

names have apparently been used in the text with untidy results: the normally accepted Tiksi, which is used on p. 280, becomes Tixii on p. 278, and Tixie on p. 264; the Russian letter ж is variously rendered by zh (Nizhne), sh (Deshniev), j (Penjinsk); Milovzorov, as the name is generally spelt, becomes Melefsorov (p. 262). Discrepancies in transliteration do not often render names totally unrecognisable, but other obstacles have been placed in the way of easy recognition. Tranquillity Bay (p. 36) is normally known as Tikhaya Guba (Tikhaya Bay). It is not likely that a reader without specialised knowledge would relate the two. A name like "the Chukot Peninsula" (frequently used in this book) is indefensible. In Russian it is Chukotskiy Poluostrov, Chukotskiy being the adjective of Chukchi, the inhabitants of the area. Chukot means nothing and only adds another to the already swollen number of alternative forms. There is only one real solution, and that is to use a transliteration of the full Russian name in all cases.

TERENCE ARMSTRONG

RENEWAL OF ANTARCTIC NAVAL AGREEMENT FOR SEASON 1949-50

[The following statement was issued by the Foreign Office on 18 November 1949. The text of the 1948-49 agreement, to which reference is made, was published in the *Polar Record*, Vol. 5, Nos. 37/38, 1949, p. 361.]

"On 18 January 1949, in order to avoid the risk of incidents during the Antarctic summer season which might exacerbate normal friendly relations, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, and the Argentine and Chilean Governments informed each other that they saw no need to send Naval vessels south of latitude 60° S. during the 1948-49 Antarctic season, apart from such naval movements as had become customary. In view of the satisfactory result which followed, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Argentine and Chilean Governments recently entered into conversations with a view to ascertaining whether an extension to the current season could be arranged. As a result of these conversations, statements were exchanged on 18 November between the Governments concerned, in the following terms:

Being anxious to avoid any misunderstanding in the Antarctic which may affect the friendly relations between the United Kingdom, Argentina and Chile the Governments of these three countries have informed each other that, in present circumstances, they foresee no need to send warships south of latitude sixty degrees during the 1949 to 1950 Antarctic season, apart, of course, from movements such as have been customary for a number of years.

His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom feel confident that this parallel statement of intention will continue to ensure that incidents likely to cause unnecessary friction in the Antarctic between the three Powers are avoided. The United States Government have been kept informed."

[On 18 November 1949 the Department of State in Washington issued the following statement.]

“The Government of the United States is very pleased to learn that, being anxious to avoid any misunderstanding in Antarctica which might affect the friendly relations between Argentina, Chile and the United Kingdom, the Governments of these three countries have informed each other that in present circumstances they foresee no need to send warships south of latitude 60 degrees during the 1949–50 Antarctic season, apart, of course, from movements such as have been customary for a number of years. The United States Government does not contemplate sending any vessels to Antarctica during the 1949–50 Antarctic season.”