

History and Evolution of the Names of the Bays of the Sea of Japan (Northwest Sea Coast: Olga, Rynda, Udobnaya, Serebryanka, Russkaya, Zholtaya)

Evgeny Suvorov

(Russian Geographic Society, Russia)

The discovery and study of the Northwest seacoast of the Sea of Japan started since the end 18th century. In June of 1787, French traveler Laperouse described three bays. He named them with the names of a French Naval Commanders. They were: de Terney, de Suffren, and states man de Castre (now according to Russkaya, Joltaya and Chihacheva). The V.K. Arseniev information of 1906 about the Laperouse's discovery of bay, later named Olga, didn't get any cartographic and other documentary confirmations of the French investigator. There are several versions of the discovery and of the names of the Olga-bay. The three of them contend that the Olga-bay was discovered in 1854 (V. Arseniev), in 1855(A. Gruzdev) and in 1857 (G. Nevelskoy), by Russian seamen. The fourth (J.M. Tronson) contend that it was discovered by British seamen in 1855 and was named by the name of admiral Michael Seymour Port Seymour. The bay with a modern name Rynda which consists of two bays Jigit and Platoon, also have several historical versions of their names. According to Gruzdev's information of 1996, Platoon was mapped in 1855, by crews of a British frigate Pique and of a French frigate Sibylle. In 1859, the bay was described by the crew of frigate Platoon, and named in it s honor. In 1874, L. Bolshev mentioned the Rynda bay as

Plastoon. In 1894, A. Kirillov named Plastoon with the name of British frigate Sivylle. In 1897, A. Novakovskiy mentioned that Plastoon consisted of two bays. One of them, South one, was named Plastoon or Sibylle, and another one, North bay, was named Jigit or Pique. In 1888, this bay with a two more bays was named Rynda.

There was a very confusing story with the original location of the Jigit bay. One of the versions says, that the first person who described in 1796 and discovered this bay, named it Bullok, was a British navigator W. Broughton. After that, the bay was showed in the places of modern Terney (Serebryanka) bay and Coumbe (Udobnaya).

In 1874, as a result of a topographic mistake the vast Terney bay was carried South - ward, in slight coastal deepening with issue of Sangebey (Serebryanka). The real Terney bay was named Tavaisa. In 1972, the Terney bay and Tavaisa bay were renamed as the Serebryanka bay and Russkaya bay. In 1874, the Russian topographic expedition didn't find the bay Suffren and mapped the Adami bay on its place with issue of Adami river later the river was named Adimi. In 1972, the river and the bay were renamed as Zholtaya. The etiology of the geographic names of the seacoast is the inalienable part of the history of the Sea of Japan pelagonim.