

## Durban Met. men going to Antarctic

Mr. Gordon Artz (35) and Mr. Johan Bothma (31), both on the staff of the weather bureau at Durban's Louis Botha Airport, are the only two South Africans who will join a British party which is being sent to the British base at Halley Bay on the coast of Antarctica for a year to assist with meteorological observations.

They left Durban by air today for Johannesburg from where they will fly on Friday to London. From there on November 21, they sail via Montevideo to Halley Bay.

Tremendous secrecy surrounded the Union Department of Transport decision to send two South Africans with the British party.

A Daily News reporter got wind of the story a few days after the final selection was made two weeks ago. He knew that two men had been chosen from Durban but all inquiries here and at Pretoria were met with tight-lipped "no comment."

For Mr. Artz, whose wife and 10-year-old daughter Elaine live in Durban, it is, he believes a chance in a life-time and one his wife urged him not to miss.

### IN S.A.A.F.

Mr. Artz joined the meteorological section of the South African Air Force at the outbreak of the war and served in Madagascar and Italy, returning to the Union in late 1945.

He served at weather stations in Palmietfontein, Pretoria, Kimberley and came to Durban in June last year to help set up and operate radar installations in connection with the International Geophysical Year.

His first reaction when the news was broken to him that he was elected was that for a whole year he would not have to shave. He is going to grow a full beard.

Mr. Bothma joined the staff at Louis Botha Airport in July last year. He has spent a year at the Union's weather station on Marion Island.