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things are interdependent, and therefore the destruction of the ecosystem of southeast Asia cannot be kept isolated. The real meaning of ecocide is unfolded in this little book.

That this is a timely book, meant to stir our consciences, is not in doubt. Yet even after the U.S. withdrawal this book will still be of great value in helping us to assess the effect of an ecocidal war.

*Jack Fishleder*  
University of California  
Berkeley

**THE ANTARCTIC**, by H. G. R. King. Arco Publishing Co., New York. 1970. 276 p. \$9.95.

As information officer of the Scott Polar Research Institute, of Cambridge, England, the author brings an updated viewpoint of the scientific and political significance of the Antarctic. The continent has been a place of mystery since its discovery, and the blending of historical and political aspects in a scientific book is refreshing. The signing of the historic, 12-nation Antarctic Treaty (1959) set aside territorial claims for the present and guaranteed the use of

Antarctica for peaceful purposes. This treaty brought cooperation between nations at work on major scientific problems; perhaps this can be extended to other parts of Spaceship Earth. The spectrum of topics is vast: from upper-atmosphere physics to plankton studies, and from the formation of ice and snow to the ways man has modified his personal environment to survive in a land of almost unimaginable severity.

The style is occasionally a bit heavy, but on the whole the book is very readable. (One might question the need for conversion tables for temperature and linear measurements in an otherwise modern book.) This is an exciting adventure story for the general reader and a source of historical and scientific data for the teacher or student. It is well illustrated with tables, line drawings, and a large collection of photographs (67 in color). Four appendices give the Antarctic Treaty, a list of stations operating in the Antarctic, the organization of Antarctic research, and a guide to further readings.

*John E. Butler*  
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**OMEGA: MURDER OF THE ECOSYSTEM AND SUICIDE OF MAN**, ed. by Paul K. Anderson. 1971. William C. Brown Co., Dubuque, Iowa. 447 p. \$5.95 (softback).

This anthology of environmental damage contains selections from poets and scientists. The authors are well known, the selections well written. They are so convincing as to leave the reader with a feeling of hopelessness for man's future. An uncritical reader may get the impression that man may as well give up now—that the human species will be unable to survive on earth for more than a few decades, whatever attempts are made to improve his condition.

Anderson introduces each chapter with facts about the topic and with questions that the selections may help to answer. Often these questions are answered by Anderson himself in his introductions. A list of acknowledgments gives sources from which selections are reprinted, but there is no identification of the source of the particular selection: I found it frustrating not to know whether a selection came from *Science* or *Saturday Review*. Some of the more technical selections include