

ZCZC 010 01621  
AAHQ16 FAME 070200  
MP 713

M44/544

07/03/88

NEWSLETTER - MARION I LAND  
FEBRUARY

THERE IS A TIME FOR EVERYTHING, AND A SEASON FOR EVERY ACTIVITY UNDER HEAVEN: A TIME TO BE BORN AND A TIME TO DIE, ...A TIME TO WEEP AND A TIME TO LAUGH, ...A TIME TO BE SILENT AND A TIME TO SPEAK... (ECCLESIAST T T C QAIL

AND SO OUTTIME OF PEACEFUL BLISS ON THIS DYLLIC SCRAP OF LAND HALFWAY FROM NOWHERE TO THERE IS VERY QUICKLY COMING TO AN END, AND IT WILL SOON BE TIME TO REJOIN THE RATRACE: SOME IN MARRIAGE, SOME IN NEW HOMES, SOME IN FURTHER STUDIES, OTHERS IN JUST JOLLING. ALREADY THE FIRST EVIDENCE OF AN IMMINENT FAREWELL TO FAST FRIENDS IS VISIBLE IN THE BOOKS AND BUOYS BEING

D FOR SIGNATURES, SSED A  
ALL OVER BASE KOSKASSIES AND TROMMELS ARE BEING PACKED AND SEALED, READY FOR DEPORTATION, ACCOMODATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE APRIL 88 TAKE-OVER (WHICH IS JUST A HYPOBOLIC TERM FOR THE HIDEOUS CRIME OF ATTEMPTING TO TERMINATE THE 44TH MARION EXPEDITION) ARE UNDERWAY. EVEN THE WEATHER SEEMS TO HAVE SENSED THE TERRIBLE LOSS THE ISLAND IS SOON TO SUFFER: SHE IS RUNNING AMOK IN CONFUSION, ONE DAY FREEZING OUR BODIES TO THE BONE MARROW AND SNOWING THE MOUNTAINS UNDER IN HER DESPAIR, AND THE NEXT FRYING US IN THE HEAT OF HER ANGER. INDEED, BASE SUFFERED UNDER A SWELTE RING 19,4 DEGREES ON THE 19TH, THE HIGHEST RECORDED SINCE JANUARY 1986.

IN MANY OTHER ASPECTS, HOWEVER, LIFE IS CONTINUING MUCH AS NORMAL. ANDRE M AND CHRIS ARE ON ANOTHER SIGHTSEEING AND PHOTOGRAPHIC TRIP AROUND THE ISLAND. DEON AND NICO ORGANIZING A DIVING EXPEDITION TO TRYPOT BEACH TO VIEW KING PENGUINS AND FUR SEALS AT CLOSE RANGE IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT

FRANKO BRIBING INNOCENT  
TEAM MEMBERS INTO HARD MANUAL LABO CLEANING UP AFTER THE MET- KASSIES AT BOLUG, PROFESSIONAL REPAINTING OF THE KITCHEN, PANTRY AND DININGROOM BY THE BASE BOUND MEMBERS (LEAVING ONLY A COUPLE OF STUBBORN, IRREMOVABLE SPILT MILK PUDDLES - A HEADACHE FOR THE MYOPIC KITCHEN SKIVVY), YOURS TRULY MANAGING TO CRAWL TO THE HIGHEST POINT ON THE ISLAND AND, OF COURSE, THE CONTINUAL, NEVER-ENDING HUNTING. THE 150 MARK WAS REACHED SIMULTANEOUS WITH A.J. S BIRTHDAY, AND IF YOU VE EVER BEEN TO MARION YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO IMAGINE THE PARTY THAT RESULTED (IT S OKAY, LET YOUR IMAGINATION RUN WILD) THE -THEME WAS PIRATICAL IN NATURE, BUT WHAT EMERGED WAS A FAR CRY BEYOND ANY SEAFARING MARAUDERS. IMAGINE A.J. (OR WAS IT?) RECEIVING A MAGNIFICENT WOOD-CARVED PLAQUE (CREATD BY GARY) WITH BEER FROTHING FROM HIS NOSTRILS (PIRATES DON T CRY). TAUNTING HIM UNMERCIFULLY WAS GEORG, HIS RATHER STIFF NECKED PARROT SWAYING DANGEROUSLY WITH EVERY MOVEMENT OF HIS HOOK (WHICH SERVED WELL IN HOLDING EITHER SIGARETTE OR GLASS). BUT THEN, TOTALLY OUT OF PLACE (ON A PIRATE SHIP OR ON THE ISLAND) CAME THIS GORGEOUS, WELL SHAPED, SLIGHTLY TIPSY ...? ... PIRATESS. SHE QUICKLY WON EVERY MAN OVER AND BECAME A FAVOURITE DANCING PARTNER WITH ALL. BETA, HOWEVER, WAS ON THE SHY SIDE, AS HE NEVER APPEARED ALL EVENING. HE ONLY EMERGED THE FOLLOWING MORNING WITH KOKI SMUDGES ON BOTH EYES AND LIPS...

THE OTHER HIGHLIGHT ON THE SOCIAL CALENDER WAS THE 1988 CANS FILM FESTIVAL ON THE 27TH. A COLOURFUL MESSAGE ON THE BLACKBOARD INVITED ONE AND ALL TO ATTEND WITH ADVANCE PAYMENT OF PATRONS BY THE MANAGEMENT (JOHNNY) AS A BACKUP TO INSURE A FULL HOUSE (HE MUST HAVE BEEN CONCERNED OVER THE QUALITY OF THE FILMS). EVENTUALLY THE DOORS WERE OPENED. A RATHER STICKY DOORKEEPER IN THE FORM OF BETA DEMANDED A 50 DOLLAR ENTRANCE FEE (DESPITE A TICKET PRICE OF TEN BUCKS).

PAGE TWO....

GEORG, IN THE WELL CUT LIVERY OF AN USHER, SHOWED US TO OUR SEATS IN THE LAVISHLY DECORATED, THOUGH SLIGHTLY CRAMPED, THEATRE AND WE SETTLED DOWN FOR AN EVENING OF GOOD ENTERTAINMENT. FOLLOWING THE RATHER AMUSING ADVERTS AND SPORT, THE LIGHTS CAME ON FOR INTERMISSION. IMMEDIATELY A BLACK HAIRY OVAMBO WALKED IN CARRYING A TRAY HEAVILY LADEN WITH ICE CREAMS (HIS APPEARANCE REMINDED ONE VAGUELY OF PADDY, WITHOUT WANTING TO SOUND DEROGATORY) THE WOMAN THAT FOLLOWED WAS SQUAT AND BROAD, WITH A BACKSIDE LIKE A MARE AND A HUGE SHAPELESS BOSOM. HER ARMS WERE THICK AND MUSCULAR AS A MAN'S AND IN HER GREAT PAWS SHE HELD A TRAY WITH CHIPS AND CHOCOLATES. HER VOICE WAS ROUGH, BUT WITH THE SAME QUALITY PECULIAR TO THE SHONES (SHE MUST HAVE BEEN A RELATIVE OF RORY) WE CALLED HER MAVIS. THE REFRESHMENTS WERE DELICIOUS, THOUGH SLIGHTLY OVERPRICED. THEN THE MOVIES WENT ON... AND THE JEERS AND MOANS STARTED. IT WAS TERRIBLE. THE PROGRAMME HAD BEEN MADE UP WITH THE WORST MOVIES ON THE ISLAND. ONLY A COUPLE OF MULES MANAGED TO LAST TO THE END, WHEN IT WAS THE MANAGEMENT WHO COULD NOT TAKE IT ANY LONGER AND PACKED UP. NONETHELESS, I OVERHEARD MANY A BLEARY-EYED CHAP REMARK WHAT FUN IT HAD BEEN AFTERWARDS.

ON THE AVIAN FRONT MOST OF THE PARENTS HAVE MANAGED TO RID THEMSELVES OF THEIR VERY DEMANDING YOUNG. THE WANDERER YOUNGSTERS HAVE MOSTLY TAKEN TO THE AIR BY NOW AS HAVE MOST OF THE SKUA CHICKS, THOUGH THERE REMAIN THE FEW STUBBORN ONE WHO STILL HANG AROUND THEIR PARENTS WHISTLING INCESSANTLY WHEEDLING FOR FOOD. THE G.P. CHICKS HAVE ALL FLEDGED AND IT WILL BE ABOUT FIVE YEARS BEFORE THEY RETURN TO THE ISLAND FROM THE SEA. AMONG THE PENGUINS, THE ROCKY AND MACCI CHICKS ARE ALSO EXCHANGING FLUFF FOR FEATHER. THE KING PENGUINS ARE EVENTUALLY SEEING THE FRUIT OF THE UNFLAGGING PATIENCE AS THE EGGS ARE HATCHING. EVERY PHOTOGRAPHER ON THE ISLAND IS ABUZZ WITH THE NEW ATTRACTION OF A KING CHICK PERCHED ON ITS PARENTS FEET.

THE FUR SEAL PUPS HAVE MANAGED TO ESCAPE THEIR PARENTS AND ARE PLAYFULLY SPLASHING AROUND IN THE SHALLOWS OF THE DAMS JUST LIKE LITTLE KIDS, OR LAZING AROUND IN THE SUN LIKE ANCIENT CRONES. MANY OF THE ELEPHANT SEALS HAVE RETURNED TO THE BEACHES, AS ONE CHAP PUT IT, TO ENSURE THAT THEIR PICTURES ARE TAKEN.

JUG HAS MANAGED TO KEEP HIMSELF PRETTY MUCH OCCUPIED THIS MONTH. WITH MARCEL'S ASSISTANCE, HE MANAGED TO RING 220 WANDERING ALBATROSSES IN TWO DAYS. HE HAS BEEN MAPPING THE NEST POSITIONS OF THESE BIRDS TOO. BESIDES THIS, HE HAS COMPLETED FOOD SAMPLING OF THE PENGUINS AND IS CONTINUING THE MONITORING OF HIS STUDY COLONIES.

IAN AND JACO HAVE ALSO BEEN CONTINUING THEIR SEAL CENSUS ON A REPETITIVE TEN DAY CYCLE. JACO IS AT PRESENT ENJOYING A SOLO TRIP AROUND THE ISLAND COLLECTING TEETH FROM THE FEW FUR SEAL CARCASSES FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES.

STEVE C AND JAN HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD AS ALWAYS, GIVING THE LITTLE BUGS THEIR UNDIVIDED AND LOVING ATTENTION. (WHO NEEDS WOMEN?) STEVE HAS RECENTLY SPOTTED A BLOWFLY (BLUEBOTTLE) ON AN ELEPHANT SEAL CARCASS AT SHIP'S COVE, AND IS HOPING TO TRAP IT, AS THEY ARE NOT COMMONLY FOUND HERE.

IN CONCLUSION IT APPEARS AS IF EVERYONE IS DEFINITELY DOING THEIR UTMOST TO MAKE THE LAST MONTHS BEFORE THE SHIP RETURNS AS UNFORGETTABLE AS IN THE FIRST - NOT VERY DIFFICULT IN MY OPINION.

DO YOU NOT KNOW? HAVE YOU NOT HEARD? THE LORD IS THE EVERLASTING GOD, THE CREATOR OF THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

HE WILL NOT GROW TIRED OR WEARY, AND HIS UNDERSTANDING NO ONE CAN FATHOM.

HE GIVES STRENGTH TO THE WEARY AND INCREASES THE POWER OF THE WEAK.

EVEN YOUTHS GROW TIRED AND WEARY, AND YOUNG MEN STUMBLE AND FALL, BUT THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD WILL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH. THEY WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES, THEY WILL RUN AND NOT GROW WEARY, THEY WILL WALK AND NOT BE FAINT.  
(ISAIAH 40: 28-31)

WEATHER DATA - FEBRUARY 1988

-----  
BIGGEST TEMP.....19,4 DEGREES  
LOWEST TEMP.....0,3 DEGREES  
AVERAGE TEMP.....8 1 DEGREES  
AVERAGE SEA TEMP.....7,0 DEGREES  
AVERAGE SUNSHINE PER DAY.....6,2 HOURS  
TOTAL RAINFALL.....164,7 MM  
HIGHEST WINDSPEED.....169,6 KM/H

NEWS LETTER BY: FRANK VREDE  
WEATHER DATA BY: FRANK SOKOLIC