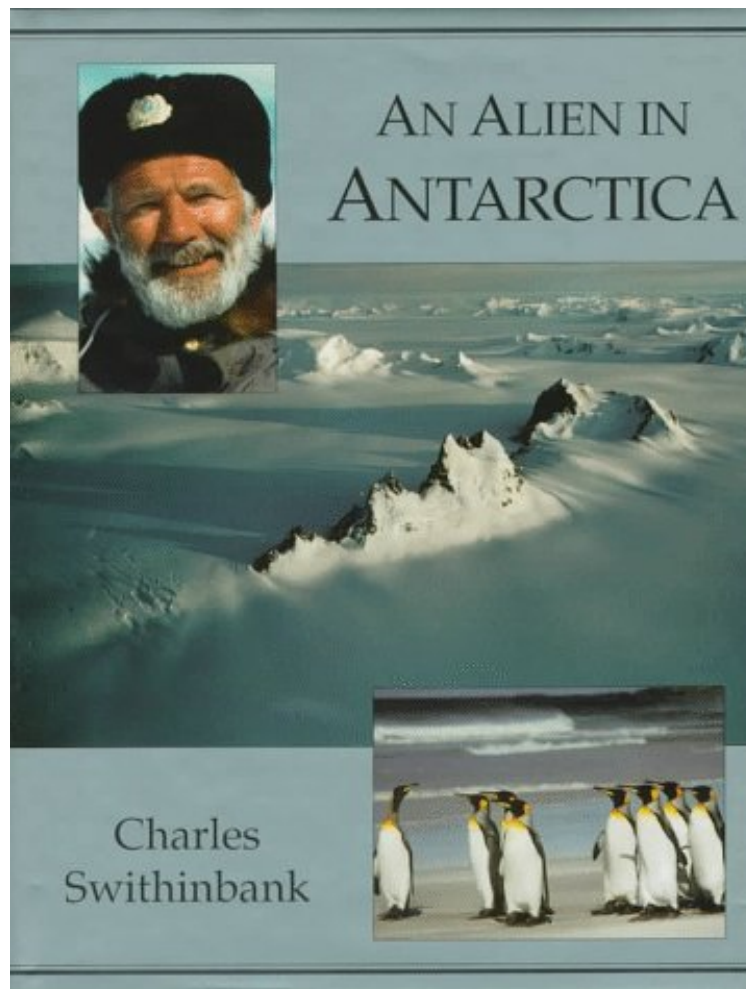


Alien in Antarctica: The American Geographical Society's Around the World

Charles Heatwole, Charles Swithinbank

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An Alien in Antarctica is an eminent polar scientist's account of six expeditions to the "frozen continent" while

working with the US Antarctic Program. The book combines first-person narrative and outstanding photography to record the events, the feelings, the results, and the memories of conducting research in one of Earth's most remote and hostile environments. This book is not just about science, but about adventures in the pursuit of science.

"Highly recommended. . . . Dr. Swithinbank's experiences must qualify him as one of the preeminent explorers of the OAE. He has been a part of Antarctic operations from 1949(!) in Queen Maud Land to the present. Longevity and breadth of experience alone would put this book on any Antarcticans "Must Read" list. Fortunately it meets all expectations from a number of directions. . . . [This] is not just another explorer's journal, but an interesting account of [Swithinbank's] life in Antarctica. Somehow he got the publisher to include numerous color photos and also keep the cost of the book within reach of the intended audience. . . . By all means, order the book for a reading of adventure 'in the pursuit of science,' as the author puts it." -- The Antarctic Society Newsletter, Vol. 97-98, #1, October 1997

"This book describes, in a witty self-effacing style, [Swithinbank's] experience as an "alien" participating in the U.S. Antarctic Research Program The main thread of the book is an account for nonspecialists of the glaciological research Swithinbank has been engaged in with the American program for nearly 40 years, from digging snow pits and hand coring-holes, dangling from a helicopter to survey ice movements, to radar ice sounding from an "armchair" while flying on very long flights across the continent. . . . Most vivid and sparkling, however, are the many beautiful color photographs from the 1950s to the 1990s. -- Arctic and Alpine Research, Vol. 30, No. 2, 1998

This book is a first-person narrative of a British scientist's experience working with the United States Antarctic Research Program over the span of 40 years. He obviously kept very detailed journals since names, places and events are very well documented, and he shines as more than an amateur cameraman; photographs in the book are outstanding. -- The Polar Times, Fall-Winter 1997

About the Author Dr. Charles W. M. Swithinbank is an eminent glaciologist who has played a prominent role in polar research throughout the past forty-five years. With his experience of British, Scandinavian, Russian, and Canadian expeditions, he brings a powerful perspective to this narrative of years spent as a lead scientist with the US Antarctic Program. Swithinbank holds degrees from Oxford University and has held research posts at the universities of Michigan and Cambridge. His expedition record includes more than 20 visits to the Antarctic, three winters spent at isolated scientific stations, and several Arctic expeditions. His accomplishments have been recognized through the awarding of an honorary degree and medals, three of which were handed to him by reigning monarchs, and by naming one mountain range, two glaciers, and three other geographic features after him.