

UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA,  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA,

DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSĒ SAKĒ.  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

1967

Vol 2.

GEHEIM  
SECRET

Research
102 / 2

(F1)

Vol 2.

7.9.46 - 14.1.47.

ONDERWERP - SUBJECT.

Antartic Researches and  
Expeditions

Verwante Lêors,  
Relative Files.

RESLUIT --- SEE VOL 3  
--- KYK DEEL 3

102 / 2

the atmosphere will be involved and a large upper air meteorological programme in the Antarctic must be accompanied by an equally large programme in more temperate regions. Arrangements must also be made for both a surface and an upper air network in waters associated with the Antarctic to enable meteorologists to locate the major centres of energy exchange between the ocean and the air. Glaciological studies and long-term investigations of the Polar ice-cap must also be made.

(d) Other Commonwealth Views. AUSTRALIA. Sir David Rivett stated that Australia will always show great enthusiasm for any expedition or organisation which will lead to the possibility of seasonal forecasting. The distinguished meteorologist Fritz Louwe has, however, pointed out that the scientific results obtained from previous short-term expeditions have fallen far short of expectation. Further, full financial provision has not been made in the past for working up and publishing the data.

NEW ZEALAND. Dr. Marsden, Secretary of the New Zealand D.S.I.R., stated that New Zealand would gladly take part in any co-operative effort.

(e) South African Antarctic work in preparation for a Polar Year.

While the meeting agreed that the question of a Polar Year would have to be left to the meteorologists, it was thought that it could not take place before 1950. It would be useful if, in the meantime, South Africa were to consider:

- (i) sending some young meteorologists to the Falkland Island dependencies for training in Antarctic work and possibly later to undertake the staffing of one Antarctic station;
- (ii) participating in the Schwabenland proposal.

(f) South African Expedition to Coatesland. The view was expressed that it would be extremely difficult to land at this place and that the only rock samples would have to be obtained from the sea bottom. It was also stated that it would be a major engineering problem to put a permanent station on Bouvet Island.

(g) Ionospheric observations. As a result of this meeting and subsequent discussions, a British ionospheric sounding station will probably be set up at one of the existing Antarctic meteorological stations.

Pretoria,  
2/9/1946.

NOTES ON THE EMPIRE SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES,  
JUNE-JULY, 1946.

I. ANTARCTIC RESEARCH.

(a) General. The meeting on this subject was held at the Scott Polar Institute and included all available experts from Great Britain. Full details were given on British intentions in regard to Antarctic Research and from these it appeared that two undertakings were considered at present more important than a Polar Year. The first of these was the setting up of permanent stations in the British section of the Antarctic, extending from Hope Bay and working up and down the coast. Some five of these base stations in the Falkland Island dependencies, all linked by wireless and all equipped for meteorological observations, are at present in existence. It would be a good plan if South Africa was to join in the staffing of some of these stations. It is intended to extend them further.

The second undertaking, which had not yet been finalised, was a joint Anglo-Scandinavian expedition to the Atlantic Sector in the area known as New Schwabenland. This area, which is very important from the geological point of view, would yield results second to none. The details of the expedition have not yet been worked out but it is expected that there will be considerable co-operation from Norway and possibly from Sweden. The expedition will require aircraft and gliders and snow jeeps. South African participation in this expedition would be much valued. The expedition would study the geology, the glaciology and the climatology of this area. (~~My notes indicate that New Schwabenland and Queen Maud Land are the same~~).

(b) Detail about British Antarctic Stations. The Pacific Sector of the Antarctic is unclaimed. British Dependencies are:- South Georgia, South Orkney Islands, South Shetland Islands, Grahamland and Coatesland. Bases were established in 1943 near Hope Bay and further stations in the South Orkney Islands and South Georgia were set up in 1945. A programme of extension is contemplated. The meteorological network will operate for an extended period and the observations can probably be linked up with those on Tristan da Cunha. Geological and survey work is in progress. Studies include fossils and sedimentary rocks, the economic aspect of sealing, botanical and tidal studies.

(c) Meteorological Aspects. From the meteorological point of view, Tristan da Cunha and other islands in the South Atlantic such as Bouvet and Gough Islands are as important, if not more important, than the Antarctic itself. It is essential that the meteorological observations, wherever they are made, should be first-rate, and great attention should be paid to their accuracy. The question of a Polar Year should be left in the hands of international meteorological bodies. The whole problem of the circulation of

PM 102/2

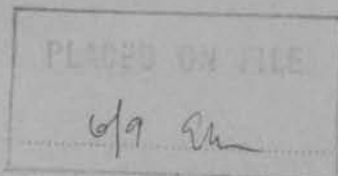
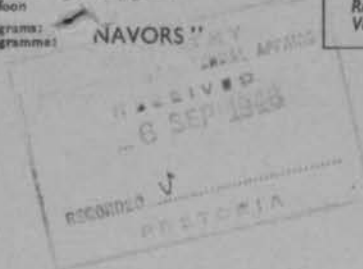
**SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH**  
**SUID-AFRIKAANSE WETENSKAPLIKE EN NYWERHEIDNAVORSINGSRAAD**

Telephone 3-1738.  
Telefoon  
Telegrams: NAVORS"  
Telegrams: "NAVORS"  
Telegrams: "NAVORS"

Reference No. 10/2/4.  
Verwysingsnommer

Private Bag } 189.  
Privaatsak }  
PRETORIA.

5th September, 1946.



Dear Sir,

Polar Committee.

In reply to your P.M. 102/2 of the 3rd September on this subject, I enclose three copies of a memorandum drawn up by me after discussions in Cambridge at the Empire Scientific Conference. I have sent copies of this to the Antarctic Research Committee of the Geological Society of South Africa.

Yours faithfully,

PRESIDENT : COUNCIL FOR  
SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
Union Buildings,  
PRETORIA.

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the / .....



P.M. 102/2

URGENT

PRETORIA.

12 SEP 1946

The Secretary,  
S.A. Council for Scientific  
and Industrial Research,  
PRETORIA.

POLAR COMMITTEE.

With further reference to my minute No. P.M. 102/2 of the 22nd July, I have to inform you that telegraphic advice has now been received from the High Commissioner, London, that the United Kingdom Government are pressing for any views the Union Government may wish to express regarding the proposal to organise an International Polar year referred to in the Political Secretary's minute No. 19/88/2 of the 29th March.

Insofar as the political aspect of the proposal is concerned, it is intended to reply that the Union Government have no comments to offer. In regard to the scientific aspect Dr. Schonland furnished this Department, under cover of his minute No. 10/2/4 of the 5th September, with a copy of a memorandum on the discussions in Cambridge at the Empire Scientific Conference. This memorandum appears to be a record of the discussions at the Conference, and, as the full record of the proceedings is presumably available to the United Kingdom Government, I should be glad to learn whether it is considered that insofar as the scientific aspect is concerned the ~~United Kingdom~~<sup>Union</sup> Government have nothing to add to the views expressed at the Conference.

J. D. POHL

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JGS/JT

P 17/9

M102/2

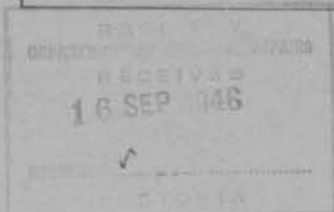
SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH  
SUID-AFRIKAANSE WETENSKAPLIKE EN NYWERHEIDNAVORSINGSRAAD

Telephone  
Telefoon  
Telegrams:  
Telegramme:

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"NAVORS"

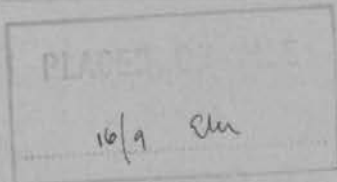
Reference No. 10/2/4.  
Verwysingsnommer

Private Bag } 189,  
Privaatsak }  
PRETORIA.



14th September, 1946.

URGENT.



Dear Sir,

Polar Committee.

With reference to your P.M. 102/2 of the 12th September on this matter, I agree that the Union Government have nothing to add to the views expressed at the Conference.

I must point out, however, that no official record was taken of the discussions on this subject at the Empire Scientific Conference of the Royal Society, nor was it raised further at the Official Conference which followed. The United Kingdom Government might be informed that as it was decided at the Conference discussions that any proposals to organise an International Polar Year should be made by an International Meteorological body, the Union Government has no further views to put forward.

Yours faithfully,

PRESIDENT : COUNCIL FOR  
SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JGS/JT

P17/9



Telegraph Address: "OPPOSITELY, LONDON"

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

Reference No. 19/88/2

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

28th August, 1946.

AIR-MAIL.

DEPARTED  
RECEIVED  
16-9-1946  
Schedule  
PRETORIA

PLACED ON FILE  
17/9

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

Polar Committee.

With further reference to my minutes of the 29th March and 6th April, 1946, the attached memorandum has been received from the United Kingdom authorities, and is forwarded for your information.

*S. B. Lee*  
Political Secretary.

*10/10/46*  
*17/9/46*

Passed to C. S. T. R.

File

information  
for consideration  
~~Disposit~~

Date 18.9.46 Initials WJ

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



JGS/JT

*P 17/9*

P.(46)8.

Previous ref. P(46) 1st Meeting.

POLAR COMMITTEE

SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

At their meeting of the 26th March, 1946, the Polar Committee decided to inform the Treasury that the application by the Scott Polar Research Institute for a grant from public funds to enable the Institute to continue its activities had their support, and that of the three Service Departments and of the Royal Geographical Society.

The Treasury have now agreed to invite Parliament in due course to vote an annual grant in aid of the Institute, the amount of which for the present would be £1,800.

(Sgd) J. CHADWICK.

Secretary.

Dominions Office,  
21st August, 1946.

~~The Secretary for.....~~

CONSIDERATION  
PASSED TO YOU FOR INFORMATION  
DISPOSAL

~~Ref.....Date.....~~

~~SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS~~

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



JGS/JT

P17/9



In their memorandum to the Department, the United States Embassy in Ottawa stated that the establishment of the proposed stations was necessary to improve weather forecasting for domestic purposes, for international civil aviation and for meeting the requirements of the Service Departments of Canada and the United States.

Meetings were held with representatives of the United States on May 17th to discuss the details of the plan. It was learned that one main station was to be established in Canada on Melville Island. We have also been informed by the Danish Government that the United States are being allowed to establish themselves temporarily at Thule in Greenland where there is already a Danish weather station. It is the intention of the Danes to withdraw permission when their own technicians have been trained to a sufficiently high standard particularly with respect to upper wind observations. In addition small advanced stations were to be placed on Banks Island, Prince Patrick and on either Ellesmere or Axel Heiberg. It was estimated that \$465,000.00 would be required annually to finance the project. Sufficient funds were set up available in the United States Congress to carry out the plans for 1946. It was pointed out that if the main station on Melville Island were to be ready to sail not later than July 15th, that is, in less than two months. Aerial reconnaissance should be carried out before that date.

/established  
this year,  
ships would  
have to be/

Representatives of all interested Canadian Departments of the Government were agreed on the advisability of more complete weather information in the Arctic. It was also agreed that if approval were given it would be advisable to have as large as possible a representation of Canadian personnel on the weather stations. In such a short time this would prove to be very difficult. Although the United States reiterated informally that they had no intention of questioning Canadian sovereignty, considerable concern was expressed by some Canadian representatives about adequate guarantees of Canadian sovereignty in areas where claims on the basis of occupation are weak.

The United States proposals were considered by the Cabinet Defence Committee and later by the Cabinet. Approval was withheld. The United States was formally notified of this on July 2nd. It was stated that a project of such importance should be preceded by a more careful study than time permitted, by the Canadian meteorological requirements in the Arctic as well as by a thorough investigation by the Canadian authorities of the facilities available for work in the area. The United States was assured that their proposals would receive further study.

Planned as a subsidiary to the Weather Station Project, although organized quite separately from it, is the cruise of a contingent of three United States Navy and United States Coast Guard ships. Approval has been given to this Arctic cruise on the understanding that it will be attended by a minimum of publicity and that Canadian observers will take part. The purpose of the cruise is to amplify existing knowledge of navigational and weather conditions and to provide routine training for personnel. A small detachment of marines will land at Dundas Harbour where there is established a R.C.M.P. post. This contingent is sailing from east coast ports early in July.

(Sgd) D.B. SOLE.  
Political Secretary.

COPY/NTM  
18.9.1946.

AFRICA HOUSE,  
LONDON W.C. 2.

Copy for Polar Committee File.

1946/4 PM102/2

19/88/2

29th August, 1946.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

orig on  
PH63/1

Polar Committee.

In view of the fact that the attention of the last meeting of the Polar Committee was drawn to a United States law respecting the establishment of meteorological stations in the Arctic Region of the Western Hemisphere, the Canadian High Commissioner has passed on the following information which he has recently received from his Government.

In February 1946 there was passed in the United States Public Law 296, popularly known as the Brewster Bill, which enabled the Chief of the Weather Bureau to take action in the development of the International Basic Meteorological Report network in the Arctic region with the co-operation of foreign countries. When this legislation was passed, the United States Weather Bureau actively pushed plans for organising an expedition to set up weather stations in the Arctic. It is understood that Colonel C.J. Hubbard, Adviser to the Weather Bureau, was largely behind the Brewster Bill as well as the proposals for Arctic weather stations presented to the Canadian Government. Considerable equipment was purchased and the work of recruiting personnel was undertaken. There was little evidence of doubt in Washington that Canada would approve the United States plan but it was not until May 1st that the Canadian Government was approached in the matter.

The United States outlined the objects of their programme as follows:-

(a) "The establishment by means of surface ships and with air support as necessary, during 1946 or at as early a date as practicable of a weather station central to the Western Canadian Arctic Archipelago; this station to require an initial basic weather station staff of ten persons, with provisions for not more than ten attached specialists and that additional provisions for transients engaged on specific operations as below; and to consist of housing and camp keeping facilities, meteorological parts, radio equipment and aviation supplies".

(b) "The establishment by means of Air transportation and by surface shipping or other means as may be found practicable, during 1946 or at as early a date as practicable, of three weather stations on islands along the western portion of the Canadian Arctic archipelago. These stations are to require a basic weather staff of five persons with provisions for not more than five attached specialists; and to consist of necessary housing and camp facilities, meteorological parts, radio equipment and aviation supplies".

/....

CODE TELEGRAM.

*copy on  
PH63/11*

FROM: Secretary for External Affairs, Pretoria.  
TO: High Commissioner, London.

17th September, 1946.

No. 1427.

Your telegram 1556.

In view of the fact it was decided at the Cambridge Scientific Conference that proposals to organise the International Polar Year should be made by the International Meteorological body, the Union Government have no further views to put forward at this stage.

Passed to... **G. S. J. R.**  
information  
for consideration  
disposal  
*File.*  
Date... **22.9.46** Initials... *[Signature]*

The United States outlined the objects of their programme as follows:-

- (a) "The establishment by means of surface ships and with air support as necessary, during 1946 or at as early a date as practicable of a weather station central to the Western Canadian Arctic Archipelago; this station to require an initial basic weather station staff of ten persons, with provisions for not more than ten attached specialists and that additional provisions for transients engaged on specific operations as below; and to consist of housing and camp keeping facilities, meteorological parts, radio equipment and aviation supplies".
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/....

Confidential.

Letter from the Norwegian Geographical Society, Oslo,  
to the Royal Geographical Society, London.

p.t. Geilo,  
(Oslo) July 31, 1946.

L.P. Kirwan, Esq.,  
Royal Geographical Society,  
London, S.W.7.

Your Memorandum on "Proposed Research in Antarctic"  
with accompanying letter of June 20th has been received, and I  
note that the Council of R.G.S. would like to have the comments  
of our society on this memorandum.

At a meeting of the board on June 21st, before the  
memorandum had been received, the idea of an Antarctic expedition  
was discussed. The members were strongly in favour of furthering  
such a project, and it was decided to ask the President with  
Mr. Bernt Balchen and Dr. Sverre Pettersen to act as a committee  
to keep in touch with those already working along these lines.  
It was also decided to inquire into the position of the Norwegian  
Government in this matter.

After conferences with Balchen and Pettersen I have seen  
the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Lange, who took the case up  
for discussion at a Government meeting on July 16th. The result  
of this discussion has been given to me informally by Mr. Lange  
over the telephone, the main point being that the Norwegian  
Government is greatly interested in an Antarctic expedition to  
Norwegian territory in co-operation with Great Britain and Sweden,  
on a Norwegian ship and under Norwegian flag, and that it is  
prepared to finance such an expedition as far as possible.

Owing to various circumstances, a more definite statement  
has not yet reached me. However, I thought that it might be of  
importance that this preliminary information reached you now.  
As soon as your memorandum has been discussed by the board at the  
first meeting after summer vacations, you will be notified of the  
results.

A few days ago I had the occasion to talk things over  
with Professor Ahlmann here at Geilo (where we are missing you  
very much). He asked me to repeat to you his wish, that his  
preliminary plans as presented to you in England and to us in  
Oslo should not be made public as yet.

(Sgd) Erling Christopherson.



5. A proper examination of the area, Professor Ahlmann pointed out, is likely to throw considerable light on the following scientific problems:-

- (a) The physical, mechanical, and dynamic properties of the inland ice and of the local glaciers. These must be of high polar type, quite different from glaciers in lower latitudes.
- (b) The meteorological conditions, especially the heat economy of the district; in other words, the relation between solar and atmospheric radiation.
- (c) The wind as a controlling factor in the process of glaciation.
- (d) Geology, petrology, and tectonics - the relation between the mountain districts of New Schwabenland and the nearest continents.
- (e) The presence or absence of plant and animal life in this area, hitherto only surveyed from the air.

6. There was general agreement that New Schwabenland offered a field for research of the first scientific importance, to judge from the preliminary results of the German Air Survey, Professor Ahlmann then put forward his proposal that we should, in conjunction with the Norwegians and the Swedes, consider the practicability of following up the German air survey by a joint ground expedition to this area.

7. While in England, Professor Ahlmann discussed his project with Dr. Mackintosh, Rev. Fleming, Mr. Soligman, Mr. Wordie, Dr. Roberts, Mr. J.W.S. Marr, Commander Ryder and Professor Wager. In England and in Sweden, he had similar discussions with the President, Mr. Glen, Dr. Odell and myself. In Norway, on his way back to Sweden last month, he had a number of informal discussions with representatives of the Norwegian Geographical Society, of the Norwegian Navy and Air Force, and of the Norwegian Meteorological Service. In England, in Norway and in his own country, there appears to be general agreement among those expert in such matters that a land expedition to New Schwabenland would produce valuable scientific results.

\*|m  
8. Given the scientific desirability of the project, there are other factors to be considered. There is the political aspect. The territory in question is Norwegian territory and even at the present stage of unofficial and informal discussion, the Council would no doubt wish to obtain directly the comments of the Norwegian Geographical Society. Some Dominions, too, might be interested. Then there are the practical difficulties. If we wished to take a prominent part in such an expedition, the project would have to be not only approved but largely supported by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. Though the land party might not consist of more than ten men, such an expedition would be an expensive undertaking, involving the use of a ship capable of carrying an aircraft, of snow-jeps and so on. It is possible, according to Professor Ahlmann, that the Norwegian Government might provide a suitable ship but how soon he cannot say.

9. Even though, on our side, the practical difficulties may prove insuperable for some time, the Council may consider that it is advisable to obtain, as a preliminary step, the comments of the Norwegian Geographical Society on this Memorandum; possibly with a view to making public, with the Norwegians and Swedes, our common interest in the project.

(Itd.) L.P.K.

Proposed Research in AntarcticNote by the Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society.

1. In his lecture to the Royal Geographical Society on November 12, 1945, Professor H.W. Ahlmann of the University of Stockholm referred to the evidence which his glaciological researches had produced for a "recent warming up of the Arctic". In general terms, this "warming up of the Arctic" can be deduced from the following phenomena:-

- (a) Throughout the Arctic, glaciers are retreating and thinning out.
- (b) The extent of the pack-ice is diminishing.
- (c) The southern limit of the frozen ground in Siberia is receding northwards.
- (d) The North-East Passage, the Northern sea-route used by the Allies during the war, has become increasingly navigable during the last few years.
- (e) The cod-fish is migrating northwards.
- (f) There is evidence of an acceleration in forest-growth in Sweden and in Finland.
- (g) There is evidence from a number of areas, including Sweden and Denmark, of a rise in sea-level due to the melting of glaciers.

2. It appears likely, on present evidence, that the sequence of glacial and warmer inter-glacial periods has been similar over the whole surface of the earth. It is probable, therefore, that the phenomena described above would be paralleled in other parts of the world. There are, indeed signs that the glaciers in Peru are receding. Such evidence as there is from the Antarctic shows, in Professor Ahlmann's opinion, that research in this area will throw new light on, and may even prove the key to, the history and development of global climatic fluctuations.

3. In 1938-39, the Germans sent out an expedition to the Atlantic sector of the Antarctic which surveyed and photographed a tract of territory, including a number of mountain ranges, from the air. This territory, then claimed by the Norwegians and today generally though not yet formally recognised as Norwegian territory, the Germans called New Schwabenland. The maps and photographs which the Germans published in 1942 reveal a considerable area of ice and snow-bare ground enclosed by local glaciers and set in the inland ice. An investigation of the published evidence shows that New Schwabenland is a field of the first scientific importance in that it reveals the probability of:-

- (a) A period during which the lobes of the inland ice and the local glaciers were more extensive.
- (b) A warmer period during which the present frozen lakes must have been fluid, with melting ice in the present dead ice regions.

4. During his visit to this country in May, Professor Ahlmann discussed with a number of polar and glaciological experts the prospects of research in this territory in course of which he claimed that "the region in question offers greater possibilities for attaining important results regarding the glaciology and climatic history of the Antarctic in later times than any other region of the same size. These results would be such that they would form an extremely valuable contribution to the understanding of the inland ices of the Ice Age, the climatic history of post-glacial times and present day meteorological conditions".

PM 102/2.

COPY/PK.

P.(46) 7

Confidential.

Polar Committee.

Suggested Research Expedition

Annexed, for the information of the Polar Committee, are

- a. A note, dated 20.6.46., by the Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, approved by the Society and sent to the Norwegian Geographical Society.
- b. A letter, dated 31.7.46., from the Norwegian Geographical Society, commenting on the note.

(Sgd) J. CHADWICK.

Secretary.

Dominions Office,  
27th September, 1946.

*his keyhole  
Pass copy to  
CSIR per  
H/10*

Gestuur aan... *C.S.I.R.*  
oorsyning  
vir informasie  
aankomsing

Datum *4/10/46* Per post *4/10*

*Kell*

- (b) A warmer period during which the present frozen lakes must have been fluid, with melting ice in the present dead ice regions.

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ref: P.S.19/88

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON. W.C.2.

PH 102/2.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.  
1st October, 1946.

*Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.*

REGISTRY  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
RECEIVED  
- 8 OCT 1946  
RECORDED  
PRETORIA

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-1/46

- (a) The Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, approved by the Society and sent to the Norwegian Geographical Society.
- b. A letter, dated 31.7.46., from the Norwegian Geographical Society, commenting on the note.

(Sgd) J. CHADWICK.

Secretary.

Dominions Office,  
27th September, 1946.

*the handbook  
Pass copy to  
CSIA per  
H/S/10*

Resituar aan...  
ooryeging  
vir informasie  
aflandiging  
Datum... Parast...

*Kili*

- (b) A warmer period during which the present frozen lakes must have been fluid, with melting ice in the present dead ice regions.
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Extract from "Washington Post", Sunday  
15th September, 1946.

20 SCIENTISTS WILL PLUMB ANTARCTICA.

Veterans of Antarctic exploration will dig into the South Polar ice next summer and spend a year or so testing recently developed scientific equipment and trying to solve a variety of Antarctic mysteries.

The expedition will be composed of 20 men. Most of them are trained polar explorers and some were participants in the Antarctic Service Expedition in 1939-41 under Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, Leader of the Party will be Comdr. Finn Ronne, USNR, who has been on two South Polar expeditions and was second in command at East Base on the Byrd expedition.

The voyage will be made in a 183 foot wooden vessel loaned by the Navy. It was chosen because of its sturdy construction and resilience under ice pressure.

Seek Byrd Base.

The party will get under way late this year. It will set up its principal base near Marguerite Bay, due south of Cape Horn, not later than March 1st, 1947 - the Antarctic midsummer. There the ship will be unloaded and made ready for Winter when it will be frozen in. The party hopes to find and use the camp and equipment left by the Byrd expedition in 1941.

Farther south an operational base will be built at the base of Palmer Peninsula. From there field operations will be conducted in the unexplored area between longitudes 35 and 80 degrees west of Greenwich, and from latitude 73 degrees south to the pole.

The explorers will use two or three planes, a snowmobile and sledges pulled by dog teams.

They will seek to determine the southern extent of the Weddell Sea, a hitherto unexplored section of the Antarctic region. Ronne hopes to learn whether Antarctic is one continent as generally assumed, or whether the waters of Weddell Sea on the American side connect with Ross Sea south of New Zealand, making Antarctica two continents.

Lair of Cyclones.

They will connect data on ice flow, winds and water currents. Such information from this region, a breeding place of cyclones and bad weather, may provide a better understanding of weather conditions in many parts of the world.

Polar animals and birds will be studied, and collections of them, ranging from sea-leopards to blue-eyed shags, will be brought back for scientific organisations. Study of sources of minerals and oil will be conducted.

The expedition is under the auspices of the American Geographical Society of New York and expenses will be paid by contributions of societies and individuals. For purposes of administration, the American Antarctic Association was incorporated in Baltimore. This association is intended as a permanent institution for Antarctic research.

COPY/PK.

P.(46) 11.

POLAR COMMITTEE.

Proposed U.S. Expedition to the Antarctic,  
1947.

South Pole. The expedition will use recently developed scientific equipment and methods to study a variety of Antarctic species.

The expedition will be organized and they are now in the process of being Annexed, for the information of the Committee, is an extract from the "Washington Post", of the 15th September, 1946.

The expedition will be led by a party of five men, headed by a party of five men, headed by a party of five men, headed by a party of five men.

Area Byrd Area

The party will be headed by a party of five men, headed by a party of five men, headed by a party of five men, headed by a party of five men. (Sgd) J. Chadwick. Secretary.

Further south an expedition base will be built at the base of Palmer Peninsula. When these field operations will be conducted in the unexplored area between latitudes 35 and 40 degrees west of Greenwich, and from latitude 75 degrees south to the pole.

The explorers will use two or three planes, a motor vehicle and sledges pulled by dog teams.

Dominions Office, with a view to determining the southern extent of the

4th October, 1946.

The expedition will be headed by a party of five men, headed by a party of five men, headed by a party of five men, headed by a party of five men.

Area of Operations.

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The expedition is under the auspices of the American Geographical Society of New York and expenses will be paid by contributions of societies and individuals. For purposes of administration, the American Antarctic Association was incorporated in Baltimore. This association is intended as a permanent institution for Antarctic research.

the island which was occupied by the United States Antarctic Service Expedition in 1939-41. Additional Post Offices and Wireless Telegraph Offices have been established at the new bases, and letters are now being posted at all five bases with a new set of special Falkland Islands Dependencies stamps, issued on the 1st February, 1946. In the course of the activities in 1944 and 1945 such Argentine marks of sovereignty as were found were obliterated.

7. A further supply of dogs and sledging equipment has enabled the parties at the two mainland bases to carry out a series of survey journeys. Meteorological stations are maintained at all five bases, and an intensive investigation is being carried out into the possibilities of weather forecasting in the South Atlantic with particular reference to the development and movement of Antarctic depressions. In addition, scientific work is being carried out as opportunity offers, and special attention is being given to geological prospecting. The whole project has been planned with a view to making a systematic study of all aspects of the Falkland Sector of the Antarctic; the programme of occupation, research and exploration being designed to afford evidence of the exercise of sovereignty and the undertaking of development in the Dependencies.

Colonial Office

September, 1946.

## SECRET

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY.

On the 28th January 1943 the Cabinet decided that an expedition should be despatched to the Falkland Islands Dependencies to strengthen the British title to these territories in the face of Argentine and Chilean claims; and subsequently to send parties to effect more or less continuous occupation of bases there.

2. In execution of this decision H.M.S. Carnarvon Castle visited the South Shetland Islands and part of the South Orkney Islands in January-February 1943. She obliterated Argentine marks of sovereignty and substituted British marks. The Argentine vessel Primero de Mayo subsequently visited the islands, obliterated the British marks and restored the Argentine marks.

3. In February 1944 parties of occupation led by Lt. Cdr. J.W.S. Marr R.N.V.R., were established at Port Lockroy in the Palmer Archipelago (Base A, 10 men) and at Deception Island in the South Shetlands (Base B, 4 men). These parties, acting on behalf of the Governor of the Falkland Islands, also set up Post Office and Wireless Telegraph Offices at these bases and franked letters there with overprinted Falkland Islands stamps. An attempt to establish a third base at Hope Bay in Trinity Peninsula was frustrated by adverse ice conditions. Two ships were employed: H.M.S. William Scoresby and Fitzroy.

4. It was officially announced in the Press on the 24th April, 1944, that arrangements had been made to resume scientific and survey work in the Dependencies, and that fully equipped bases had been established. No information, however, was given about the locality of the bases.

5. In the southern summer of 1944-45 three ships were employed: H.M.S. William Scoresby, Fitzroy, and Etgie. In February 1945 a third base was established at Hope Bay in north Graham Land (Base D, 13 men), and 4 men were again left at each of the first two bases. It had been intended to establish a further base in the South Orkney Islands, but owing to the illness of the leader of the expedition and his subsequent replacement by Capt. A. Taylor, R.C.E., it was only possible to erect a hut at Sandefjord Bay on Coronation Island, which was left unoccupied. Dog teams and sledging equipment were provided for the party at Hope Bay, who were able to sledge southwards during 1945, surveying James Ross Island and the east coast of Trinity Peninsula southwards to Cape Longing.

6. In December 1945 relief parties were sent out, under the command of Surg. Cdr. E.W. Bingham, R.N., to maintain the policy of continuous occupation. The organisation was now termed the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey. Fitzroy and William Scoresby were employed, and a new ship, Trepassey, built in Newfoundland especially for ice work, made possible a more extended programme. Eight men were left at Hope Bay, and four each at Deception Island and Port Lockroy. New bases were established at Cape Geades on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys (Base C, 4 men), and at Neny Fjord in south-west Graham Land (Base E, 10 men). The British hut on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys is 30 miles east of the Argentine meteorological station, which has been maintained - despite repeated protests from His Majesty's Government - for some forty years. The British hut in Neny Fjord is situated on



SECRET

Polar Committee

The Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey.

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Annexed, for the information of the Polar Committee, are

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A. a brief account of the activities of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey up to the end of the Antarctic summer 1945 - 1946.

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B. an explanatory sketch map.

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2. It is not proposed to give any publicity to the activities of the survey yet, but the question of publishing a suitable account of them will be considered before the next number of the Polar record is issued in a few months' time.

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(Sgd.) J. Chadwick.

Secretary.

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Dominions Office.

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30th September, 1946.

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Peninsula southwards to Cape Longing.

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the

COPY/PK.

Annex to P. (46) 10.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY.

Proposed Communication to U.S. State Department.

1. Ships of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey recently visiting British Antarctic territory between the meridians of longitude 20 degrees west and 80 degrees west of Greenwich inspected the hutments at Marguerite Bay occupied by the United States expedition at Antarctica which left by air in 1941, and found the site in considerable disorder; as the United States Government may already be aware, an Argentine vessel, the "Primero de Mayo" called at Marguerite Bay in 1943. In accordance with explicit instructions left by the United States expedition the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey recovered all the salvageable equipment of value; and this and the personal effects of the expedition are now being sorted and prepared for return to the United States at the first opportunity in the next Antarctic summer. British personnel are now in occupation of this site.

2. The Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey has established bases at Cape Geddes, Laurie Island, Hope Bay, Deception Island, Port Lockroy and Neny Fjord. The scientific and meteorological information collected by personnel of the ships and shore stations of the survey will be published.

INFORMATION OFFICE

17th October, 1945.

Passed to

Sec. C. S. I. B.  
COMMUNICATIONS  
FOR INFORMATION  
OFFICIAL

date 24/10 1945

especially for ice work, made possible a more extended programme. Eight men were left at Hope Bay, and four each at Deception Island and Port Lockroy. New bases were established at Cape Geddes on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys (Base C, 4 men), and at Neny Fjord in south-west Graham Land (Base E, 10 men). The British hut on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys is 50 miles east of the Argentine meteorological station, which has been maintained - despite repeated protests from His Majesty's Government - for some forty years. The British hut in Neny Fjord is situated on

the

COPY/PK.

P. (46) 10.

POLAR COMMITTEE.

Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey.

Annexed is the text of a communication which His Majesty's United Kingdom Ambassador, Washington, has been instructed, if he sees no objection, to make to the United States State Department.

(Sgd) J. Chadwick.

Secretary.

Mr Osley

attached copy to Secy, CSIR. for information.

M 2/10

Passed to.....SEC. C.S.I.R.  
for CONSIDERATION  
for INFORMATION  
DISPOSAL

DOMINIONS OFFICE.

4th October, 1946.

Date...24/10 Initials...A.J.G.

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the

Ref: P.S.19/68/2.

P.M. 102/2  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

9th October, 1946.

Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa

SPRINGBOK AIR SERVICE.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY  
17-10-1946  
RECORDED.....  
PLACED ON FILE.....

NOTES SURVEY.

U. S. State Department.

cies Survey.

Antarctic Dependencies  
Antarctic territory  
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W. & B. Ltd. 5,000-1/46

has been instructed, if he sees no objection, to make  
to the United States State Department.

In accordance with explicit instructions left by the  
United States expedition the Falkland Islands Dependencies  
Survey recovered all the salvagable equipment of value  
and this and the personal effects of the expedition are  
now being sorted and prepared for return to the United  
States of the first opportunity in the next Antarctic  
season. (Sgd) J. Chadwick.

Secretary.

Mr Osley

attached copy to Secy, CSIR, for  
for information.

M 2/10

DOMINIONS OFFICE.

4th October, 1946.

Passed to SEC. C. I. R.  
for CONSIDERATION  
INFORMATION  
DISPOSAL

Date... 24/10 Initials... A.F.G.

...employed, and a new ship, Proteus, built in New Zealand  
especially for ice work, made possible a more extended programme.  
Eight men were left at Hope Bay, and four each at Deception Island  
and Port Lockroy. New bases were established at Cape Geodes on  
Laurie Island in the South Orkneys (Base C, 4 men), and at Nyen  
Fjord in south-west Graham Land (Base E, 10 men). The British  
hut on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys is 30 miles east of the  
Argentine meteorological station, which has been maintained -  
despite repeated protests from His Majesty's Government - for  
some forty years. The British hut in Nyen Fjord is situated on

the



P.M. 102/2

Mr Hamilton,

Re your note on the copied extract of Dr Schouland's letter to Mr Hofmeyr (dd. 9th October 46):

The only reference to proposals for South African participation in this combined expedition to the Antarctic is a very general and indirect one.

It is contained in para. 8. of the note by the Secretary of the R. G. S. "Proposed Research in Antarctic," (flagged "A" on this file.) and merely suggests that "... some Dominions, too, might be interested" in the project.

I can find no correspondence relating to any more concrete and direct proposals for Union participation.

Mr Laurie, Sec. of C. S. I. R., <sup>has, however,</sup> to-day informed me that this proposed expedition might be suggested to the Union Gov't by the S.A. Geog. Soc., and that this resolution by the Council was brought to Mr Hofmeyr's notice, <sup>merely</sup> in case this <sup>matter</sup> should arise for discussion.

A. J. G.

25/x/1946.

EXTRACT. Original on file P.M. 102/4/1.

South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research,  
Pretoria.

9th October, 1946.

Dear Mr. Hofmeyr,

X X X X X

Finally, I am instructed to convey to you a resolution of the Council that in its opinion the Government should not support proposals made by the Geological Society of South Africa for South African participation in a British-Scandinavian expedition to the Antarctic, since the Council considers that moneys for research could be better employed in extending its own activities and those of the Universities.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) B.J. Schonland.

*H/Sony*

*Seen by*

*cut. 2/11*

*Mr Oyle*

Can we get any information about these proposals from our files?  
*see note below*

*M. 21/10*

*Mr Goodie 21/10*

*Dr Mordach*

*M. 28/10*  
*with no damage to show this to A.P.M.*

*Plans for attendance from Geological Society*

*M. 4/11*

Resolution by the Council was brought to Mr Hofmeyr's notice, <sup>merely</sup> in case this <sup>matter</sup> should arise for discussion.

*A.J.G.*

*25/X/1946.*

(Original on file F.A. 102/4/1)

(j) Any effect of the Byrd expedition on the balance of conflicting antarctic territorial claims would be merely incidental, the Admiral said, adding that the United States of America does not recognise any claim down there and has made no claim.

(k) The expedition would be highly mechanised and would prospect for minerals, including uranium, with sensitive electronic anti-submarine devices. It would include physicists but not atomic physicists. Much coal had been discovered within 1,500 miles of the South Pole.

(l) The expedition is to leave early in December and arrive in January at its destination. Ends. I am instructed to support proposals made by the Geological Institute of South Africa for South African participation in a British-South African expedition to the antarctic, since the Council considers that moneys for research could be better employed in extending its own activities and those of the universities.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) S.J. Henderson.

*Seen by [unclear] 2/11*

*see copy*

*Can we get any information about this proposal from the file at? see note below*  
*AS. 1/10 see folder 3/10*  
*Dr. [unclear]*  
*Meeting in [unclear] [unclear]*  
*see [unclear] 1/10 [unclear]*

*Kind for attention from Geological Society*  
*AS 1/10*

*resolution by the Council was brought to the Secretary's notice, and that this should arise for discussion.*

*A.F.G.*

*25/12/1946*

Received 22.11.46.

*copy on  
11/11/46*

CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Secretary for External Affairs, Pretoria.

21st November, 1946.

D. 1065.

Following is summary of interview given to the Press by Admiral Byrd as reported in the New York Times edition on November 12th. Begins:-

(a) Admiral Byrd will be in charge of large expedition to renew the United States stakes and aspirations in the rich American continent.

(b) He and Admiral Sherman, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, announced the expedition at a News conference. They said that the operation involved 4,000 officers and enlisted men and more than a dozen vessels designed to train personnel in frigid zones.

(c) The expedition would consolidate and develop the results of the American expedition in 1939-41 and amplify the scientific data.

(d) From reliable sources it was learned that the aims were to determine whether the Southern Polar areas had a value to national defence and long-term United States economy, and to strengthen this country's claims, never formally asserted, to the Antarctic area.

(f) He acknowledged, however, that the British had sent an expedition since 1942 to her old base, Marguerite Bay, that Russia had announced an expedition and that the Norwegians were also headed south.

(g) He refused to answer why the British had sent an expedition in war-time to the remotest part of the earth. Enquiries in other quarters established that the answer would have had international implications of a disturbing nature. It was then learned that the British had established what was regarded as, at least, token colonization, apparently round Marguerite Bay.

(h) Asked whether the British had ever taken over Marguerite Bay, Byrd replied that the expedition did not involve that part of his former bases. It was headed for the Little America base, 1,500 miles west. He explained that about two years ago the British went down there and put down three or four bases. He did not know whether the British were still occupying his old base, but if they want to they do so.

(i) American expedition would co-operate with British if encountered. This co-operation also extends to other expedition fostered by the American Antarctic Association under Finne Ronn.

Passed to..... *C + I* .....  
CONSIDERATION  
for INFORMATION  
DISPOSAL

Date *27/11* Initials *A.F.G.*

Passed to..... *C.S.I.R.* ..... /....  
CONSIDERATION  
for INFORMATION  
DISPOSAL

Date *25/11* Initials *A.F.G.*

*Miss Santos  
action  
23/11*

*JK*



Received 23.11.46

102/2  
114. 103/14  
to copy over

Received 23.11.46 IMPORTANT CODE TELEGRAM.  
FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

22nd November, 1946.



Unnumbered.

My telegram D. 1065.

Please insert the following in paragraph (e). Begins:

(e) Admiral denied that the expedition, which, he said, had been prepared for months, was our entry into the race for the hegemony of the Antarctic lands.

Omission regretted.

Passed to C. S. I.  
CONSIDERATION  
for INFORMATION  
DISPOSAL

Date 27/11 Initials A. J. G.

Passed to C. S. I. R.  
CONSIDERATION  
for INFORMATION  
DISPOSAL

Date 26/11 Initials A. J. G.

(d) From reliable sources it was learned that the ships were to determine whether the southern polar area had a value to national defence and long-term United States economy, and to strengthen this country's claims, never formally asserted, to the Antarctic area.

(f) He acknowledged, however, that the British had sent an expedition since 1942 to her old base, Marguerite Bay, that Russia had announced an expedition and that the Norwegians were also headed south.

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(i) American expedition would co-operate with British if encountered. This co-operation also extends to other expedition fostered by the American Antarctic Association under Anne Ronn.

/....



Governments would be well advised to take early steps to strengthen their claim to Australian Antarctic territory and to Ross Dependency respectively, and that this could only be effectively achieved by establishment of at least one permanent base in each sector.

4. Necessity of physical occupation as a means of securing sovereignty was explained to committee by Foreign Office Legal Adviser and a copy of his statement follows by first available air mail. You should know in advance, however, that main points emphasized by legal adviser were briefly as follows:-

In first place, types of claim to territorial sovereignty may be divided into three categories, viz:-

- (a) Claim by virtue of discovery, which gives inchoate right of short duration.
- (b) Claim by virtue of formal act of annexation, again giving inchoate right, effective only for limited period to perfect a claim by administration.
- (c) Completed claim by occupation, i.e. by setting up and maintenance of necessary administration.

In this connection, standard of what constitutes effective occupation and control must vary with material conditions of territory concerned. Legal Adviser then pointed out that, since 1943, His Majesty's Government in United Kingdom have been drawn to conclusion that it is no longer sufficient merely to legislate for territory (e.g. Falkland Islands Dependencies) or to issue whaling or other licences; to arrange occasional visits; appoint Magistrates or generally to exercise functions of sovereignty. In other words little or no weight now attaches to discovery; requirements of effectiveness of possession are now greater; and necessity of continuity of effective possession is now emerging almost as new requirement of international law.

5. Above statement of sovereignty question as outlined by Foreign Office legal adviser, and care which has been taken by former United States expeditions to refrain from any recognition of Australia and New Zealand sovereignty in Australian Antarctic territory and Ross Dependency, led us to the view that Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments would be well advised as a matter of urgency to consider what steps should now be taken with a view to strengthening their claims in sectors with which they are concerned. Further reason for early action is that we shall in the near future almost certainly be forced by events to give some publicity to United Kingdom activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies. This in itself can serve only to emphasize present comparative weakness of Australian and New Zealand claims.

6. In view of circumstances described, we earnestly hope that Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments will not feel able to review their policy generally in relation to Antarctic and that they will agree with us that early steps should be taken towards establishment of permanent base site or sites in their respective sectors. As for our part should, of course, be very ready to lend any assistance which may prove possible, should this be desired.

(2) Private United States expeditions.

These are understood to be under control of Lincoln Ellsworth and Finn Ronne. The latter expedition is sponsored by American Geographical Society and United States authorities have already expressed their anxiety not to embarrass us in our own activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies, where Ronne was apparently intending to establish his base, and it now seems probable that, as all the most suitable base sites in the Dependencies are already occupied, Ronne (who is believed to have been offered vessel by United States Navy Department) may possibly make for Ross Dependency, Pacific sector or elsewhere in Antarctic. Ellsworth, as to whose activities no reliable information has yet been received, might also try to reach Ross Dependency and/or Australian Antarctic territory. Either expedition might be expected to leave United States during course of next month.

(3) Norwegian Expedition.

Following tentative discussion of plans between Norwegian and Swedish Geographical and Scientific Organisations, Norwegian Government have now expressed confidentially to Swedish sponsor their willingness to ask Storting for grant of 650,000 kroner to cover cost of ship which, they hope, would be able to leave for New Schwanenland in 1948. Norwegian and Swedish authorities concerned have expressed desire for United Kingdom co-operation in expedition.

(4) United Kingdom activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies.

In view of continuing Argentine and Chilean claims in this area, Cabinet decided in 1945 to strengthen British titles in that area and to send out parties to effect more or less continuous occupation of bases. In 1945 relief parties were despatched in order to maintain policy of occupation and new bases established. Further relief party is now about to proceed to Falkland Islands Dependencies and a small aircraft is to be used for supply and survey work.

(5) Argentine activities.

Argentine Director of Meteorological Services recently informed His Majesty's Embassy at Buenos Aires that his Government proposed to send a party to occupy a "suitable island in Marguerite Bay" - (base at which is, of course, already occupied by United Kingdom party) - and that five Argentine naval vessels were to be employed during 1947 on Antarctic research work. Further clarification of above reports is still awaited.

3. With exception of (1) and (5) above, activities referred to were discussed at recent meeting of Polar Committee, on which Dominion Governments are represented. (We understand that your representative on Committee will already have forwarded to you copies of the relevant minutes). During course of discussion view was expressed that, in light of forthcoming United States expeditions to Antarctic, Commonwealth and New Zealand



102/2  
PM. 103/14 Oct

The contents of this information must be paraphrased if they are communicated to any person outside a Government Department.

# SECRET

Ex PH 1/54/1  
copy  
PH 103/14

Received 22.11.1946.

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

21st November, 1946.

Guard B. No. 1034.

Addressed to Commonwealth of Australia and New Zealand. Repeated to Canada and Union of South Africa for information.

TOP SECRET, (Dom)

1. Recent important developments in Antarctic have led us to reconsider our previous policy in relation to general British Commonwealth territorial claims in that area.

2. As you will doubtless be aware from recent articles in United Kingdom and United States press, following activities in Antarctic are now either impending or in actual progress:-

- (1) United States Navy Department expedition.
- (2) One or two privately organised United States expeditions.
- (3) Norwegian expedition to New Schwanenland.
- (4) United Kingdom survey party activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies.
- (5) Argentine Naval expedition to Falkland Islands Dependencies.

Background to above expeditions is briefly as follows:-

(1) United States Navy Department expedition. Following reports in United States press that large-scale expedition had been planned to explore "sub-continental South Pole" from base at Little America in Ross Dependency, Embassy in Washington asked State Department for clarification and were informed, confidentially, that expedition was, in fact, a Fleet exercise which had been transferred from Arctic to Little America area of Antarctic in order not to offend Soviet susceptibilities. Scientific exploration would remain incidental to main purpose of Fleet activities. Admiral Byrd has since given press interview on purposes and composition of expedition, and summary of his remarks is contained in my immediately following telegram.

Passed to C+1 (Mr. J.W. Torr)  
CONSIDERATION  
INFORMATION  
for  
DISPOSAL  
Date 27/11 Initials A.f.c.

Passed to C.S. 1R  
CONSIDERATION  
INFORMATION  
for  
DISPOSAL  
Date 26/11 Initials A.f.c.

COPY/JT

GEZANTSCHAP  
DER  
NEDERLANDEN

PRETORIA, 14 November 1946.

No. 12.400/L1

Mijnheer de Minister van Buitenlandsche Zaken a.i.,

Ik heb de eer Uwer Excellentie hierbij te berichten, dat de Nederlandsche Walvischvaarder "Willem Barentszoon", welke binnenkort te Kaapstad wordt verwacht, gaarne op haar reis naar de Zuidelijke Poolstreken de assistentie zou verkrijgen van een radardeskundige.

De Nederlandsche Regeering zou het zeer op prijs stellen, indien de Regeering van de Unie van Zuid-Afrika bereid zou zijn aan een al of niet gedemobiliseerden deskundige van de land-, zee- of luchtmacht toestemming te verleen om de a.s. reis mede te maken. Deze persoon ware desgewenscht door de Unie Regeering aan te wijzen.

Het vertrek van de "Willem Barentszoon" zal ongeveer einde November a.s. vanuit Kaapstad plaats vinden. De terugkeer zal vermoedelijk half Februari 1947 per tanker Goarne plaatsvinden.

In verband met het a.s. vertrek en het feit, dat de Nederlandsche Regeering telegrafisch antwoord heeft verzocht zou een spoedige behandeling van deze aangelegenheid ten zeerste worden gewaardeerd.

Gelief Mijnheer de Minister van Buitenlandsche Zaken a.i. onder dankzegging voor het gevolg dat aan dit verzoek kan worden gegeven, de hernieuwde verzekering mijner zeer bijzondere hoogachting wel te willen aanvaarden.

(Geteken) VISSER.

Zijner Excellentie den Heere Wnd. Eersten  
Minister, Minister van Buitelandsche Zaken a.i., enz.,  
te PRETORIA.

Gelief, Mijnheer de Minister van Buitenlandsche Zaken a.i., onder dankzegging voor het gevoeg dat aan dit verzoek kan worden gegeven, de hernieuwde verzekering mijner zeer bijzondere hoogachting wel te willen aanvaarden.

W. Minister

- ① Col. Collins (D-G. Signals) phoned 09.15 hrs 21/XI/46: said he had a suitable man in mind to whom he would telegraph. He asked us to enquire date of sailing, and rates of pay.
- ② Mr Quares van Ufford phoned, p.m., and above enquiries made. He later phoned and asked us to find out minimum pay demands of the technician.
- ③ Office of D-G. Sigs. phoned 3.45 p.m. and the question put to him.

A.I.G.

21/XI

Zijner Excellentie den Heere Wnd. Eersten  
Minister, Minister van Buitelandsche Zaken a.i., enz.,  
te PRETORIA.

GEZANTSCHAP  
DER  
NEDERLANDEN.

M.102/2.

RECEIVED  
18-11-1946  
PLACES ON FILE

Pretoria, 14 November 1946.

Nº. 12.400/L1

*Aangevaard*

Mijnheer de Minister van Buitenlandsche Zaken a.i.,

Ik heb de eer Uwer Excellentie hierbij te berichten, dat de Nederlandsche Walvischvaarder "Willem Barentszoon", welke binnenkort te Kaapstad wordt verwacht, gaarne op haar reis naar de Zuidelijke Poolstreken de assistentie zou verkrijgen van een radardeskundige.

De Nederlandsche Regeering zou het zeer op prijs stellen, indien de Regeering van de Unie van Zuid-Afrika bereid zou zijn aan een al of niet gedemobiliseerendesdeskundige van de land-, zee- of luchtmacht toestemming te verleen en om de a.s. reis mede te maken. Deze persoon ware desgewenscht door de Unie Regeering aan te wijzen.

*W.H. J. van der Scholten a.s. reis in de communicatie met G. W. van der Meer*  
A.M. 21/11

Het vertrek van de "Willem Barentszoon" zal ongeveer einde November a.s. vanuit Kaapstad plaats vinden. De terugkeer zal vermoedelijk half Februari 1947 per tanker Goarne plaatsvinden.

In verband met het a.s. vertrek en het feit, dat de Nederlandsche Regeering telegrafisch antwoord heeft verzocht zou een spoedige behandeling van deze aangelegenheid ten eerste worden gewaardeerd.

Gelief/....

Zijner Excellentie den Heere Wnd. Eersten Minister, Minister van Buitenlandsche Zaken a.i., enz., te Pretoria

FOR ATTENTION: COL. COLLINS (D-G. SIGNALS)

Passed to C.G.S.

URGENT  
BY HAND

CONSIDERATION  
for INFORMATION  
DISPOSAL

(SEE OVER)

Date 21/11 Initials C.F.G.

*Uppass  
3 sept. a.s.  
W.H. 21/11*

Zijner Excellentie den Heere Wnd. Eersten Minister, Minister van Buitelandsche Zaken a.i., enz., te PRETORIA.



P. M. 102/2.

Mr Hayilton,

I have dealt with this matter, chiefly by means of telephone, with Col. Collins (D. G. Signals, U. D. F.) and Mr Quarles von Ufford of the Netherlands Legation.

A suitable radar operator and technician, J. R. Addison of Durban, has been recommended by Col. Collins. He will report to the Netherlands Consul in Cape Town on 3rd December.

Addison has made the following demands which have been accepted by the shipper:-

1. Pay of 30/- per diem for the first 60 days; and 40/- a day thereafter.
2. First-class rail-fare and travelling expenses from Dbn to port of embarkation, and return to Dbn. on conclusion of voyage.
3. Rank of ship's officer for purposes of accommodation etc on board.

File  
M 3/12

A. G.

30/XI/1946.

in the Decree of the 6th November, 1940, and that such regions, as is pointed out in the Decree, form an integral part of the American Antarctic. Immediately, therefore, on the settlement of the dispute referred to above, which was concluded on the 20th November, 1902, through the arbitration of His Majesty King Edward VII, Chile regarded the territories concerned as being incorporated within the national economy and, accordingly, issued various Decrees relating to occupation, fishing rights etc., to none of which, either then or since, have His Majesty's Government or the Governments of other countries, made objection.

My Government much regret not having had earlier knowledge of the Letters Patent mentioned by Your Excellency, as had that been so, they would have taken due note of them and reserved their rights in the matter, which they now officially do, considering the Letters as being contrary to the claims of Chilean sovereignty over the regions in question.

It has always been a matter of great satisfaction to Chile that she has never been involved in any dispute with Great Britain concerning territorial claims, and my Government would sincerely regret that any such controversy should now arise, in view of the long and cordial relations which have remained unbroken between our two countries.

I have the honour to be,  
With the highest consideration,  
Your Excellency's obedient  
Servant,

MANUEL BIANCHI.  
Chilean Ambassador.

Copy

EMBAJADA DE CHILE.

LONDON, 23rd January 1946.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I am instructed by my Government to refer to Your Excellency's Note of the 25th February, 1941, in reply to my communication of the 11th November, 1940, transcribing the text of the Chilean Government's Decree, dated 6th November of the same year, setting forth the boundaries of Chilean Antarctic territory.

Having regard to the recent world conflict, my Government has hitherto abstained from reverting to the Note referred to above, considering the circumstances inopportune in which to engage in discussion of a matter which, it is felt, is capable of being settled in the customary spirit of understanding and goodwill characteristic of the traditional relations between our two countries.

In the Note in question, Your Excellency refers to the fact that the sector of the Antarctic mentioned in my Government's Decree comprises part of the British possessions called "Dependencies of the Falkland Islands," the boundaries of which had been defined by Letters Patent of the 28th March, 1917. My Government, however, has never been officially notified of the text of these Letters.

Your Excellency's Note goes on to state that, in view of the foregoing, His Majesty's Government is unable to recognize the Chilean Government's Decree of the 6th November, 1940, since it relates to sectors of the Antarctic already comprised by the Falkland Islands Dependencies.

My Government have given careful consideration to the Note of Your Excellency, and request me to express their regret at the decision taken by His Majesty's Government, based solely on the Letters Patent of the 28th March, 1917, not to accord recognition to the Decree of His Excellency the President of the Republic, determining the boundaries of Chilean sovereignty in regions always held to be Chilean, on geographical, juridical, historical, diplomatic and administrative grounds.

The Chilean claim is not, therefore, new. In 1902, His Majesty's Government acted as arbitrator in a prolonged boundary dispute between the Chilean and Argentine Governments, and it will not have been forgotten that our claims in respect of territory are in accord with our geographical position, which gives Chile indisputable sovereignty over the Polar regions indicated

/in

PM 103/14 (cc)

PLACED ON FILE DUPLICATE

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Circular despatch D No. 80

Dominions Office,  
Downing Street.



25. 1. 46.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a Note addressed by the Chilean Ambassador in London to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs regarding the claims of the Chilean Government to certain sectors of the Falkland Islands Dependencies.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient,  
humble servant,

(Signed) ADDISON

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC  
AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH  
The Secretary:  
CONSIDERATION  
PASSED TO YOU FOR INFORMATION  
DISPOSAL

PM 103/14 Date 25/11

A. J. G. Key  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

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(j) Any effect of the Byrd expedition on the balance of conflicting antarctic territorial claims would be merely incidental, the Admiral said, adding that the United States of America does not recognise any claim down there and has made no claim.

(k) The expedition would be highly mechanised and would prospect for minerals, including uranium, with sensitive electronic anti-submarine devices. It would include physicists but not atomic physicists. Much coal had been discovered within 1,500 miles of the South Pole.

(l) The expedition is to leave early in December and arrive in January at its destination. Ends.

Sir,  
Your most obedient,  
Dudley Buxton,

THE MINISTER OF MINERAL AFFAIRS  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Received and transmitted  
The Secretary, Dept. of Mineral Affairs  
25/12/46  
A. J. Grey  
Secretary to the Minister of Mineral Affairs

The Union of South Africa, therefore, not, in 1904, His Majesty's Government acted as arbitrator in a prolonged boundary dispute between the British and Argentine Governments, and it will not have been forgotten that the dispute in respect of territory now in dispute was not geographical, but that it was a dispute over the rights of discovery and administration.

The Union of South Africa, therefore, not, in 1904, His Majesty's Government acted as arbitrator in a prolonged boundary dispute between the British and Argentine Governments, and it will not have been forgotten that the dispute in respect of territory now in dispute was not geographical, but that it was a dispute over the rights of discovery and administration.

Received 22.11.46.

CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Secretary for External Affairs, Pretoria.

21st November, 1946.

D. 1065.

Following is summary of interview given to the Press by Admiral Byrd as reported in the New York Times edition on November 12th. Begins:-

- (a) Admiral Byrd will be in charge of large expedition to renew the United States stakes and aspirations in the rich American continent.
- (b) He and Admiral Sherman, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, announced the expedition at a news conference. They said that the operation involved 4,000 officers and enlisted men and more than a dozen vessels designed to train personnel in frigid zones.
- (c) The expedition would consolidate and develop the results of the American expedition in 1939-41 and simplify the scientific data.
- (d) From reliable sources it was learned that the aims were to determine whether the Southern Polar areas had a value to national defence and long-term United States economy, and to strengthen this country's claims, never formally asserted, to the Antarctic area.
- (f) He acknowledged, however, that the British had sent an expedition since 1942 to her old base, Marguerite Bay, that Russia had announced an expedition and that the Norwegians were also headed south.
- (g) He refused to answer why the British had sent an expedition in war-time to the remotest part of the earth. Enquiries in other quarters established that the answer would have had international implications of a disturbing nature. It was then learned that the British had established what was regarded as, at least, token colonization, apparently round Marguerite Bay.
- (h) Asked whether the British had ever taken over Marguerite Bay, Byrd replied that the expedition did not involve that part of his former bases. It was headed for the little America base, 1,500 miles west. He explained that about two years ago the British went down there and put down three or four bases. He did not know whether the British were still occupying his old base, but if they went to they do so.
- (i) American expedition would co-operate with British if encountered. This co-operation also extends to other expedition fostered by the American Antarctic Association under Finne Ronn.

/....

Received 23.11.46

23.11.46 IMPORTANT CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

22nd November, 1946.

Unnumbered.

My telegram D. 1065.

Please insert the following in paragraph (e). Begins:

(e) Admiral denied that the expedition, which he said, had been prepared for months, was our entry into the race for the hegemony of the Antarctic lands.

Omission regretted.

COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

The Secretary for.....

CONSIDERATION PASSED TO YOU FOR INFORMATION DISPOSED

PM 103/14 Date 26/11

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(b) He said that the expedition was a British one and called upon the world to support it. He said that the expedition was a British one and called upon the world to support it.

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(h) Asked whether the British had ever taken over Marguerite Bay, Byrd replied that the expedition did not involve that part of his former bases. It was headed for the Little America base, 1,500 miles west. He explained that about two years ago the British went down there and put down three or four bases. He did not know whether the British were still occupying his old base, but if they went to they do so.

(i) American expedition would co-operate with British if encountered. This co-operation also extends to other expedition fostered by the American Antarctic Association under Linne Ronn.

Received 28.11.48

4

7. We should much appreciate an early expression of Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments' views on the subject as a whole. We should also welcome any comments Canadian and Union Governments may wish to offer.

Enclosure

To: [illegible]

From: [illegible]

[illegible text]

[illegible text]

Classified by [illegible]  
Date [illegible]

103/14 [illegible]

[Signature]

had a value to national defence and long-term United States economy, and to strengthen this country's claims, never formally asserted, to the Antarctic area.

(f) He acknowledged, however, that the British had sent an expedition since 1942 to her old base, Marguerite Bay, that Russia had announced an expedition and that the Norwegians were also headed south.

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(i) American expedition would co-operate with British if encountered. This co-operation also extends to other expedition fostered by the American Antarctic Association under Linne Ronn.

/....



Governments would be well advised to take early steps to strengthen their claims to Australian Antarctic territory and to Ross Dependency respectively, and that this could only be effectively achieved by establishment of at least one permanent base in each sector.

4. Necessity of physical occupation as a means of securing sovereignty was explained to committee by Foreign Office Legal Adviser and a copy of his statement follows by first available air mail. You should know in advance, however, that main points emphasised by legal adviser were briefly as follows:-

In first place, types of claim to territorial sovereignty may be divided into three categories, viz:-

- (a) Claim by virtue of discovery, which gives inchoate right of short duration.
- (b) Claim by virtue of formal act of annexation, again giving inchoate right, effective only for limited period to perfect a claim by administration.
- (c) Completed claim by occupation, i.e. by setting up and maintenance of necessary administration.

In this connection, standard of what constitutes effective occupation and control must vary with material conditions of territory concerned. Legal Adviser then pointed out that, since 1943, His Majesty's Government in United Kingdom have been drawn to conclusion that it is no longer sufficient merely to legislate for territory (e.g. Falkland Islands Dependencies) or to issue whaling or other licences; to arrange occasional visits; appoint Magistrates or generally to exercise functions of sovereignty. In other words little or no weight now attaches to discovery; requirements of effectiveness of possession are now greater; and necessity of continuity of effective possession is now emerging almost as new requirement of international law.

5. Above statement of sovereignty question as outlined by Foreign Office legal adviser, and care which has been taken by former United States expeditions to refrain from any recognition of Australia and New Zealand sovereignty in Australian Antarctic territory and Ross Dependency, led us to the view that Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments would be well advised as a matter of urgency to consider what steps should now be taken with a view to strengthening their claims in sectors with which they are concerned. Further reason for early action is that we shall in the near future be almost certainly be forced by events to give some publicity to United Kingdom activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies. This in itself can serve only to emphasise present comparative weakness of Australian and New Zealand claims.

6. In view of circumstances described, we earnestly hope that Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments will now feel able to review their policy generally in relation to Antarctic and that they will agree with us that early steps should be taken towards establishment of permanent base site or sites in their respective sectors. We for our part should, of course, be very ready to lend any assistance which may prove possible, should this be desired.

(2) Private United States expeditions.

These are understood to be under control of Lincoln Ellsworth and Finn Ronne. The latter expedition is sponsored by American Geographical Society and United States authorities have already expressed their anxiety not to embarrass us in our own activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies, where Ronne was apparently intending to establish his base, and it now seems probable that, as all the most suitable base sites in the Dependencies are already occupied, Ronne (who is believed to have been offered vessel by United States Navy Department) may possibly make for Ross Dependency, Pacific sector or elsewhere in Antarctic. Ellsworth, as to whose activities no reliable information has yet been received, might also try to reach Ross Dependency and/or Australian Antarctic territory. Either expedition might be expected to leave United States during course of next month.

(3) Norwegian Expedition.

Following tentative discussion of plans between Norwegian and Swedish Geographical and Scientific Organisations, Norwegian Government have now expressed confidentially to Swedish sponsor their willingness to ask Storting for grant of 350,000 kroner to cover cost of ship which, they hope, would be able to leave for New Schwanenland in 1948. Norwegian and Swedish authorities concerned have expressed desire for United Kingdom co-operation in expedition.

(4) United Kingdom activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies.

In view of continuing Argentine and Chilean claims in this area, Cabinet decided in 1943 to strengthen British titles in that area and to send out parties to effect more or less continuous occupation of bases. In 1945 relief parties were despatched in order to maintain policy of occupation and new bases established. Further relief party is now about to proceed to Falkland Islands Dependencies and a small aircraft is to be used for supply and survey work.

(5) Argentine activities.

Argentine Director of Meteorological Services recently informed His Majesty's Embassy at Buenos Aires that his Government proposed to send a party to occupy a "suitable island in Marguerite Bay" - (base at which is, of course, already occupied by United Kingdom party) - and that five Argentine naval vessels were to be employed during 1947 on Antarctic research work. Further clarification of above reports is still awaited.

3. With exception of (1) and (5) above, affairs referred to were discussed at recent meeting of Committee, on which Dominion Governments are represented. (We understand that your representative on Committee will already have forwarded to you copies of relevant minutes). During course of discussion view was expressed that, in light of forthcoming United States expeditions to Antarctic, Commonwealth and New Zealand /....

# SECRET

The contents of this telegram must be paraphrased if they are communicated to any person outside a Government Department.

Received 22.11.1946.

### IMPORTANT TELEGRAM

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO : Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

21st November, 1946.

Guard D. No. 1064.

Addressed to Commonwealth of Australia and New Zealand. Repeated to Canada and Union of South Africa for information.

TOP SECRET. (DOM)

1. Recent important developments in Antarctic have led us to reconsider our previous policy in relation to general British Commonwealth territorial claims in that area.

2. As you will doubtless be aware from recent articles in United Kingdom and United States press, following activities in Antarctic are now either impending or in actual progress:-

- (1) United States Navy Department expedition.
- (2) One or two privately organized United States expeditions.
- (3) Norwegian expedition to New Schwanenland.
- (4) United Kingdom survey party activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies.
- (5) Argentine Naval expedition to Falkland Islands Dependencies.

Background to above expeditions is briefly as follows:-

(1) United States Navy Department expedition. Following reports in United States press that large-scale expedition had been planned to explore "sub-continental South Pole" from base at Little America in Ross Dependency, Embassy in Washington asked State Department for clarification and were informed, confidentially, that expedition was, in fact, a Fleet exercise which had been transferred from Arctic to Little America area of Antarctica in order not to offend Soviet susceptibilities. Scientific exploration would remain incidental to main purpose of Fleet activities. Admiral Byrd has since given press interview on purposes and composition of expedition, and summary of his remarks is contained in my immediately following telegram.

COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH  
The Secretary for  
CONSIDERATION  
PASSED TO YOU FOR INFORMATION  
DISPOSABLE

PM  
Ref. 103/17 Date 26/11  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

/....

**SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH  
SUID-AFRIKAANSE WETENSKAPLIKE EN NYWERHEIDNAVORSINGSRAAD**

Telephone 2-1738  
Teleloc  
Telegrams: "NAVORS"  
Telegramsme:

Reference No. 10/2/4.  
Verwysingsnommer

Private Bag/Privaatsak, 189,  
PRETORIA

29th November, 1946.

**SECRET**

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY  
-2-12-1946  
RECORDED &  
PLACED ON FILE

Dear Sir,

Developments in Antarctic Exploration.  
Telegram Guard D.1064 passed to me  
for consideration.

*Dr Macleod - I believe you discussed this with him in the originally, and it occurs to me that you will wish to let him know in the past discussions with the Prime Minister*

In past discussions with the Prime Minister I have obtained a ruling that the Union of South Africa is not at present interested in expeditions to the Antarctic. Unless, therefore, the further information contained in this telegram leads him to a change of view, I have no comments to offer on behalf of my Council. The papers dealing with the subject are returned herewith.

Yours faithfully,

*[Signature]*

PRESIDENT : COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*Mr. K. H. ...  
Mr. ...  
Dr. ...  
Spec for ...  
- by ...  
11/11/46*

*we have ...  
for ... C.O.S.  
11/11/46*

COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH  
The Secretary for External Affairs  
PASSED TO YOU FOR INFORMATION

PM 103/19 Date 26.11.46  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(1) Union States Navy Department expedition. Following reports in United States press that large-scale expedition had been planned to explore "sub-continental South Pole" from base at Little America in Ross Dependency, Embassy in Washington asked State Department for clarification and were informed, confidentially, that expedition was, in fact, a Fleet exercise which had been transferred from Arctic to Little America area of Antarctic in order not to offend Soviet susceptibilities. Scientific exploration would remain incidental to main purpose of Fleet activities. Admiral Byrd has since given press interview on purposes and composition of expedition, and summary of his remarks is contained in my immediately following telegram.

/....



other government scientific agencies will provide meteorologists, geographers, oceanographers, hydrographers, photographers, etc. The Marine Corps will furnish a part of the air flight crews and other cold weather specialists.

The scientific program is subject to the general guidance of the Director of Naval Research, Rear Admiral P.F.Lee, U.S.N.

Each of the large seaplane tenders, PINE ISLAND and CURRIEUCK, will carry three camera-equipped Martin MARINER patrol seaplanes, a small scout plane and two helicopters.

Each of the two icebreakers will carry one scout seaplane and one helicopter. The long range operational and mapping flights will be made by the MARINERS while the scouts will be used primarily for short range ice reconnaissance and the helicopters for rescue work in case of forced landings.

The presence of cargo ships and tankers will make the entire force self-supporting in supplies and fuel. The submarine is expected to contribute materially to the oceanographic research because of its sensitive fathometers and bathythermographs. Both submarine and destroyers will provide additional safeguards during the over water portion of operational flights. The major ships will be equipped for collecting ocean floor samples, particularly off the seaward ends of many glaciers, since analysis of these samples will furnish data for estimating the geological composition of the terrain under the glacier.

Altogether, approximately 4,000 officers and men will take part in the expedition.

A major purpose of the expedition is to learn how the Navy's standard, everyday equipment will perform under sub-zero conditions. Therefore, except for the cost of transporting and installing government-owned scientific instruments, and of procurement of cold weather equipment, the cost of the expedition will be no greater than the normal expenditure of maintaining ships and personnel in routine duty.

Illinois), a naval aviator and a member of the previous Byrd expedition. It will include the seaplane tender USS PINE ISLAND, the oiler USS CANISTEO and the destroyer USS BROWNSON.

(C) The West Group will be under the immediate command of Captain Charles A. Bond, U.S.N., (316 North Granada Street, Arlington, Virginia, and Philadelphia, Pa.), also a naval aviator and a veteran of wartime aviation in the Aleutians. It will include the seaplane tender USS CURRITUCK, the oiler USS CACAPON and the destroyer USS HENDERSON.

Aircraft for shore-based flight operations will be flown in from an aircraft carrier after the base has been set up on the Ross Shelf Ice.

Plans include departure from U.S. ports early in December 1946, timely arrival in the vicinity of the Antarctic continental shelf ice and the systematic conduct of a series of exercises as long as the open season continues. Ships are expected to return to home ports in April, 1947.

It is not intended to continue any part of the task force in the Antarctic through the winter night, but a base capable of subsisting a small party for at least 18 months will be established, possibly on the site of the former Byrd expedition base at Little America, to provide against contingencies.

Although the expedition will have the benefit of special equipment developed during the war, the primitive dog-drawn Eskimo sled and teams of Husky dogs will be indispensable. Thus, the oldest and the newest forms of transportation and communications will be joined in accomplishing the expedition's objectives.

While the purposes of the operations are primarily of a military nature, that is, to train naval personnel and to test ships, planes and equipment under frigid zone conditions, the expedition, because of its versatility and mobility, affords an unequalled opportunity to amplify existing scientific data. To take full advantage of this feature, arrangements have been made with other governmental departments for scientists in a number of specialties to participate.

The Army will be represented by Air and Ground Force observers and by Quartermasters interested in clothing and rations. The Weather Bureau, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Coast Guard, the U.S. Geological Service, the Hydrographic Office, the material bureaux of the Navy Department, the  
other

COPY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

November 12, 1946

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
PRESS AND RADIO

NAVAL TASK FORCE TO LEAVE FOR ANTARCTIC EARLY  
IN DECEMBER.

In extension of its policy of developing the ability of naval forces to operate under any and all climatic conditions, a task force of the Atlantic Fleet, augmented by units of the Pacific Fleet, will proceed into the Antarctic as early in 1947 as ice conditions permit to carry out an extensive training and development program there throughout the duration of the navigable season.

Specifically the objectives of the expedition are:

- (a) Training personnel and testing equipment in frigid zones
- (b) Consolidating and developing the results of the U.S. Antarctic Service Expedition of 1939-1941.
- (c) Developing naval techniques for establishing, supporting and using bases under comparable conditions.
- (d) Amplifying knowledge of the area with respect to hydrographic, geographic, geological, meteorological and electromagnetic propagation conditions.

The War Department and other interested agencies of the Government have been invited to assign observers to accompany the expedition.

Technical control of the expedition will be exercised by Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, U.S.N., (Retired), who is on duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Advisor on Arctic and Antarctic matters, and who has been designated officer in charge of this project. Rear Admiral Byrd plans to be present with the task force and participate actively. The Task Force Commander will be Captain Richard H. Cruzen, U.S.N., (Gallatin, Missouri), who was captain of the cutter USS BEAR and Rear Admiral Byrd's second in command in 1939-1941. Captain Cruzen commanded the Navy's Arctic training cruise during the past summer.

The Task Force will be divided into three main groups, as follows:

- (A) The West Group will include the flagship and headquarters communication ship, USS MOUNT OLYMPUS, the Coast Guard icebreaker USS NORTHWIND, Navy icebreaker USS BURTON ISLAND, the cargo ships USS YANCEY AND USS MERRICK, and the submarine USS SENNET.
- (B) The East Group will be under the immediate command of Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N. (Rockford,

Illinois),

other government scientific agencies will provide meteorologists, geographers, oceanographers, hydrographers, photographers, etc. The Marine Corps will furnish a part of the air flight crews and other cold weather specialists.

The scientific program is subject to the general guidance of the Director of Naval Research, Rear Admiral P.F.Lee, U.S.N.

Each of the large seaplane tenders, PINE ISLAND and CURRITUCK, will carry three camera-equipped Martin MARINER patrol seaplanes, a small scout plane and two helicopters.

Each of the two icebreakers will carry one scout seaplane and one helicopter. The long range operational and mapping flights will be made by the MARINERS while the scouts will be used primarily for short range ice reconnaissance and the helicopters for rescue work in case of forced landings.

The presence of cargo ships and tankers will make the entire force self-supporting in supplies and fuel. The submarine is expected to contribute materially to the oceanographic research because of its sensitive fathometers and bathythermographs. Both submarine and destroyers will provide additional safeguards during the over water portion of operational flights. The major ships will be equipped for collecting ocean floor samples, particularly off the seaward ends of many glaciers, since analysis of these samples will furnish data for estimating the geological composition of the terrain under the glacier.

Altogether, approximately 4,000 officers and men will take part in the expedition.

A major purpose of the expedition is to learn how the Navy's standard, everyday equipment will perform under sub-zero conditions. Therefore, except for the cost of transporting and installing government-owned scientific instruments, and of procurement of cold weather equipment, the cost of the expedition will be no greater than the normal expenditure of maintaining ships and personnel in routine duty.



Illinois), a naval aviator and a member of the previous Byrd expedition. It will include the seaplane tender USS PINE ISLAND, the oiler USS CANISTEO and the destroyer USS BROWNSON.

(C) The West Group will be under the immediate command of Captain Charles A. Bond, U.S.N., (316 North Granada Street, Arlington, Virginia, and Philadelphia, Pa.), also a naval aviator and a veteran of wartime aviation in the Aleutians. It will include the seaplane tender USS CURRITUCK, the oiler USS CACAPON and the destroyer USS HENDERSON.

Aircraft for shore-based flight operations will be flown in from an aircraft carrier after the base has been set up on the Ross Shelf Ice.

Plans include departure from U.S. ports early in December 1946, timely arrival in the vicinity of the Antarctic continental shelf ice and the systematic conduct of a series of exercises as long as the open season continues. Ships are expected to return to home ports in April, 1947.

It is not intended to continue any part of the task force in the Antarctic through the Winter night, but a base capable of subsisting a small party for at least 18 months will be established, possibly on the site of the former Byrd expedition base at Little America, to provide against contingencies.

Although the expedition will have the benefit of special equipment developed during the war, the primitive dog-drawn Eskimo sled and teams of Husky dogs will be indispensable. Thus, the oldest and the newest forms of transportation and communications will be joined in accomplishing the expedition's objectives.

While the purposes of the operations are primarily of a military nature, that is, to train naval personnel and to test ships, planes and equipment under frigid zone conditions, the expedition, because of its versatility and mobility, affords an unequalled opportunity to amplify existing scientific data. To take full advantage of this feature, arrangements have been made with other governmental departments for scientists in a number of specialties to participate.

The Army will be represented by Air and Ground Force observers and by Quartermasters interested in clothing and rations. The Weather Bureau, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Coast Guard, the U.S. Geological Service, the Hydrographic Office, the material bureaus of the Navy Department, the other

COPY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

November 12, 1946

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
PRESS AND RADIO

NAVAL TASK FORCE TO LEAVE FOR ANTARCTIC EARLY  
IN DECEMBER.

In extension of its policy of developing the ability of naval forces to operate under any and all climatic conditions, a task force of the Atlantic Fleet, augmented by units of the Pacific Fleet, will proceed into the Antarctic as early in 1947 as ice conditions permit to carry out an extensive training and development program there throughout the duration of the navigable season.

Specifically the objectives of the expedition are:

- (a) Training personnel and testing equipment in frigid zones
- (b) Consolidating and developing the results of the U.S. Antarctic Service Expedition of 1939-1941.
- (c) Developing naval techniques for establishing, supporting and using bases under comparable conditions.
- (d) Amplifying knowledge of the area with respect to hydrographic, geographic, geological, meteorological and electromagnetic propagation conditions.

The War Department and other interested agencies of the Government have been invited to assign observers to accompany the expedition.

Technical control of the expedition will be exercised by Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, U.S.N., (Retired), who is on duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Advisor on Arctic and Antarctic matters, and who has been designated officer in charge of this project. Rear Admiral Byrd plans to be present with the task force and participate actively. The Task Force Commander will be Captain Richard H. Cruzen, U.S.N., (Gallatin, Missouri), who was captain of the cutter USS BEAR and Rear Admiral Byrd's second in command in 1939-1941. Captain Cruzen commanded the Navy's Arctic training cruise during the past summer.

The Task Force will be divided into three main groups, as follows:

- (A) The West Group will include the flagship and headquarters communication ship, USS MOUNT OLYMPUS, the Coast Guard icebreaker USS NORTHWIND, Navy icebreaker USS BURTON ISLAND, the cargo ships USS YANCEY AND USS MERRICK, and the submarine USS SENNET.
- (B) The East Group will be under the immediate command of Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N. (Rockford,

Illinois),

Union

PM 102/2

D.O. 1

For Information

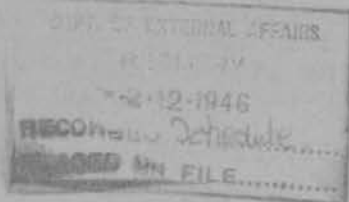
TMENT

November 12, 1946

Antarctic Expedition

LEAVE FOR ANTARCTIC EARLY  
EMBER.

With the Compliments of  
the Secretary of State  
for Dominion Affairs.



Dominions Office,  
Downing Street,  
S.W.1.

*Mr. Dunn*

*The Minister*

26 NOV 1946

*Copy to L.  
see CSZR. for  
inf. M 3/12*

its policy of developing the ability  
under any and all climatic  
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conditions permit to carry out an  
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41.

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to hydrographic, geographic, geological,  
meteorological and electromagnetic propagation  
conditions.

The War Department and other interested agencies of  
the Government have been invited to assign observers to  
accompany the expedition.

Technical control of the expedition will be exercised  
by Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, U.S.N., (Retired), who is on  
duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Advisor  
on Arctic and Antarctic matters, and who has been designated  
officer in charge of this project. Rear Admiral Byrd plans  
to be present with the task force and participate actively.  
The Task Force Commander will be Captain Richard H. Cruzen,  
U.S.N., (Callatin, Missouri), who was captain of the cutter  
USS BEAR and Rear Admiral Byrd's second in command in 1939-  
1941. Captain Cruzen commanded the Navy's Arctic training  
cruise during the past summer.

The Task Force will be divided into three main  
groups, as follows:

(A) The Central Group will include the flagship and  
headquarters communication ship, USS MOUNT OLYMPUS,  
the Coast Guard icebreaker USS NORTHWIND, Navy  
icebreaker USS BURTON ISLAND, the cargo ships  
USS YANCEY AND USS MERRICK, and the submarine USS  
SENNET.

(B) The East Group will be under the immediate  
command of Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N. (Rockford,

Illinois),

Telegraphic Address "NYWERCOM,"  
Telegramadres

Telephone  
Tele. XXXXX 3-1651.



RM 102/14  
102/2

G.I. I. A.

All communications to be addressed  
to the Secretary.  
Adresser asb. alle briewe aan die  
Sekretaris.

In reply please quote  
Verwys in antwoord asb. na

180.

No. C.I.  
No. H.N.

DEPT  
REC'D  
PL. C. 3. 0. 7  
6-12-1946

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES,  
DEPARTEMENT VAN HANDEL EN NYWERHEID,

218 CENTRAL STREET,  
SENTRAALSTRAAT 218,

PRETORIA,

194

① *himself*; *re. sub-let*  
*received on 12/12*

5 DEC 1946

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS : PRETORIA.

RM 102/2

I refer to your endorsement P.M. 103/14 of the  
27th ultimo, regarding telegrams 1064 and 1065 received from  
the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, and to advise  
you that I have no comments to offer.

① *Mr. D...*  
*Mr. D...*

SECRETARY FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES.

*Mr. D... up -*  
*telegram to Mr. D... + Dr. Sch...*  
*JV/ comment. like - submit. to a meeting on 17/12,*

*M 6/12*

ing knowledge of the area with respect  
to hydrographic, geographic, geological,  
meteorological and electromagnetic propagation  
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The War Department and other interested agencies of  
the Government have been invited to assign observers to  
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Technical control of the expedition will be exercised  
by Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, U.S.N., (Retired), who is on  
duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Advisor  
on Arctic and Antarctic matters, and who has been designated  
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The Task Force will be divided into three main  
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(A) The Central Group will include the flagship and  
headquarters communication ship, USS MOUNT OLYMPUS,  
the Coast Guard icebreaker USS NORTHWIND, Navy  
icebreaker USS BURTON ISLAND, the cargo ships  
USS YANCEY AND USS MERRICK, and the submarine USS  
SENNET.

(B) The East Group will be under the immediate  
command of Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N. (Rockford,  
Illinois),



difficulties which may possibly arise, both with some and with prospective Argentine and Chilean expeditions, we are urgently considering what further instructions, if any, should be given to leader of survey. Our preliminary feeling is that he should be told -

- (a) to inform United States or any other visiting expeditions that Marguerite Bay is under British sovereignty;
- (b) to maintain his position as civil representative of Governor of Falkland Islands dependencies and, in event of difficulty, to yield only to superior force;
- (c) subject to (a) and (b) above to co-operate in friendly spirit with any visiting parties.

5. He shall be glad to convey whatever Governments concerned have arrived at any general conclusions from policy matters referred to in the above.

*Belgian Lt. M. Lohrhaus in US + Dr. Schindler  
 27/ comm. John - c. sub. L. to meet in 1972  
 Mh 6/12*

ing knowledge of the area with respect to hydrographic, geographic, biological, meteorological and electromagnetic propagation conditions.

The War Department and other interested agencies of the Government have been invited to assign observers to accompany the expedition.

Technical control of the expedition will be exercised by Rear Admiral Richard S. Byrd, U.S.N., (Retired), who is on duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations at present on Arctic and Antarctic matters, and who has been designated officer in charge of this project. Rear Admiral Byrd plans to be present with the task force and participate actively. The Task Force Commander will be Captain Richard B. Cruise, U.S.N., (Salina, Missouri), who was captain of the cutter USS SEAN and Rear Admiral Byrd's second in command in 1955-1961. Captain Cruise commanded the Navy's Arctic training cruise during the past summer.

The Task Force will be divided into three main groups, as follows:

- (A) The Central Group will include the flagship and headquarters communication ship, USS ARCTIC, the Coast Guard icebreaker USS HELENE W. BROWN, Navy icebreaker USS BURTON ISLAND, the cargo ships USS YAKOV AND USS HERRICK, and the submarine USS SEVENT.
- (B) The East Group will be under the immediate command of Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N. (Retired).

Received 15.12.46.

The contents of this telegram must be paraphrased if they are communicated to any person outside a Government Department.

URGENT IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.  
From: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
To: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.  
14th December, 1946.

(a) to inform United States of any other visiting expeditions that Marguerite Bay is under our control.  
Circulary D. No. 1169. TOP SECRET. GUARD. (DOM)

(b) My telegram D. No. 1064, a civil representative of Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, to yield only to superior force.

Following are latest developments:

(1) Byrd Expedition.

As was recently announced in press, expedition sailed on 2nd December from East and West Coast United States ports. According to "Times" correspondent in New York fleet on arrival in Antarctic will divide into three sections, Eastern group proceeding to Peter I Island and thence eastwards; western group heading for point south east of New Zealand, thence following edge of Antarctic westwards; central group sailing for Scott Island with ultimate intention of entering Bay of Whales and establishing air base on cross ice shelf near Little America. It is thought that air base would be ready to receive transport aircraft early in January.

(2) Argentine Expedition.

It was announced recently in the Argentine press that the expedition would sail this month, accompanied by Chilean officers. According to a reliable source, Argentine naval authorities intend also to despatch vessel to establish meteorological post in Argentine Islands (about 180 miles from Marguerite Bay) and if possible to leave party there in permanent occupation.

(3) Proposed Chilean Expedition.

It was announced from Santiago in November that frigate would be sent to Antarctic in January or February, 1947, and that Argentine officers would be invited to take part in expedition.

(4) Private United States Expedition.

No further information is available regarding the progress of the Ellsworth expedition. Finn Ronne appears to have decided, however, despite warning, that base at Marguerite Bay is now occupied by Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, and that he cannot alter his original plans which contemplate establishment of base in that locality. In view of

*Dr Westcott*  
*17-12-46*  
*In await*  
*South reaction*

*17/12*

United States Antarctic Service Expedition in 1939-41. Additional Post Offices and Wireless Telegraph Offices have been established at the new bases, and letters are now being posted at all five bases with a new set of special Falkland Island Dependencies stamps, issued on the 1st February, 1946.

5. A further supply of dogs and sledging equipment has enabled the parties at the two mainland bases to carry out a series of survey journeys. Meteorological stations are maintained at all five bases and an intensive investigation is being carried out into the possibilities of weather forecasting in the South Atlantic with particular reference to the development and movement of Antarctic depressions. In addition scientific work is being carried out as opportunity offers. The whole project has been planned with a view to making a systematic study of all aspects of the Falkland sector of the Antarctic.

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*[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

*[Handwritten notes in the left margin, including the words "to send" and "to send".]*

Received 15.12.46.

IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

Undated.

Circular D. No. 1171 TOP SECRET (DOM-PUB).

My immediately preceding telegram.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES.

Following is text of proposed announcement. Begins.

1. It was officially announced in the press on the 24th April, 1944, that arrangements had been made to resume scientific and survey work in the dependencies, and that fully equipped bases had been established.
2. In February, 1944, parties led by Lt. Cdr. J.W.S. Merr, R.N.V.R., were established at Port Lockrey in the Palmer Archipelago (Base A, 10 men) and at Deception Island in the South Shetlands (Base B, 4 men). These parties, acting on behalf of the Governor of the Falkland Islands, also set up Post Office and Wireless Telegraph Offices at these bases and franked letters there with over-printed Falkland Islands stamps. An attempt to establish a third base at Hope Bay in Trinity Peninsular was frustrated by adverse ice conditions. Two ships were employed: H.M.S. "William Scoresby" and "Fitzroy".
3. In the southern summer of 1944-45 three ships were employed: H.M.S. "William Scoresby", "Fitzroy" and "Eagle". In February 1945 a third base was established at Hope Bay in North Graham Land (Base D, 13 men), and 4 men were again left at each of the first two bases. It had been intended to establish a further base in the South Orkney Islands, but owing to the illness of the leader of the expedition and his subsequent replacement by Captain A. Taylor, R.C.E., it was only possible to erect a hut at Sandefjord Bay on Coronation Island, which was left unoccupied. Dog teams and sledging equipment were provided for the party at Hope Bay, who were able to sledge southwards during 1945, surveying James Ross Island and the East Coast of Trinity Peninsular southwards to Cape Longing.
4. In December 1945 relief parties were sent out, under the command of Surgeon Commander E.W. Bingham, R.N., to maintain the bases. The organisation was now termed the "Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey". "Fitzroy" and "William Scoresby" were employed, and a new ship, "Trepassy", built in Newfoundland and strengthened for ice work, made possible a more extended programme. Eight men were left at Hope Bay, and four each at Deception Island and Port Lockrey. New bases were established at Cape Geddes on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys (Base C, 4 men), and at Neny Fjord in South-West Graham Land (Base E, 10 men). The British hut in Neny Fjord is situated on the Island which was occupied by the



SECRET

The contents of this telegram must be  
kept secret if they are communicated  
to any person outside a Government  
Department.

Received 14.12.46.  
Received 14.12.46.

IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.  
IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

13th December, 1946.

Circular D. No. 1170. TOP SECRET. GUARD. (DOM)

My telegram D. No. 1169 reports latest  
developments of Antarctic questions in continuation  
of my D. No. 1064.

We have just heard from our delegation to the  
General Assembly of U.N.O. in New York that there  
is reason to fear that Argentine delegation may at  
any moment table with U.N.O. their claims to  
Falkland Islands and possibly also the Falkland  
Islands dependencies. If they do, it will be  
necessary for us to take immediate action to make  
our position clear and in that event we shall issue  
announcement to press of which text is contained  
in my immediately following telegram.

(attached)

Office at Cape Town and British Antarctic Survey at  
Cambridge. In 1944-45 a British expedition was  
sent to the Falkland Islands Dependencies. The  
expedition was led by Captain A. E. B. Searles, R.N.,  
and was supported by the R.N.R. ship "Endurance".  
The expedition was successful in its operations  
and returned to Cape Town on 10th December 1945.

3. In the southern summer of 1944-45 three ships were  
employed: R.N.R. "Endurance", R.N.R. "Discovery"  
and R.N.R. "Terra Nova". In February 1945 a British  
expedition was sent to the Falkland Islands  
Dependencies. The expedition was led by Captain  
A. E. B. Searles, R.N., and was supported by the  
R.N.R. ship "Endurance". The expedition was  
successful in its operations and returned to Cape  
Town on 10th December 1945.

4. In December 1945 relief parties were sent out  
under the command of Lieutenant Commander R. A. Searles, R.N.,  
to maintain the bases. The expedition was now termed  
the "Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey". "Endurance"  
and "Discovery" were employed, and a new ship  
"Terra Nova" built in New Zealand and strengthened for  
ice work, made possible a more extended programme. Eight  
men were left at Hope Bay, and four each at Discovery  
Island and Port Lockroy. Two bases were established  
at Cape Gaddis on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys  
(Base 3, 4 men), and at Long Point in South West Graham  
Land (Base 5, 10 men). The British but in Long Point  
is situated on the island which was annexed by the

bopj on

Received 15.12.46.

IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

PH 103/14

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

Undated.

Circular D. No. 1171 TOP SECRET (DOM-PUB).

My immediately preceding telegram.

FAULKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES.

Following is text of proposed announcement. Begins.

1. It was officially announced in the press on the 24th April, 1944, that arrangements had been made to resume scientific and survey work in the dependencies, and that fully equipped bases had been established.
2. In February, 1944, parties led by Lt. Cdr. J.W.S. Kerr, R.N.V.R., were established at Port Lockrey in the Palmer archipelago (Base A, 10 men) and at Deception Island in the South Shetlands (Base B, 4 men). These parties, acting on behalf of the Governor of the Falkland Islands, also set up Post Office and Wireless Telegraph Offices at these bases and franked letters there with over-printed Falkland Islands stamps. An attempt to establish a third base at Hope Bay in Trinity Peninsular was frustrated by adverse ice conditions. Two ships were employed: H.M.S. "William Scoresby" and "Fitzroy".
3. In the southern summer of 1944-45 three ships were employed: H.M.S. "William Scoresby", "Fitzroy" and "Eagle". In February 1945 a third base was established at Hope Bay in North Graham Land (Base D, 13 men), and 4 men were again left at each of the first two bases. It had been intended to establish a further base in the South Orkney Islands, but owing to the illness of the leader of the expedition and his subsequent replacement by Captain A. Taylor, R.C.E., it was only possible to erect a hut at Sandelfjord Bay on Coronation Island, which was left unoccupied. Dog teams and sledging equipment were provided for the party at Hope Bay, who were able to sledge southwards during 1945, surveying James Ross Island and the East Coast of Trinity Peninsular southwards to Cape Longing.
4. In December 1945 relief parties were sent out, under the command of Surgeon Commander E.W. Bingham, R.N., to maintain the bases. The organisation was now termed the "Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey". "Fitzroy" and "William Scoresby" were employed, and a new ship, "Trepassy", built in Newfoundland and strengthened for ice work, made possible a more extended programme. Eight men were left at Hope Bay, and four each at Deception Island and Port Lockrey. New bases were established at Cape Geddes on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys (Base C, 4 men), and at Seny Fjord in South-west Graham Land (Base E, 10 men). The British hut in Seny Fjord is situated on the island which was occupied by the



Received 15.12.46.

IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

14th December, 1946.

Circular D. No. 1169. TOP SECRET. GUARD. (DOM)

My telegram D. No. 1064.

ANTARCTIC.

Following are latest developments:

(1) Byrd Expedition.

As was recently announced in press, expedition sailed on 2nd December from East and West Coast United States ports. According to "Times" correspondent in New York fleet on arrival in Antarctic will divide into three sections. Eastern group proceeding to Peter I Island and thence eastwards; western ~~Finn~~ group heading for point south east of New Zealand, thence following edge of Antarctic westwards; central group sailing for Scott Island with ultimate intention of entering Bay of Whales and establishing air base on cross ice shelf near Little America. It is thought that air base would be ready to receive transport aircraft early in January.

(2) Argentine Expedition.

It was announced recently in the Argentine press that the expedition would sail this month, accompanied by Chilean officers. According to a reliable source, Argentine naval authorities intend also to despatch vessel to establish meteorological post in Argentine Islands (about 180 miles from Marguerite Bay) and if possible to leave party there in permanent occupation.

(3) Proposed Chilean Expedition.

It was announced from Santiago in November that frigate would be sent to Antarctic in January or February, 1947, and that Argentine officers would be invited to take part in expedition.

(4) Private United States Expedition.

No further information is available regarding the progress of the Miesworth expedition. Finn Ronne appears to have decided, however, despite warning, that base at Marguerite Bay is now occupied by Falkland Islands dependencies survey, and that he cannot alter his original plans which contemplate establishment of base in that locality. In view of

/...



Received 14.12.46.

IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

13th December, 1946.

Circular D. No. 1170. TOP SECRET. GUARD. (DOM)

My telegram D. No. 1169 reports latest developments of Antarctic questions in continuation of my D. No. 1064.

We have just heard from our delegation to the General Assembly of U.N.O. in New York that there is reason to fear that Argentine delegation may at any moment table with U.N.O. their claims to Falkland Islands and possibly also the Falkland Islands dependencies. If they do, it will be necessary for us to take immediate action to make our position clear and in that event we shall issue announcement to press of which text is contained in my immediately following telegram.

19/88/2

11th November, 1946.

SECRET

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

I enclose herewith the minutes of a meeting of the Polar Committee held on 31st October, 1946, together with a copy of a letter received by the Chairman of the Committee from Mr. J. M. Wordie, Royal Geographical Society. Also attached is a statement by Foreign Office Legal Adviser on the necessity of physical occupation as a means of securing sovereignty in the Polar Regions.

R. JONES.

Political Secretary.

*Original  
with enclosed  
minutes transferred  
to 102/2/1  
16/11/55*

/AG

series to Cape Longing.

4. In December 1945 relief parties were sent out, under the command of Surgeon Commander A.W. Bingham, R.N., to maintain the bases. The organisation was now termed the "Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey". "Pitlov" and "William Scoresby" were employed, and a new ship, "Trepassy", built in Newfoundland and strengthened for ice work, made possible a more extended programme. Eight men were left at Hope Bay, and four each at Deception Island and Port Lockrey. New bases were established at Cape Geddes on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys (Base C, 4 men), and at Meny Fjord in South-west Graham Land (Base B, 10 men). The British hut in Meny Fjord is situated on the island which was occupied by the

Passed to... CSIR...  
CONSIDER  
for INFECTIOUS  
DISPOSAL

Date... 17/12/46... Initials... *ab*

because of its sensitive fathometers and bathythermographs. Both submarine and destroyers will provide additional safeguards during the over water portion of operational flights. The major ships will be equipped for collecting ocean floor samples, particularly off the seaward ends of many glaciers, since analysis of these samples will furnish data for estimating the geological composition of the terrain under the glacier.

Altogether, approximately 4,000 officers and men will take part in the expedition.

A major purpose of the expedition is to learn how the Navy's standard, everyday equipment will perform under sub-zero conditions. Therefore, except for the cost of transporting and installing government-owned scientific instruments, and of procurement of cold weather equipment, the cost of the expedition will be no greater than the normal expenditures of maintaining ships and personnel in routine duty.

- ) (c) The West Group will be under the immediate command of Captain Charles A. Bond, U.S.N., (316 North Granada Street, Arlington, Virginia, and Philadelphia, Pa.), also a naval aviator and a veteran of wartime aviation in the Aleutians. It will include the seaplane tender USS CURRITUCK, the oiler USS CACAFON and the destroyer USS HENDERSON.

Aircraft for shore-based flight operations will be flown in from an aircraft carrier after the base has been set up on the Ross Shelf Ice.

Plans include departure from U.S. ports early in December 1946, timely arrival in the vicinity of the Antarctic continental shelf ice and the systematic conduct of a series of exercises as long as the open season continues. Ships are expected to return to home ports in April, 1947.

It is not intended to continue any part of the task force in the Antarctic through the Winter night, but a base capable of subsisting a small party for at least 18 months will be established, possibly on the site of the former Byrd expedition base at Little America, to provide against contingencies.

Although the expedition will have the benefit of special equipment developed during the war, the primitive dog-drawn Eskimo sled and teams of Husky dogs will be indispensable. Thus, the oldest and the newest forms of transportation and communications will be joined in accomplishing the expedition's objectives.

While the purposes of the operations are primarily of a military nature, that is, to train naval personnel and to test ships, planes and equipment under frigid zone conditions, the expedition, because of its versatility and mobility, affords an unequalled opportunity to amplify existing scientific data. To take full advantage of this feature, arrangements have been made with other governmental departments for scientists in a number of specialities to participate.

The Army will be represented by Air and Ground Force observers and by Quartermasters interested in clothing and rations. The Weather Bureau, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Coast Guard, the U.S. Geological Service, the Hydrographic Office, the material bureaus of the Navy Department, the other government scientific agencies will provide meteorologists, geographers, oceanographers, hydrographers, photographers, etc. The Marine Corps will furnish a part of the air flight crews and other cold weather specialists.

The scientific program is subject to the general guidance of the Director of Naval Research, Rear Admiral P.F. Lee, U.S.N.

Each of the large seaplane tenders, PINE ISLAND and CURRITUCK, will carry three camera-equipped Martin MARINER patrol seaplanes, a small scout plane and two helicopters.

Each of the two icebreakers will carry one scout seaplane and one helicopter. The long range operational and mapping flights will be made by the MARINERS while the scouts will be used primarily for short range ice reconnaissance and the helicopters for rescue work in case of forced landings.

The presence of cargo ships and tankers will make the entire force self-supporting in supplies and fuel. The submarine is expected to contribute materially to the oceanographic research

because



COPY

NAVY DEPARTMENT

November 12, 1946

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
PRESS AND RADIO

NAVAL TASK FORCE TO LEAVE FOR ANTARCTIC EARLY  
IN DECEMBER.

In extension of its policy of developing the ability of naval forces to operate under any and all climatic conditions, a task force of the Atlantic Fleet, augmented by units of the Pacific Fleet, will proceed into the Antarctic as early in 1947 as ice conditions permit to carry out an extensive training and development program there throughout the duration of the navigable season.

Specifically the objectives of the expedition are:

- (a) Training personnel and testing equipment in frigid zones.
- (b) Consolidating and developing the results of the U.S. Antarctic Service Expedition of 1939-1941.
- (c) Developing naval techniques for establishing, supporting and using bases under comparable conditions.
- (d) Amplifying knowledge of the area with respect to hydrographic, geographic, geological, meteorological and electromagnetic propagation conditions.

The War Department and other interested agencies of the Government have been invited to assign observers to accompany the expedition.

Technical control of the expedition will be exercised by Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, U.S.N., (Retired), who is on duty in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Advisor on Arctic and Antarctic matters, and who has been designated officer in charge of this project. Rear Admiral Byrd plans to be present with the task force and participate actively. The Task Force Commander will be Captain Richard H. Cruzen, U.S.N., (Gallatin, Missouri), who was captain of the cutter USS BEAR and Rear Admiral Byrd's second in command in 1939-1941. Captain Cruzen commanded the Navy's Arctic training cruise during the past summer.

The Task Force will be divided into three main groups, as follows:

(A) The Central Group will include the flagship and headquarters communication ship, USS MOUNT OLYMPUS, the Coast Guard icebreaker USS NORTHWIND, Navy icebreaker USS BURTON ISLAND, the cargo ships USS YANCEY AND USS MERRICK, and the submarine USS SENNET.

(B) The East Group will be under the immediate command of Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N. (Rockford, Illinois), a naval aviator and a member of the previous Byrd expedition. It will include the seaplane tender USS PINE ISLAND, the oiler USS CANISTEO and the destroyer USS BROWNSON.

(C)

POLAR COMMITTEE

P(46)20

Prev: ref: P(46) 2nd Meeting

U.S. NAVY DEPARTMENT EXPEDITION  
TO ANTARCTIC.

Members of the Committee may be interested to  
read the attached complete text of the Press Release  
issued for publication on 12th November, 1946, by the  
U.S. Navy Department.

(Signed) John Chadwick

Secretary

Polar Committee.

Dominions Office.

3rd December, 1946.

...; who was captain of the cutter USS BEAR and Rear Admiral  
Byrd's second in command in 1939-1941. Captain Cruzen commanded  
the Navy's Arctic training cruise during the past summer.

The Task Force will be divided into three main groups, as  
follows:

(A) The Central Group will include the flagship and head-  
quarters communication ship, USS MOUNT OLYMPUS, the Coast  
Guard icebreaker USS NORTHWIND, Navy icebreaker USS BURTON  
ISLAND, the cargo ships USS YANCEY AND USS MERRICK, and the  
submarine USS SENNET.

(B) The East Group will be under the immediate command of  
Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N. (Rockford, Illinois), a  
naval aviator and a member of the previous Byrd expedition.  
It will include the seaplane tender USS PINE ISLAND, the  
oiler USS CANISTEO and the destroyer USS BROWNSON.

(C)

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY  
18-12-1946  
RECORDED  
PLACED ON FILE  
*Schedule*  
*19/12/46*

PM 102/2

19/88/2.

SPRINGBOX:

6th December, 1946.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

I transmit herewith the following documents in connection with the Polar Committee:-

*See PM 102/14*

- 1. } Argentine Sovereignty in the Antarctic: P(46)21:
- 2. // U.S. Navy Department Expedition to Antarctic: P(46)20: //

R. JONES  
Political Secretary.

(A) The Central Group will include the flagship and headquarters communication ship, USS MOUNT OLYMPUS, the Coast Guard icebreaker USS NORTHWIND, Navy icebreaker USS BURTON ISLAND, the cargo ships USS YANCEY AND USS MERRICK, and the submarine USS SENNET.

(B) The East Group will be under the immediate command of Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N. (Rockford, Illinois), a naval aviator and a member of the previous Byrd expedition. It will include the seaplane tender USS PINE ISLAND, the oiler USS CANISTEO and the destroyer USS BROWNSON.

(C)

4.

7. We should much appreciate an early expression of Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments' views on the subject as a whole. We should also welcome any comments Canadian and Union Governments may wish to offer.

Department of External Affairs,

OTTAWA.

I enclose herewith the following documents in connection with the Polar Committee:-

1. Argentine Sovereignty in the Antarctic: 2/10/52

2. U.S. Navy Department Expedition to Antarctic: 2/10/52

R. JONES

Political Secretary.

(A) The Central Group will include the flagship and headquarters communication ship, USS MOUNT OLYMPUS, the Coast Guard icebreaker USS NORTHWIND, Navy icebreaker USS BURTON ISLAND, the cargo ships USS YANCEY AND USS MERRICK, and the submarine USS SENNET.

(B) The East Group will be under the immediate command of Captain George J. Dufek, U.S.N. (Rockford, Illinois), a naval aviator and a member of the previous Byrd expedition. It will include the seaplane tender USS PINE ISLAND, the oiler USS CANISTEO and the destroyer USS BROWNSON.

(C)



Governments would be well advised to take early steps to strengthen their claims to Australian Antarctic territory and to Ross Dependency respectively, and that this could only be effectively achieved by establishment of at least one permanent base in each sector.

4. Necessity of physical occupation as a means of securing sovereignty was explained to committee by Foreign Office Legal Adviser and a copy of his statement follows by first available air mail. You should know in advance, however, that main points emphasised by legal adviser were briefly as follows:-

In first place, types of claim to territorial sovereignty may be divided into three categories, viz:-

- (a) Claim by virtue of discovery, which gives inchoate right of short duration.
- (b) Claim by virtue of formal act of annexation, again giving inchoate right, effective only for limited period to perfect a claim by administration.
- (c) Completed claim by occupation, i.e. by setting up and maintenance of necessary administration.

In this connection, standard of what constitutes effective occupation and control must vary with material conditions of territory concerned. Legal Adviser then pointed out that, since 1945, His Majesty's Government in United Kingdom have been drawn to conclusion that it is no longer sufficient merely to legislate for territory (e.g. Falkland Islands Dependencies), or to issue whaling or other licences; to arrange occasional visits; appoint Magistrates or generally to exercise functions of sovereignty. In other words little or no weight now attaches to discovery; requirements of effectiveness of possession are now greater; and necessity of continuity of effective possession is now emerging almost as new requirement of international law.

5. Above statement of sovereignty question as outlined by Foreign Office legal adviser, and care which has been taken by former United States expeditions to refrain from any recognition of Australia and New Zealand sovereignty in Australian Antarctic territory and Ross Dependency, led us to the view that Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments would be well advised as a matter of urgency to consider what steps should now be taken with a view to strengthening their claims in sectors with which they are concerned. Further reason for early action is that we shall in the near future almost certainly be forced by events to give some publicity to United Kingdom activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies. This in itself can serve only to emphasise present comparative weakness of Australian and New Zealand claims.

(B) The  
Captain  
New Zealand  
1945  
summary

6. In view of circumstances described, we earnestly hope that Commonwealth and New Zealand Governments will now feel able to review their policy generally in relation to Antarctic and that they will agree with us that early steps should be taken towards establishment of permanent base site or sites in their respective sectors. We for our part should, of course, be very ready to lend any assistance which may prove possible, should this be desired.

(2) Private United States expeditions.

These are understood to be under control of Lincoln Ellsworth and Finn Ronne. The latter expedition is sponsored by American Geographical Society and United States authorities have already expressed their anxiety not to embarrass us in our own activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies, where Ronne was apparently intending to establish his base, and it now seems probable that, as all the most suitable base sites in the Dependencies are already occupied, Ronne (who is believed to have been offered vessel by United States Navy Department) may possibly make for Ross Dependency, Pacific sector or elsewhere in Antarctic. Ellsworth, as to whose activities no reliable information has yet been received, might also try to reach Ross Dependency and/or Australian Antarctic territory. Either expedition might be expected to leave United States during course of next month.

(3) Norwegian Expedition.

Following tentative discussion of plans between Norwegian and Swedish Geographical and Scientific Organisations, Norwegian Government have now expressed confidentially to Swedish sponsor their willingness to ask Storting for grant of 650,000 kroner to cover cost of ship which, they hope, would be able to leave for New Schwabenland in 1948. Norwegian and Swedish authorities concerned have expressed desire for United Kingdom co-operation in expedition.

(4) United Kingdom activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies.

In view of continuing Argentine and Chilean claims in this area, Cabinet decided in 1943 to strengthen British titles in that area and to send out parties to effect more or less continuous occupation of bases. In 1945 relief parties were despatched in order to maintain policy of occupation and new bases established. Further relief party is now about to proceed to Falkland Islands Dependencies and a small aircraft is to be used for supply and survey work.

(5) Argentine activities.

Argentine Director of Meteorological Services recently informed His Majesty's Embassy at Buenos Aires that his Government proposed to send a party to occupy a "suitable island in Marguerite Bay" - (base at which is, of course, already occupied by United Kingdom party) - and that five Argentine naval vessels were to be employed during 1947 on Antarctic research work. Further clarification of above reports is still awaited.

3. With exception of (1) and (5) above, activities referred to were discussed at recent meeting of Polar Committee, on which Dominion Governments are represented. (We understand that your representative on Committee will already have forwarded to you copies of the relevant minutes). During course of discussion view was expressed that, in light of forthcoming United States expeditions to Antarctic, Commonwealth and New Zealand

copy for PH/02/2

**SECRET**

Ex PH/02/14

The contents of this telegram must be paraphrased if they are communicated to any person outside a Government Department.

Received 22.11.1946.

IMPORTANT TELEGRAM

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO : Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

21st November, 1946.

As no news articles in the United States have yet been received, might also wish to reach Ross Dependency and/or Australian Antarctic Territory. Further expedition might be expected to leave United States during course of next month.

Guard D. No. 1064.

Addressed to Commonwealth of Australia and New Zealand. Repeated to Canada and Union of South Africa for information.

TOP SECRET. (Dom)

1. Recent important developments in Antarctic have led us to reconsider our previous policy in relation to general British Commonwealth territorial claims in that area.

2. As you will doubtless be aware from recent articles in United Kingdom and United States press, following activities in Antarctic are now either impending or in actual progress:-

- (1) United States Navy Department expedition.
- (2) One or two privately organised United States expeditions.
- (3) Norwegian expedition to New Schwabenland.
- (4) United Kingdom survey party activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies.
- (5) Argentine Naval expedition to Falkland Islands Dependencies.

Background to above expeditions is briefly as follows:-

(1) United States Navy Department expedition. Following reports in United States press that large-scale expedition had been planned to explore "sub-continental South Pole" from base at Little America in Ross Dependency, Embassy in Washington asked State Department for clarification and were informed, confidentially, that expedition was, in fact, a Fleet exercise which had been transferred from Arctic to Little America area of Antarctic in order not to offend Soviet susceptibilities. Scientific exploration would remain incidental to main purpose of Fleet activities. Admiral Byrd has since given press interview on purposes and composition of expedition, and summary of his remarks is contained in my immediately following telegram.

/....

*Miss Santos*

*[Signature]*  
23/11

*Admiral*  
23/11

Received 23.11.46

*copy for 14/10/2*  
*8x 14/10/14*

IMPORTANT CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

22nd November, 1946.

Unnumbered.

My telegram D. 1065.

Please insert the following in paragraph (e). Begins:

*NB*

(e) Admiral denied that the expedition, which, he said, had been prepared for months, was our entry into the race for the hegemony of the Antarctic. Ends.

Omission regretted.

*Miss Saults*  
*Adms*  
*23/11*

Code D. No. 1064.

Referred to Commonwealth of Australia and New Zealand. Referred to Canada and Union of South Africa for information.

TOP SECRET. (300)

Recent important developments in Antarctic have led us to re-examine our previous policy in relation to general British Commonwealth territorial claims in that area.

2. As you will doubtless be aware from recent articles in United Kingdom and United States press, following activities in Antarctic are now either impending or in actual progress:-

- (1) United States Navy Department expedition.
- (2) One or two privately organised United States expeditions.
- (3) Norwegian expedition to New Schwabenland.
- (4) United Kingdom survey party activities in Falkland Islands Dependencies.
- (5) Argentine Naval expedition to Falkland Islands Dependencies.

*Miss Saults*

*Adms*  
*23/11*

Background to above expeditions is briefly as follows:-

(1) United States Navy Department expedition. Following reports in United States press that large-scale expedition had been planned to explore "sub-continental South Pole" from base at Little America in Ross Dependency, Embassy in Washington asked State Department for clarification and were informed, confidentially, that expedition was, in fact, a Fleet exercise which had been transferred from Arctic to Little America area of Antarctic in order not to offend Soviet susceptibilities. Scientific exploration would remain incidental to main purpose of Fleet activities. Admiral Byrd has since given press interview on purposes and composition of expedition, and summary of his remarks is contained in my immediately following telegram.

/....



M102/2

Received 15.12.46.

IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

FROM: Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, London.  
TO: Minister of External Affairs, Pretoria.

14th December, 1946.

S

Circular D. No. 1169. TOP SECRET. GUARD. (DOM)

My telegram D. No. 1064.

ANTARCTIC.

Following are latest developments:

(1) Byrd Expedition.

As was recently announced in press, expedition sailed on 2nd December from East and West Coast United States ports. According to "Times" correspondent in New York fleet on arrival in Antarctic will divide into three sections, Eastern group proceeding to Peter I Island and thence eastwards; western ~~group~~ group heading for point south east of New Zealand, thence following edge of Antarctic westwards; central group sailing for Scott Island with ultimate intention of entering Bay of Whales and establishing air base on cross ice shelf near Little America. It is thought that air base would be ready to receive transport aircraft early in January.

(2) Argentine Expedition.

It was announced recently in the Argentine press that the expedition would sail this month, accompanied by Chilean officers. According to a reliable source, Argentine naval authorities intend also to despatch vessel to establish meteorological post in Argentine Islands (about 180 miles from Marguerite Bay) and if possible to leave party there in permanent occupation.

(3) Proposed Chilean Expedition.

It was announced from Santiago in November that frigate would be sent to Antarctic in January or February, 1947, and that Argentine officers would be invited to take part in expedition.

(4) Private United States Expedition.

No further information is available regarding the progress of the Ellesworth expedition. Finn Ronne appears to have decided, however, despite warning, that base at Marguerite Bay is now occupied by Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, and that he cannot alter his original plans which contemplate establishment of base in that locality. In view of

*M. G. ...  
P. N. ...  
on ...  
17/12*

*Telegram  
despatched to  
London today.*

*SR.  
27/12.*

*ag P. 17.  
copy of 1064 attached for easy reference. 1...  
as it seemed that, apart from political aspects, only  
one of possibly concern to Union was scientific research  
and whaling, we referred 1064 to Dr Schoenland and C91.  
Both have now stated they have no comments - should I  
reply in that case?*

*17/12*

FILE IN CAPE TOWN  
FILE IN PRETORIA

PM 102/5

R 330

PM 102/2

BRUCE FM HAMILTON PM 102/2

PSE SEND FOLL TEL TO HIGH COMMSII H C LONDON

BEGINS

POLAR COMITEE.

YOUR 19/88/2 OF 31ST JAN.

PSE SEND TWO EXTRA COPIES OF RONEOD ENCLOSURES AND IN FUTURE

PROVIDE US WITH THREE COPIES OF DOCUMETS ON THIS SUBJECT.



*Del. Department  
17/2*

*File in Ph*

*ag P.17. copy of 1064 attached for easy reference. /...  
as itl seems that, apart from political aspects, only  
one of possible concern to union, very scientific research  
and whaling, we referred 1064 to Dr Schoonland and C91.  
Both have now stated they have no comments - should I  
reply in that case? 17/2*

EXTRACT FOR FILE P.M. 102/2.  
ORIGINAL ON P.M. 1/54/1 A.

EXTRACT FROM WEEKLY SULLBY TELEGRAM No. 61  
DATED 14/1/47

Received from High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.

### ANTARCTICA.

Preparations made by various countries to send expeditions to the Antarctic have recently received a fair amount of publicity.

The "Daily Herald" (official Socialist paper) is, however, more concerned with possible international complications. Referring to the American proposal to submit claims by the nations concerned to U.N.O., it asks whether there is not a better way of avoiding controversy and of developing whatever benefits Antarctica may yield. "Why need any nation make a claim to any part of the territory? Why should not the whole vast area be placed under United Nations

control and every future survey and development be carried out as a co-operative international enterprise?" The paper believes that such a course would be closest in keeping with the spirit of the Atlantic and San Francisco Charters. It argues that the world already has enough frontier troubles and national jealousies in the overcrowded areas, and there is no need to start the same troubles in the homeland of the seals and the penguins.

19/88/2.

AIR MAIL.

3rd July, 1946.

The Secretary for External Affairs,

PRETORIA.

Polar Committee:

With reference to my minute of the 29th March, 1946, I shall be glad to be furnished with any comments that you may have to offer.

R. JONES,

Political Secretary.



P.N. 102/2

PRETORIA,

22-7-1946

The Acting President,  
Council for Scientific and  
Industrial Research,  
PRETORIA.

Polar Committee

I have to inform you that the Political Secretary to the Union High Commissioner in London has enquired whether I wish to comment on his minute No. 19/30/2 of the 29th March regarding the proposal to organise an International Polar year in the Southern Hemisphere. A copy of the minute was passed to you under my endorsement P.N. 102/2 of the 16th April.

Before replying to the Political Secretary I should first be glad to learn whether you have any remarks to offer on the contents of his communication.

J. BRUCE

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JEB/RS.

22/7

RESUBMITTED

P.M. 102/2.

P R E T O R I A .

29-7-1946

The High Commissioner for  
the Union of South Africa,  
LONDON.

POLAR COMMITTEE.

With reference to your minute No. 19/88/2 of the 3rd July, I have to inform you that Dr. Schonland is understood to have had discussions in London on the proposal to organise an International Polar Year in the Southern Hemisphere.

It has therefore been decided to defer commenting on your minute of the 29th March until Dr. Schonland has had an opportunity of reporting on the trend of the discussions.

*gms  
29/7*

JEB/AD

RESUBMITTED  
RESUBMITTED  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
*P/19 (for Dr. Schonland's return) P/19*

P.M. 102/2.

SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH  
SUID-AFRIKAANSE WETENSKAPLIKE EN NYWERHEIDNAVORSINGSRAAD

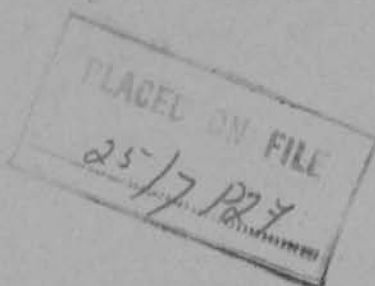
Telephone  
Telefoon  
Telegrams:  
Telegramme: "NAVORS"

Reference No. 10/2/4.  
Verwysingsnommer

Private Bag } 189.  
Privaatsak }  
PRETORIA.



24th July, 1946.



THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Polar Committee.

In reply to your P.M. 102/2 of the 22nd July, 1946, I have to point out that the President, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, as far as I am aware, has been participating in discussions in London on the proposal to organise an International Polar Year in the Southern Hemisphere. It is presumed that he will submit to you comments on the discussions after his return to the Union next month.

*Charles H. Haughe*

ACTING PRESIDENT : COUNCIL FOR  
SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.

31738

P.M. 102/2.

PRETORIA.

SEP 1946

The Secretary,  
Council for Scientific and Industrial  
Research,  
PRETORIA.

Polar Committee.

With reference to Minute No. 10/2/4 of the 24th  
July from the Acting President of the Council I should be  
glad to learn whether Dr. Schonland is now in a position  
to furnish me with his comments regarding the proposal to  
organise an International Polar Year in the Southern  
Hemisphere.

(Sgd) J. G. Stewart

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JS/YGC.

P17/9.



Received 7.9.46.

CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: High Commissioner, London.  
TO: Secretary for External Affairs, Pretoria.

6th September, 1946.

No. 1556.

Your P.M. 102/2 of <sup>July 29th.</sup> ~~June 9th.~~

Are you in a position to reply please; United Kingdom pressing for any further views you may wish to express.

Subject - Antarctic Research and Expeditions.

Hemisphere.

(Sgd) J. G. Stewart

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JS/YGC.

P17/9.

PH 102/2

Received 7.9.46.

CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: High Commissioner, London.  
TO: Secretary for External Affairs, Pretoria.

6th September, 1946.



No. 1556.

Your P.M. 102/2 of ~~June 9th~~ <sup>July 29th</sup>.

Are you in a position to reply please; United Kingdom pressing for any further views you may wish to express.

Subject - Antarctic Research and Expeditions.

~~Passed to... c. s. J. R.  
information for consideration disposal  
Pend 23/9.  
Date 7.9.46. Initials...  
This minute, 10/2/4 of 24.7.46. refers.~~

Hemisphere.

(Sgd) J. G. Stewart  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JS/YGC.

P17/9.

SECRET

F.2874/23

P(49)1st Meeting

POLAR COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Polar Committee held at the  
Commonwealth Relations Office at 3 p.m. on Friday,  
16th December 1949.

PRESENT:

Mr. J.J.S. Garner (Chairman)	Commonwealth Relations Office
Mr. R. Cecil	Foreign Office
Miss M.J. Anstee	Foreign Office
Dr. B.B. Roberts	Foreign Office, Research Dept.
Vice-Admiral Sir Guy Wyatt	Admiralty
Mr. F. Broughton	Admiralty
Commander G.E.P. Milburn	Admiralty
Commander R.W. Briggs	Joint Planning Staff, Ministry of Defence.
Air Commodore J.W.F. Morer	Air Ministry
Mr. P.A. Carter	Colonial Office
Mr. A. Richardson	Ministry of Civil Aviation
Mr. J.M. Wordie	Royal Geographical Society
Mr. J.G. Halstead	Canada
Mr. Brian Hill	Australia
Sir Cecil Day	New Zealand
Mr. N. Pritchard	Commonwealth Relations Office
Mr. E.N. Larmour (Secretary)	Commonwealth Relations Office

---

An apology was received from the South African representative, who was unable to attend.

---

19/88/2

~~SECRET~~

P. 1102/2  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,

TRAFALGAR SQUARE,

LONDON. W.C.2.

29th December, 1949

F.2874/23

**SECRET**

Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.

The Secretary for External Affairs, *Scheule*  
PRETORIA

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY  
26-1-1950  
RECORDED  
PLACED ON FILE

TITLE

Polar Committee held at the  
ice at 3 p.m. on Friday,  
1949.

Copies passed to C.G.S.,  
Transport and C.S.J.R.

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-9/47.

*H.V. 6/1*

- |                                   |                                               |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Mr. C. G. G. Garner<br>(Chairman) | Commonwealth Relations Office                 |
| Mr. R. Cecil                      | Foreign Office                                |
| Miss M.J. Anstee                  | Foreign Office                                |
| Dr. B.B. Roberts                  | Foreign Office, Research Dept.                |
| Vice-Admiral Sir Guy Wyatt        | Admiralty                                     |
| Mr. F. Broughton                  | Admiralty                                     |
| Commander G.E.P. Milburn          | Admiralty                                     |
| Commander R.W. Briges             | Joint Planning Staff,<br>Ministry of Defence. |
| Air Commodore J.W.F. Morer        | Air Ministry                                  |
| Mr. P.A. Carter                   | Colonial Office                               |
| Mr. A. Richardson                 | Ministry of Civil Aviation                    |
| Mr. J.M. Wordie                   | Royal Geographical Society                    |
| Mr. J.G. Halstead                 | Canada                                        |
| Mr. Brian Hill                    | Australia                                     |
| Sir Cecil Day                     | New Zealand                                   |
| Mr. N. Pritchard                  | Commonwealth Relations Office                 |
| Mr. E.N. Larmour<br>(Secretary)   | Commonwealth Relations Office                 |

An apology was received from the South African representative, who was unable to attend.



### ENTOMOLOGICAL RESEARCH

A number of entomological parties were again in the field during the summer and the major entomological features of the Canadian Arctic should be defined within the next year or two. Aircraft sprayed a number of airfields in the north in an attempt to control mosquitoes and biting flies and obtained satisfactory results.

### MAGNETIC RESEARCH

New maps of magnetic declination in the Canadian north have been published and additional magnetic data have been gathered, especially from a number of stations established in the Archipelago by a further series of Canso flights and from observations on board ship off the Baffin Coast.

### OCEANOGRAPHY

A number of parties have furnished valuable oceanographic material, particularly from Ungava Bay where Dr. M.J. Dunbar was working in the CALANUS. Oceanographic studies were also made by the frigate H.M.C.S. SWANSEA during her northern cruise to Greenland, Baffin Island and Labrador. Hydrographic work was continued in Great Slave Lake while the first season of a survey of Chesterfield Inlet found indications of the existence of a considerably deeper channel to Baker Lake. The NAUJA took continuous readings by echo sounder in the practically unknown waters of Foxe Basin. A series of flights is being undertaken to study ice conditions in Hudson Bay during the winter months.

### GEOLOGY

The Geological Survey initiated a geological reconnaissance of Baffin Island, and is planning a programme to cover the whole Canadian Arctic over a period of years. The more detailed work in the Yellowknife area was extended north and north-east of Great Slave Lake.

### ZOOLOGY

The survey of the barren land caribou was continued and extended to Baffin Island. Zoological studies were continued in the arctic islands, and a wildlife party worked on the east coast of Hudson Bay.

### MEDICAL RESEARCH

The importance of medical research in the Arctic has been emphasized by the severe epidemics of poliomyelitis, typhoid and influenza which occurred during the year. The poliomyelitis epidemic, which was exceptional in occurring during the winter, is providing extremely valuable epidemiological information. The Queen's University party, which has now worked for three seasons in Southampton Island, extended its activities to the Igloodik area. Particular interest has also been shown in parasitology and intensive studies are being undertaken.

Arctic Research Advisory Committee.

1 December, 1949.

lead to hardship, especially among those bands which have in recent years concentrated on trapping rather than their traditional occupation of hunting.

#### WEATHER STATIONS

Though no new stations have been established in the far north, the observing programmes at the present stations have been enlarged and one or two gaps in the coverage of the rest of the Northwest Territories have been filled.

#### TRANSPORTATION

The new Hudson's Bay Company vessels for the Eastern and Western Arctic, the RUPERTSLAND and the FORT HEARNE, went into service during the summer, and the YELLOWKNIFE EXPEDITOR, a converted landing craft for use on Great Slave Lake, reached Yellowknife from the West Coast via Bering Strait and the Mackenzie River. The announcement at the end of 1948 that an icebreaker was to be constructed for the R.C.N. has been followed by the news that the Department of Transport also is ordering a large new icebreaker.

The use of aircraft in the north is increasing every year, while the establishment and supply of the new weather station at Ennadai Lake by tractor train marks a new stage in the development of this means of northern transport.

#### SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Scientific activities of both government and private agencies have again expanded and during the past summer there have been few areas in the north which have not been the scene of some form of scientific research. The most striking achievement was the voyage in a Peterhead boat, the NAUJA, of a party from the Department of Mines and Resources led by Mr. T.H. Manning. From Moosonee in James Bay they sailed up the east coast of Hudson Bay to the recently reported islands of Foxe Basin and after spending some weeks in the area returned south along the coasts of Melville Peninsula and Keewat in to Churchill. In the following paragraphs only the most important new scientific developments are detailed. No mention is made of the large amount of work of a continuing nature which has been accomplished.

#### MAPPING

The mapping of the Canadian north proceeded very well during the summer as a result of another excellent season of aerial photography by the R.C.A.F., while the Geodetic Survey succeeded in establishing a record number of control points.

#### COSMIC RAY RESEARCH

The high geomagnetic latitudes of the Canadian Arctic make the study of cosmic rays in the area of great interest. Work was initiated during the past summer at Resolute Bay and at Churchill, and the scope of these investigations will be increased in future years. The work at Churchill has led to particularly interesting deductions regarding the strength of the sun's magnetic field.

ANNEX to P(49)22ACTIVITIES IN THE CANADIAN NORTH DURING 1949.INTRODUCTION

Towards the end of 1948 the Arctic Research Advisory Committee prepared a summary of activities in the Canadian Arctic during recent years. This paper was in very general terms and did not attempt to detail individual events. In reviewing the position at the end of another year, it is apparent that, while there have been no outstanding new developments, considerable activity is continuing and confirming the trends outlined in the previous paper.

ADMINISTRATION

At the general election held in June, the franchise was for the first time exercised in the Mackenzie District. Those Indians not living on reserves were entitled to vote, but the election brought to light the fact that under the Dominion Elections Act all Eskimo were excluded from the franchise. This matter will be brought to the attention of Parliament.

The new ship for the annual government Eastern Arctic Patrol has been launched and named the 'C.D. HOWE'. Her first voyage to northern waters will be in the summer of 1950.

An extensive inspection tour in the Eastern Arctic was carried out by officers of the Administration by air during the late winter of 1948-49.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

The programme for providing health facilities in the north is being rapidly implemented and a number of new government nursing stations have been put into operation. The increased health services proved very valuable in combating several severe epidemics which occurred during the year. Medical and teaching personnel in the north are co-operating in a plan for ensuring that their activities cover the welfare needs of the communities they serve.

EDUCATION

Within the last year government schools have been built at Chimo, Coppermine and Southampton Island and teaching has also begun at Port Harrison and Lake Harbour. These schools will be attended chiefly by Eskimo children and are in areas where there has been previously little or no formal education. In addition the possibilities of introducing suitable new handicrafts and of fostering traditional skills are being studied.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The increased value of gold, as a consequence of the revaluation of the Canadian dollar, is expected to encourage prospecting and mining. The completion of the road from Grimshaw to Hay River has proved of material assistance to the important and expanding commercial fisheries in Great Slave Lake, and commercial fishing is spreading to new areas.

For the Indians and Eskimos, as well as the white trappers in the north, the falling price of fur is reducing incomes very noticeably and this, combined with decreasing game resources, may

SECRET

P(49)36

Previous reference P(48)36

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POLAR COMMITTEE

ACTIVITIES IN THE CANADIAN ARCTIC

The attached paper, prepared by the Arctic Research Advisory Committee of Canada is circulated for information by courtesy of the Canadian representative on the Committee.

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(signed) E.N. LARMOUR

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

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20th December, 1949.

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Secret

19/88/2

P.M. 102/2,  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,

TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

4th January 1950

RECORDED

PLACED ON FILE

*Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.*

The Secretary for External Affairs.

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-9/47.

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(signed) E.N. LARMOUR

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

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FILE IN CAPE TOWN

C.7. P.M. 102/2

Telephone: WHITEHALL 4488.  
Telegraphic Address:—  
"OPPOSITELY, LESQUARE, LONDON"



SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

19/88/2

22nd December, 1949

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA  
17-1-1950  
RECORDED...  
*Schedule*

The Secretary for External Affairs.

Contribution to Scott Polar Research Institute.

*Mr. Dixon*

Referring to your minute No. P.M. 102/2 of the 9th December, 1948, I should be glad to learn whether the second contribution of £200 to the funds of the Scott Polar Research Institute at Cambridge may be made early in January next.

I enclose a copy of the Annual Report of the Institute for the year 1948-1949 and a copy of the latest issue of the "Polar Record". In sending us these documents Dr G. C. L. Bertram, the Director of the Institute, expressed the warm appreciation of the Committee of Management of the support which the Union Government has given to the work of the Institute.

*see ref to Transport*

*Stewart*

Political Secretary.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The increased value of gold, as a consequence of the revaluation of the Canadian dollar, is expected to encourage prospecting and mining. The completion of the road from Grimshaw to Hay River has proved of material assistance to the important and expanding commercial fisheries in Great Slave Lake, and commercial fishing is spreading to new areas.

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P.M. 102/2

CAPE TOWN.

26 JAN 1950

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

Contribution to Scott Polar Research  
Institute.

I attach a copy of a minute received from the office of the Union's High Commissioner in London, enquiring whether a second contribution by the Union to the above Institute is to be made. I should be glad to have your decision at an early date.

Also attached for your information are the annexures referred to in the above minute.

D. B. SOLE

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JJT/JT

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The increased value of gold, as a consequence of the revaluation of the Canadian dollar, is expected to encourage prospecting and mining. The completion of the road from Grimshaw to Hay River has proved of material assistance to the important and expanding commercial fisheries in Great Slave Lake, and commercial fishing is spreading to new areas.

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FALKLANDS ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

Report for period 1st to 30th

November 1950

Base B Routine meteorological observations and preparation of annual report. Bird ringing continues but no penguins returned to date. Hut painting and general preparation for visit of M.V. "John Biscoe". Base reports still four tenths pack ice in all directions but changing day to day.

Base E Routine meteorological observations. Jones and Blaiklock returned to Base on the 25th having completed twenty day journey to survey Square Bay and Bourgeois Fjord. Visited Bigonrdan Fjord by way of narrows and channel further north. Report no open water within fifteen miles of Lagotellerie Island. Main southern sledging party, Fuchs and Adie reached Ekland Island on the 18th of November. Several new Islands discovered and interesting geological investigations. Ice barrier retreated 30 miles since 1940. Furthest point reached 420 miles from Base Latitude  $7316\frac{1}{2}$  S. Longitude  $7222$  W. Huckle and Brown reported to be in vicinity of Black Thumb and expected back at Base within a few days. Two Emperor penguins and chick healthy and fit and consuming thirty five fish daily. Chick increased in weight from nine to sixteen pounds in a fortnight. Two thousand fish caught mainly *Netothinidi* and *Jugulares* ten varieties recognised. Penguins laying and eggs collected, detailed Ornithological work started.

Base F Routine meteorological work. Sledge party journey to Chavez Island to collect rock specimens. Bird observations continue. Ice still firm everywhere except round islands in the Penola Strait.

Base G Routine meteorological observations. Construction work on new hut. Preparation of annual report and local geological investigation. No ice visible to South, Bay almost clear.

Base H Routine meteorological observations. Detailed biological work on Sea Elephants and bird ringing continued. Elephant Seal pups show weight increase, doubled at 11, trebled at 17, and quadrupled at 23 days. Glaciological work still in hand.

JJT/JT

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SECRET

P(50)1

SECRET

Previous reference P(49)19

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY  
(1949/50)

The attached report covering the period 1st to 30th November 1949, which has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) E. N. Larmour,  
Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

16th January, 1950.

JJT/JT

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The increased value of gold, as a consequence of the revaluation of the Canadian dollar, is expected to encourage prospecting and mining. The completion of the road from Grimshaw to Hay River has proved of material assistance to the important and expanding commercial fisheries in Great Slave Lake, and commercial fishing is spreading to new areas.

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19/88/2

C.T. PM 102/2  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE.

TRAFALGAR SQUARE,

FILE IN CAPE TOWN LONDON, W.C.2.

30th January 1950

**SECRET**

Presented with the compliments  
of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa.



The Secretary for External Affairs.  
PRETORIA.

PA

Copies sent to Tpt., C.G.S.,  
C.S.J.R. JF/11v

GLACIER SURVEY

period 1st to 30th

from the Governor of

the Falkland Islands, is circulated for the information of  
the Committee.

(Signed) E. N. Larmour,

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

16th January, 1950.

JJT/JT

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

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REGISTRY  
9-2-1950  
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C.T.  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

PM 102/2

Reference No. 19/88/2

**SECRET**



27th January 1950

Secret

The Secretary for External Affairs.

Polar Committee

Your minute No. P.M. 102/2 of the 7th December, 1949, only reached us on the 31st December and we were therefore unable to bring up at the meeting of the Polar Committee, of the 16th December, the matter raised by the Director of the Union Weather Bureau.

We have, however, been in touch with the Polar Committee and I enclose a list compiled by Dr. B. B. Roberts of the Scott Polar Research Institute of the most useful works relating to the Antarctic with special reference to meteorology and climatology. Dr. Roberts points out that these bibliographies contain many inaccuracies and that the entries require to be checked before they are quoted. He also states that the lists "Recent Polar literature" contained in the "Polar Record", particularly the editions from 1940 onwards, would be useful.

The Union Weather Bureau may be interested to know that a Mr Arnold Court, of 312 Livingston Terrace S.E., Washington 20, D.C., is compiling a bibliography of recent works on Antarctic meteorology to supplement that of Meinardus, which appears in the enclosed list. Dr. Roberts says that the Scott Institute have recently supplied him with a number of references.

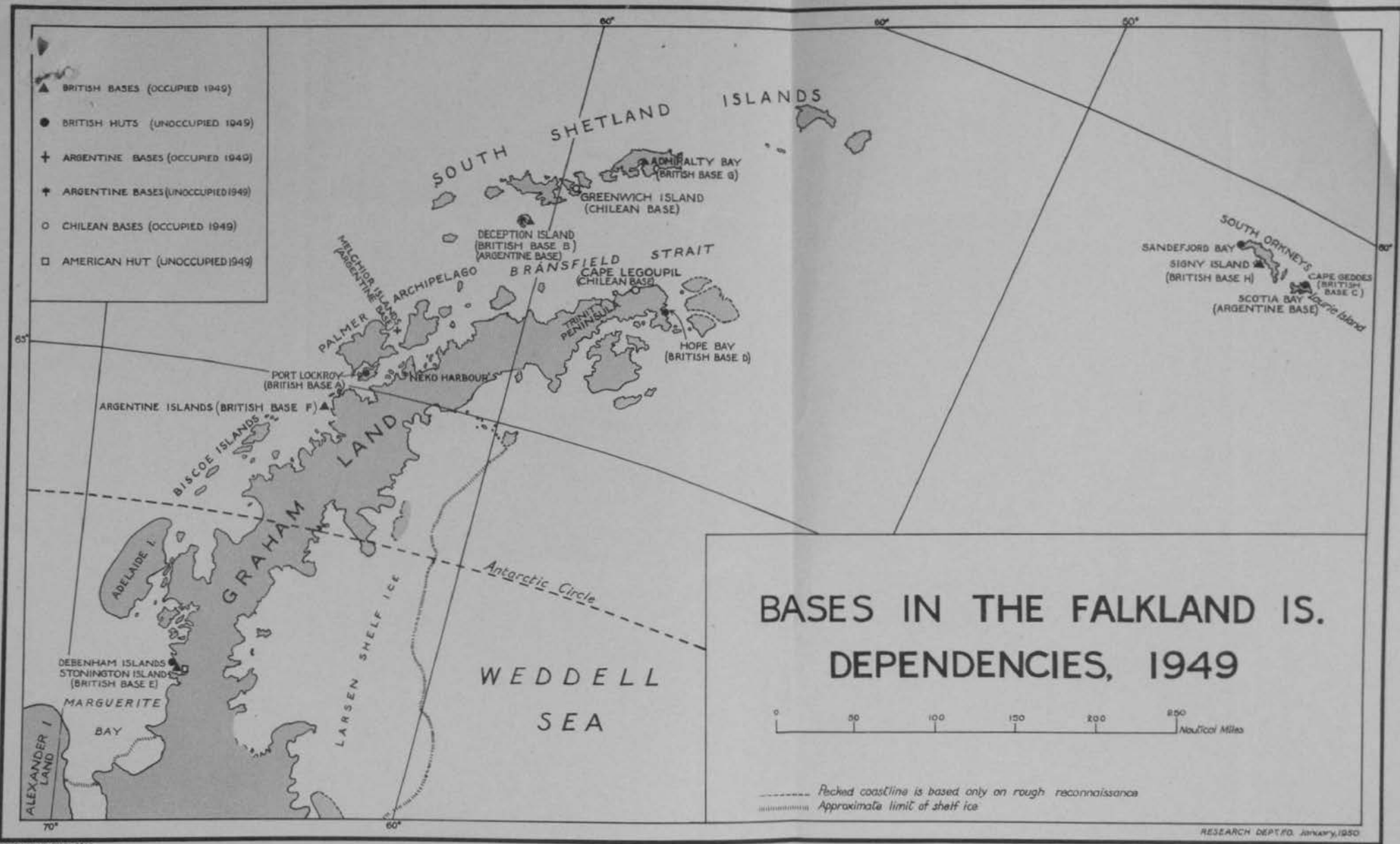
Dr. Roberts suggests that, if the Union's Weather Bureau would like them, the Meteorological Office Library here, would be very willing to supply copies of relevant cards from the extensive classified card index which they maintain.

*Re. Thorne to Foreign Sec (see 102/2-102/2)*

Political Secretary.

*Copy sent to T.P.H.  
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9th February, 1950.

The Secretary for External Affairs.

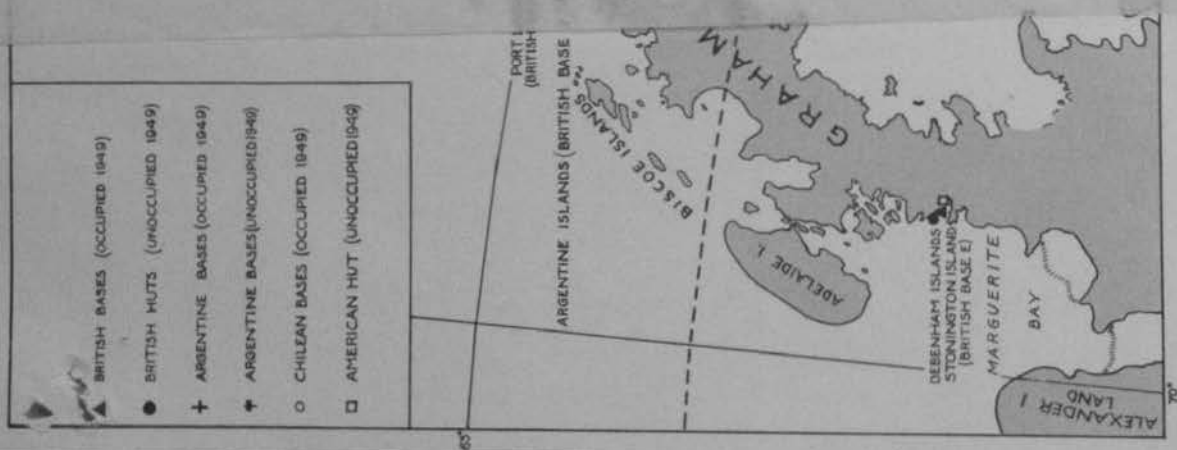
Falkland Islands Dependencies.

I enclose two copies of a map, produced in January by the Foreign Office Research Department, which shows the location of bases in the Falkland Islands Dependencies in 1949. This map may help to make more intelligible the monthly reports from the Governor of the Falkland Islands which are circulated from time to time as Polar Committee Papers.

*Lawson*

Political Secretary.

*Amplified by Transport  
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 1/11/50*



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
MINISTERIE VAN VERVOER.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

Tel. 2-6081  
Teleg. Ad. „MOMENTUM.”

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DEPARTEMENT VAN VERVOER.—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT.



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The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

Contribution to Scott Polar  
Research Institute.

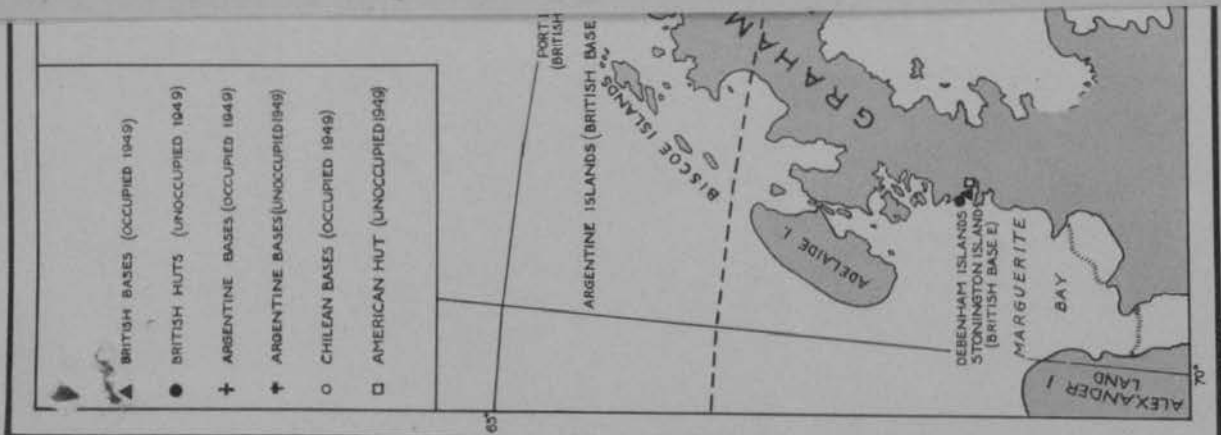
With reference to your minute No. P.M. 102/2 of the 26th January, 1950, I enclose herewith Departmental Transfer No. S.21232 for £200 covering the annual contribution by the Union Government in the above connection.

I shall be glad if you will arrange for the payment to be made accordingly.

*Gen. Neethling*  
*Mason*

*[Signature]*  
SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

*File to 102/2*



*10/10/50*

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 CAPE TOWN ON 3-5-1950

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 CAPE TOWN ON 3-5-1950



MAIL IN CAPE TOWN

P.M. 192/2.

PRETORIA.

23-2-1950

The High Commissioner for the  
Union of South Africa,  
LONDON.

Contribution to Scott Polar Research  
Institute.

I shall be glad if you will pay the Union  
Government's contribution of £200 to the above  
Institute at your earliest convenience.

E. N. OLIVIER  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*Handwritten signature: E. N. Olivier*  
28/4/50

JHO/EDT.

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27/2/50

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# SECRET

for the capitalist powers. "It is not for nothing", he said, "that all recent expeditions have had a markedly military character. The most obvious example is Admiral Byrd's expedition of the summer of 1946-47. About 4,000 men and 13 vessels (including transport ships, ice-breakers, submarines, tankers, aircraft carriers, and destroyers,) and also hydroplanes and helicopters, took part in it. Scientists took a very modest part in this expedition and scientific results, apart from cartographic work by aerial photography, were insignificant".

7. Professor Kalesnik's article ended: "As we know, all disputes and discussions on territorial possessions in the Antarctic are being carried on without the participation of the Soviet Union, and with the obvious intention of not admitting our country to take part in deciding the problem of the Antarctic regime. But Soviet public opinion has already protested about this and there is no doubt that no decision of the question will have the force of law if it is arrived at without Soviet participation".

8. His Majesty's U.K. Ambassador points out that neither article mentions the Soviet whaling expedition to which reference was made in P(49) 1st Meeting Minutes (Item 7).

(Sgd) E.N. LARMOUR

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

31st January, 1950.



SECRET

P(50) 2.

Previous Reference: P(49) 9.

**SECRET**

P.2872/7.

POLAR COMMITTEE

SOVIET INTEREST IN THE ANTARCTIC



His Majesty's United Kingdom Ambassador, Moscow, recently reported the appearance in Soviet publications of two important articles on the Antarctic.

2. The first by S. MIKHAILOV, entitled "The Imperialist Struggle for the Antarctic" was published in "Problems of Economics No. 10" in October 1949. The writer instances the Antarctic as yet another part of the world where imperialist contradictions and conflicts are clearly manifested, especially between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Its importance to these imperialist powers lies he states in the fact that it is a testing ground for war preparations in conditions of extreme cold, that it is rich in mineral wealth, including uranium and oil, and that it may become an air communications centre for routes in the Southern hemisphere.

3. His Majesty's U.K. Ambassador points out that the article does not develop Soviet claims to sovereignty in the Antarctic, but does refer to the fact that the Soviet Government do not recognize as legal the territorial claims made by various countries in the Antarctic between the wars. It alleges that the "imperialist struggle over the Antarctic is one of the brilliant examples of how modern bourgeois states violate international law and endeavour to limit the lawful rights of the Soviet Union (particularly in this part of the globe) which are the result of great Russian discoveries in the Antarctic".

4. The second article, by Professor S.V. KALESNIK, entitled "The Nature of the Antarctic" appeared in "Proceedings of the All-Union Geographical Society" No. 6 of November/December 1949 and is apparently the printed version of a speech which he made to the Society on 2nd June, 1949.

5. Professor Kalesnik, in his speech on the 2nd June, after making the usual claim that Bellinghausen's expedition was the first to discover the Antarctic continent, went on to give a general description of its geological and climatic conditions.

6. He concluded by giving an explanation of the interest shown in the Antarctic by the capitalist powers. These were, he said, first, the profitable nature of the seal and whale fishing; next, the fact that the Antarctic undoubtedly had great mineral wealth such as copper, iron, titanium and coal-fields extending over an area of 250 kms; uranium deposits also probably existed as the Antarctic belonged in its physical structure to the same land mass as other parts of the world such as Canada and Africa where uranium was at present being mined; thirdly, the Antarctic could serve as a convenient intermediate station in future air communication between South America, Australia and Africa; fourthly, the Antarctic was a convenient theatre at the present time for military manoeuvres and research

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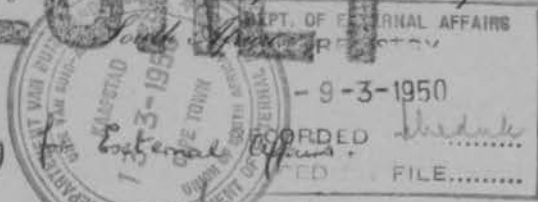
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SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

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REF. No. *118/2*. *U* FILE IN CAPE TOWN  
2nd March, 1950.

*File 77.*

*Forwarded with the compliments of*  
*The High Commissioner for the Union of*  
*South Africa*



*The Secretary for External Affairs*

*W.C.*

W. & S. Ltd. 8,000-9/47.  
*Mr Jones - to see pss*

*Copies sent to*  
*Transp. C.S.A.R. &*  
*C.G.S. JT 13/3*



**ANTARCTIC**

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FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

Report for period 30th November, 1949, to 4th  
January, 1950.

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Base B. M.V. "John Biscoe" and R.F.A. "Gold Ranger" arrived Deception Island on December 1st, Norseman and Auster aircraft, replacement stores and fuel landed and personnel relieved by the 8th when ship sailed, the John Biscoe for Admiralty Bay, and the Gold Ranger for Bermuda via Stanley. Personnel due for relief were taken back to Port Stanley by the Gold Ranger. By the 27th both aircraft had been assembled and flight tested with very satisfactory results. During the month all stores were unpacked and checked, the new Turner diesel generator installed and meteorological office re-organised. The magistrates old house was cleaned out and is now being used to store six months emergency rations.

Base E. Huckle and Brown returned on December 1st from 85 day sledge journey. The main object was in support of Fuchs and Adie, but a considerable amount of survey work was done on the return trip. Blaiklock and Spivey carried out six days local survey journey around Millerand Island. Fuchs and Adie returned to Base on the 29th having covered 1084 miles in 90 days. Geological investigations made at Ekland Islands and other islands vicinity recently emerged because of ice barrier retention, at Nunataks South-East corner of Sound and behind Cape Stevenson on Alexander Land. Isolated mountains observed inland south coast Alexander Land but nothing in Ronne's position shown at 15000 feet. Nunatak North West Cape Stevenson visited and two Snow Petrel rookeries found. Party camped at 1250 feet in 90 m.p.h. gale. December 14th was spent sledging inland from Ablation camp and good results obtained. The ice barrier was reached on the 18th and depot found to be isolated by calving and extensive areas of water. Stores finally reached over narrowest point of 30 feet deep chasm which sledge would just bridge. The journey back to Base was uneventful but laborious because of deteriorating surface but was accomplished in 5 days.

A strip of sea ice opposite Base, sprinkled with a mixture of black diesel oil and paint has produced sufficient open water for landing Norseman.

Stonehouse re-established at Red Rock Ridge penguin rookery for further observation and egg collection. Emperor penguins are well and have consumed 3250 fish to date. Routine meteorological observations.

Base G. Routine Meteorological observations. Biscoe arrived and stores landed. Three new men landed and three taken off. Thirteen huskies taken on board Biscoe to await collection by Anglo-Norwegian-Swedish Expedition from South Georgia. Stores being checked and stacked and hut painting in hand. Pawson and Jardine encamped at Point Hennequin finishing geology of that area.

Base F. Routine Meteorological observations. Ice reports show slight improvement with some signs of a break-up.

Base H. Base routine, glaciology and biology continue. Evidence from coat colour of Weddell Seal pups show at least three separate stocks in Antarctic. Two marked elephant Seal pups carried out on floes recovered 62 days later. One of these was weighed and showed average daily loss since weaning to be 4 lbs. Cuttlefish taken from elephant Seals stomach identical with live specimen collected 1948. A Weddell Seal pup was recovered three months after marking. Snow Petrel, Cape Pigeons and penguins, ringed last season have returned to same nest.

South Georgia. Stores and Personnel landed and Base being set up. Thirteen huskies landed from the John Biscoe, none the worse for their long and rough journey from Admiralty Bay.

SECRET

P.(50)4

Previous reference P.(50)3

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY  
(1949/50)

The attached report, covering the period 30th November <sup>1949</sup> to 4th January, 1950, which has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) E.N. LARKOUR

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

3rd March, 1950.

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South Georgia. Stores and Personnel landed and Base being set up. Thirteen huskies landed from the John Biscoe, none the worse for their long and rough journey from Admiralty Bay.



SECRET

SECRET

P.(50)3

Previous reference P.(50)1

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY  
(1949/50)

The following information which has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands is circulated in amplification of paragraph 2 of the report attached to P(50)1 dated 16th January, 1950.

Base E. Further information now available regarding twenty day sledge journey made by Jones and Blaiklock to survey Square Bay and Bourgeois fiord. Interesting discovery made that fiord at East end Bigourdan connects with fiord forming most northerly branch Bourgeois and is filled with shelf ice, the last remnants of old sheet presumed by Fleming on other grounds to have covered the whole area. Therefore, land mass North East of Narrows, forms large island locally second only in size to Pourquois Pas. From shelf ice apparently uncrevassed glacier with gentle gradient suggests route to Lalleman Fiord and Marin Darbel Bay.

(Signed) E.N. LARMOUR

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street,

3rd March, 1950.

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Am 102/2  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON. W.C.2.

Secret

Ref. No. 19/88/2 10th March, 1950.

Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa



RECORDED...  
PLACED ON FILE.....

The Secretary of External Affairs.

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-0/47.

20/3  
No. 1000 per  
4 copies sent  
to Mr. C.G.S.  
C.S.F.R. JF 24/3

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Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

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3rd March, 1950.

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South Georgia. Stores and Personnel landed and Base being set up. Thirteen huskies landed from the John Biscoe, none the worse for their long and rough journey from Admiralty Bay.

UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
MINISTERIE VAN VERVOER.



C.T. 1/1102/2. T.V. 2.  
CAPE TOWN  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

To: A d. "MOMENTUM."

Ref. M. 12.

DEPARTEMENT VAN VERVOER.—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT.

20-3-1950  
RECORDED.....  
PLACED ON FILE.....

4th Floor,  
Sanlam Building,  
PRETORIA.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
PRETORIA.

18 MAR 1950

The minute of the Political Secretary at S.A. House, London, reference No. 19/88/2 of 27th January, passed to me under your reference P.M.102/2 dated 11.2.50, refers.

I have submitted the minute to the Director of the Weather Bureau who has expressed his appreciation of the valuable information it contained.

The Director will contact Mr. Court of Washington to enquire from him the exact scope of Mr. Court's bibliography.

The Department requests that its appreciation be conveyed to Dr. B. B. Roberts of the Scott Polar Research Institute for supplying the list of selected bibliographies relating to Antarctic meteorology. This list is being retained by the Director of the Weather Bureau.

*W. H. Cozill*  
SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

*fact.*

Base H. Base routine, glaciology and biology continue. Evidence from coat colour of Weddell Seal pups show at least three separate stocks in Antarctic. Two marked elephant Seal pups carried out on floes recovered 62 days later. One of these was weighed and showed average daily loss since weaning to be 4 lbs. Cuttlefish taken from elephant Seals stomach identical with live specimen collected 1948. A Weddell Seal pup was recovered three months after marking. Snow Petrel, Cape Pigeons and penguins, ringed last season have returned to same nest.

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F.

SECRET.

CAPE TOWN,

The High Commissioner for the  
Union of South Africa,  
L O N D O N.

25 MAR 1950

Your No. 19/88/2 of 27th January, 1950,  
enclosing a bibliography compiled by Dr. B.S. Roberts  
of the Scott Polar Research Institute, refers.

The Department of Transport and the Director  
of the Weather Bureau have found the list very useful.  
They are also grateful for Dr. Roberts' further sugges-  
tions. The Director of the Weather Bureau intends to  
contact Mr. Court of Washington in order to enquire from  
him the exact scope of his bibliography.

I should be glad if you would convey these  
expressions of thanks to Dr. Roberts.

D. B. SOLE

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JJT/cdv

Base H. Base routine, glaciology and biology continue. Evidence  
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SECRET

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P(50) 5

Previous Ref: P(49)23.

POLAR COMMITTEE

HEARD ISLAND

The following report received from the Australian party on Heard Island is circulated for information, by courtesy of the Australian representative on the Committee:-

"During circumnavigation Heard Island Big Ben seen active eruption. At 1630 GMT on 20th February, 1950, central cone observed by Captain "Labuan" - Shaw, operation leader Heath many others split three ways with fierce glow emerging. As now no doubt peak second known active volcano Antarctic regions please advise all parties likely concerned including Law, British Admiralty."

(Signed) E.N. Larmour

Secretary  
Polar Committee

Commonwealth Relations Office.  
13th March, 1950.

JJT/cdv

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FILE IN CAPE 102/2  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,

TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

Ref.No. 19/3872.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY

SECRET.

27-3-1950 16th March

REF: D... Schedule



Forwarded with the compliments of

The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.

The Secretary for External Affairs.

Copies sent to C.G.S. 17pt.

& C.S. J.R.

J.S. 31/3

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W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-9/47.

representative of

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Secretary  
Polar Committee

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13th March, 1950.

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SOUTH AFRICA **FILE IN CAPE TOWN**

*Pm 102/2.*



Telegraphic Address -  
"OPPOSITELY, LEQUARE, LONDON"

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

Reference No. 10/88/2.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA  
AIRMAIL.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY  
22-4-1950  
RECORDED  
PLACED ON FILE

*Scheul*



8th April, 1950.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Contributions to Scott Polarised for  
Research Institute.

An amount of £200 was paid to the Scott Polar Research Institute on the 10th March, 1950, in accordance with your minute No. P.M.102/2 of the 23rd February.

Dr. G. C. L. Bertram, the Director of the Institute, has written to say that the Institute is most appreciative of the grants from the Union Government. He hopes that the Institute will continue to provide a useful service.

*Chubb*

Political Secretary.

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Transit  
of p.w. camp p. 17.  
2.*

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UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
MINISTERIE VAN VERVOER.



T.V. 3

Teleg. Ad. "MOMENTUM."

Tel. No. 3-3081 Ext. 58.

Ref. M 23.

DEPARTEMENT VAN VERVOER.—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT.

RECORDED.....
PLACED ON FILE.....
15-4-1950

4TH FLOOR,  
SANLAM BUILDING,  
PRETORIA.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
P R E T O R I A.

14 APR 1950

Scott Polar Research Institute.

I have to refer to my evenly numbered minute of the 18th February, 1950, (your PM 102/2 dated the 26th January, 1950, refers) under cover whereof an amount of £200 was forwarded for transmission to the Scott Polar Research Institute, being the Union Government's grant for the financial year 1949-50.

The question of the renewal of this grant for the financial year 1950-51 is now receiving consideration.

It is noted from the Annual Report of the Committee of Management of the Institute, dated the 29th July, 1949, that contributions were received from the Dominions of Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

In order that the question of the Union continuing its contribution or otherwise may receive full consideration, it would be helpful if you could ascertain from the other Dominions whether they are renewing their contributions to the Institute and, if so, the amount involved in each case.

Your assistance in this matter will be appreciated.

*W. A. Cooke*  
(SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.)

*To C.T.*

*Mr Gale - instructions p 2*

*15/4*

*pu ✓*

*H.C. - Consensus Obtain*

*H. of E.A. N.Z.*

*Copy to London*

F.

KAAPSTAD.

19 APR 1950

Die Hoë Kommissaris van die  
Unie van Suid-Afrika,  
CANBERRA/OTTAWA.

Scott Polar Research Institute.

Dis word tans oorweeg of die Unie weer vir die finansiële jaar 1950-51 'n bydrae tot die bovermelde instituut sal doen en indien wel, wat die bedrag sal wees.

Vir 1949-50 was die Unie se bydrae £200. Die Regerings van Australië, Kanada en Nieu Seeland het ook bydraes gedoen.

In hierdie verband sal ek bly wees indien u by die betrokke owerheid sal uitvind wat die Australiese/ Kanadese Regering hierdie jaar voornemens is om te doen.

D. B. SOLE

SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKKE.

*per 26/5*

*7 13/6*

*Toct.*

*Mr Sole - instruksies*

*15/18/4*

*pk* ✓ *wake*

*H.C. Canberra Ottawa*

*H. of E.A. N.Z.*

*Copy to London*

F.

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND

29 APR 1950

Sir,

I have the honour to enquire whether the New Zealand Government intends making a contribution to the Scott Polar Research Institute for the financial year 1950-51 and what the amount is likely to be.

This matter is at present being considered by the Union Government and it will be of great assistance to them to know what the other members of the Commonwealth have in mind.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

D. F. MALAN.  
PRIME MINISTER AND  
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

The Minister of External Affairs,  
Wellington,  
NEW ZEALAND.

JJT/MJ

D. B. SOLE

✓  
recd 25/5  
7/15/6

RECEIVED



F.

KAAPSTAD,

21 APR 1950

Die Hoë Kommissaris van die  
Unie van Suid-Afrika,  
LONDEN.

Scott Polar Research Institute.

Dit word tans oorweeg of die Unie vir die  
finansiële jaar 1950-51 tot die bovermelde instituut  
sal bydra en indien wel wat die bedrag sal wees.

Ek is in hierdie verband gevra om die betrokke  
outoriteite in Kanada, Australië en Nieu-Seeland te vra  
wat hulle hierdie jaar voornemens is om te doen.

Vir u inligting wil ek u dus in kennis stel  
dat ek die Unie se Hoë Kommissarisse in Canberra en  
Ottawa gevra het om hierdie navraag te doen. In die  
geval van Nieu-Seeland het ek aan die Ministerie van  
Buitelandse Sake geskrywe.

D. B. SOLE

SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

JJT/RP

7 15/6  
The Minister of External Affairs,  
Wellington,  
NEW ZEALAND.

JJT/MJ

D. B. SOLE

Base E Marguerite Bay. Personnel were almost entirely confined to the Island because of the sea ice conditions, until the Base was evacuated on the 12th of February. During the period waiting for the arrival of the John Biscoe personnel were kept fully occupied writing up reports, packing up stores and specimens and catching fish for the Emperor penguins. The latter took up many man hours daily and towards the end it became increasingly difficult to catch sufficient. One adult penguin has died, but the other and chick (which now weighs over 25 lbs.) are in quite good condition. Before the John Biscoe arrived the Base boats were repaired and launched in small areas of open water round the island.

Base F Argentine Island. Base relieved, and new personnel settled in checking stores, etc. John Biscoe called in again on the 15th/16th February on her way back from Marguerite Bay and left nineteen Base E huskies.

Base G Admiralty Bay. The new Base hut is now completed and the radio and Met. equipment installed. A new engine shed is being erected and the generators are being overhauled and re-installed. The old hut has been dismantled for transfer to Signy Island.

Base H Signy Island. Glaciology, geology and further biological observations of Elephant Seals and Snowy Petrels continue. Comparison mean body temperatures moulting and non-moulting seal shows drop of one degree centigrade during moulting. Tooth taken from Leopard Seal shows well marked annual growth rings and age to be eight years. Personnel are working up results of survey done during the last year and are constructing a floating landing stage ready for the arrival of the John Biscoe. Seven stakes fixed in the ice cap for 187 days show maximum movement to be 17 feet and minimum 5 feet.

South Georgia. Base established, stores unpacked and sorted. Meteorological observations every three hours throughout the 24 commenced from 1st January, when Met. Station taken over from the Whaling Company. Borland made a start checking 1949 Met. return from Admiralty Bay. A radio receiver has been installed and station commenced to make local weather forecast on January 30th at the request of the Keith Harbour Whaling Station.

SECRET

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

Report for period 4th January to 17th February,  
1950

Base B. Deception Island. The Norseman aircraft made a test flight for ice observation on the 8th January from Deception Island to Siege Islands at altitude 4500 feet, where she encountered stratus cloud and changed altitude to 2400 feet where visibility was excellent. Aircraft was then flown South over east coasts of Brabant and Anvers Islands to Port Lockroy, and thence to Argentine Islands, passing to the west of Booth Island.

Another test ice/recce flight was made in the Auster on January 13th from Deception Island to Astrolabe Island, Cape Legoupil, Gourdin Rocks, Hope Bay, Rosamel Island and the Zellee Rocks. Hope Bay store sheds appear to be almost snow and ice free. Flt/Lieut. J. Lewis reports that aircraft performance is excellent and he was able to make photographic record of the Hope Bay area with the K.20 camera.

Both aircraft, during the test flight were able to keep in continuous radio contact with Bases B, E, and F.

At the Base, personnel are painting the exterior of the Hut and tidying up the surrounds as the snow and ice melts away. A metal slipway has been constructed for the Norseman.

Argentine ship "Chaco" returned to Port Foster on the 11th and two Argentine planes were observed flying over the British Base on the 18th of January; these were later identified as Silorske Kingfisher.

The John Biscoe arrived at the Base on the 20th January.

Chaco and another Argentine ship called in to water and it is reported that some of the crew put ashore, destroyed nests of Antarctic Terns known to be in the old whaling Factory buildings.

Chilean ships, Iquique, Lientier and Maipo are reported to have called at the British Base.

Base E personnel and their Emperor Penguins arrived in the Norseman on the 7th February. F.I.D.S. personnel have visited the unoccupied Argentine hut at Telefon Bay and report having seen another hut in Pendulum Cove (report confirmed).

Eight ringed penguin chicks have been collected from the Bellows Rookery for transfer to the London Zoo.

The Norseman made another ice/recce flight to Argentine Islands on the 12th of February and returned to Deception on the 13th.

Base A Port Lockroy. Base established and three Meteorological observations daily commenced from February 1st. Stores unpacked and sorted, balloon hut erected and internal structural alterations in progress.

/Base E

SECRET

P. (50) 5

Previous reference P. (50) 4POLAR COMMITTEEFALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY(1949/50)

The attached report, covering the period 4th January to 17th February, 1950 has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) D.A. Scott

for Secretary,  
Polar Committee

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street

25th April, 1950

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/Base E



SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

PM. 102/2

Ref. No. 19/80/2.

28<sup>th</sup> April, 1950.

CT

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY

Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa

RECORDED  
PLACED ON FILE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
CAPE TOWN

The Secretary for External Affairs

*[Handwritten initials]*

copies passed to C.G.F.,  
U.S.J.R. + Tpt.

FILE IN CAPE TOWN

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W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-9/47.

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(Signed) D.A. Scott

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Commonwealth Relations Office,  
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25th April, 1950

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Base E personnel and their Emperor Penguins arrived in  
the Norseman on the 7th February. F.I.D.S. personnel have  
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having seen another hut in Pendulum Cove (report confirmed).

Eight ringed penguin chicks have been collected from the  
Bellows Rookery for transfer to the London Zoo.

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Base A Port Lockroy. Base established and three  
Meteorological observations daily commenced from February 1st.  
Stores unpacked and sorted, balloon hut erected and internal  
structural alterations in progress.

/Base E

SECRET

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P.(50)6 (Amdt.)

POLAR COMMITTEE

AMENDMENT

P(50)5 (report of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey (1949/50) for the period 4th January to 17th February, 1950) should be renumbered P(50)6.

(Sgd.) D.A. Scott.

for Secretary  
Polar Committee.

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

8 MAY 1950

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/Base E

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B.M. 102/2

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SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

17-5-1950

RECORDED *Schedule*  
PLACED ON FILE 10th May

Ref. No. 19/88/2.

*Forwarded with the compliments*  
*The High Commissioner for the Union of*  
*South Africa.*



The Secretary for External Affairs.

*fact.*

Dependencies

**FILE IN CAPE TOWN**  
*copies sent to C.S.R. dt 22/5*

to 17th

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

February, 1950 should be renumbered P(50)6.

(Sgd.) D.A. Scott.

for Secretary  
Polar Committee.

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

8 MAY 1950

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Base A Port Lockroy. Base established and three Meteorological observations daily commenced from February 1st. Stores unpacked and sorted, balloon hut erected and internal structural alterations in progress.

/Base E

TRADING AND SHIPPING  
"BY COURTESY OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA"



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

Reference No. 19/30/2

10 Mei, 1950

Lugpos.

DIE SEKRETARIS VAN NULTS-ANDESE SAKE

betreffende die internasionale aangelees.

Scott Polar Research Institute

FILE IN CAPE TOWN

Ek erken die ontvangs van u diensbrief nr. P.M.102/2 van 21 April in verband met die vraagstuk of die Unie vir die finansiele jaar 1950-51 tot die Scott Polar Research Institute sal bydra.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

Post-Box 109  
Polar Institute.

10 MAY 1950

T. Hewitson

Politieke sekretaris.

Yellow Rockery and transfer in the London Sea.

The Norseman made another ice/rocks flight to Argentine Islands on the 12th of February and returned to Desception on the 13th.

BASE A FULL LOGSHEET. Base established and three meteorological observations daily commenced from February 1st. Stores unpacked and sorted, balloons put erected and internal structural alterations in progress.



OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER,  
15 SUSSEX STREET,  
OTTAWA.

15th May, 1950.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
C A P E T O W N.

SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

With reference to your minute No. P.M. 102/2 dated the 19th April, 1950, I am directed to inform you that the Canadian Government make no annual gift or grant to the Scott Polar Research Institute. The system followed in Canada is to invite the Institute to submit an invoice at the end of the financial year for "services rendered". Last year Canada paid the sum of £1,000.00 to the Institute and it is expected that a similar payment will be made for the financial year 1950/51.

(Sgd.) H. WOODWARD.

SECRETARY.

Bellows Rookery for transfer to the London Zoo.

The Norseman made another ice/recce flight to Argentine Islands on the 12th of February and returned to Deception on the 13th.

Base A Port Lockroy. Base established and three Meteorological observations daily commenced from February 1st. Stores unpacked and sorted, balloon hut erected and internal structural alterations in progress.

/Base E

*ET P.M. 102/2*

FILE IN CAPE TOWN

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA

REFERENCE: 15/17  
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DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
RECORDS  
23-6-1950  
*Scheave*  
RECORDED  
PLACED ON FILE 29/6/50

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER  
KANTOOR VAN DIE HOÛKOMMISSARIS  
15 SUSSEX STREET  
OTTAWA

May 15th, 1950.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
CAPE TOWN.

SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE

With reference to your minute No. P.M. 102/2 dated the 19th April, 1950, I am directed to inform you that the Canadian Government make no annual gift or grant to the Scott Polar Research Institute. The system followed in Canada is to invite the Institute to submit an invoice at the end of the financial year for "services rendered". Last year Canada paid the sum of \$1,000.00 to the Institute and it is expected that a similar payment will be made for the financial year 1950/51.

*To Transport  
activity which they  
can not advise re  
nature of grant.*

*W. S. ...*  
Secretary.

Base A Port Lockroy. Base established and three Meteorological observations daily commenced from February 1st. Stores unpacked and sorted, balloon hut erected and internal structural alterations in progress.

/Base B

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COMMISSIONER  
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50.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

Report for period 18th February to  
17th March, 1950

Base A. Port Lockroy. Tide gauge installed and operating, construction work carried out on meteorological balloon hut and base hut.

Base B. Deception Island. Norseman aircraft dismantled and prepared ready for shipping to Port Stanley. Auster carried out ice reconnaissance in Bransfield Straits found clear of pack ice from Trinity Island to Nelson Strait.

Base F. Argentine Islands. Nineteen dogs from Base E left by "John Biscoe" with other stores and equipment. Work completed on hut extension which provides office and radio room. New anemometer equipment installed.

Base G. Admiralty Bay. Radio and meteorological equipment installed in new hut and generator house completed. Old hut dismantled and transferred to Sigay Island. Geological field work completed.

Base H. Sigay Island. Routine geological and glaciological work. Parasite halarachne species found in Weddell seal. Movement of icecap during past 187 days maximum of seventeen feet and minimum of five feet observed by using theodolite and stakes. "John Biscoe" relieved Base between 22nd and 28th February during which time extension was built to hut and new radio and generators installed.

Base M. South Georgia. Routine meteorological work. Personnel all well. Duke rapidly recovering from burns.

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Base A Port Lockroy. Base established and three Meteorological observations daily commenced from February 1st. Stores unpacked and sorted, balloon hut erected and internal structural alterations in progress.

/Base E

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P. (50) 7

Previous reference P. (50) 6

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

(1949/50)

The attached report, covering the period 18th February to 17th March, 1950, has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) D. A. Scott.

for Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

13th May, 1950.

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Base A Port Lockroy. Base established and three Meteorological observations daily commenced from February 1st. Stores unpacked and sorted, balloon hut erected and internal structural alterations in progress.

/Base E

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
REGISTRY TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
23-5-1950 LONDON, W.C.2.

P.M. 10.20/2

02/2.

**SECRET.**

19/68/2.

RECORDED *Schedule*  
PLACED ON FILE

13th May, 1950.

Forwarded with the compliments of

The High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa.

**SECRET**



SURVEY

The Secretary for External Affairs.

*copies sent to CGS USKH  
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FILE IN CAPE TOWN

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W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/40.

from February 1st to 17th March, 1950, has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) D. A. Scott.

for Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

13th May, 1950.

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/Base E

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FILE IN CAPE TOWN

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UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
MINISTERIE VAN VERVOER.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

Telegr. Ad.: "MOMENTUM."

Ref. M.23

'Phone: 3.3081 Ext: 37.

DEPARTEMENT VAN VERVOER.—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT.



4th Floor,  
Sanlam Buildings,  
PRETORIA.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

-2 JUN 1950

Scott Polar Research Institute.

With reference to my minute M23 of 14th April, 1950, I shall be glad to learn whether you are now in a position to state whether the other Dominions are renewing their contributions to the Institute and if so the amount involved in each case.

*[Handwritten signature]*

ACTING SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

*T.C.I.*

meteorological observations daily commenced from February 1st. Stores unpacked and sorted, balloon hut erected and internal structural alterations in progress.

/Base E

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

Report for period 18th March-  
20th April, 1950

1. M.V. "John Biscoe" The third voyage of M.V. "John Biscoe" commenced on 20th March and a final visit for the season was made to Admiralty Bay where Jardine, Pawson and Lenton were embarked; to Port Lockroy and the Argentine Islands where stores and mail were left and to Deception Islands where the navigation light at Collins Point, Port Foster was repaired and put into operation. The R.A.F. personnel, the two aircraft and all their spares and equipment were then embarked and the vessel returned to Port Stanley on the 14th April.
2. Base A, Port Lockroy Routine work continued including repair and repainting of the Base hut. Special observations were made during the solar eclipse.
3. Base B, Deception Island Routine work continued. Aerial photographs were taken by the Auster of the south, south east and east coasts of Deception Island including Whalers Bay and part of Port Foster; bad weather prevented the aircraft completing the photography of the island. During the period 1st March to 10th April only four days were possible for flying and of these on only one was visibility adequate for aerial photography. During recent gales high tide completely covered the beach to 60 feet above normal high water mark.
4. Base F, Argentine Islands Routine work continued. New meteorological equipment installed. New fast ice in channels around the islands has made it possible to commence dog training. Extension to Base hut, which include wireless and meteorological offices, now completed.
5. Base G, Admiralty Bay Routine work continued. Installation of new radio and electrical equipment carried out. Work on new hut finished.
6. Base H, Signy Island Routine work continued. Extension to old Base hut now completed providing living accommodation for five men, radio and meteorological offices, laboratory and workshop.
7. Base M, South Georgia Routine meteorological observations continued.
8. All Bases are now equipped with emergency stores complete with provisions, clothing and medical equipment which are placed some 200 yards away from the Base huts and are checked and inspected by Base leaders periodically. Personnel all well, Duke has now completely recovered from his burns.
9. A full scale meteorological programme which requires observations every three hours is being conducted at all Bases.

RESTRICTED

P (50) 9

Previous reference: P(50)7

POLAR COMMITTEE  
FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY  
(1949/50)

The attached report, covering the period 18th March to 20th April, 1950, has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) D. A. Scott.

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

5th June, 1950.

Office, laboratory and workshop.

7. Base M, South Georgia Routine meteorological observations continued.

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POLAR COMMITTEE

After the 12th June, Vice Admiral Sir Guy Wyatt, K.B.E., C.B. will be succeeded as Hydrographer of the Navy by Rear Admiral A. Day, C.B.E., D.S.O. As from the same date Rear Admiral Day will take Vice Admiral Sir Guy Wyatt's place on the Polar Committee.

Mr. E.N. Larmour having been transferred to other duties, Mr. D.A. Scott of the Commonwealth Relations Office has been appointed to succeed him as Secretary of the Committee.

(signed) J.J.S. Garner

Chairman

Commonwealth Relations Office

5th June, 1950

offices, laboratory and workshop.

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Ref. No. 19/88/2.

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DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
 SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
 REGISTRY  
 TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
 15-6-1950 LONDON, W.C.2.  
 RECORDED 8th June, 1950.  
 PLACED ON FILE

PM-102/2

PM-102/2

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Forwarded with the compliments of  
 The High Commissioner for the Union of  
 South Africa.

The Secretary for External Affairs.

Copies sent to C.G.S., Tpt +  
 C.S.S. K. J. 20/b

FILE IN CAPE TOWN

Sir Guy Wyatt,

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W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

... Admiral Day will take Vice Admiral

Sir Guy Wyatt's place on the Polar Committee.

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(signed) J.J.S. Garner

Chairman

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Commonwealth Relations Office

5th June, 1950

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9. A full scale meteorological programme which requires observations every three hours is being conducted at all Bases.



NEW ZEALAND

NUMBER 15

20 June 1950

Sir,

I have the honour, by direction of the Minister of External Affairs, to refer to your despatch P.M. 102/2 of 19 April concerning the Scott Polar Research Institute.

2. The question of New Zealand's contribution to the Institute has been brought under review as a result of your enquiry and a report is at present awaited from the New Zealand Scientific Liaison Officer in London.
3. It is not anticipated that a decision will be long delayed and as soon as the amount of New Zealand's contribution to the Institute has been decided you will be informed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. S. REID

*for* Secretary of External Affairs.

The Minister of External Affairs,

PRETORIA,

South Africa.



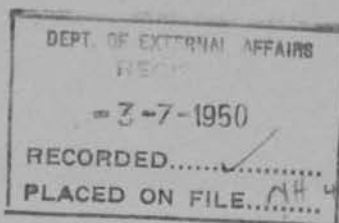
*Pm 102/2.*

NEW ZEALAND

NUMBER 15

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
WELLINGTON, N.Z.

20 June 1950



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3. It is not anticipated that a decision will be long delayed and as soon as the amount of New Zealand's contribution to the Institute has been decided you will be informed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*James Stewart*  
Secretary of External Affairs.

The Minister of External Affairs,  
PRETORIA,  
South Africa.

4. P.M. 102/2.

PRETORIA.

- 6 - 7 - 1963

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

Scott Polar Research Institute.

With reference to your minute No. M. 23 of 14th April asking me to enquire whether the other Dominions are renewing their contributions to the Institute, I attach a copy of a reply received from our High Commissioner in Canada.

I have as yet received no reply from Canberra and Wellington.

I shall in the meantime be glad to learn whether you have come to any decision in regard to the renewal of the Union's grant.

B. S. SOLE

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JJT/BVDM.

The Minister of External Affairs,

PRETORIA,

South Africa.

P.M. 102/2.

F

PRETORIA.

3-7-1950

The High Commissioner for the  
Union of South Africa,  
CANBERRA.

SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

I wish to refer to my minute No. P.M.  
102/2 of 19th April in regard to Australia's  
contribution to the above Institute for the financial  
year 1950/51, and to enquire when I may expect a reply.

D. B. SOLE

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

T  
JJÉ/BVDM.

para 29/7.

The Minister of External Affairs,  
PRETORIA,  
South Africa.

Pm 102/2  
T.V. 2

UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
MINISTERIE VAN VERVOER.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

Tels. "MOMENTUM."

Tel: 3-3081.  
Ext: 40.

Ref. M. 23.

DEPARTEMENT VAN VERVOER - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT.

REGISTERED  
19-7-1950  
RECORDED...  
PLACED ON FILE. 297/100

4th Floor,  
Sanlam Buildings,  
PRETORIA.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

17 JUL 1950

Scott Polar Research Institute.

With reference to your minute No. P.M.102/2 of the 6th July, 1950, I have to inform you that no decision has yet been made regarding the renewal of the Union's grant to the abovementioned Institute.

ACTING SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

P 29/17

Lesulemilla

1/8

P. 15/8 Resubmitted

The Minister of External Affairs,  
PRETORIA,  
South Africa.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA

P.M. 102/2

Tel. No.  
Ref. No. 28/

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSION

CANBERRA, A.C.T.

25 Julie 1950.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY  
- 8-8-1950  
RECORDED.....*Schaue*.....  
PLACED ON FILE.....

DIE SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE,  
PRETORIA.

Scott Polar Research Institute.

Met verwysing na u diensbrief P.M. 102/2 gedateer  
19 April 1950, moet ek u meedeel dat die Australiese regering  
voornemens is om 'n bedrag van £A.500 tot bovermelde instituut  
vir die finansiële jaar 1950/51 by te dra.

  
SEKRETARIS.

NEW ZEALANDNUMBER 25

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

WELLINGTON, N.Z.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS WELLINGTON - 8-8-1950 RECORDED..... PLACED ON FILE 8/88	25 July 1950
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Sir,

I have the honour to reply to your despatch PM.102/2 of 19 April 1950, in which you enquire whether the New Zealand Government intend making a contribution to the Scott Polar Research Institute for the financial year 1950/51 and what the amount is likely to be.

2. As you may know, the contribution made by New Zealand to this Institute in the years 1948/49 and 1949/50 was £100 sterling per annum. It has been decided to maintain this scale of payment for a further two-year period.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Minister of External Affairs.

Minister of External Affairs,

PRETORIA,

South Africa.

Telegraphic Address-  
"OPPOSITELY, SQUARE, LONDON."



SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Reference No. 19/88/2

Airmail.

25th July, 1950.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

French Southern and Antarctic Possessions.

We have received from the Commonwealth Relations Office the attached official French publication which maybe of interest to you. It is regretted that there are no spare copies to be had in London.

J. B. MILLS.

Political Secretary.

Minister of External Affairs,

PRETORIA,

South Africa.

T.  
P.M. 102/2.

PRETORIA.

23-8-1950

Die Sekretaris van Vervoer,  
PRETORIA.

SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

Met verwysing na my diensbrief no P.M.102/2 van 6 Junie insake bydraes tot die Scott Polar Research Institute kan ek u nou in kennis stel dat Australië voornemens is om £A.500 aan die bovermelde instituut vir die finansiële jaar 1950/51 by te dra en Nu Seeland £100 sterling.

Verder sal ek graag verneem of u enige beslissing gedoen het aangaande die hernuwing van die Unie se bydrae.

*pen 18/9.*  
D. S. SOLE

SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE

JJT/DW

UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
MINISTERIE VAN VERVOER.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

*P.M. 102/2*  
T.V. 2.

Teleg. Ad. "MOMENTUM."

Tel: 3-3081-68

Ref. M.23.

DEPARTEMENT VAN VERVOER.—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	4th Floor,
	Sanlam Buildings,
	PRETORIA.
24-8-1950	
RECORDED.....	✓
PLACED ON FILE..	24/8/50

23 AUG 1950

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

Contributions: Scott Polar Research  
Institute.

With further reference to your minute  
P.M.102/2 of the 6th July, 1950, I shall be glad to  
learn whether you have now received replies from Canberra  
and Wellington relative to the above.

*Albooke*

*J.* SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

*reply sent  
same day  
H.*



19/88/2.

CONFIDENTIAL.

P.M.102/2.  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

16th August, 1950.

P.M.102/2  
T.V. 2.  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

Ref. M.23.

Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa

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MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

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PRETORIA.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

23 AUG 1950

Copy sent  
to Transport

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

16/9 only 1 copy received

Contributions: Scott Polar Research  
Institute.

With further reference to your minute  
P.M.102/2 of the 6th July, 1950, I shall be glad to  
learn whether you have now received replies from Canberra  
and Wellington relative to the above.

*Albooke*

*J.* SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

reply sent  
same day  
*J.*

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

Report for period 21st April -  
25th June, 1950.

1. M.V. "John Biscoe".

The ship left Port Stanley on 15th June bound for England via Montevideo, St. Vincent and Madeira with seventeen passengers on board including four for Montevideo. She is carrying eleven husky dogs for the 'Festival of Britain'.

2. Base A - Fort Lockroy.

Painting and re-decorating Base Hut. Meteor watches are being kept on clear nights. Glaciological pits dug and investigation of the ice foot suggests that glaciers have advanced in that area during the past five years. A tide-gauge has been improvised and erected on the fast ice with excellent results.

3. Base B - Deception Island.

Personnel busy improving existing internal fittings in Hut and constructing and fitting additional shelves and cupboards. Base equipment overhauled. The inner navigation beacon has been extinguished for the winter. All personnel are learning to send messages in morse.

4. Base F - Argentine Island.

Stoves and fuel have been sledged over the sea ice from Galindez Island to the Base site. The stores were landed there by the Biscoe because it was not possible at the time to reach the Base, owing to return of severe ice conditions. Seal hunting for winter dog feeding. Constructional improvements to new Meteorological and W/T offices.

5. Base G - Admiralty Bay.

Overhauling Generator sets and securing store for the winter.

6. Base H - Signy Island.

Minor improvements to inside of Base Hut. A cine film record of husky dog maintenance is being made and close observations on pup development. All Giant Petrel fledglings in the area, a total of forty-four have been ringed. Penguin visitors have been dissected and have provided interesting data. An early freeze-up has allowed personnel to make three day journeys to Coronation Island to establish a cache of sledging rations. Sledging activities now suspended temporarily because a succession of north-easterly gales and high temperatures broke up the sea ice on 23rd June. The average weight of adult husky dogs at Signy is 97½ lbs. and of bitches 78 lbs. The heaviest weighs 109 lbs. Radio contact has been made with the Queen Maud Land Expedition. A pilot balloon released at the Base reached a height of 92,000 feet.

6. Base M - South Georgia.

Painting Base offices.

7. All Bases.

Routine ice and meteorological observations. Personnel all well.

RESTRICTED

P (50) 11

Previous reference: P(50)9

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

(1949/50)

The attached report, covering the period 21st April to 23rd June, 1950, has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) D. A. Scott.

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

15 August, 1950.

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7. All Bases.

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FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

Report for Period 24th June -  
21st July, 1950.

1. Base "A" - Port Lockroy.

Gales towards the end of June brought down the wireless masts three times and cleared the Bay of ice. The improvised tide gauge was carried away but was later salvaged and is now being repaired. A half wave wireless aerial has been constructed and is giving improved reception. Part of the Hut has been partitioned off for use as a dark-room and its use is very much in demand by personnel. Meteor watches are still being kept on suitable nights.

2. Base "B" - Deception Island.

Personnel were confined to the Base by blizzard weather in late June and early July and were able to concentrate on internal improvements to the Hut. A party visited the Outer Light and found it to be in a very poor condition. Personnel have made several day sledge journeys for seal catching and have paid a visit to the Argentine Base. Tests have been carried out between Deception Island and all Bases to ensure that, should normal radio channels part for any reason, contact can be maintained using emergency gear.

3. Base "F" - Argentine Islands.

Local sledging trips for dog training and seal hunting. Old stove reconditioned and installed in W/T - met. extension making paraffin heating unnecessary.

4. Base "G" - Admiralty Bay.

Base was "off the air" for a day with alternator trouble. The spare unit was sledged across from the store and installed and running within 24 hours. A bright red meteor was observed on July 2nd which lasted approximately two seconds.

5. Base "H" - Signy Island.

All equipment is now ready for the first sledge journey to Coronation Island, but the sea ice is not yet safe enough for a start to be made. The Laboratory and dark-room are now completed and are being used regularly. A start has been made with bacteriology and some uncontaminated cultures obtained. A party left Base on July 21st with two sledges and 14 dogs for a few days sledging in the Signy area.

6. All Bases report routine work, daily meteorological observations and W/T schedules. Personnel all well.

FORWARDED.

F(50)12

Previous Reference: F(50)11

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

(1949/50)

The attached report, covering the period 24th June to 21st July, 1950 has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) D.A. Scott.

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

7 September, 1950.

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6. All Bases report routine work, daily meteorological observations and W/T schedules. Personnel all well.



P.M. 102/2.

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

19/88/2.

CONFIDENTIAL.

13th September, 1950.

Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.

19-9-1950  
Schedule  
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D. DEPT. OF EX. 3

The Secretary for  
Pretoria.

Copies sent to C.G.S.,  
C.S.J.R. + Tpt.

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W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

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(Signed) D.A. Scott.

Secretary,  
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7 September, 1950.

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6. All Bases report routine work, daily meteorological observations and  
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P.M. 102/2

F.

PRETORIA.

25-8-1950

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT:

Contributions : Scott Polar  
Research Institute.

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With reference to my P.M. 102/2 of 23rd August, 1950, informing you of the contributions to be made by the Australian and New Zealand Governments to the abovenamed Institute, I shall be glad to learn whether you have come to any decision in respect of the renewal of the Union's contribution.

D. B. SOLE

ACTING SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

9. 15/10

RESUBMITTED

JJT/MJ

9. 25/10

RESUBMITTED

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "UNICOM"  
TELEGRAMADRES:

In reply please quote:  
Vermeld in antwoord als:

No. 4671/114/1



DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REC. Union of South Africa.  
- 6-10-1950  
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
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PLACED ON FILE 19.9.50

Office of the Commissioner.

? Rantoor van die Kommissari.

P. O. Box 624.  
Postbus  
NAIROBI

102/2

3rd October, 1950.

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
Pretoria.

Scientific Council.

With reference to your Savings Telegram No. P.M. 102/2 dated 29th September, 1950, it would be appreciated if SIX copies of any duplicated documents intended for the information of Territorial Governments through the East Africa High Commission could be forwarded. This would save considerable delay and labour.

*Campbell Ross*  
COMMISSIONER.

RCR/EB

① Ruzay p. n. index for 102/12.

② R. Johnson p. n. etc. & send request. notes & being circulated to all concerned.

③ Ruzay p. n. circulate.

7.  
22/6  
✱

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEYReport for Period 22nd July - 20th August, 19501. Base "A" - Port Lockroy

A period of low temperatures and fine weather has enabled personnel to make several trips over the sea ice to points of interest. The tide gauge is now in working order again.

2. Base "B" - Deception Island

Base was visited on two occasions by personnel from the Argentine Met. Base; they reported that their seismograph recorded a tremor on the 26th July.

3. Base "F" - Argentine Island

No open water is visible from the Island in any direction. Firm sea ice has given ample scope for dog training and day sledge trips.

4. Base "G" - Admiralty Bay

Personnel mainly occupied with general overhaul and improvements to Base buildings and equipment.

5. Base "H" - Signy Island

Sledging parties were out between the 21st and 25th of July and again between 29th July and the 1st August. Individuals concerned gained valuable experience in cold weather travel and field survey. The new plastic runners on the Nansen Sledges appear so far to be superior to the old hickory type and are particularly good on deep salt slush. An old type sledge continually bogged while another with plastic runner carrying a heavier load kept moving. Daily W/T contact has been maintained between sledge party and base.

Party of three left the Base on August 20th, equipped and provisioned for a minimum period of 30 days in the field. A large depot of fuel and provision had previously been established at Shingle Bay on Coronation Island; a dinghy also having been placed there in case the sea ice should break up before the party returns. The objects of the journey are to extend the topographical and geological survey on Coronation Island and make ornithological observations. Cultures will be taken from noses and throats of sledging personnel after they have been 30 days away from Base.

6. Base "M" - South Georgia

Base personnel came in 4th and 12th in the Ski Race at the Whalers annual Winter Sports Meeting.

7. All Bases - report routine work and daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

-----

P.M. 102/2

RESTRICTED

P(50)13

Previous Reference: P(50)12

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

(1949/50)

The attached Report, covering the period 22nd July - 20th August 1950, has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) D. A. Scott

Secretary  
Polar Committee

*N.W. pm and  
minutes to  
deposited below.*

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street,  
13 October, 1950.

*As Vole to  
copies sent to CS & R, etc  
and by G.P. 10*

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6. Base "M" - South Georgia

Base personnel came in 4th and 12th in the Ski Race at the whalers annual Winter Sports Meeting.

7. All Bases - report routine work and daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

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11-1950

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

With reference to my minutes No. P.M. 102/2 of the 23rd August and the 25th September, 1950, regarding the renewal of the Union Government's contribution to the Scott Polar Institute, I shall be glad to learn when a decision in this matter may be expected.

*① No Withdrawal - you should not file matters which are still outstanding per  
② Pend 3/12*

D. B. SOLE  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JW/JK.

*Pend 2/12*

*Resubmitted  
4/13/50*

Base personnel came in 4th and 12th in the Ski Race at the Whalers annual Winter Sports Meeting.

- 7. All Bases - report routine work and daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

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100/103/a

Telegraphic address:  
"OPPOSITE, LEE, LRE, LONDON."

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
 REGISTRY  
 UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
 19/88/2. 20-11-1950 Airmail.  
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SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

Reference No.

13th November, 1950.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:

Antarctic.

In my minute of the 11th November, 1949, I reported that the United Kingdom, Argentine and Chilean Governments had agreed that the arrangements for the limitation of naval activity in the Antarctic south of latitude 60° should be extended to cover the 1949/50 Antarctic season.

The three Governments have now agreed to exchange similar declarations covering the 1950/51 season. These declarations, and the communique which will accompany them, will follow closely the form of last year's exchange, and will be published in London on the 20th November.

Mr Gale - to see psc  
Also minutes below

Typists  
2 copies psc

Copies sent to C.G.S, C.S. & R  
& Tpt. for information.

11/25/50

*Deveraux*  
Political Secretary.

Handwritten notes and stamps, including "4/11/50".

Base personnel came in 4th and 12th in the Ski Race at the whalers annual Winter Sports Meeting.

7. All Bases - report routine work and daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

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Account's Branch,  
P.O. Box 1202,  
PRETORIA.

21 NOV 1950

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
PRETORIA.

Scott Polar Research Institute:  
Contribution by the Union of  
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Base personnel came in 4th and 12th in the Ski Race at the whalers annual Winter Sports Meeting.

- 7. All Bases - report routine work and daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

F.

PRETORIA.

30-11-1950

The High Commissioner for the Union  
of South Africa,  
LONDON.

Scott Polar Research  
Institute.

I have been informed by the Secretary for  
Transport of his decision to contribute £200 towards  
the expenses of the above Institute for 1950.

We are arranging the transmission of this sum.  
Kindly inform the authorities.

B. S. SOLE  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

F.  
This was marked  
"file" by Mr. Shelton.  
I have already discussed  
it with him, so please  
do not pursue further  
in this case  
J.S. 30/11

Base personnel came in 4th and 12th in the Ski Race at the  
whalers annual winter Sports Meeting.

- 7. All Bases - report routine work and daily meteorological and  
wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

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P.M. 102/2.

PRETORIA.

— 4-12-1950

The High Commissioner for the  
Union of South Africa,  
LONDON.

Scott Polar Research Institute.

With reference to your letter No. 15/17 of the 15th May last, I have to inform you that an amount of £200 has been received from the Department of Transport being the Union's contribution to the above Institute.

I shall be glad if you will pay the amount to the Scott Polar Research Institute.

J. H. OLIVIER

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JHO/LJ.



*File*  
*4/12*

Base personnel came in 4th and 12th in the Ski Race at the whalers annual winter Sports Meeting.

7. All Bases - report routine work and daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

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FALKLAND ISLANDS DEFENDENCIES SURVEY.

Report for Period 21st August - 6th October, 1950.

1. Base "B" - Deception Island.

Base busy spring cleaning, making repairs to buildings and fitting out additional cupboards and store-room. A party sledged to Port Foster and later visited Pendulum Cove, finding that the Argentine Hut there had been dismantled. Another party went to Collins Point and found a safe route over the ridge to the Penguin rookery. They report that large expanses of open water are already visible in the Bransfield Strait and that the ice in Whalers Bay is breaking up. South American Terns and Cape Pigeons are now returning.

2. Base "F" - Argentine Island.

A good part of the month of September was spent on seal hunting for dog food - the first seal pup was seen on the 10th. Base had a live pup under observation which was being successfully bottle fed, but, unfortunately due to the large quantities of milk which it consumed it had to be killed.

3. Base "G" - Admiralty Bay.

The first Weddell Seal pup was seen on 13th September. Base reports show that the Bransfield Strait is clear of ice to the horizon and that the ice edge is now well inside the Bay.

4. Base "H" - Signy Island.

Personnel have been busy re-painting parts of the interior of the Base Hut, which has been extended and improved. The Sledge party returned to Base on the 26th September after travelling for over 200 miles in 38 days. During this journey the party was able to survey parts of the North coast of Coronation Island although overland travel proved difficult and slow. They completed all the work that they had planned to do. Most camps were at height of about 2000 feet and were either in sight of open sea to the North or solid ice to the horizon to the South. Detailed report to follow.

5. All Bases - report successful accomplishment daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

RESTRICTED

350.

P(50)18

Previous Reference: P(50)13

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

(1949/50)

The attached Report, covering the period 21st August - 6th October 1950, has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) D.A. Scott.

Secretary  
Polar Committee

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street,

27 November, 1950.

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5. All Bases - report successful accomplishment daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TRAFALGAR SQUARE,

REGISTRY

LONDON, W.C.2.

19/88/2

5-12-1950

29th November, 1950.

RECORDED

PLACED ON FILE

*Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.*

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
PRETORIA.

*Copies sent to C.G.S., Tpt.,  
& C.S.J.R. JT 6/12*

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

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(Signed) D.A. Scott.

Secretary  
Polar Committee

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street,  
27 November, 1950.

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Detailed report to follow.

5. All Bases - report successful accomplishment daily  
meteorological and wireless schedules.  
Personnel all well.

The Committee recommended that the proposals in APC(50)13 be accepted, and suggested that, if the Governor's approval was obtained, the Colonial Office should ask the Foreign Office to take the matter up with the Norwegian Government. They also expressed the hope that the Australian Government would approve of a simultaneous mention of the desirability of Norwegian agreement on the eastern limit of Kronprins Olav Kyst at Long. 45°E.

Item 6. Prince Charles Strait. (APC(49)1)

The Secretary said that the Hydrographer had held over publication of the name on Admiralty charts until it had been discussed by the Committee, since the feature seemed to be too insignificant to carry such an important name. He also pointed out that the first ship to pass through this strait did so in 1839 and that, since that date, a considerable number of ships had navigated it.

Mr. Bennett said that, when the proposal was made, he had been unaware of these facts but that, since the King's approval had already been given, it was now too late to alter this name.

The Committee took note that the name Prince Charles Strait had already been approved, and agreed that there would be no objection to naming another more important feature after Prince Charles if a suitable suggestion was at any time put forward.

Item 7. Any other business.

Mr. Bennett said he presumed that all the Committee's recommendations on specific proposals made during the meeting would be circulated in a form similar to that adopted in APC(50)17. He suggested that it would be helpful if, in addition, a straightforward list of accepted names could be circulated, with a minimum amount of information about the locality of each name. This suggested list would mark the first stage in the building up of a gazetteer. The Secretary thought that Mr. Bennett's suggestion was a useful one, but regretted that it would not at present be possible to produce such a list unless he could be provided with further assistance. He agreed to take up this suggestion on his return from the Antarctic in March 1951.

The Secretary reported that during his absence Miss Thomas would continue the work on place-names.

Research Department, Foreign Office.

15 November 1950.

by glaciologists and other interested scientists. He thought it likely that the P.C.G.N. would also wish to consider the problem, and suggested that the Committee should make no recommendation on the place-name Larsen Shelf Ice, proposed for official acceptance in APC(50)6, p. 4-5, until the views of these bodies had been stated. The Secretary said that it would be impossible to reach complete agreement on this name, and suggested that the Committee's recommendation should be based on the view of the majority both in this country and abroad, which was that Larsen Shelf Ice should be accepted for the whole area of shelf ice off the east coast of Graham Land.

Commander Jones suggested that the Chairman should ask the President of the British Glaciological Society for a ruling on the descriptive terms which should be accepted for large areas of shelf ice, and that consideration by the Committee of the possible use of these terms in place-names should be deferred until this information became available.

The Committee agreed that the President of the British Glaciological Society should be approached by the Chairman, and that a recommendation on the proposed name Larsen Shelf Ice should for the present be deferred.

Item 5. The eastern boundary of Coats Land and the names of the coasts in Coats Land. (APC(50)13)

The Secretary said that the proposals in this paper had been put forward with a view to adjusting the place-names which overlapped the international boundary between the Falkland Islands Dependencies and Dronning Maud Land. He said that he had discussed them with Professor Sverdrup, the Director of Norsk Polarinstitut, Oslo, who thought that they would be welcomed by Norway. He also said that the Foreign Office had already approved this paper in draft. He then pointed out that similar proposals were needed to clarify the limits of Kronprins Olav Kyst which, in the Norwegian view, overlapped the international boundary between the Australian Antarctic Territory and Dronning Maud Land. The attitude of the Australian Government was that the eastern boundary of Kronprins Olav Kyst co-incided with the international boundary at Long. 45°E., and hence it would appear as such on all British maps, despite the fact that Norwegian maps showed it extending eastwards to Long. 49°30'E. It was, however, desirable to persuade the Norwegians to restrict Kronprins Olav Kyst to Norwegian territory, and Professor Sverdrup had suggested that this point should be mentioned if an approach was made to the Norwegian Government about the names on the western boundary of Dronning Maud Land. The only reason why the Norwegian Government had not already agreed to restrict Kronprins Olav Kyst to Norwegian territory was because of the opposition of General Riiser-Larsen, who had discovered this coast. General Riiser-Larsen had also discovered Kronprinsesse ~~Martha~~ Kyst. Since the proposals in APC(50)13 would enable the Norwegian Government to extend the latter name, Professor Sverdrup thought that if the two cases were discussed at the same time, General Riiser-Larsen's opposition to the restriction of Kronprins Olav Kyst would be withdrawn. Mr. Douglas-Scott undertook to inform Canberra of the position and to obtain their views.



Item 3. Place-names on the east coast of Graham Land between Lats. 64°30'S. and 68°S., arising from the work of F.I.D.S., 1947-48. (APC(50)1-6)

In papers APC(50)1-6, 110 proposals were considered. Of 21 accepted names listed, one was altered and then agreed, one was recommended for alteration, and the remainder were agreed. Of 6 proposals for rejection of names, 6 were recommended. Of 6 proposals for temporarily discarding names, 6 were recommended. Of 11 proposals for alterations to existing names, one was recommended to be temporarily discarded, 3 were revised and then recommended for acceptance, and the remainder were recommended for acceptance. Of 62 proposals for new names, 7 were altered and then recommended for acceptance and the remainder were recommended for acceptance. Three additional proposals were also made. Of 4 proposals for official acceptance of existing names, one was recommended for alteration and 2 were recommended for acceptance. The remaining proposal (APC(50)6, p. 4-5) was considered separately under Item 4 of the agenda. The above recommendations are set out in APC(50)18, in the form of amendments to APC(50)1-6.

The Secretary pointed out that, if these recommendations were accepted, a number of Commander Ronne's names, listed in APC(50)14, would have to be withdrawn or applied to un-named features further south. He suggested that, until he had discussed these names further with the U.S.B.G.N., the Committee should not reject Commander Ronne's specific names, but that they should reject outright the possibility of using any of them again with the same generic term. This was agreed.

Concerning the types of features which should mark the limits of the 'coasts' in Graham Land, Commander Jones stressed that the heads of bays and inlets were considered by the Admiralty to be quite unsuitable. After some discussion it was recommended that, wherever possible, prominent headlands should be chosen as the limits for coast names.

Concerning the proposals in APC(50)5 to name certain features after members of the War Cabinet of 1943, Mr. Bennett thought that, as soon as the Governor had approved the Committee's recommendations, it would be appropriate if the Secretary of State for the Colonies were to ask for their personal approval before the names were finally published. Mr. Douglas-Scott agreed to obtain the approval of the Australian member after the Governor's comments had been received.

The Committee recommended that the proposals in APC(50)1-6, as amended in APC(50)18, be accepted. They also agreed to record their continued support of the principle (set out in APC(48)2, para. 8, and approved in APC(48) 1st Meeting, Minutes) of temporarily discarding a name when insufficient information is available to locate and define the feature.

Item 4. Larsen Shelf Ice. (APC(50)6, p. 4-5, APC(50)15 and 16)

Mr. Wordie stated that the attention of the British Glaciological Society had been drawn to the question of shelf ice both as a descriptive term and as a geographical term compounded in place-names, and that it was now being discussed

case, continue to publish new names, regardless of British proposals.

The Secretary agreed that the Americans were likely to go ahead and publish new names, but he stressed that, if continuous contact with them was maintained, it would be possible to reduce such divergences to a minimum. He added that the production of Directorate of Colonial Surveys maps had never been held up for the inclusion of place-names; that, on the contrary, the work on place-names had in the past been and was still being delayed for lack of the necessary maps.

The Chairman said that the feeling of the meeting was in favour of unofficial consultation on place-names with the Americans but that, since Mr. Bennett could not agree, it would be necessary to admit failure and to refer the question to a higher authority, in this case the Chairman of the Polar Committee. In the meantime it was agreed that, for the present, no action should be taken by the Secretary which might involve the Committee in official co-operation with the U.S.B.G.N.

The Committee agreed that the question of Anglo-American co-operation on the problem of Falkland Islands Dependencies' place-names should be referred to the Chairman of the Polar Committee.

The Secretary stated that the maximum possible agreement by discussion with the Americans had probably now been reached on the proposals in APC(50)1-6, and that the differences which had not yet been solved were set out in APC(50)14. He also stated that many of Commander Ronne's conflicting names, which had been withdrawn in favour of the F.I.D.S. proposals in APC(50)7, had since been proposed by the U.S.B.G.N. for features further south and were listed in APC(50)14. He pointed out, however, that it would not be possible to consider APC(50)14 without constantly referring to American views on British proposals and that, since the principle of consultation with the Americans had not been agreed, discussion should be limited to the American proposals on p. 29 of APC(50)14. This was agreed.

It was then recommended that Cole Peninsula, Mount Landen and McClary Ridge be rejected for the reasons given in the notes on these names, and that the name Cape Church be substituted for Cape Duemler. These recommendations are set out in APC(50)18, in the form of amendments to APC(50)14. In addition, APC(50)18 contains a new proposal, Chamberlin Glacier, recommended by the Committee after consideration of the notes on Flint Glacier on p. 24 of APC(50)14.

The Chairman suggested that, since the remaining names in APC(50)14 were covered by the proposals in APC(50)1-6, detailed discussion of that paper should be deferred. This was agreed.

The Committee took note of APC(50)14, and recommended that the amendments in APC(50)18 be approved.

which names should be used on Directorate of Colonial Surveys maps and on Admiralty charts. The present procedure appeared to be so slow that it was holding up the production of maps, and he thought that the following points should be considered. First, concerning the speed with which the work could be carried out, he suggested that unofficial consultation with the Americans caused delays which were unjustifiable and unnecessary. Secondly, from the political point of view, he considered that maps covering territory which was claimed as British should carry names only of British origin, and that consultation with the Americans, and the acceptance of certain names of American origin, might well weaken our claim. Thirdly, he questioned why consultation was limited to the Americans and did not include the Argentines and Chileans. He thought that consultation with the Americans should be discontinued; that names should be inserted on published maps with all possible speed; and that, if these names were later found to be unsuitable, they could be altered.

Mr. Cecil pointed out that, in order to strengthen our position as an administrative power, it was very desirable that British maps and charts should be widely accepted in other countries, and that it was partly with this end in view that unofficial consultation with the Americans, and also with the French and Norwegians, had been carried on. In addition, there was a strong political argument for co-operation with the Americans in that the only hope of ending the present dispute in the Falkland Islands Dependencies or of successfully establishing some form of international regime for the Antarctic continent was to work in close co-operation with the Americans at every stage. He added that consultation on the place-name problem was one small aspect of the general policy towards the Americans which was at present being followed, and that the Foreign Office legal advisers were satisfied with the existing procedure. Concerning Mr. Bennett's third point, he said that the Americans, the French and the Norwegians were not competing with the British in the Antarctic. The Argentines and Chileans were, however, claiming territory which was already claimed as British, and it would, therefore, be entirely unsuitable to consult with them, even unofficially, on the problem of place-names.

Commander Jones said that, for the navigator, the "Antarctic Pilot" and the American sailing directions were the only two works of importance covering the Antarctic and that, from a practical point of view, it was very desirable that the names in these two publications should agree, not only outside the boundaries of the Falkland Islands Dependencies, but also within those boundaries. Mr. Wordie added that, for all scientific work, it was essential to have the widest possible agreement on the names to be accepted, and that the practice of publishing a name and then changing it later would inevitably mean that almost all scientific results produced both in this country and abroad would be reduced to chaos.

Mr. Bennett said that he was still unable to agree that unofficial consultation with the Americans on place-names was desirable. He argued that if place-names had any political significance, such co-operation would mean giving way on certain points and so inevitably weakening the British position. If on the other hand place-names were not of any such significance, he questioned whether consultation would help politically. He added that the Americans would, in any



Falkland Islands. He stressed that it would not be practical to exclude South Georgia and, at the same time, achieve one of the main aims of the work, which was to prevent duplication of place-names in the Falkland Islands Dependencies. The same expeditions had frequently worked both in South Georgia and elsewhere in the Dependencies and in each case it was essential to review all the names given. It was also relevant that, although the names had been stabilized along the inhabited north coast of South Georgia, the interior and south coast of the island were less known than any part of the South Shetlands and much of Graham Land, and many of the named features had not been located. The compilation of the 1948 edition of the "Antarctic Pilot", and of the Directorate of Colonial Surveys 1:500,000 map of South Georgia had raised many place-name problems for which solutions had had to be found in London.

Concerning APC(50)9, para. 9(a), discussed under Item 5 of the last minutes, Mr. Cecil said that, while appreciating the principle involved, the Foreign Office would not wish to press for the substitution of the Russian name Kupriyanov Point in place of Johannesen Point.

The Committee agreed to hold over recommendations on place-names in South Georgia until their terms of reference had been more clearly defined.

Item 2. Duplication of British and American place-names on the east coast of Graham Land between Lats. 64°30'S. and 68°S., with comments on British and American proposals. (APC(50)7 and 14)

The Secretary reported that, with two exceptions (Cape Freeman and Tonkin Island), the F.I.D.S. proposals in Column 1, p. 3-6 of APC(50)7, were acceptable to the U.S.B.G.N., and that Commander Ronne's conflicting names had been withdrawn; that the name Robillard Island, used by Commander Ronne for a feature which does not exist, and the name Rugged Ridge, used by him for a feature which was not considered to require a name, had been withdrawn; and that three other American names (Cole Peninsula, Mount Landen and McClary Ridge) listed in Column 2, p. 3-6, which did not conflict with F.I.D.S. proposals, would be considered under APC(50)14. He cited these facts as a notable example of the kind of results that could be achieved by unofficial correspondence with the Americans, who in this case had made major concessions in the interests of uniformity and stability. Commander Jones suggested that, with the exception of Stepside Island which would be difficult to translate, all the F.I.D.S. proposals in APC(50)7 be accepted. These proposals were later discussed in detail under Item 3 of the agenda and several alterations were recommended. These are set out in APC(50)18, in the form of amendments to APC(50)7.

The Committee took note with satisfaction that, on the east coast of Graham Land between Lats. 66°20'S. and 68°S., most of the conflicting American names had been withdrawn, and they recommended that the F.I.D.S. proposals in APC(50)7, as amended by APC(50)18, be accepted.

Mr. Bennett then raised the question of whether co-operation with the Americans was in any way desirable. As he saw it, the object of the work on place-names was to decide

/which

CONFIDENTIAL

APC(50) 2nd Meeting

ANTARCTIC PLACE-NAMES COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting at the Commonwealth Relations  
Office on Thursday, 2 November 1950, at 2.30 p.m.

Present:-

Mr. D.A. Scott (Chairman)	Commonwealth Relations Office
Commander Alun Jones	Hydrographic Department, Admiralty
Mr. J.S. Bennett	Colonial Office
Mr. J.M. Wordie	Royal Geographical Society and Permanent Committee on Geographical Names
Mr. K.R. Douglas-Scott	Australian Department of External Affairs
Mr. R. Cecil	Foreign Office
Miss J.E. Thomas	Foreign Office
Dr. B.B. Roberts (Secretary)	Foreign Office.

The Chairman, in opening the meeting, said that Sir Cecil Day (New Zealand Department of External Affairs) had telephoned making his apologies that he would be unable to attend the meeting.

Item 1. Points arising out of Draft Minutes of last Meeting.  
(APC(50)1st Meeting)

A number of minor amendments were made to the draft minutes. The Chairman agreed subsequently that Item 8 should be deleted and that a revised version should be incorporated in the minutes of the meeting on 2 November 1950.

Concerning Item 5, Mr. Bennett questioned whether, in fact, consideration of place-names in South Georgia was included in the Committee's terms of reference, which were "to consider existing and proposed new place-names in the Antarctic, and to make recommendations" (Polar Committee paper P(46)2). He thought that, since, in his opinion, South Georgia was not in the Antarctic, and since it was permanently occupied, its place-names were the sole responsibility of the local administration. The Secretary pointed out that a description of South Georgia was included in the "Antarctic Pilot" and it had, therefore, been understood that consideration of the place-names was a concern of the Committee. He also referred to Item 1(a) of the minutes of the first meeting (APC(48)1st Meeting) which included South Georgia in the general heading Falkland Islands Dependencies, and which had been approved by the Polar Committee and by the Governor of the



Previous reference F(49)14

POLAR COMMITTEE

Place Names in the Antarctic

There are circulated herewith copies of papers A.P.C.(50) 1st meeting and A.P.C.(50) 2nd meeting, being minutes of the last two meetings of the Antarctic Place-Names Committee.

The minutes have been agreed by members of the Place-Names Committee and have been forwarded to the Governor of the Falkland Islands for his comments. Provided that no further amendments are notified by members of the Polar Committee by the 8th December, it will be assumed that these minutes are approved by the Committee.

(Signed) D. A. Scott

Secretary  
Polar Committee.

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE  
30 NOVEMBER 1950.

Mr. Bennett asked for further explanation of the terms of reference mentioned under Item 1 of the last minutes. He wished to know whether the Committee considered only detailed proposals for individual place-names, as distinct from general principles which were the concern of the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (P.C.G.N.), and whether the work of the Committee overlapped with that of any other body. The Secretary stated that, while he understood that the main purpose of the Committee was to make recommendations on specific name proposals, it was not practical to do this without discussing general principles as well. All the proposals had to conform with P.C.G.N. principles, but these did not cover most of the problems which had arisen. Suitable proposals had not been put forward spontaneously by the surveyors, but had only resulted from prolonged discussion of principles. Mr. Wordie stated that the preparatory work had, up to the present, been done by the Secretary, in consultation with the members of F.I.D.S., Committee representatives, and other

/interested

Telegraphic Address:  
"OPPOSITELY, LESQUARE, LONDON"



SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

19/88/2.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
Airmail.

Reference

POLAR COMMITTEE

5th December, 1950.

Place Names in the Antarctic

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:

1st meeting and A.P.C. (50) 2nd meeting, being minutes of the two

meetings of the Antarctic Place-Names Committee.

Antarctic Place-Names Committee.

The minutes were sent to the Secretary of the Place-Names

Committee and have been forwarded to the Governor of the Falkland

I forward herewith copies of Polar Committee paper  
No P (50) 19 dated the 30th November, 1950, transmitting the  
minutes of meetings of the Antarctic Place-Names Committee  
which were held on the 5th October and 2nd November.

As the comments of the Governor of the Falkland  
Islands are now not expected for some considerable time,  
the deadline 8th December falls away. We should, however,  
be grateful if you would let us have whatever comments you  
may wish us to put forward as soon as possible.

T. Newittson

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
30 NOVEMBER 1950

Political Secretary.

The Secretary stated that, while he understood that the main  
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present, been done by the Secretary, in consultation with the  
members of F.I.D.S., Committee representatives, and other

/interested

*R. M. 102/a*



Telegraphic Address: "CORRENTS", LEASQUARE, LONDON.

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

Reference No. F/88 2

RECORDED  
11-12-1950  
PLACED ON FILE

Airmail.

5th December, 1950.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:

Antarctic Place-Names Committee.

I forward herewith copies of Polar Committee paper No P (50) 19 dated the 30th November, 1950, transmitting the minutes of meetings of the Antarctic Place-Names Committee which were held on the 5th October and 2nd November.

As the comments of the Governor of the Falkland Islands are now not expected for some considerable time, the deadline 8th December falls away. We should, however, be grateful if you would let us have whatever comments you may wish us to put forward as soon as possible.

*PS refer as usual.*

*Copies sent to G.G.S., U.S.A.R. + Tpt.*

*Shaw*

Political Secretary.

*file 13/12*

general principles which were the concern of the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (P.C.G.N.), and whether the work of the Committee overlapped with that of any other body. The Secretary stated that, while he understood that the main purpose of the Committee was to make recommendations on specific name proposals, it was not practical to do this without discussing general principles as well. All the proposals had to conform with P.C.G.N. principles, but these did not cover most of the problems which had arisen. Suitable proposals had not been put forward spontaneously by the surveyors, but had only resulted from prolonged discussion of principles. Mr. Wordie stated that the preparatory work had, up to the present, been done by the Secretary, in consultation with the members of F.I.D.S., Committee representatives, and other

/interested

ANTARCTIC ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

Report for period 7th October-3rd November, 1950

1. Base "A" - Port Lockroy

Meteor watches resumed on suitable nights. The sea is now clear of ice to the limit of visibility.

2. Base "B" - Deception Island

A trickle battery charger has been installed in the Met. Office and equipment cleaned and overhauled. Thaw conditions continue and the Bransfield Strait is almost ice free to horizon. Almost all the Cape Pigeon population had returned by mid-October and had started nesting by the end of the month. Two mating crabeater seals which remained near the Base for eight days were kept under close observation and a photographic record made. A party from the Argentine Base paid a visit to the British Base seeking photographic advice.

3. Base "C" - Argentine Island

A period of constant gales has weakened the sea ice in the vicinity of the Base and put an end to sealing operations. Radio equipment and generators have been overhauled and dinghy repaired ready for launching.

4. Base "H" - Signy Island

Personnel were out sledging between the 5th and 10th October and covered a total distance of 62 miles. There was open water in the Lewthwaite Strait but reasonably firm ice enabled them to visit all the Islands in the Robertson group. A period of above freezing temperatures caused numerous thaw pools to form on the surface of the sea ice and made the return journey to Base rather trying and wet.

A party sledged across to Coronation Island and brought back the dinghy which had been placed there earlier in the year as a precautionary measure in case the sea ice broke up while a party was away from Base.

Observations have started on the breeding habits of penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has been started and almost all of the data lost in the Hope Bay fire has been replaced.

5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

RESTRICTED

P(50)16

Previous Reference: P(50)14

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

(1949/50)

The attached Report, covering the period 7th October-3rd November, 1950 has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) A. H. REED.

for Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

19 December, 1950.

while a party was away from base.

Observations have started on the breeding habits of penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has been started and almost all of the data lost in the Hope Bay fire has been replaced.

5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.



RESTRICTED

P(50)14(Amdt)

POLAR COMMITTEE

P(50)18. (Report of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey (1949-50) for the period 21st August-6th October 1950) should be renumbered P(50)14 and P(50)19 (Place Names in the Antarctic) should be renumbered P(50)15.

(Signed) A. H. REED

for Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

~~The Secretary to.....  
PASSED TO YOU FOR INFO.....  
CONSIDERATION  
Date.....~~

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

19 December, 1950.

*Copies sent to C.G.S  
Tpt + C.G.S.R  
HT 5/1  
File HT 5/1*

~~where a party was away from base.~~

Observations have started on the breeding habits of penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has been started and almost all of the data lost in the Hope Bay fire has been replaced.

- 5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

P.M. 102/2.

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

Confidential.

19/88/2.

21st December, 1950.

*Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.*

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
Pretoria.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
RECORDS SECTION  
27-12-1950  
RECORDED...  
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*Scheave*

lands Dependencies  
t-6th October 1950)  
Place Names in the

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

(Signed) A. H. REED

for Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

~~The Secretary to:.....  
PASSED TO [ ] FOR INFORMATION  
Date:.....~~

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

19 December, 1950.

*Copies sent to C.G.5  
Tpt + C.G.S.R  
HT 5/1  
File HT 5/1*

Observations have started on the breeding habits of penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has been started and almost all of the data lost in the Hope Bay fire has been replaced.

- 5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

FILE IN CAPE TOWN

*10/102/2*

Restricted

P (51) 1

(Previous reference: P (50) 8)

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
REGISTRY
15-1-1951
RECORDED..... <i>Robb</i> .....
PLACED ON FILE.....

POLAR COMMITTEE

As I shall be leaving this country on the 4th January to take up an appointment in the Office of the United Kingdom High Commissioner in the Union of South Africa Mr. A.H. REED of the Commonwealth Relations Office has been appointed Secretary of the Polar Committee as from 2nd January 1951.

(signed) D.A. SCOTT.

Secretary.

*No Ref - when possible  
will Swiss occupy.  
D.A.  
Mr Scotts -*

*to see p. 8*

Commonwealth Relations Office

1st January, 1951.

*Mr. Scott  
Scott is replacing Anthony  
as Assistant Secretary  
Y. S. J.*

*copies sent  
to C.G.S., Tpt.  
& C.S.T.R.  
J.T. 19/1*

Observations have started on the breeding habits of penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has been started and almost all of the data lost in the Hope Bay fire has been replaced.

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SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

Confidential

19/88/2 **FILE IN CAPE TOWN**  
11th January, 1951.

Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.

THE SECRETARY FOR

REC'D. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY  
15-1-1951  
RECORDED  
PLACED ON FILE

OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY  
15-1-1951  
RECORDED  
PLACED ON FILE

4th January  
United Kingdom  
Mr. A.H. REED

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

of the Commonwealth Relations Office has been appointed  
Secretary of the Polar Committee as from 2nd January 1951.

(signed) D.A. SCOTT.

Secretary.

*No Reply - when possible  
will write copy.*

*Mr. Scott*

*to see p. 8*

Commonwealth Relations Office

1st January, 1951.

*copies sent  
to C.G.S., Tpt.  
& C.S.T.R  
J.T. 19/1*

*Mr. Scott  
Scott is replacing Butthorley  
as Assistant Secretary  
P.S.*

Observations have started on the breeding habits of  
penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points  
are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has  
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fire has been replaced.

- 5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily  
meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

Confidential

19/88/2

Restricted

P(51)3

POLAR COMMITTEE

FRENCH ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

The attached Press release announcing the appointment of Dr. Fritz LOEWE as Australian Observer with the 1951 French Antarctic Expedition is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) A.H. Reed

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
12 January, 1951.

Observations have started on the breeding habits of penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has been started and almost all of the data lost in the Hope Bay fire has been replaced.

5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.



Confidential

19/88/

F.2865/2

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.

21st December, 1950.

Dear Hewitson,

In Scott's absence I am writing to thank you for your letter No. 13/88/2 of the 13th December regarding the Union Government's decision to contribute a further amount of £200 towards the expenses of the Scott Polar Research Institute.

I have informed the Chairman of the Polar Committee and I am also writing today to the Director of the Institute who will I am sure be equally pleased to hear of the Union Government's decision.

I am circulating to the Polar Committee copies of your letter and of this reply.

(Sgd) A. REED.

T. HEWITSON, ESQ.,  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE.

Observations have started on the breeding habits of penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has been started and almost all of the data lost in the Hope Bay fire has been replaced.

- 5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

Confidential

19/88

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
London, W.C. 2.  
13th December, 1950.

19/88/2.

Dear Scott,

You may be interested to know that the Union Government have decided to contribute a further amount of £200 towards the expenses of the Scott Polar Research Institute.

Payment will be made direct to the Institute.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) T. HEWITSON.

D.A. Scott, Esq.,  
Secretary,  
Polar Committee,  
Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street, S.W. 1.

Observations have started on the breeding habits of penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has been started and almost all of the data lost in the Hope Bay fire has been replaced.

- 5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

RESTRICTED

P(51)2

Previous Reference P(48)55.

POLAR COMMITTEE

SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The attached correspondence, referring to the decision of His Majesty's Government in the Union of South Africa to contribute a further sum of £200 to the expenses of the Scott Polar Research Institute, is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) A.H. REED

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office  
10 January, 1951.

Observations have started on the breeding habits of penguins and observation tents at North and Gourley Points are almost constantly occupied. A new penguin film has been started and almost all of the data lost in the Hope Bay fire has been replaced.

5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

IN CAPE TOWN  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON. W.C.2.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REGISTRY

13th January, 1951.

22-1-1951

RECORDED. Scheduled

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref: 19/88/2

Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
PRETORIA.

Copies sent to  
C.G.S. Tpt & C.S.V.R.  
H 2511

ring to the  
the Union of  
m of £200 to

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

the expenses of the Scott Polar Research Institute, is  
circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) A.H. REED

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office  
10 January, 1951.

Observations have started on the breeding habits of  
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fire has been replaced.

- 5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily  
meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

FILE IN CAPE TOWN

P.M. 102/2

Telegraphic Address:  
"OPPOSITE, 1 SQUARE, LONDON"

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL  
REGISTRY



20-1 UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

Reference No. 19/88/2.

RECORDED *20/12* Airmail.  
PLACED ON FILE *21/12* 1951.

15th January, 1951.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:

*South Africa*

Scott Polar Research Institute.

Referring to your minutes of the 30th November and 4th December, 1950, reference P.M.102/2, I quote for your information the text of a letter which we have received from the Director of the Scott Polar Research Institute:-

"On my return from a Christmas holiday I find your letter No 19/88/2 of 22nd December 1950 telling me that the Government of the Union of South Africa has generously contributed, through the Secretary for External Affairs, another £200 to the funds of this Institute. This further contribution is very gratefully received for its intrinsic worth, for the spirit which lies behind it and, as we hope, for its recognition of the work we undertake and the services we strive to render. I should be most grateful if you will convey these thanks to your Government, together with our assurance that we will always do all possible to help the Union Government with information or advice on request.

Copy sent  
to Transport

*AT 25/1*

"I may add that we are happy to have with us now for the next few months Mr. J.K.G. Borchers from the University of Cape Town who is making use of our facilities for his research into the design and construction of buildings for use in the polar regions."

Mr Sale - See also Polar Committee  
communications below

*AT 25/1*

Political Secretary.

*F. 25*

This has been reported.

- 5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
MINISTERIE VAN VERVOER.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

Teleg. Ad. "MOMENTUM". Tel: 3-3081. Uitbr.

RECEIVED  
31-1-1951  
DEPT. VAN BUITENLANDSE SAKE

Ref. M 12.

DEPARTEMENT VAN VERVOER. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT.

RECORDED  
26-1-1951  
PLACED ON FILE... 9/2/51

DEPT. VAN BUITENLANDSE SAKE  
4de Vloer,  
Sanlamgebou,  
PRETORIA.

Die Sekretaris van Buitelandse Sake,  
PRETORIA.

25 JAN 1951

Poolkomitee : Plekname in die Suidpoolstreke.

Met betrekking tot u skrywe (P.M.102/2) van 13 Desember 1950, onder dekking waarvan u stukke APC (50) vir oorweging en kommentaar voorgelê het, wens ek u mee te deel dat die departement geen kommentaar te lewer het nie.

2. Dit sal die departement egter genoeg doen om van eksemplare van APC (49) 2, 4 en 5 en APC (50) 17, waarin plekname in die Noorweegse Suidpoolstreek opgegee word voorsien te word.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
SEKRETARIS VAN VERVOER.

10 C?

5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

F.  
HT 10/2

K A A P S T A D.

1. 2 FEB 1951

Die Hoë Kommissaris vir die Unie van Suid-Afrika,  
LONDEN.

Poolkomitee : Plekname in die Suid-  
poolstreke.

Met verwysing na u diensbrief nr.19/88/2 van 5 Desember 1950, in sake die verrigtinge van die Komitee oor Plekname in die Suidpoolstreke, wil ek u graag in kennis stel dat die betrokke owerheid in die Unie geen kommentaar te lewer het nie.

Ek is egter gevra vir eksemplare van dokumente APC.(49)2, 4 en 5 en APC.(50)17, waarin plekname in die Noorweegse Suidpoolstreek opgegee word, en sal bly wees indien u drie afskrifte van elk aan my kan besorg.

D. B. SOLE

SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

ET/EVDM.

5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

C.T.

P.M-102/2

T.V. 2

**FILE IN CAPE TOWN**

UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
MINISTERIE VAN VERVOER.



UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

Teleg. Ad: "OMENTUM". Tel: 3-3081. Uitbr.

Ref. M. 12.

**DEPARTEMENT VAN VERVOER.-DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT.**

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY  
27-2-1951  
RECORDED  
PLACED ON FILE

4de Vloer,  
Sanlangebou,  
DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
PRETORIA.  
RECEIVED  
- 27-3-1951  
31 300 VANG  
CAPE TOWN/KAAPSTAD 26 FEB 1951  
DEPT. VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE

Die Sekretaris van Buitelandse Sake,  
PRETORIA.

Poolkomitee : Plekname in die Suidpoolstreke.

Ek wens u na my enersgenommerde diensbrief van 25 Januarie 1951, te verwys en te verneem of u nou in staat is om my van die verlangde stukke te voorsien.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
SEKRETARIS VAN VERVOER

- 5. All bases - report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

(supplied this season) is working well and some recordings have been made.

5. Base "F" - Argentine Islands

General preparations for the arrival of the S.V. "John Biscoe" and the dinghy overhauled. The ice is now breaking up in the vicinity of the Argentine Islands but remain fast in the Stella and Skua creeks.

6. Base "M" - South Georgia.

The weather forecast and analysis for the Pelagic whaling fleet commenced on the 22nd December on 8333 and 500 kc/s. at 1530 and 2030 hours G.M.T. The S.V. "John Biscoe" reached South Georgia on her second southern voyage on the 17th January. I. Biggs (locally recruited Meteorological Assistant) joined the Base and P. Peck (locally appointed Cook) joined the ship for return to Port Stanley, after completing two years service in the Dependencies.

7. All Bases. - report successful accomplishment of routine meteorological and wireless schedules. Personnel all well.

8. S.V. "John Biscoe".

The ship left Port Stanley for the second voyage South on 13th January with the Hydrographic Unit on board. Her itinerary includes calling at all Bases, the closure of Port Lockroy, the relief of the Argentine Islands and the Hydrographic Survey. She is to return to the Falklands not later than the 12th March.

PERIODICAL REPORT NO. 15.

22nd December, 1950 -  
26th January, 1951.

1. Base "A" - Port Lockroy

Poor weather has limited visits to the Penguin Rookery, but it is expected that some ringing will still be possible. Specimens of insects (mentioned in Periodical Report No.12) have been collected and preserved.

2. Base "B" - Deception Island

A number of minor repairs have been completed on the Base Hut and a bunker constructed for fuel storage. The dinghy has been overhauled and shod with a metal strip. The inner navigation beacon has been giving slight trouble caused through carbon deposits, but has been kept burning continuously. Specimens of birds eggs have been collected and nests marked and photographed. A *Fregatta Tropica*, Black Bellied Storm Petrel, is nesting near the Base and under observation. Marine biological specimens and a Tern chick collected and preserved. The lower Penguin Rookery at the Entrance Point has been raided by dogs from Argentine Base and all the penguins driven away.

3. Base "C" - Admiralty Bay.

The new cooking range and a battery charger have been installed. New fire extinguishers have been installed also. Base buildings have been re-painted and creosoted and the dinghy overhauled. Several seals have been killed and stored for winter dog feeding. All personnel busy with the annual stocktaking and preparing empty drums and sacks for shipping on S.V. "John Biscoe".

4. Base "H" - Signy Island

The new cooking range and snow melt tank have been installed and the greenhouse put in order and in use. The mains generators are giving trouble and the Base is temporarily dependent on their wind generator for light and power and a hand generated V/T set for communication. A winch has been fixed in the foreshore for hauling up the dinghy. The laboratory and workshop have been painted. A map of the Gourlay Rookery area on a scale of 1:2500 is being made. Bacteriological work is proceeding and specimens isolated as a result of the S.V. "John Biscoe" voyage. Penguin observations continue and up to date 2300 have been marked or ringed and 600 dissected and later used for dog feeding. A *Fregatta Tropica* has been discovered near the Base; it is believed that the only one previously found in the South Orkneys was at Laurie Island. The little known Ringed Penguins are being studied on the same lines as the Adelies. Elephant Seals have visited the observation tent on the Rookery on three occasions; so a ring of husky dogs now placed round the tent are proving an excellent guard. The sound recording apparatus

(supplied



RESTRICTED

P(51)5

Previous Reference P(51)4.

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES ISLANDS

(1950/51)

Penguin  
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tical Report

The attached Report, covering the period 22nd  
December 1950 - 26th January 1951 has been received from  
the Governor of the Falkland Islands and is circulated  
for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) A.H. REED

Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
28 February, 1951.

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proving an excellent guard. The sound recording apparatus

have been  
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7. All Bases report successful accomplishment of daily meteorological and wireless schedule. Personnel all well.

8. "John Biscoe" has completed her first voyage to the Dependencies and all Bases, with the exception of "A" and "F", have been relieved. She is now at Ajax Bay and helping the Admiralty Hydrographic Unit with the survey of the northern end of the Falkland Sound; to have completed the relief of four Bases before Christmas is very satisfactory.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

Report for Period 4th November - 21st December, 1950.

1. Base "A" - Port Lockroy.

Personnel have paid visits to Dorian Bay and have made daily visits to the Gentoo Penguin Rookeries. They report having found four species mites and Collembolar gnats and worms. Preparing Base ready for arrival Biscoe.

2. Base "B" - Deception Island.

Summer weather allowed parties to make a number of day trips to the various Penguin Rookeries and eggs were collected. Several seals killed during November and sledged back to Base for dog-feeding. The Collins Point navigation beacon was overhauled, relit for the summer shipping season, and fresh gas cylinders prepared ready for transport there by the "John Biscoe". Personnel were very busy towards the end of the month on house painting and decorating ready for the arrival of the ship which reached Base on November 25th, and after discharging cargo, left again on the 27th. Hewat embarked on the "John Biscoe" and the new recruits Lewis and MacArthur, were landed at Deception temporarily for training before being posted to the Argentine Islands later in the season.

3. Base "F" - Argentine Island.

A Balloon Hut has been erected and the dinghy and generator sets overhauled. Many thaw pools are forming on the sea ice but there are no signs yet of an extensive break-up.

4. Base "G" - Admiralty Bay.

The S.V. "John Biscoe" arrived at the Base on November 22nd and left again on the 24th after discharging cargo and taking off Gallacher. The reliefs, Manders and Todd-White, were disembarked. Since the departure of the ship the new stores have been checked and stored and the new Lucas Freelite wind generator installed. The new Esse "Fairy" stove has been unpacked and the parts checked.

5. Base "H" - Signy Island

Sladen has paid frequent visits to the Adelic and Ringed Penguin Rookeries at Gourley Point for biological observations. Eggs have been collected and 200 penguins killed and, after examination, used for dog feeding. Extensive thaw conditions around the Base have made it necessary to cut a series of drainage channels in the ice to prevent flooding. Internal improvements to Base Hut include the construction of a survey table and desk and extra cupboards for the living room and kitchen. The Biscoe arrived at the Base on November 27th and left again on December 8th. All cargo was discharged and the ships' engineers overhauled both generators as far as the spares held could allow. Duke was embarked and reliefs, Brown and Vernum, left at Base.

6. Base "M" - South Georgia

Forecaster has interviewed the Captains of the "Southern Harvester" and "Venturer" and it has been agreed that the main points of the weather analysis should cover an area from the East of Grahamland to 15° W.

1002/2

Restricted

P(51)4.

OWN.

50.

Previous Reference P(50)16.

POLAR COMMITTEE

Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey  
(1950/51)

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The attached report covering the period 4th November - 21st December, 1950 has been received from the Governor of the Falkland Islands and is circulated for the information of the Committee.

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(Signed) A.H. Reed  
Secretary,  
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Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street.  
28 February, 1951.

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19/88/2

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
 REGISTRY SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
 113-3-1951  
 TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
 LONDON, W.C.2.  
 RECORDED  
 INDEXED ON FILE

Handwritten: 11002/2

Confidential

5th March, 1951.

FILE IN CAPE TOWN.

50.

Forwarded with the compliments of  
 The High Commissioner for the Union of  
 South Africa.

The Secretary for External Affairs

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
 RECEIVED  
 15-3-1951  
 ONTVANG  
 CAPE TOWN/KAAPSTAD  
 DEPT. VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE

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Copies sent to  
 C.G.S. Tpt & C.S.F.R.

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

od 4th November -

the Governor of

the Falkland Islands and is circulated for the information  
 of the Committee.

(Signed) A.H. Reed

Secretary,  
 Polar Committee.

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Commonwealth Relations Office,  
 Downing Street.  
 28 February, 1951.

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6. Base "M" - South Georgia

Forecaster has interviewed the Captains of the "Southern  
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 points of the weather analysis should cover an area from the East  
 of Grahamland to 15°W.



P.M. 102/2.

F. H.S. 6/3

CAPE TOWN.

- 7 MAR 1951

The High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa,  
LONDON.

POLAR COMMITTEE : PLACE NAMES IN THE  
ANTARCTIC.

With reference to my minute P.M. 102/2 of  
12th February, 1951, asking you to obtain certain documents  
in the above regard from the Polar Committee, I should be  
glad to learn when these may be expected.

RESUBMITTED

✓  
P. 26/3

D. B. SOLE  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

JT/BVDM.

and extra cupboards for the living room and kitchen. The Biscoe  
arrived at the Base on November 27th and left again on December 8th.  
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P.A. 102/2.

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

Telephone Address:  
"OPPOSITE TRAFALGAR SQUARE, LONDON"

19/88/2.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
ATTN: P.A.

Reference No. \_\_\_\_\_

15th March, 1951.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:

The High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa,  
Cairo.

Polar Committee : Place Names in the  
Antarctic.

With reference to your minute P.M.102/2 of the  
7th March I have to inform you that we have not yet  
received the documents which you require from the Polar  
Committee. We are keeping in touch with the Committee  
and will let you have the documents as soon as they  
have been made available to us.

RECEIVED

T. Hewitson

Political Secretary.

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

P. 24/3

2/1951.

... cold cupboards for the living room and kitchen. The Biscoe  
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of Grahamland to 15°W.

FILE IN CAPE TOWN.

*P.M. 102/2*

Tel. "OPPOSITELY."  
Address "OPPOSITELY."  
Reference No. 9/88/2.

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C. 2.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
19-3-1951  
RECORDED  
PLACED ON FILE.....

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
15th March, 1951.  
21-3-1951  
CAPE TOWN  
CITY OF CAPE TOWN

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:

Polar Committee : Place Names in the Antarctic.

With reference to your minute P.M.102/2 of the 7th March I have to inform you that we have not yet received the documents which you require from the Polar Committee. We are keeping in touch with the Committee and will let you have the documents as soon as they have been made available to us.

*[Signature]*  
Political Secretary.

RESUBMITTED

*P. 15/4*

*Aluminium ash*

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6. Base "M" - South Georgia

Forecaster has interviewed the Captains of the "Southern Harvester" and "Venturer" and it has been agreed that the main points of the weather analysis should cover an area from the East of Grahamland to 15°W.

COPY

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street,

F.2865/2.

5th March, 1951.

Dear Sir Cecil,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 27th February. The Chairman of the Polar Committee has learnt with much pleasure of the decision of the New Zealand authorities to continue the grant of £100 per annum to the Scott Polar Research Institute for a further two years. I am writing today to the Director of the Institute, whom I know will be equally grateful.

I am circulating to the Polar Committee copies of your letter and this reply.

(Sgd)  
(A.H. REED)

SIR CECIL DAY, C.M.G., C.B.E.,  
CABINET OFFICE,  
GREAT GEORGE STREET,  
S.W.1.

*Hammond ash*  
*[Signature]*

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COPY

1102/2  
HOUSE,  
AB. SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

CABINET OFFICES  
Great George Street,  
S.W.1.

27th February, 1951.

1951.

Dear Mr. Reed,

You may have noticed in the records of the Polar Committee that in 1948 the New Zealand Government decided to make available the sum of £100 sterling to the Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, for each of the years 1948-49 and 1949-50. Payment to the Institute was made accordingly.

I am now authorised to let you know that the question of a further contribution has been under review by the New Zealand Authorities and that it has been agreed that a grant of £100 per annum from New Zealand should be continued for a further two years.

Payment for 1950-51 will be arranged shortly through the Office of the High Commissioner in London.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) Cecil Day.

A.H. Reed, Esq.,  
Secretary of the Polar Committee,  
Commonwealth Relations Office,  
S.W.1.

*Ammaning asb*  
*CS*

...supplies for the living room and kitchen. The Biscoe arrived at the Base on November 27th and left again on December 8th. All cargo was discharged and the ships' engineers overhauled both generators as far as the spares hold could allow. Duke was embarked and reliefs, Brown and Venum, left at Base.

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RESTRICTED

P(51)6.

Previous Reference P(48)31.

POLAR COMMITTEE

SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The attached correspondence, which refers to the decision of His Majesty's Government in New Zealand to continue their contribution of £100 per annum to the expenses of the Scott Polar Research Institute for a further two years, is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Sgd) A. H. REED

Secretary  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
20 March, 1951.

*Alanning 216*  
*SOS*

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Confidential

19/88/2

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
 SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
 TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
 LONDON, W.C.2.

27-3-1951

RECORDED *Schedule*

PLACED ON FILE 22nd March, 1951.

OWN. 102/2

102/2

USE,  
SQUARE,  
NDON, W. C. 2.

*Forwarded with the compliments of  
 The High Commissioner for the Union of  
 South Africa*

The Secretary for External Affairs,  
 Pretoria.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
 RECEIVED  
 29-3-1951  
 CAPE TOWN  
 DEPT. VAN DER WERF STRAD

*Copies sent to C.G.S.,*

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/49.

*C.S.T.R., & Tpt.*

*30/3*

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Zealand to continue their contribution of £100 per annum to the expenses of the Scott Polar Research Institute for a further two years, is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Sgd) A. H. REED

Secretary  
 Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
 20 March, 1951.

*Hamming ash  
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PM 102/2

CONFIDENTIAL

*Mr. Sandoz ✓  
see para 27 in Note No. 10  
S.W.  
23/5.*

Foreign Office and Whitehall Distribution

A 1522/19



RECEIVED
22-5-1951
ANTARCTICA
11th April, 1951
Section 1

ANTARCTICA  
11th April, 1951  
Section 1

### CHILEAN CLAIMS TO BRITISH TERRITORY IN THE ANTARCTIC

#### Note to the Chilean Government

*Sir. B. Jerram to Mr. Morrison. (Received 11th April)*

(No. 77. Restricted)

His Majesty's Ambassador at Santiago presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit to him, with reference to Sir C. B. Jerram's telegram No. 68 of 3rd April, 1951, to Foreign Office, a copy of Sir C. B. Jerram's Note No. 10 (1521/51/51) of 3rd April, 1951, to the Chilean Minister for Foreign Affairs, regarding Chilean claims to territory in the Antarctic.

*Santiago, 5th April, 1951.*

Enclosure

*Sir B. Jerram to Señor don Benjamin Claro Velasco*

(No. 10) *Santiago, 3rd April, 1951.*  
Your Excellency,

On 17th December, 1947, and 1st March, 1948, Mr. Leche, on instructions from His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, communicated to your Excellency's Government Notes which formally refuted Chilean claims to sovereignty over certain British territories in the Falkland Islands Dependencies and reaffirmed British sovereignty over the whole area. His Majesty's Government have noted with concern that, notwithstanding, Chilean acts of trespass in this area have continued unabated. In particular, the Master of the British relief ship John Biscoe has reported the establishment of a Chilean post on Penguin Island in Paradise Harbour off the Danco coast of West Graham Land. This is in addition to the Chilean posts already illegally maintained on Greenwich Island and at Cape Legoupil, which have been the subject of earlier protests. The Master of the John Biscoe, acting on the authority of the Governor of the Falkland Islands and its Dependencies, has presented a formal Note of Protest to the Commander of the Chilean flotilla.

2. The sovereignty of His Majesty's Government in the Falkland Islands Dependencies rests on the accepted principles of international law for the reasons set out in earlier notes addressed to the Chilean Government; in particular, the Prime Minister's Note of 11th November, 1946, to the Chilean Ambassador in London and my predecessor's Note of 17th December, 1947. These communications indicated that the Chilean claims to territorial sovereignty over any part of the British Antarctic territory are unfounded; and that the British title to this area, is based on rights acquired by virtue of discovery, on the issue of the Letters Patent of 21st July, 1908 and 28th March, 1917, and on the measures taken by His Majesty's Government for the necessary administration of these British territories.

3. The action of the Chilean Government in landing a party on Penguin Island and erecting a post there, without seeking permission or making prior arrangements with the competent British Administrative authorities, is an infringement of His Majesty's Government's territorial rights. I have, therefore, been instructed to record a formal protest on behalf of His Majesty's Government against the establishment of this unauthorised Chilean post in territory where His Majesty's Government's title is well established and generally recognised.

4. I am to add that, if the Chilean Government are unwilling to recognise the validity of His Majesty's Government's title to the Falkland Islands Dependencies, the case seems to be one in which, in the interests of the peaceful settlement of disputes and in respect of international law, the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice of The Hague should be invoked. His Majesty's Government for their part once more declare their desire to settle such differences of opinion in a spirit of amity and they accordingly reaffirm their willingness to accept the jurisdiction of the court and to abide by its decision.

I avail myself, &c.

C. B. JERRAM.

Five hundred and thirty birds have been ringed during the last ten months, including 400 penguins. Two Hepaticae (Liverwort) have been found and this may be the first record of Hepaticae occurring in the South Orkneys. Sheathbills and Adellie chicks have been collected for transfer to the Zoo.

6. Base "M" - South Georgia

Biscoe arrived on 17th January with additional stores and mail. The new steel anemometer mast was erected and Peck rejoined the Base after leave in Port Stanley. Messrs. Maddocks and Richards (with wives) disembarked and assumed duty at the Government W/T Station at Grytviken. The ship sailed for Signy Island on the 20th with Peck and Roberts on board and 12 Husky dogs (see Base "G" report overleaf).

7. All Bases - have completed Annual Inventory and Indents for 1952 and report successful accomplishment of wireless and meteorological schedules.

8. S.V. "John Biscoe"

Apart from delivery of stores and mails at all Bases and exchange of personnel, has delivered 150 carcasses of Mutton to South Georgia for the whaling community, delivered mail to the Argentine Bases at Laurie and Deception Islands and Melchior, also made a number of taut-wire Hydrographic Survey runs in the Bransfield Strait. After leaving the Argentine Islands, the Biscoe reached Deception Island again on the 20th February where she loaded surplus aviation spirit (for later transfer to Port Stanley and sale to the Government Air Service) and empty drums. Chaplin (from Base "A") was disembarked to take up duties as Base Leader there until his final relief on the Third Southern Voyage. The Biscoe sailed for the Dance Coast on the 21st to investigate Bases rumoured to have been established there by South American intruders.



1. Base "A" - Port Lockroy

The S.V. "John Biscoe" arrived on 8th February with mail, loaded all stores and equipment and secured the Base buildings for the winter. Chaplin, Gooden, Walker and Burgess were embarked and the ship sailed for the Argentine Islands on the 15th instant.

2. Base "B" - Deception Island

The Relief Vessel reached the Base on the 1st February and landed additional stores and mail and nine young Huskies. These dogs were originally destined for the Festival of Britain but had been left in Port Stanley because the "John Biscoe" was only able to carry a limited number back to England at the end of the 1949/50 season. The new steel anemometer tower has been erected and a start made with the installation of the new bathroom unit. Salmon (from Base "H") took over meteorological duties in place of Lewis who, as well as Green, has been transferred to the Argentine Islands. Biscoe sailed for Port Lockroy on 8th February.

3. Base "F" - Argentine Islands

The S.V. "John Biscoe" arrived on 15th February for the first time this season. The landing of stores and equipment was greatly hampered by ice, still fast in the Creeks; this is unusually late. Most of the cargo was landed on the west shore of Winter Island and sledged across to the Base Hut. Green and Lewis (from Base "B") and Walker (from Base "A") took up duties at the Base and Heywood and Tait embarked on the Biscoe, which sailed again for Deception on the 19th instant.

4. Base "G" - Admiralty Bay

Exterior of the Base Hut painted, part of the roof refelted and seals killed and stores for winter dog feeding. S.V. "John Biscoe" arrived on 31st January and landed additional stores and mail and 12 Husky dogs from South Georgia, where they had been maintained for the Norwegian-British-Swedish Expedition. The ship left again the same day. Work has started on foundations for the erection of the new steel anemometer tower and for an extension to the Base Hut (for a bathroom and a rest-room for night duty Meteorological Observer). Harnesses have been made and fitted to new dog team and the sledges overhauled.

5. Base "H" - Signy Island

S.V. "John Biscoe" arrived on 24th January and landed additional stores and mail. Ships officers and crew helped to erect the new anemometer tower, to instal the new bathroom unit and to again overhaul the two Base diesel generators. Dr. Hamilton gave dental treatment to Base personnel. Six thousand feet of cine film was handed over to the Biscoe by Sladen for despatch to London. Salmon joined the ship for transfer to Deception Island and they sailed for Admiralty Bay on the 28th instant. The new distant-reading meteorological equipment has now been installed and is functioning satisfactorily. Work on the Ringed Penguin continues but that on the Adelle is almost completed and the life cycle found to be very different from published accounts.



RESTRICTED

P(51)7

Previous Reference P(51)5

POLAR COMMITTEE

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

(1950/51)

The attached report from the Governor of the Falkland Islands, covering the period 27th January - 23rd February, 1951, is circulated for the information of the Committee.

(Signed) M.E. ALLEN

for Secretary,  
Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
10 April, 1951.

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FILE IN CAPE TOWN

19/88/2

Confidential.

*Amico/2*

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS REGISTRY 24-4-1951 RECORDED <i>Schedule</i> PLACED ON FILE 27th April, 1951.	AFRICA HOUSE, TRAFALGAR SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.2.
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*Forwarded with the compliments of  
The High Commissioner for the Union of  
South Africa.*

The Secretary for External Affairs

*Copies sent to*  
*C.G.S.*  
*C.F.J.R. r*  
*Transport.*  
*J.T. 28/4*

W. & S. Ltd. 5,000-12/40.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RECEIVED 27-4-1951 ONTVANG CAPE TOWN/KAAPSTAD DEPT. VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE
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Polar Committee.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
10 April, 1951.

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SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Airmail.

18th April, 1951.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:

Polar Committee: Place Names in the  
Antarctic.

With reference to your minute N<sup>o</sup> P.M.102/2 of the  
7th March I forward herewith copies of papers APC.(49)2,  
4 and 5 and APC(50)17.

(Signed) M.E. ALLEN

for Secretary *Howitson*  
Polar Committee  
Political Secretary.

Commonwealth Relations Office,  
10 April, 1951.

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FILE IN CAPE TOWN.



SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

1.17.102/2

INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPHIC BUREAU, LONDON

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UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REGISTRY AIRMAIL.

DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

21-4-1951

25-4-1951

RECORDED. *D. Hamilton*

PLACED ON FILE

18th April, 1951.

CITY OF CAPE TOWN  
DEPT. VAN OUDERLANDSE SAKE

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:

Polar Committee : Place Names in the Antarctic.

With reference to your minute N2 P.M.102/2 of the 7th March I forward herewith copies of papers APC.(49)2, 4 and 5 and APC(50)17.

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