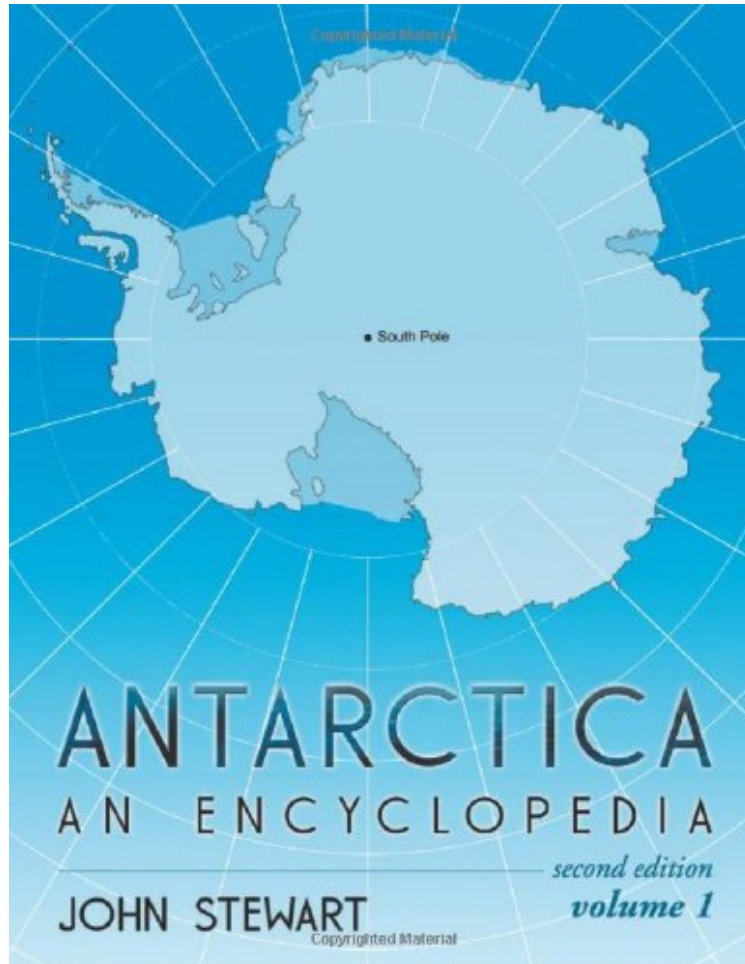


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## Antarctica: An Encyclopedia, 2d ed.

*John Stewart*

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**John Stewart : Antarctica: An Encyclopedia, 2d ed.** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Antarctica: An Encyclopedia, 2d ed.:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An Addictive Treasure! By Millicent Eidson Be forewarned! Anyone with even a passing interest in Antarctic history may spend hours just browsing this two-volume treasure. John Stewart has collected together not only the facts of important, well-known events in the history of Antarctica but also details of people, places and occurrences that are found nowhere else. Stewart is relentless in his search for this information. An example is his quest for facts on the members of Admiral Richard E. Byrd's third Antarctic expedition, the United States Antarctic Service Expedition of 1939-41. One crewman of Byrd's flagship, USS Bear, was Anthony Kelcyzewski who at first seemed untraceable. Undeterred, Stewart followed leads until he discovered that the man had changed his name to Wayne after the expedition. Further investigation led to the discovery that Anthony Wayne is still living at age 97 in Schenectady, New York. This dedication to finding overlooked details is evident throughout this

work. It is both invaluable to historians and also a pleasurable and accessible read for Antarctic buffs. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is THE book to add to your library! By Laura Granberry Snow

When John Stewart began writing the second edition of his *Antarctica: An Encyclopedia*, he had no idea that he would spend four and a half years on the task. Two volumes containing 1771 pages, weighing eleven pounds, was the result. Among Stewart's sources are hundreds of interviews, diaries, archival material, government documents, and old newspapers, all of which were in several different languages. In countless instances Stewart's prodigious research uncovered previously untapped material. All Antarctic geographical features are listed up to February 2011. Each feature is described by location, physical aspects, and its name in each of the languages of the nations that recognize it. In most cases an explanation of the honoree is provided. In hundreds of instances, where no one knew why a feature was named, Stewart was able to discover the source of the name. All expeditions are listed up to the time of writing and are listed under E for Expeditions. Additionally, each expedition has its own entry, usually laid out in a detailed chronology. The book contains thousands of biographies of those who went to Antarctica before World War II. Among the thousands of biographical entries found are those of explorers, ships' crews, scientists, whalers, etc. One of the ground-breaking aspects of the book relates to the Falkland Islands Dependency Survey (FIDS). There is a complete list of FIDS. Most are biographed and each FIDS station has a detailed entry. Hundreds of post-World War II biographies cover explorers, scientists, Navy personnel, and other support personnel. The Seabees are covered in detail, particularly those who built the South Pole Station. Each of these has his own biography. Included in the thousands of entries are topics, such as Distinguished Visitors, Deaths, Dogs, Cats, Women in Antarctica, Blacks in Antarctica, Suicides, Food, Sledges, Chickens, and more. The book contains too many topics to describe here. John Stewart's *Antarctica: An Encyclopedia* is THE book to add to one's collection. No one has previously written anything about Antarctica that comes close to the scholarship and presentation in these two volumes. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An extraordinary labor of love, and endlessly useful. By M. Bailey

This is an extraordinary labor of love, a four-year effort to expand and update the 1990 first edition, which won a Library Journal Best Reference award. It is a direct-entry encyclopedia in two volumes, with 1758 pages, 30,000 entries, an extensive bibliography, and numerous cross-references. While people, expeditions, and general topics are described, the greatest percentage of the work serves as a narrative gazetteer, bringing together information from various English and non-English sources and presenting it in readable English, often for the first time. For the researcher, student, or aficionado, there is an enormous amount of information which is either unavailable online or scattered about in numerous locations. In the cases of many geological features, maps and satellite images are easily available online, but the Encyclopedia provides details not readily handy, including naming dates, lists of expedition members, and details which may correct previous data. As dry as this may sound, it can be quite amusing, and I found myself moving from entry to entry following references in the various articles. Here is an example which shows several of the points described above:

Entry searched = CREANEY NUNATAKSEvery entry I checked online, from the Australian Antarctic Data Centre [...] to Wikipedia, stated that this feature was named for David B. Creaney, an aviation electrician at Ellsworth Station during the winter season of 1957, for whom they give no additional information. Here is the Encyclopedia's entry in full (p. 369): "Creaney Nunataks. 8314'S, 5143'W. Rising to 1475 m, SW of the Herring Nunataks, and 9 km W of Mount Lechner, in the W portion of the Forrestal Range, in the Pensacola Mountains. Mapped from USN air photos taken in 1964, and from USGS ground surveys conducted in 1965-66. Named by US-ACAN in 1968, for a man who doesn't exist. The real person is David Bartholomew "Dave" Greaney, Jr. [sic] (b. Feb. 16, 1930, Chicago), VX-6 aviation electrician who wintered-over at Ellsworth Station in 1957. One day he got beaten up by a penguin. The feature is shown with its erroneous name on a U.S. map of 1969, and the name was accepted by UK-APC on Nov. 3, 1971, which shows that they don't check either." There is also a cross reference from "Greaney" to "Creaney Nunataks". If you want to find out who his coworkers were at Ellsworth Station that winter, check out the entry for the Station, where all 39 men are listed, including enlisted man "Ronald D. "Brownie" Brown (the youngest man in the group, his tractor came within an ace of plunging down a 900-foot crevasse one day". There is no cross reference for Brown, but there is for the team's leader, Finn Ronne (whose "management style created problems, there can be no doubt about that"), where his nine outings to Antarctica and his successes (including proof that Antarctica is a continent) are briefly described. From there, of course, one can meander along through Ronne's expeditions, co-workers, and discoveries. Any large, regional, or university library would find this a fine purchase, and I'm sure polar researchers, and those for whom Antarctica is a hobby, will find it endlessly informative and entertaining.

This second edition of the 1990 Library Journal "Best Reference" book, four years in the compiling and writing, is an exhaustive A-Z direct-entry encyclopedia of Antarctica. It doubles the first edition's entries to 30,000, covering geographical features, historical events, explorers, expeditions, airplanes, ships, scientists, scientific stations, tour operators, scientific terms, birds, animals, insects, flora, items of general interest and much more. "Antarctica" is defined as all land and water south of 60S. Information for geographical features is drawn primarily from national gazetteers, both current and old, and is not limited to English-language sources. Extensive cross-referencing simplifies the continent's often bewildering nomenclature--geographical features' names, for example, may vary widely from one

national gazetteer to the next, and are further complicated by having been named and renamed multiple times, and in many languages, through the years. All linguistic variations of placenames are included and cross-referenced. First Edition Award: A Library Journal Best Reference

"The first encyclopedia on Antarctica...comprehensive, handsomely produced, and...valuable." --Library Journal"A wealth of useful information...good reading for anyone.... Highly recommended." --Choice"Detailed and comprehensive...even modest collections will benefit from this thorough work. The foreword is by famed explorer Sir Edmund Hillary." --College Research Library News"Objective, factual information." --Wilson Library Bulletin"Absorbing." --New York TimesAbout the AuthorJohn Stewart is the author of several McFarland encyclopedias. He lives in West Jefferson, North Carolina.