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NUUSBRIEF

11 APR 1984

WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE 'RED TAXI' (S.A. AGULHAS) NEXT MONTH, THE TIME HAS ARRIVED FOR THE ANNUAL CLEANING OF THE CATWALKS AND BASE. AFTER THE PRELIMINARY AND COMPULSORY MOANING (IN WHICH EVERYONE INDULGED WHOLEHEARTEDLY) THE TASK WAS TACKLED WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM. AT CERTAIN CATWALKS MEN WERE SEEN STRIPPED DOWN TO THE WAIST WHILE THE 'BEACH BOYS' SANG PRAISE TO BRONZED NYMPHS ON FARAWAY BEACHES FROM BATTERED CASSETTE PLAYERS. VISITS TO OTHER CATWALKS LED TO A DEFINATE VOCABULARY ENRICHMENT. VISITS TO YET OTHER CATWALKS LED TO AN EXTENDTION IN ONE'S FASHION CONSCIOUSNESS. JACO 'GURU' WIUM MADE SOME DARING FASHION STATEMENTS WITH HIS AUTUMN CATWALK WARDROBE. HAIRY

KNEES PEEPING OUT BETWEEN OVERSIZED BAGGIES AND LONG WOOLEN SOCKS WITH TATTERED TAKKIES ARE DEFINATELY IN.

THE 4TH OF MARCH SAW THE CELEBRATION OF PIET 'WIELETJIES' PIETERSE'S BIRTHDAY. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING WAS A POWERFUL SPEECH DELIVERED BY PIET 'WIELETJIES' ENTITLED, 'DIE LANG HARDE PAD WAT EK AL GESTAP HET, EN WAT JULLE JONG MANNE NOG MOET STAP'. AN INSPIRATIONAL PIECE OF ORATORY, SURPASSED ONLY BY HIS BRIEF ENGLISH UTTERANCES DURING THE VISIT OF OUR GERMAN FRIENDS OF THE YACHT FREYDIS. BUT IN THE WORDS OF SHAKESPEARE 'TWIX FRIENDS LIKE US, FEW WORDS SUFFICE'.

DIE 17DE MAART IS ALMAL SAK EN PAK AF NA DIE OU ROBJAGTERSROT 'LA GRANGE' WAT OP DIE STRAND ONDERKANT DIE BASIS GELEE IS. GEWAPEN SLEGS MET SOETWYN EN SLAAPSAK IS DIE KOUE NAG GETROTSEER, WANT 'SAILOR' (DEON) MOET MOS LANGS DIE SEE VERJAAR. WEENS DIE AFWESIGHEID VAN KOEKMEELBLOM MOES SAILOR MAAR TEVREDE WEES MET N KLAARGBAKTE-EENKERS-VRUGTEKOEK WAT SORGVULDIG DEUR HANS OP N SKINKBORD AFGEDRA IS. DIE BITTEREINDERS WAT DIE REEN EN KOUE KON VERDUUR IS EGTER BELOON MET N NAGTELIKE BESOEK VAN MOORDWALVISSE EN N FRAGTIGE SONOPKOMS.

DIE ONVERKLAARBARE VERDWYNING VAN BILTONG UIT DIE BILTONGKAMER HET DIE MAAND, SOOS IN DIE GEVAL VAN VORIGE MAANDE, WEEREENS N WEEKLIKSE VERSKYNING GERAAK. DIE SKIELIKE VERSKYNING VAN NETJIESE PLEISTERS OM VERAL BRIAN EN JACO 'MOOSE' SE REGTER DUIME DUI EGTER DAAROP DAT DIE PROBLEEM MOONTLIK BINNE DIE VOLGENDE MAAND OPGELOS SAL WORD. DIT IS TEVERSTANE DAT N JOHANNESBURGER NIE GEWOOND DAARAAN IS OM N MES VIR BILTONG SNY TE GEBRUIK NIE, MAAR N MENS KAN NET LAG AS N TROTSE VRYSTATER SY VERDUIDELIKING VIR DIE NETJIESE PLEISTER OM SY DUIM GEE.

WITHIN THE FIRST WEEK OF THIS MONTH THE BIRDMAN OBSERVED THE FIRST LITTLE BEAKS OF THE WANDERING ALBATROSS CHICKS PEEPING OUT OF THIER EGGS. SOON AFTER THIS SCRAGGLY BALLS OF FLUFF WERE SEEN SNUGGLING WARMLY UNDER THE BROODING WANDERING ALBATROSS ADULTS. IT IS WITH WONDER THAT WE TRY TO IMAGINE THESE GAWKY LITTLE CHICKS WITH OVERSIZED HEADS AND UNDERSIZED WINGS, DEVELOPING INTO THE PRINCE OF FLIERS, SOARING WITH UNEQUALLED GACE ON A NINE FOOT WING SPAN. THE ARRIVAL OF OUR ALBATROSS CHICKS HOWEVER SAW THE FLEDGING OF THE ROCKHOPPER AND MACARONI PENGUIN CHICKS. THE ADULTS OF THESE SPECIES HAVE ALSO LEFT THE ISLAND TO FATTEN UP BEFORE RETURNING TO THE ISLAND TO MOULT. AFTER CONSTANTLY HEARING THE HARSH BRAYING SOUND OF THOUSANDS OF PENGUINS FOR SIX MONTHS, THE ISLAND IS NOW FILLED WITH AN UNACCUSTOMED SILENCE.

NOG N HOOGSTEPUNT VAN DIE MAAND WAS BESLIË DIE BESOEK VAN N PAAR  
SPANLEDE AAN STAATPRESIDENT SWART PIEK WAT 1230 METER BO DIE OSEAN  
UITTORING ASOOK DIE ANNGRENSENDE YSPLETO. DIT WAS VERAL DIE SKOONHEID  
VAN DIE GLETSEY YSGROTTE WAT DIE KAMERAS EN JAY SE MINOLTA OORTYD LAAT  
WERK HET. N GROOT TELEURSTELLING VIR N PAAR FEESVIERENDE MANNE OP DIE  
PIEK WAS EGTER TOE ONS HOOR SHORTY HET HALFPAD MET SJAMPANJE EN AL  
TERUG GEDRAAI BASIS TOE EN ONS GEVOLGLIK NET MET WATER GELAAT IS.

AS WINDCHILL TEMPRETURES PLUMMETED TO 13 DEGREES BELOW FREEZING AND  
THE MOUNTAIN AGAIN DONNED HER WHITE WINTER CLOAK IT CAME TO OUR  
REALIZATION THAT, IN THE WORDS OF KOOS DU PLESSIS (SOUTH AFRICAN POET  
AND SONG WRITER), 'ONS SOMER IS VERBY.' THE SEAS HAVE TURNED A FULL  
CYCLE SINCE OUR ARRIVAL, AND WHAT WILL ALWAYS BE A FAVORITE CHAPTER IN  
THE MEMORIES OF THE MEMBERS OF MARION 50 IS DRAWING TO A CLOSE. BAIE  
DANKIE AAN DIE GELIEFDES TUIS WAT DIE JAAR NOG MEER OPGEKIKKER HET MET  
N KONSTANTE VLOEI VAN BRIEWE NA DIE SUIDE.

OP SOMMING VAN MAART SE WEER:  
GEM. TEMP. 7.8 GRADE C  
GEM. VOG 77 PERSENT  
TOTALE REEN VIR MAART 170MM  
MAKS. WINDSTOOT 120KM PER UUR

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