Appendix H
Glossary Terms and Acronyms

ACL (Allowable Cabin Load)
Payload of aircraft. Calculations based upon take-off (wheels/skis), landing restrictions, range, weather, fuel requirements, etc.

Airdrop
Method of delivering supplies by parachute from an aircraft in flight.

Apple (a.k.a. Tomato or Melon)
Structure or shelter made of red colored fiberglass, helicopter-transportable, segmented, and expandable (longer in length). Manufactured by Igloo Satellite Cabin in Australia.

Bag Drag
In preparation for field deployment, all passengers must weigh in with their baggage to accurately determine aircraft load. Usually held a few hours before the scheduled departure.

Beaker
Vernacular for scientist.

Berg Field Center (BFC)
Building 160 (also known as the Field Party Processing
Center). The central location for issues of field equipment such as tents, sleds, sleeping bags, etc.

**Bumped**
Referring to cargo or passengers that is/are removed from a flight due to weight restrictions or other considerations.

**CDC**
Acronym for the “Clothing Distribution Center” in Christchurch, New Zealand.

**Chalet**
Building 167: the USAP administration and operations center housing the offices of the NSF Representative(s) and ASA Resident Manager, as well as the administrative staff. The central location for referral, information, and assistance to grantees.

**CHC**
Acronym for “Christchurch,” New Zealand (a.k.a. “Cheech” or “Chi-Chi”).

**CONUS**
Acronym for the Continental United States.

**Crack**
A fissure or fracture in the sea ice produced by the stresses of wind, wave, tidal, mechanical, or thermal forces.

**Crary Lab**
Housed in Building 001, this is the scientific facility
operated by ASA. Also known as CSEC (Crary Science and Engineering Center)

**Dive Locker**
Located in Building 144. It houses research diving equipment for issue, including an air compressor for filling scuba tanks.

**DNF**
Acronym for “Do Not Freeze.”

**ECW Clothing**
Acronym for “Extreme Cold Weather” Clothing.

**FAA**
Acronym for “First Available Aircraft.”

**Field Camps**
A fixed location used as a base camp for the pursuit of various scientific endeavors. It often includes such amenities as a toilet, heated shelter, etc.

**Field Party**
A group of researchers pursuing their scientific interests in the field.

**Fish Hut**
A temporary movable shelter used on the sea ice.

**Fixed-Wing**
Describes aircraft such as the LC-130 Hercules or DHC-6/300 Twin-Otter, as opposed to rotary-wing aircraft, which are helicopters.
Flagged Route
A marked route that has been determined safe for vehicle travel by qualified personnel.

FOCC
Acronym for “Field Operation Communications Center” (referred to on the radio as “Mac Ops”).

Freshies
Vernacular for fresh fruit or vegetables.

FSTP (F-Stop)
Acronym for the “Field Safety Training Program,” which is a series of training courses emphasizing survival in the field.

HazMats (Hazardous Materials)
Any and all explosives, flammable liquids and solids, oxidizers, organic peroxides, corrosive materials, compressed gases, poisons, irritating materials, etiologic agents, radioactive materials, and other regulated materials. These items require proper packaging and certification prior to air transport, and may have passenger or other cargo compatibility limitations.

Herbie
Term used to describe a storm with fierce, blowing wind and/or snow, causing outdoor activities to be unpleasant.

Herc or Hercules
Turbo-prop, wheeled cargo aircraft (LC-130), or ski-equipped (LC-130) cargo aircraft.
Hourlies
Pertains to communicating local weather observations every 60 minutes, beginning 6 hours prior to scheduled aircraft departure and recurring “hourly” until after the aircraft lands.

Ice Edge
The boundary between sea ice and open sea at any given time and place.

Jamesway
A portable, rigid-frame, insulated tent similar to a small quonset hut. Can be built to any length, though height and width are fixed.

Jerry Cans
Military 5-gallon containers used to transport liquids such as fuel, oil, or glycol. Jerry cans are not suitable for air transport of flammable liquids.

JP-8
Type of fuel used for aircraft and in diesel applications such as generators, Caterpillar equipment, and Preways. This “single-fuel” replaces JP-4 (for aircraft use only) and DFA (Diesel Fuel, Arctic).

Kilo Air
A method of cargo shipment using surface vessels from Port Hueneme, CA, to New Zealand, then delivered to McMurdo Station by air.

Kovacs Auger
An ice auger used to drill small-diameter holes in the sea ice to determine ice thickness.
Mac Center
Located in Building 165, the air traffic control, flight following, and weather information facility.

Mac Channel
Regularly scheduled trans-Pacific military cargo flights.

Mac Ops
Call sign for the Field Operation Communications Center.

MCC or MCC Central
Acronym for the “Movement Control Center” Terminal Operations cargo facility in McMurdo staffed by ASA and New Zealand Army personnel.

MEC
Acronym for the “Mechanical Equipment Center” in Building 58. The MEC is the issue point for small generators, snowmobiles, batteries, light vehicles, etc. MEC staff prefer to be called MECCA.

Melt Pool
An area on the ice sheet that has sub-surface melting. An ice lens is usually present over the meltwater, giving the impression that it is solid. Many factors, including the amount of wind-borne dust from around McMurdo and ablation of snow cover caused by vehicle traffic, increases the solar absorption on the sea ice in front of McMurdo and immediately north of Hut Point. This area has historically deteriorated first and rapidly. Ice at outlying locations may be substantially better.
Mogas
Acronym for “Motor Automotive Gasoline.”

NSFA
Acronym for “Naval Support Force, Antarctica.”

OAE
Acronym for “Old Antarctic Explorer;” title given to program veterans.

OEA
Acronym for “Oil, Engine, Arctic.” A type of extreme cold weather engine lubricating oil.

Pallet
A portable platform used for handling/moving materials and packages. The pallets used for LC-130’s are made of aluminum and balsa wood, designated by the military as 463L pallets, and lock into place on the cargo deck.

Palletize
To place onto a pallet. Typically, for an LC-130 field operation, all outgoing cargo is palletized. For larger field camps, all camp materials are gathered and staged at a central location, then palletized all at once in a cooperative “palletization party.”

Pax
Vernacular for passengers.

PI
Acronym for the “Principal Investigator.” The senior representative of a science group.
**Polarhaven**
Tent-type shelter with a framework of aluminum tubing and insulated fabric cover, with either an insulated fabric or wood floor.

**Pressure Ridge**
Ice broken by pressure and thrust up into a chaotic pattern of elevations and depressions.

**Preway**
Non-portable type of space heater that uses JP-8 for fuel. Typically used to heat Jamesways and fish huts.

**Purging Fuel**
Either a diesel or kerosene fuel with a flashpoint above 141° that is used to rinse more flammable fuels out of containers and power equipment.

**Recce**
Aerial reconnaissance. Performed by LC-130 aircraft when a potential landing site for put-in may be questionable. Some researchers take advantage of the recce flight to view areas of investigation to determine safe traverse routes, and/or to airdrop materials and supplies to reduce the put-in flight’s cargo weight.

**Recompression Chamber**
Housed in Building 85 which adjoins NSFA Medical (Building 142). It houses a chamber for treatment of pressure-related diving accidents and other conditions where hyperbaric oxygen therapy is indicated, such as carbon monoxide poisoning, gas gangrene, etc.
**Retrograde**
To return cargo from the field to McMurdo Station, or from McMurdo to destinations North. Usually in the reverse order of its initial deployment.

**Sastrugi**
Hard drifts of wind-carved snow. These drifts can reach 6 feet tall, and accordingly can affect overland travel.

**Sea Ice**
Ice which forms on the surface of the sea in polar ocean areas.

**Shakedown**
An overnight trip to test equipment, radios, sleds, snowmobiles, tents, etc. prior to deep-field deployment.

**Sipre Auger**
An ice-coring auger used to sample sea ice to determine its composition.

**Space A**
Acronym for “Space Available.” Refers to the program of allowing personnel (equitable between military and civilian) to use available aircraft space for a turn-around flight to South Pole or for a helicopter excursion.

**Squirrel**
Aerospatiale AS-350B helicopter, this is a sub-contracted helicopter that provides occasional support to the USAP.
Starlifter
Wheeled jet aircraft operated by the U.S. Air Force used for cargo deliveries from Christchurch, N.Z., to McMurdo during early summer operations; usually early October to mid-November, as well as Mac Channel missions. Also known as a C-141.

Tidal Crack
Tidal cracks occur in fast ice when the tidal action lifts the sea ice above or below the level at which it is shorebound.

T-Site
A transmitter facility operated by the Electronics Division. It is located on a hill between McMurdo and Scott Base.

VFR

WINFLY
Vernacular for the winter fly-in. Early season operations commence in mid-August, primarily to bring in support personnel to the Antarctic in preparation of the coming season.

Winter-Over
Vernacular for the period from late February to early August. It’s characterized by darkness and an absence of flight operations.