

## FOREWORD

Rear-Admiral George A. Dufek, U.S.N., has succeeded the late Rear-Admiral Richard E. Byrd as Officer-in-Charge, United States Antarctic Programs. The holder of this post, which was created in 1955, has a variety of duties in connexion with United States activities in the Antarctic. Rear-Admiral Dufek reports to the Secretary of Defence, and through him to the Operations Co-ordinating Board, on the political, scientific, legislative and operational activities which comprise the United States Antarctic Program. He is senior adviser in the preparation of plans and legislation for the implementation of United States Antarctic policy, including the establishment of a permanent unit for Antarctic activities. He also advises on the technical preparation of specific operations and expeditions, and insures that all aspects of these activities are properly co-ordinated.

As this issue of the *Polar Record* goes to press the Trans-Antarctic Expedition has left its bases at "Shackleton" and "Scott" and the trans-continental journey is beginning. We wish Dr Fuchs, Sir Edmund Hillary and all members of the expedition the best of good fortune.

The Scott Polar Research Institute regrets that, owing to increases in the cost of printing, publishing and postage, the price of the *Polar Record* must be raised. The present price was fixed in January 1952, and, since then, production costs have risen by about 25 per cent. Beginning with this issue, the price of each issue will be 10s. 6d. (£1. 11s. 6d. a year), or \$1.75 (\$5 a year); both rates include postage.

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