

## ANTARKTIESE BULLETIN

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## **REDAKSIONEEL – EDITORIAL**

It was with much regret that the Association received the resignation of Dr. André van der Merwe as editor of the *Bulletin*. He took over from Dr. J. J. Taljaard in March, 1966 and the effort that was put into the task is evident in the last eleven issues. The standard of the *Bulletin* has steadily improved and today it provides a wealth of information on past South African Antarctic activity. His pen has been responsible for an enormous amount of the information published in the *Bulletin*.

Dr. van der Merwe was a member of SANAE 1 in 1960 and of the 1967/1968 South African—Belgian summer expedition. He is also co-ordinator of the physiological programme and has maintained a steady interest in Antarctic organizations. Recently he completed writing a book on Antarctica entitled *Die Wit Horison*. It covers his trips down south, the ice conditions encountered, animal life on land and at sea and the life of people in Antarctica. He also discusses the impression that Antarctica makes on people who have wintered there. A review of the book will appear in the next issue of the *Bulletin*. As this is the first book on Antarctica written by a South African, it should find its way onto many a bookshelf in South African homes.

Thank you very much, Dr. van der Merwe for your services to the *Bulletin* and to South African Antarctic organizations.

## Summer Expedition 1968 and SANAE IX

mv. R.S.A.

- 1. Special problems for this season as a departure from the normal run as in previous years were:
  - (A) Loading of two aircraft in mv. R.S.A. (1) A Cessna was removed from its shipping crate and stowed in the hangar on the Helideck. Great care had to be exercised in slinging the fuselage due to its fragile nature. The wings were stowed separately in their special frame also in the hangar. (2) An Otter had to be carried in its crate on the foredeck across number two hatch. This crate had a total weight of eleven tons and was forty-two feet in length by fifteen high and twelve wide. A special platform had to be constructed over the fore part of number two hatch and over the deck on each side of the hatch from ship to ship side. Note: The R.S.A. is forty-two feet in the beam! After construction of the platform the case was landed aboard by the floating crane. The case was then very carefully lashed down as rolling is always encountered on voyages down south.

K. T. McNISH, Master

(B) Separate stowage for all Summer Expedition cargo was arranged in number two tween deck and for aviation fuel in number one tween deck.

> R.S.A. next to the bay-ice at Muskegbukta 1968. Photo: D. Neethling.

