

Waite, (Bud) Amory, H. *1902-1985* W2ZK - W1TR - W3HKO - A lot has been written about this explorer, electronic expert and radioman. But herewith we try our little tribute. Born 1902 in Newton, Mass. Back then young Bud was self taught in the electricity field by enjoying library books. Bud said “I got hooked on radio when I met a Navy radio operator and saw him operate his wireless set. This led me to enlist in the Navy for four years in World War I from 1919-1923.”

Educated at Lowell Institute, MIT, 1926 - assisted in the building of the first State Police Radio Station in Mass., 1927 - Mass National Guard 1925-1934. Chief operator of first TV station in Boston 1929-1933 - Member of Admiral Byrd Antarctic expedition, to rescue Admiral Byrd in 1934; Served in World War two, 1939-1945; Radio engineer in charge of the US Army Signal Corps Arctic and Antarctic research teams, undertaking 23 polar expeditions from 1946-1955. Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society 1962-1980.

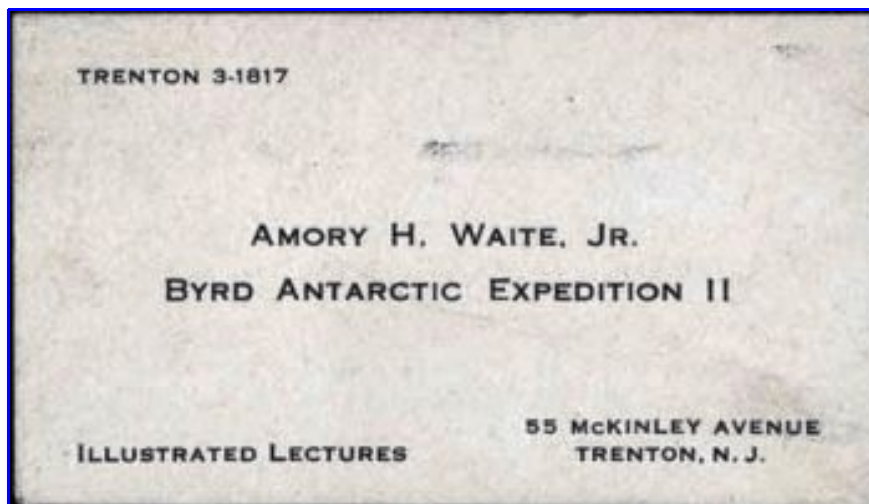
The thing that impresses me so much is this man was his participation in rescue crew that found Admiral Richard Byrd and treated him for carbon monoxide poisoning from a malfunctioning oil heater. The 1934 Byrd rescue location was Bolling Advance Weather Base which was 100 miles south of Little America base on the Ross Ice Shelf. The rescue participants received a special congressional medal. After two unsuccessful attempts by Citroen tractor the rescue party finally found Admiral Byrd so weak they doubted he would survive. Yet, it wasn't his time to go. It is thought this ordeal may have caused Byrd's early demise.



Our polar VIP explorer has his name in antiquity. He will be remembered for at least two locations named after him in the Antarctic Continent. First, the Waite Islands and Antarctic Cape Waite. Then with civilian service in WW2 he and W2VC Vic Colaguori were awarded the Bronze Star by President Harry Truman for their technical efforts in the D-Day invasion communications network.

After retirement in 1965, Mr Waite became a sought after lecturer and was based out of one of my favorite places - Trenton, N.J.

We can view and listen to W2ZK via the internet today during one of his lectures recorded for us to enjoy for all time, see www.antarctican.org It was said by Philip



Petersen that he heard Bud say, “I die serene with the memories of my adventures.” Amory Waite Jr. died January of 1985. Mr Waite's many contributions to Polar Science included the first successful measurements of ice thickness using radio waves. K8CX QSL card. W8SU 2010