conte's (as we understand it). It was approved by the Senate on the evening of 24 October, and the House unanimously passed it at 11:15 PM on the 26th. As Congress was trying to end up business so they could get home for a final weekend of campaigning before voting, Antarctica didn't create much of a stir. Ruth and I were watching on TV - a most disheartening experience on how democracy works - and the chambers were in almost utter disarray with members talking to one another as Conte tried to summarize the benefits of the bill. In desperation Conte interrupted himself, saying, "If they don't shut up, we'll send them to the Antarctic and leave them there." It didn't really disquiet the representatives, and later on in his five-minute presentation Conte said if all the House members were to go to Antarctica, all the hot air they were blowing would melt all the snow and ice in Antarctica! One got the feeling that anything on Antarctica would have passed unanimously at that late hour, as the Congressmen were more concerned with the budget and getting on home. There are five working days when the representatives can make minor changes in the wording, but if last night's TV interest is any indication, none of the members will take advantage of the opportunity to put their imprint on the Act. Then it will go to the White House, and by the time you people get this so-called newsletter, it will all be law!

This person feels that the Act is probably a blessing in disguise, because even though our position going to the Santiago meetings in late November had been one in support of the Wellington Convention, there could not have been much hope at the State Department that their position would ever be acceptable to either France or Australia, and probably not even to New Zealand. And with the Antarctic Treaty requiring unanimous agreement among the twelve Contracting Parties, weren't we more or less whistling up a dark alley in thinking all twelve would endorse the Wellington Convention? With the U.S. position now determined by the Act, it would seem that the environmental wolves will now be sidelined, and that the Santiago meetings can proceed without undue fanfare.

The Act is a political confirmation of something Antarctic purists can appreciate. It makes certain no one from Peoria can go prospecting in the Transantarctic Mountains without facing Leavenworth when he/she gets back home. If anything great is ever found in that ice, don't you think heads of state will find a way to get it out? In the meantime, let's rejoice in seeing a popular viewpoint enacted as a national law.

SAVE THE GLACIER, IF IT ISN'T TOO LATE. Remember Captain Brian Shoemaker, the former Commander of the U.S. Naval Support Forces in Antarctica? Well, Brian is now Executive Director of the HERO Foundation in Reedsport, Oregon, and he needs your support in trying to obtain the old red bucket, the icebreaker GLACIER, for the Antarctic Center in Reedsport. They were well on their way to obtaining the ship when several key State of Oregon officials retired, and now the Pacific Missile Testing Center at Point Mugu in California wants it, where her destiny would be Davey Jones' Locker. The GLACIER and the U.S. in Antarctica are synonymous, as it was the biggest and the best when the United States needed it in early Deep Freeze to establish scientific bases in Antarctica. The GLACIER has explored more of the ocean and coastline of Antarctica than any other ship, and now they want to use it for a missile target? Where's justice?

General Services sort of torpedoed efforts of the HERO Foundation to get the GLACIER when they cited a letter from the Coast Guard Commandant, Admiral J. W. Kime, that environmental hazards associated with the ship made it an albatross, citing eroded asbestos coatings and exposed polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Brian said that the Coast Guard is stating erroneous information, citing a 1987 survey report by a Navy contractor to the effect that the ship is certified free of contamination, and that "no PCB materials or items" were found on board. So the Governor of Oregon, playing it safe like a true politician, turned his back on helping the HERO Foundation obtain the GLACIER, and refused to sign the transfer document. The Foundation wants the GLACIER to go along with the HERO. It's too bad Ike Schlossbach isn't alive; if he were, he would round up some more of his kind and they would slip into Bremerton some night, attach a tow line, and be off with the icebreaker!

Brian wants you Antarctic Purists to sit right down at your word processors and knock off letters to Governor Neil Goldschmidt of Oregon (254 State Capital, Salem, Oregon 97310), advising him that you have seventeen relatives of voting age residing in Oregon who will vote early and often against him at the next election unless he comes to his senses and signs off on accepting the GLACIER. Or you can call the Governor, (503) 378-3111, although I think you would be better off saving your AT&T dollars, because all you would get would be some flunkey answering the phone who would only frustrate you. Brian also wants us to contact the Public Affairs officers in the White House (202-456-7639), in the Navy (202-697-6724), and in the Coast Guard (202-267-1587). You can contact Brian directly at (503) 271-2605. His address is: Capt. Brian Shoemaker (USN Ret), Executive Director, HERO Foundation, P.O. Box 73, Reedsport, Oregon 97467.

Brian reports that they held a very successful "First Annual Antarctic Festival" at Reedsport in May, with 120 in attendance, some 25 of whom were OAEs. Each May they will hold these Antarctic festivals, so if you are within commuting distance of Reedsport by car, boat, or plane, why not drop in next May and have some fun with whoever else shows up? In the meantime, SAVE THE GLACIER!

INTERNATIONAL ICE CENTER (IAC) AT CHRISTCHURCH FIRED UP AND OPERATING. Peter Wilkniss was one of 200 invited guests who recently took part in the opening ceremonies associated with the inauguration and start-up of the new International Antarctic Center in Christchurch. The keynote speaker was Mike Moore, Prime Minister] of New Zealand. The landlord, the Christchurch International Airport, Ltd. (CIAL) paid for a reception, and the United States Antarctic Programs (USAP) hosted a luncheon for thirty invited guests.

The USAP occupies space in two buildings of Phase I, the administration building, and the warehouse and Antarctic passenger terminal complex. CIAL is actively pursuing Phase II, a public "Antarctic Experience" and Conference Center which may be realized in 1991. Phase III will be a housing/hotel facility for USAP participants.

PEGASUS MAY RESTRUCTURE USAP OPERATIONS. On 9 November, a C-141 will land on the new blue-ice runway named Pegasus, eight miles from McMurdo, about a third of the distance from Hut Point to Black Island. If all goes well, Charles Swithinbank and Malcolm Mellor will become Antarctic demigods; if it's a disaster, they might as well pack up their parkas and start selling vegetables at roadside stands. It has long been an Antarctic dream that blue-ice ablation areas in Antarctica become airfields. Joe Fletcher, when he was director of the Office of Polar Programs (now Division of Polar Programs) evidently made a firm proposal for their utilization back in 1972. And, as most of you know, Swithinbank and the late Giles Kershaw did a lot of reconnoitering and locating blue-ice airfield sites in Antarctica in 1986. Since then the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) has been extending Swithinbank's research to cover sites of potential interest to the United States.

The Pegasus site is just inside the snow accumulation area, allowing for a thin snow cover over the ice in order to limit ablation problems. Mellor and Swithinbank feel that if there is a four-inch snow cover over the ice, there will be no significant solar radiation penetration, and that melt cavities will not occur. The folks in DPP are very enthusiastic about Pegasus becoming an all-season runway. If that happens, it will extend the scientific working season in Antarctica by allowing people to remain on the ice until late summer; will allow monthly flights into McMurdo throughout the whole year; will make the McMurdo area attractive to scientists in midwinter on short-term studies; and, naturally, bring in fresh fruit and vegetables, mail, and other goodies throughout the year. So Pegasus could result in a whole new ball game at McMurdo. There are minor problems, such as how to get the cargo over the eight-mile distance from the strip to the station. Personnel could, no doubt, be transported on hovercrafts, at least until they complete a monorail. And they shouldn't have any real problem finding a way to get the goodies into camp.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF ANTARCTIC POLICY MAKERS AT MCMURDO, NOVEMBER 1991. Peter Wilkniss has been reading Antarctic books, and it did not take him very long to figure out that the year 1991 is sort of an Antarctic anniversary year of international importance which should be celebrated. One hundred and seventy years ago, Nathaniel Palmer was in the South Orkneys, and Bellingshausen circumnavigated Antarctica. One hundred and fifty years ago, James Cook discovered Victoria Land, Ross Island, Mt. Erebus, and the Ross Ice Shelf. Eighty years ago, Edward Wilson, Birdie Bowers and Apsley Cherry-Garrard made their epic midwinter trip to Cape Crozier; Amundsen arrived at the South Pole on 14 December; the Japanese went to the Antarctic for the first time; and Mawson took off on his own expedition to Antarctica; not to mention Scott taking off for the South Pole from Cape Evans on 1 November. And, forty years ago, 1961, the Antarctic Treaty came into effect. Then, ten years ago, the Transglobe Expedition arrived at Scott Base.

Peter had hoped for an Antarctic Science Conference at McMurdo, but lost out to his former homeland, Germany. So he is settling for an international symposium of Antarctic policy makers, and is thinking November 1991. He feels, and with much justification, that the time would be ripe for these high rollers to see Antarctica, not only for what it is, but also for its heritage. He would want the distinguished guests to see the Scott and Shackleton huts, to see the entire historic area of McMurdo Sound, and to visit the South Pole. He foresees the activities being hosted by the United States, New Zealand, and Italy, with opening and closing sessions being held in Christchurch. Peter also would like to dedicate the new U.S. Science Laboratory building at McMurdo at the same time. He feels he can make it interesting and worthwhile enough to justify politicians coming to Antarctica for the conference. And, besides, November is sort of a drab month when no one really wants to stay home.

BILL BENNINGHOFF IMMORTALIZED IN HIS OWN LIFETIME. Bill Benninghoff has been a Big Man in polar biology for more years than he would care to admit. He has been all over the Antarctic - everywhere from Cape Hallett to the South Pole, with way stations at such places as Cape Crozier and Lake Bonney. And he has been very active on the SCAR Working Group on Biology, serving as its secretary for countless years. But his fame and notoriety apparently are well-known to non-polarites, as the Michigan Chapter of The Nature Conservancy has just dedicated some terrain in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan as the Benninghoff Tract. Never having been in Upper Michigan, we don't know just how much of an honor it is, but his wife, Anne, thinks the Tract has some great assets - "well developed 'string bogs' ... knolls with hardwood forest, lakes, and of course, special flora and fauna taxa. It is in the Two-Hearted River watershed (Heminway country) that flows to the Tahquamenon Falls, and the streams are known for superb fishing." So it looks like Bill and Anne are set for life with fireplace wood and plenty of fish fillets, but what does one do with string bogs?

They had a big shindig when they dedicated the Benninghoff Tract on 7-8 October 1990. A wetland biologist, Richard Futyma, talked on "The Last 10,000 Years or The Postglacial History of the Eastern Upper Peninsula" (Ed. Now which one was it?); Barbara Madsen informed all on "String Bogs or Patterned Peatland Development in Upper Michigan"; Fred Rydholm, an historical conservationist spoke on the history of the Upper Peninsula; as well as the perfunctory talks associated with the actual dedication. Bill was even allowed to say something, "Response!"

If you want to walk on Benninghoff, all you have to do is find T48N, R10W, McMillan Twp., Luce County, in Upper Michigan. We would like to love Benninghoff, as he is a good guy, but every time we have asked him to give a Memorial Lecture he just says, "This is not the time. I'll have something to present in a couple of years." Bill, if you don't come up with a Memorial Lecture SOON, we are going to find your Tract, and you know what we are going to do on it.. In the meantime, congratulations on an honor well deserved!

WITH BYRD AT THE BOTTOM OF THE WORLD (Norman D. Vaughan with Cecil B. Murphey). This book was published in September by Stackpole Books, P.O. Box 1831, Harrisburg, PA 17105 (tel. 1-800-READ-NOW), and is without a doubt the last book ever to be published by a member of the 1928-30 Byrd Antarctic Expedition. As Norman has pointed out, Byrd's one-year ban on members of the ice party authoring a book has now expired, so now, sixty years later, Norman tells his remembrances of what happened on that expedition! It is vintage Vaughan, like sitting down with him in some lounge and listening to his stories. Essentially the book consists of stories about himself, those he was associated with, and impressions of people. The bad news is that the book is not indexed, so you have to read the whole book to find out his thoughts about a particular person. The good news is the book is not long, only 196 pages!

It's an honest book, even to the point of telling how he goofed up four marriages. He got duped by Ike Schlossbach telling an enamored story about the second Byrd Antarctic Expedition which Norman, for some unknown reason, put into this book on the first expedition. Sort of like this column, Norman didn't want the truth to get in the way of an interesting story, so he stuck it in!

There haven't been many books written by members of the Byrd expeditions. Probably the best known are Larry Gould's COLD, Paul Siple's A BOY SCOUT WITH BYRD, followed by Art Owens' and Joe Hill's books. It is refreshing that Commander Byrd is pictured by Vaughan as a most kind and generous person, and also as a good camp leader.

The drinking problem referred to in a book on the first Byrd expedition published last spring was never mentioned in Norman's book as having existed. Norman was a young Harvard dropout who never drank, and he did write about his reluctance to join

a social club at Harvard because of its drinking initiation ritual. So if drinking really was a problem on the expedition, it would appear that Norman would have brought it up. Norman is not one to pull punches.

If you are an Antarctic historian, you probably would enjoy owning this book. It's not going to be a classic, but it's good, easy, interesting reading by one of the true characters of the Antarctic.

THE EXPLORATIONS OF ANTARCTICA (Professor G. E. Fogg and David Smith). This is a most unusual book because of the evocative paintings of David Smith which profusely illustrate the book. In addition, there are seven maps and 48 historic photographs and engravings. David Smith spent nearly a year painting in Antarctica, and Lord Shackleton says he is the finest recorder of that continent in this century. Well, we don't know if we are willing to go that far, as this fellow, Alan Campbell, is no slouch. But Smith's paintings are certainly interesting, and the Grytviken whaling station was particularly pleasing.

There is one universal problem associated with British and Aussie books on Antarctica, and that is you come away with the godawful feeling that not only does the continent belong to them, but the only good stuff done in Antarctica has been done by them. The overall tone of the book was set by Lord Shackleton in the introduction when he wrote, "The most important, and highly cost-effective, scientific work has undoubtedly been done in the seventh continent by the British Antarctic Survey." It's pretty hard some times to find a humble Antarctic Brit or Aussie, although there must be one somewhere, (Swithinbank does not really count as a Brit, as he is married to a Yank, and has spent so much time with Americans in Antarctica that he has a warped sense of national pride which is not in accordance with that of his fellow countrymen.)

Regardless of its nationalistic tones, the book is an excellent one, particularly for its coverage of the Antarctic Peninsula and the British Antarctic Survey bases. It should be a "must book" for all tour ships working the Antarctic Peninsula, as it contains much descriptive material and many interesting anecdotes on stops made by tour ships. There is a lot on the sub-Antarctic, too, especially South Georgia. And for the uninitiated, there is excellent coverage on the early exploration of Antarctica. This book would make an excellent gift. Even if the recipient is illiterate, he/she can still enjoy the beauty of Antarctica as captured by the strokes of David Smith. BUY! (Cassell Publishers, London, distributed in the states by Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., 387 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-8810). In the UK it is selling for 16 pounds-9 shillings, but what's money if it's not to buy books?

J. MURRAY MITCHELL, JR., 1928-1990. Our Memorial Lecturer in 1978, past member of the National Academy of Sciences' Polar Research Board, past member of the National Science Foundation's Division of Polar Program's Advisory Committee, past VIP who visited the Clean Air Facility at the South Pole, J. Murray Mitchell, Jr., died of lymphoma on 5 October in Georgetown University Hospital. Cancer was detected in Murray several years ago, but he never gave in, continuing his research on climate change while living at home. His only concession to his plight was selling a considerable spread of land which he had once bought in Boulder, Colorado, hoping that one day he and his family might live in the canyon where the land was. Instead he decided he wanted to remain in the Washington area close to his doctors. Besides, his wife, Pollyanne, was an easterner and Boulder never really appealed to her.

Alan Faller, a mutual friend of ours, wrote, "If you did not know Murray as a friend, you have missed a true friend; if you did not know Murray as a gentleman, you have missed a great experience of life; if you did not know Murray as a scientist, you have missed a thoughtful, careful, and important contributor to the study of climate change."

His master's thesis at MIT was concerned with long-term trends in the temperature at his beloved Blue Hill Observatory. This work foreshadowed many aspects of his later scientific effort from the establishment of "benchmark stations" for the study of long-term climate trends to a detailed heat-budget analysis of the energy sources and sinks in his McLean, Virginia home.

Once upon a time it was unpopular, if not unwise, to call one's self a climatologist. Yes, there were several "closet climatologists" among the meteorologists, but only Helmut Landsberg and Murray Mitchell wore the banner proudly. Murray joined the old Weather Bureau back in 1955 as a research meteorologist. From 1965 to 1974, he was a project scientist with the Climate Change project of ESSA (Environmental Science Services Administration). Then he became NOAA's (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Senior research climatologist, and was a science advisor to NOAA's Environmental Data Information Service before retiring in 1986. Murray was also a Visiting Scientist at NCAR (National Center for Atmospheric Research), and was an active member participating on the US-USSR Bilateral Agreement on environmental protection. His awards included the Commerce Department's Gold and Silver medals, and a 1980 NOAA Administrator Award. In retirement he became interested in climate on other planets and their correlations to climates here on earth. As great a scientist as Mitchell was, and he was great, it is as a true gentleman that he will be remembered by those of us who were fortunate enough to have known him.

HENRY (HARRY) FRANCIS, 1930-1990, (info provided by Steve Den Hartog and John Twiss). Harry Francis, who died of colon cancer while at home in Charlestown, New Hampshire on 7 October, was a Mountain Man who wore many hats during a rather illustrious career. One of those hats, naturally, was a polar balaclava, and he served as the late Bert Crary's deputy at Little America V in 1958. Following the IGY, he joined the Office of Polar Programs at the National Science Foundation, and was a special assistant to both Tom Jones and Bert Crary from 1960 to 1963, representing the Foundation in Antarctic policy discussions. In 1963 he moved onward and upward in the Foundation, serving in key high level positions in International Scientific Affairs, International Cooperation and Information Program, Division of Environmental Sciences, and National and International Programs. Remembering his halcyon days at Harvard, Harry left the Foundation in 1971 to go home, becoming the Assistant Secretary of Environmental Affairs in Massachusetts. Four years later he became Commissioner of the Metropolitan District Commission for Massachusetts.

Then his life improved even more, becoming Executive Director in 1976 of the Student Conservation Association. Later he became its president, and under his stewardship the Association prospered, providing thousands of young volunteers to various public and private organizations. By the late 1980's, more than 14,000 participants had been part of the Student Conservation Association programs, both here and abroad. In 1989 Harry formed Youth Opportunities Inc., an organization to aid high school dropouts in remedial education, job training, and placement.

Harry was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, attended Hawkin School in Cleveland, graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy and from Harvard (1954), and also studied at the University of Grenoble when he could break himself away from climbing in the Alps. He led a Harvard Mountaineering Club expedition to the Hindu Kush in Pakistan, and climbed all the biggies in both North and South America. One could very well say that wherever Harry went, whatever he did, he scaled great heights as an overachiever. And it is most proper that Harry had his own mountain in Antarctica, a massive, ridgelike mountain, 2610 meters high, in the Admiralty Mountains. Harry is survived by his wife, Sharon, and his son, Christopher of Boston.

WE ARE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH THE POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERING OUR NEWSLETTERS WITHIN A MONTH. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THIS ONE IS BEING MAILED ON 31 OCTOBER 1990!