

GP-S.

11-011
CHIEF OF THE
NAVY, GP10

Rekord-omslag.

DEFENCE

Department

Record Cover.

Department

Léer No.

File No.

CL 29/30

Onderwerp
Subject

MARION AND GOUGH ISLANDS EXP
1956

Léer No.

File No.

Referensies:
Reference:

ARGIEF	Vloot HK
GROEP	10
BOUW	11

ARCHIVE	NADEL HQ
GROUP	10
BOX NO	10

Z H A.

UNION OF
SOUTH AFRICA



UNIE VAN
SUID-AFRIKA.



In reply please quote
Verwers in u antwoord asseblief na

No. 3/6

S.A.S. "Transvaal",
AT SEA.
19th., June, 1956.

Port Goods Superintendent,
No. 1 South Arm,
Table Bay Harbour,
CAPE TOWN.

Officer Commanding,
COASTAL COMMAND

for information. Your
CC29/30 d.d. 11/6/56 refers.

SHEEP TO GOUGH ISLAND.

Delivery Sheets numbers 4/47626 and 4/1754,
in duplicate, duly completed as requested are returned here-
with.


LIEUTENANT COMMANDER,
OFFICER COMMANDING.

CC29/30

Tel. Address: KUSKOM
Telephone : 7-1171

Officer Commanding,
Coastal Command,
Youngsfield,
P.O. WYNBERG, C.P.

11 June, 1956.

Officer Commanding,
S.A.S. TRANSVAAL.

Port Goods Superintendent, - For information.
No. 1 South Arm,
Table Bay Harbour,
CAPE TOWN.

SHEEP TO MARION ISLAND

The attached documents, relative to the transportation of one ram and five ewes to Marion Island, are to be signed by you and then returned to second addressee at the earliest opportunity.

Sd. M. J. W. KING

Captain, SA Navy
OFFICER COMMANDING : COASTAL COMMAND

/ML.

Encls....

See. Filipina

WHO IS COMING PSE

CAPTAIN

K

GOOD AFTERNOON SIR

THANK YOU FOR PRESS RELEASE .

LATE PETTY OFFICER BOLD JOINED THE ARMY JULY 1941 HAS PENSION RIGHTS FROM APPROXIMATELY JULY 42 DEMOBBED APRIL 46 AND JOINED NAVY 13 JULY 1946 . DO NOT THINK SHE IS VERY WELL OFF BUT WILL INVESTIGATE FINANCIAL SIDE AND LET U KNOW . HE HAS ONLY 23 DAYS VAC LEAVE DUE AM . SOA PRETORIA ESTIMATES THAT HIS WIFES PENSION WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 50% OF HIS PENSINABLE SALARY . THIS LAST JUST OFF THE PRESS OVER

GA SIR JEFFERY HERE

CAPT IS IN WITH NCS AT THE MOMENT . DO U WISH TO SPEAK TO HIM PERSONNELLY OR MAT IMI MAY I JUST HAND THIS IN PSE

OVER

GOOD AFTERNOON JEFF

I ASKED TO SPEAK TO YOU OR CAPT FOUGSTEDT AND YOUR OPERATOR SAID CAPT WAS COMING PLEASE PASS MY MSG TO HIM

THANK YOU

OVER

120805 Z

KUSKOM

C.G.S.

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVCHIEF

Following from Naval Chief of Staff at CAPE TOWN.

- (1) Regret to inform you that during landing of stores at MARION ISLAND by S.A.S. TRANSVAAL on Tuesday 10th No. P10434 Petty Officer BOLD, J.G., was drowned when the 25' motor cutter and 27' whaler capsized.
- (2) The motor cutter was a complete loss. The whaler was seriously damaged and is beached on MARION ISLAND.
- (3) No other casualties.
- (4) Up to the time of the accident 10% of the 65 ton of stores had been landed, together with 53 officers, ratings and civilians from the ship as working party and exchange of Island personnel. Since then bad weather has prevented any further progress.
- (5) It is intended that as soon as weather permits the personnel will be embarked, using TRANSVAAL's only remaining dinghy and the MARION ISLAND's canvas boat after which TRANSVAAL will return to SIMONSTOWN for replacement of boats, fuel and stores and return to complete her mission at MARION.
- (6) The late P.O. BOLD will be buried at sea with full Military honours on ship's voyage to SIMONSTOWN. Time and date will be informed.

Telephone: 21031
Extension: 107
Tel. Add : Navohief

N(Ops)691/102
N(Ops)691/103



Headquarters,
Naval Chief of Staff,
Defence Headquarters,
Pretoria

27th March, 1956

→ Officer Commanding, Coastal Command
Officer Commanding, SAS Transvaal

VISITS TO MARION ISLAND, GOUGH ISLAND AND
TRISTAN DA CUNHA, 1956

To date the following arrangements stand:-

2. Marion Island.

- (a) Depart Durban 5th April. - O.C., Coastal Command to issue sailing orders. Time at discretion of Officer Commanding, SAS Transvaal.
- (b) Passengers etc.- As in my letter of 25th February, ADD Surgeon Lieut. Peurberton, SAN (ACF) in lieu of Medical Officer.
DELETE Sub-Lieut. Lee, SAN (ACF)
- (c) Messing and Accommodation Charges.
 - (i) Civilian personnel 8/10 per diem plus normal Wardroom Extras for Wardroom passengers
 - (ii) Personnel belonging to other Government Departments to be submitted as a separate charge (negat Wardroom Extras) as appendix to Report of Proceedings.
 - (iii) Remainder to be collected and redeposited. Expenditure Receipt number to be submitted
- (d) Indemnity Certificates. - See my letter of 29th February, 1956.
- (e) Stores - A comprehensive list of all service stores expended on behalf of the Department of Transport, lost etc., as a direct result of operations at Marion Island to be submitted
- (f) Fuel, Lubricants - The total of fuel, lubricant, etc. used between Durban - Marion - Cape Town to be submitted.
- (g) Operational Priorities.
 - (i) Offload stores
 - (ii) Change Over personnel
 - (iii) Landing personnel for inspections etc.
 - (iv) Erection of Navigational Light. (My letter to Secretary for Transport of 8th March, 1956)
 - (v) Any other requirements of Department of Transport officials.
- (h) Return Date - To arrive Cape Town as close to 19th April as weather conditions and object of the operation allow.

See cc 27/4.

3. Gough and Tristan Islands

- (a) Depart Cape Town. - Not earlier than 26th April but this can be adjusted if 2(h) is later than 19th April to allow for any defects to be made good. For Sailing Orders and time see 2(a).
- (b) Passengers etc. As in my letters dated 25th and 29th February, 1956, and my 270930Z/Feb and 270935Z/Feb.
- (i) Lieut. K.B. McMillan, SAMC, in lieu of Surgeon Lieut. Pemberton, SAN (ACF).
- (ii) DELETE Sub-Lieut. Lee, SAN (ACF)
- (iii) Tristan - Gough - Tristan. ADD Administrator of Tristan and Agricultural Officer, Tristan
- (iv) Tristan - Cape Town - ADD Mrs. Fawcett (wife of M.O., Tristan) and two children
- (c) Messing and Accommodation Charges. - As in para 2(c)
- (d) Indemnity Certificates - See my letter of 29th February 1956
- (e) Stores - A comprehensive list of all service stores expended or lost as a result of operations on behalf of the Department of Transport, British Government (Tristan officials), Gough Island Scientific Survey Expedition and Tristan Island Development Corporation, is to be submitted as separate schedules in each case.
- (f) Fuel, Lubricants - The total of fuel, lubricants, etc. used between Gough - Tristan - Gough ONLY are to be submitted.
- (g) Operational Priorities.
- Outward Passage - Tristan
- (i) Land and embark personnel
- (ii) Land stores on behalf of Tristan da Cunha Development Corporation.
- (iii) Remainder at your discretion
- Gough - (iv) Embark members of Gough Island Scientific Survey Expedition
- (v) Land stores for Department of Transport
- (vi) Land personnel for Department of Transport
- (vii) Land Inspecting Officials (only if certain that they can be re-embarked).
- (viii) Carry out survey as required by Staff Officer, Hydrographic Survey
- Homeward Passage - Tristan (ix) Land and embark personnel as required.
- (h) Return Date - As operations/Fuel/weather permit. Time spent in Cape Town prior to return to Durban to be kept as short as possible.

4. Operational Priority Instructions

These are issued for guidance only, and must naturally be left to your own discretion, having due regard to weather, etc. In the main however, 2(g)(i) and (ii) and 3 (g)(iv)(v) and (vi) have the highest priority.

5. Radio Schedules - Meteorological. - See my letters of 16th and 26th March, 1956.

6. Swings for Variation - To be undertaken if no appreciable delay therefrom will result.

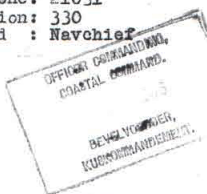
7. Cargo - For Marion - Approximately 65 tons
For Tristan - Approximately 1 ton
For Gough - Approximately 45 tons

Am Saw Sam
for Commodore *Cdr*
Naval Chief of Staff A.O.D.

/LC

Telephone: 21031
Extension: 330
Tel. Add : Navchier

29/30
N(Ops)691/102
N(Ops)691/103



Headquarters,
Naval Chief of Staff,
Defence Headquarters,
Pretoria.

25th February, 1956

Officer Commanding,
SAS Transvaal

→ Copy to: Officer Commanding, Coastal Command

MARION AND GOUGH ISLAND EXPEDITION : APRIL 1956

The following is the amended list of passengers
and/or officials to be embarked:-

2. MARION ISLAND -- OUTWARDS AND HOMEWARDS

Mr. B. van der Walt, MP (Captain's Mess)
Mr. G.Y. van Hees - Chief Clerk, (Wardroom)
Department of Transport (Wardroom)
Medical Officer (Wardroom)
Sub-Lieut. Lee, SAN (ACF) (Wardroom)

OUTWARDS ONLY

Mr. W.A. van Huysteen, (Wardroom)
Meteorologist (Wardroom)
Mr. P. Maré, Meteorologist (Wardroom)
Mr. P.V.C. Evers, Diesel Mechanic (Chiefs' or PO's Mess)
Corporal Rossouw, SAMC, Medical (PO's Mess)
Orderly (PO's Mess)
Two European labourers } (Wherever suitable)
One Cook }

HOMEWARDS ONLY

Mr. C.P. Alvertyn, Meteorologist (Wardroom)
Mr. G.P. Borstlap, Meteorologist (Wardroom)
Mr. W.J. Thiele, Diesel Mechanic (Chiefs' or PO's Mess)
Corporal Koch, SAMC, Medical (PO's Mess)
Orderly (Wherever suitable)
14 PWD Workmen

3. GOUGH ISLAND -- OUTWARDS AND HOMEWARDS

Professor M.M. Louw (Captain's Mess)
(Prof. Louw will probably wish to be disembarked at
Tristan da Cunha on the outward passage and to be
re-embarked on the homeward passage)

Cdr. R.T. Tripp, SAN (at your discretion)
Sub-Lieut. Lee, SAN (ACF) (Wardroom)
Surg. Lieut. Pemberton, SAN (ACF) (Wardroom)
Mr. M.P. van Rooy, Assistant Director, Weather Bureau (Wardroom)
Mr. S.A. Engelbrecht, Senior Meteorologist (Wardroom)
Mr. C.V. Kuhn, Aeradio Engineer (Wardroom)

1. O.C. ✓
2. 500/ Rnd 19/3
3. 500/2 ✓
4. 500/3 ✓
M. S. Myberg

2/...

(Messrs. Engelbrecht and Kuhn will disembark at Tristan da Cunha on the outward passage, and re-embark on the homeward passage).

OUTWARDS ONLY

Mr. E.E. Brokensha, Aeradio Engineer (Wardroom)
Two European labourers (wherever suitable)

OUTWARDS : TRISTAN TO GOUGH

Two Tristan Islanders (wherever suitable)

N.B. (i) Reference para 3(b) of my evenly numbered letter of 13th February, 1956. No further information has been received about the embarkation of the Church, but it is understood they they can be accommodated in the Sick Bay if necessary.

(ii) Information about the other SAN (ACF) officers listed in this sub-paragraph is requested

HOMEWARDS

Four members of the Gough Island Scientific Survey Party (Cambridge Undergraduates) (Wardroom)

4. Approval for the ship to touch at Tristan da Cunha has been received but is subject to the Department of Transport being prepared to pay the additional fuel charges.

maintain Mr J. Maybank

Benjamin
Commodore
Naval Chief of Staff

Telephones: 21031
Extension: 330
Tel. Add : Navohief

N(Ops)691/103
N(Ops)691/102

29/30

OFFICER COMMANDING,
COASTAL COMMAND.
16-2-1956
BEVELVOER,
KUSKOMMANNEMENT.

Headquarters,
Naval Chief of Staff,
Defence Headquarters,
Pretoria.

13 February, 1956

Officer Commanding,
SAS Transvaal

Copies to: Officer Commanding, Coastal Command,
Officer Commanding, SAS Salisbury
Staff Officer, Hydrographic Survey

MARION AND GOUGH ISLAND EXPEDITIONS : APRIL 1956

The following is the proposed list of passengers/
officials/officers who are requesting/are to be embarked
for the two voyages:-

2. (a) Marion Island

Outwards

Mr. van der Walt, MP. (confirmed)
Six Department of Transport officials (confirmed)
Sub-Lieutenant Lee, SAN (ACF)
One Medical Officer (confirmed)

Homewards

As above, plus 14 P.W.D. Workmen

Note (a) Mr. van der Walt is a member of the Defence
Council. He is thus a V.I.P.I.

- (b) Number of Wardroom Officers amongst Department
of Transport officials not known (will be advised).
(c) Number of Wardroom Officers amongst P.W.D. party
not known (will be advised).

3. Gough Island

Outwards

(a) Professor Louw (Head of Faculty of Dentistry,
Pretoria University)
Comdr. R.T. Tripp, SAN.
Sub-Lieutenant Lee, SAN (ACF)
One Medical Officer
Six Department of Transport Officials (two
non-Wardroom).

All above ex Sub-Lieut. Lee confirmed. He should be
embarked if at all possible.

- (b) New Padre for Tristan plus wife and two
children.
Lieut.-Comdr. Liefeldt, SAN (ACF)
Sub-Lieut. Kettley, SAN (ACF)
Lieut.(S) Thompson, SAN (ACF)
Lieut.(S) Alcock, SAN (ACF)

These will only be taken if accommodation available.

(c) Tristan to Gough Island

As above, negat Padre and family, but plus two Tristan Islanders

(d) Homewards

As above, but delete three Department of Transport officials (two non-Wardroom), and add four members of Gough Island Scientific Survey (all Wardroom).

Note: Professor Louw is a personal friend of The Hon. the Prime Minister. He is thus a V.I.P.I.

4. You are to advise as soon as possible to what extent you can make accommodation arrangements for the above.

5. It is possible that you will have to use your present Auxiliaries Mess Deck for the accommodation of the P.W.D. personnel from Marion. If so, you are to arrange with Salisbury for relief domestic personnel. You should, however, be able to embark your Auxiliary personnel for the Gough trip, in which case they can proceed by rail to Cape Town to rejoin you there on arrival from Marion.

6. For information, the P.W.D. wished to embark about 120 tons of cargo for Marion, but the Department of Transport, for whom this trip has been arranged, have been informed that a maximum of 65 tons, which of course includes the annual stores for the station, can be embarked. Of this 65 tons, approximately 35 tons will be diesel fuel in 5 gallon "Jerrycans". As much as possible of this must be carried on the upper deck, taking your stability into account - the remainder should be stowed between decks but where ample through draft ventilation is available at all times.

Hunsaniam
to Commodore *Ch*
Naval Chief of Staff A.O.D.

/LC

OC
50 (L) P.

I have written to Dr. Schumann about our problems and he has replied that the question will be raised when the programme for the International Geophysical Year is considered. If it is at all possible for you to support our "cause" at that meeting we would naturally be most grateful."

5. It is felt that if the SA Navy sent a ship to Gough Island in April 1956 to pick up the party, this could be construed as an integral part of the Navy's contribution towards the 1957 International Geophysical Year.

6. Arrangements can be made for SAS Transvaal to visit the Island towards the end of April next, following the annual Marion Island Relief Expedition. This could be treated as a normal Training Cruise, during which time 30 ACF ratings would be embarked for their annual sea training, which has to be catered for in any event. The cost of fuel etc. can be met from the authorised fuel vote.

7. There is also a considerable amount of "prestige value" to be gained from undertaking tasks of this nature, over and above the excellent training given both to SA Navy and ACF personnel, who have too little opportunity of making ocean passages.

8. Your authority for the SA Navy to undertake this task as a normal training cruise, i.e. with no re-imburement for costs involved, is requested.



Sgd. H. H. Biermann
Commodore
Naval Chief of Staff

/LC

Director of Weather Services, Pretoria.

→ Officer Commanding, Coastal Command

Officer Commanding, SAS Transvaal

For information.

B. B. S. S.
Commodore Cdr.
Naval Chief of Staff

O.C.
Sc(6)

Telephone: 21031
Extension: 107
Tel. Add : Navchief

N(Ops) 691/102

Headquarters,
Naval Chief of Staff,
Defence Headquarters,
Pretoria,

151 December 1955

Chief of the General Staff - 2 copies

GOUGH ISLAND SCIENTIFIC SURVEY

My evenly numbered minute of the 26th July, 1955, refers.

2. The Gough Island Scientific Survey Party was transported to the Island in September 1955 by the Royal Navy. The party is due to be picked up in March or April 1956, but the Royal Naval authorities state that they are unable to undertake this task, and that this information was given to the Leader of the Expedition when arrangements were made for the outward passage.
3. The Director of the Weather Bureau has loaned a South African Meteorologist to the Expedition.
4. The following is an extract from a letter received from Mr. Robert Chambers:-

"As you may know Dr. Schumann, the Director of the Weather Bureau in Pretoria, has supplied the expedition with a South African Meteorologist, van der Merwe, and lent us all the meteorological equipment. We are to take readings five times a day and make balloon observations, which will involve co-operation within the party, whenever it is feasible. The weather reports will be transmitted by the expedition's wireless operator three times a day. Dr. Schumann has said that the reports, when compared with those from the station already on Tristan, should be a considerable assistance to the forecasting of the weather in South Africa.

In addition to this it is at least possible, as I expect you know, that South Africa may establish a meteorological station on Gough Island for the duration of the International Geophysical Year. We are a pilot station which will break the ground for this and provide information concerning local conditions. We have officially been asked to provide reports and maps.

Being an essentially private expedition which relies on grants from individuals and scientific societies for most of its money we have to rely on assistance for which we cannot always pay. At present we have no way of getting off the island arranged. This is not for lack of trying. I am writing therefore to ask officially if the possibility of the South African Navy's picking us up could be investigated. On a previous occasion I understand that it was stipulated that if this were to happen we would have to pay for the fuel. I am afraid that we could not pay for even one day's fuel. We are solvent but only by a relatively narrow margin, and that is allowing no remuneration for the work involved.