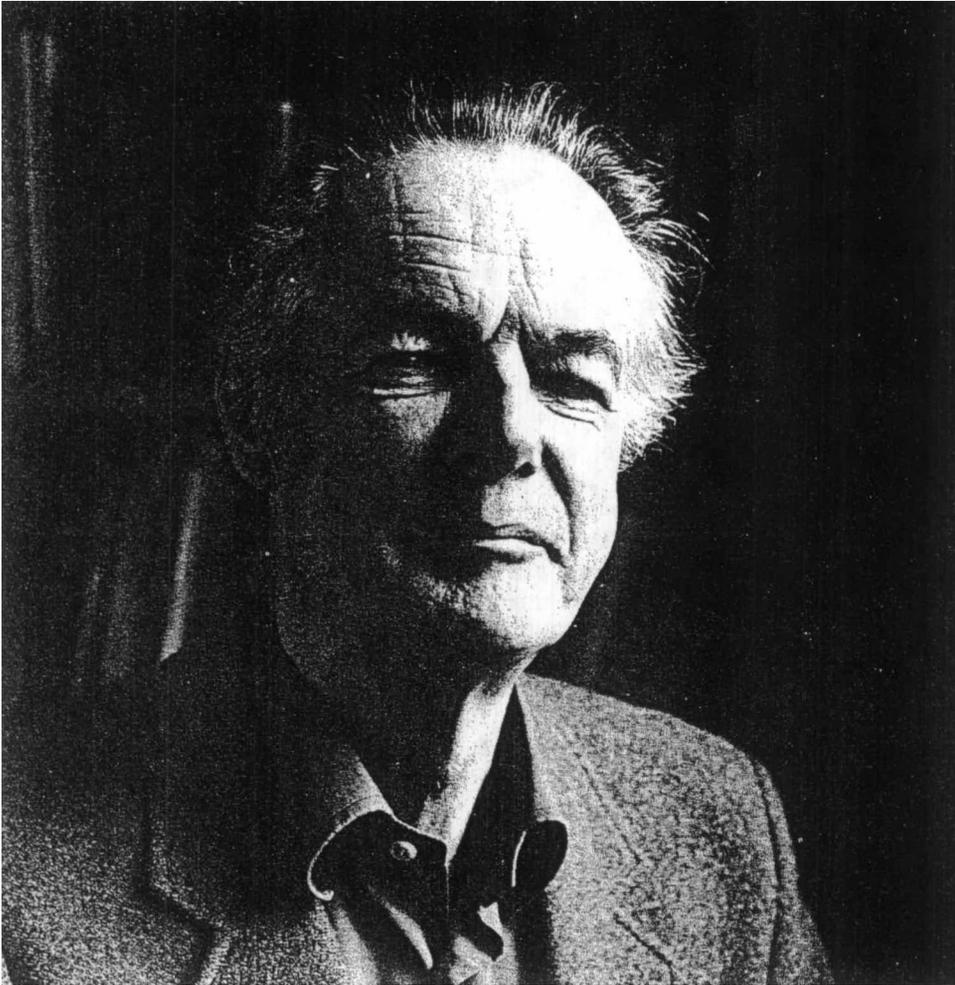


FOREWORD



Vyvian Rayner, Cambridge

TERENCE ARMSTRONG

After thirty-six years as Research Fellow, Assistant Director of Research, Reader in Arctic Studies and Acting Director, Terence Armstrong retired from the staff of the Scott Polar Research Institute on 30 September 1983. Throughout this period his wide and penetrating research has established the Institute as a leading centre of Soviet Arctic studies. His reputation has brought a steady stream of scholars to the Institute, many of them on sabbatical leave: the one-year postgraduate course of polar studies which he

organized from 1975 has given many younger scholars a chance to work under his guidance.

Terence Armstrong joined Magdalen College, Cambridge, in 1938 from Winchester College. He obtained Class 1 Honours in Russian, but subsequent studies of Russian and French were cut short in 1940 by World War II. With the Army Intelligence Corps, Field Security, between 1940 and 1946 he served in North Africa, Italy, Holland, Norway and Germany, and was wounded as a parachutist at Arnhem.

The war focused attention on the importance of developments in the Soviet Arctic. When in 1946 the Institute made its first post-war appointment of a research fellowship in this field, Terence's knowledge of Russian and his experience of Intelligence methods led to his selection. Despite a lack of polar experience at the time, he soon established his reputation as an authority on the Soviet Arctic with a PhD thesis on *The Northern Sea Route* (1952), which became the first of the SPRI Special Publications series. Since then his continuing studies of the Soviet press and other sources have produced definitive annual reports on development of sea transport along the Siberian coast, mostly published as notes in *Polar Record*. No statistical data are published regularly on this subject in the Soviet Union itself. Terence has since travelled widely in the Soviet Arctic, northern Scandinavia, Greenland and North America for comparative studies of economic, educational and social developments. In 1954 he voyaged in HMCS *Labrador* through the Northwest Passage, the historic region now being opened to industry. Through his scholarship and dedicated research, aided by his many contacts in the USSR, he has been mainly responsible for building up the Institute's outstanding library collection on the Soviet Arctic.

Terence Armstrong has always recognized the effort and difficulty faced by Soviet peoples and institutions in dealing with their many technical and social problems, and has achieved a balanced assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of polar development in other countries. He has published many papers and notes; his books include *The Russians in the Arctic* (1958, reissued in 1972), *Sea ice north of the USSR* (1958), *Russian settlement in the North* (1965) and *Yermak's campaign in Siberia* (ed. 1975). With B. B. Roberts and C. W. M. Swithinbank he produced *Illustrated glossary of snow and ice* (1966), and with G. W. Rogers and G. W. Rowley *The circumpolar north* (1978). He was appointed Assistant Director of Research in 1957, when the Institute became part of the University of Cambridge, and in 1977 he received an *ad hominem* appointment as Reader in Arctic Studies. McGill University awarded him an honorary LLD in 1963 and the University of Alaska an honorary DSc in 1980. In the same year he received the Royal Geographical Society's Victoria Medal for outstanding contributions to geographical scholarship.

Apart from his own researches Terence has helped the development of the Institute through his unflinching support for three Directors; his guidance and advice, given as a calm, penetrating assessment of any problem, have always been of great help to them. No less important contributions to the Institute have been his warm personality, and his sympathetic and courteous relationships with visitors and students. Outside activities have included being Honorary Secretary of the Hakluyt Society since 1965, Honorary Treasurer of the Glaciological Society 1963–70, and a Founder Fellow, Tutor and Senior Fellow of Clare Hall since its foundation in 1964. Other interests, including ballet, the oboe, church and village, are shared with his wife Iris whom he married in 1943. Their four children and their home, Harston House, just outside Cambridge, have provided a happy background which Terence has shared with many visitors. Terence and Iris plan to remain in Cambridge, where they will be sought after by their many friends. During its sixty years of activity in polar research the Institute has been blessed with a number

of most notable long-term staff members, who have influenced it diversely but wholly beneficially. Terence Armstrong is one of them; our debt is great.

Gordon Robin
Colin Bertram
Launcelot Fleming

EDITORIAL

We welcome Dr D. J. Drewry as the new Director of the Scott Polar Research Institute. Dr Drewry, a former Senior Assistant in Research in the Institute, took up his appointment on 1 January 1984. Born in 1947, Dr Drewry graduated at London University (Queen Mary College) in 1969 and, after two seasons' fieldwork in Antarctica, was awarded a PhD in polar geophysics by Cambridge University in 1973. His subsequent research has concentrated mainly on radio echo sounding of the Antarctic ice sheet, but Dr Drewry has also worked in Greenland, Svalbard, southern Africa and Australia. He was awarded the Sir Henry Strakosh Fellowship in 1974 and the Peek Award of the Royal Geographical Society in 1979.