

*Handwritten notes:*  
P. S. 17/192  
15th November 1956  
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY)

P. S. 17/192.

15th November, 1956.

Dear Sir,

I write to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, reference HWP/RSG, of the 10th November.

It is rather difficult to decide which South African museum would be the most appropriate to house the collections. There appear to be advantages in sending them to the Cape Town Museum but we wonder if your best course would not be to send them in the first instance to the Secretary for Education, Arts and Science, Pretoria, with the request that he should forward them to whichever museum he considers the most suitable. Such comment as you yourself might feel able to offer at the same time would be helpful to him.

Yours faithfully,

C. F. G. von Hirschberg.

Minister.

H. W. Parker, Esq.,  
Keeper of Zoology,  
British Museum (Natural History),  
Cromwell Road,  
S. W. 7.

CvH/SR

J. F. W. COLLIER

SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

The Secretary,  
Office of the High Commissioner for South Africa,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
LONDON,  
England.

For your information. Copy of the letter referred to above is enclosed. Will you please arrange, if possible, to pay an amount of £950.0.0 to either Dr. Brian Roberts or the Leader of the British Expedition to Gough Island, Mr. Heaney after/....



BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),



CROMWELL ROAD

LONDON, S.W.7.

Telephone:  
RADIOGRAPH 6223

Telegram:  
NATHMUS,  
SOUTHERN, LONDON.

HWP/RSG

20th November, 1956

Assistant Secretary,  
High Commissioner for  
Union of South Africa,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
London, W.C.2.



Dear Sir,

I am very grateful for your  
letter P.S.17/192 of 15th November,  
and will act on your suggestion.

Yours faithfully,

*H.W. Parker*  
H.W. Parker  
Keeper of Zoology

15th November, 1956.

of the zoological material  
the receipt of your  
e 10th November.

to decide which South  
appropriate to house  
be advantages in  
seum but we wonder if  
send them in the first  
location, Arts and Science,  
we should forward them  
the most suitable.  
it feel able to offer  
to him.

faithfully,

The matter is for C. F. G. von Hirschberg.  
likely to cause jealousy of...  
in South Africa; so it is not worth while obtaining an  
official decision at a high level. I would just appreciate  
your advice.

Minister.

H.W. Parker, Esq.,  
Keeper of Zoology,  
British Museum (Natural History),  
Cromwell Road,  
S.W.7.

CWH/SR

J. F. W. COLLIER

SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

The Secretary,  
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South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
LONDON,  
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For your information. Copy of the letter referred to  
above is enclosed. Will you please arrange, if possible, to  
pay an amount of £950.0.0 to either Dr. Brian Roberts or the  
Leader of the British Expedition to Gough Island, Mr. Heaney  
after/....

HRP/663

10th November, 1958

10th November, 1958

Deputy Secretary,  
High Commissioner for  
South Africa,  
South Africa House,  
Whitehall, W.C.2

AIR MAIL

12th February, 58

Dear Sir,

The Director of Overseas Surveys,  
Kingston Road,  
Folworth, Surbiton,  
Surrey,  
ENGLAND

Yours faithfully,  
Dear Sir,

PROPOSED MAGNETIC OBSERVATIONS ON THE ISLANDS GOUGH AND  
TRISTAN DA CUNHA

One of the I.G.Y. projects envisaged by the Magnetic Observatory at Hermanus, South Africa, was the establishment of secular variation stations on the above two islands. The hydrographical survey ship S.A.S. "Natal" is scheduled to leave Cape Town on April 14th 1958 and to return on April 24th and is not likely to remain at either island for longer than two days. In view of the limited time and weather conditions it might not be possible to obtain sufficient observations for a satisfactory determination of the magnetic field at these stations, but it is felt that even a limited program of observations would justify the effort involved.

Commander Mallory, the Hydrographer to the S.A. Navy, has sufficient information about the triangulation of Gough Island to complete the observations without a new determination of azimuth. For Tristan da Cunha, however, neither he nor this Office has any survey information available and to complete the observations at a station on this island an azimuth determination will have to be made. If you have any information about a triangulation on Tristan from which azimuth can be deduced it would be appreciated if it could be made available to this Office.

A request for permission for the observations to be made is forwarded to your Government through the Union Department of External Affairs.

Yours faithfully,

J. J. BOONZAAIER,

DIRECTOR : TRIGONOMETRY

HPW/EAK

LUGPOS.  
AIR MAIL



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

102/2/6.

1/64/1.



DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

DRINGEND.

PRETORIA.

27 FEB 1958

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

Magnetiese Waarnemings op die Gough en  
Tristan da Cunha eilande.

Ek stuur u hiermee 'n afskrif van 'n brief D 131  
gedateer 12 Februarie 1958, wat die Direkteur van Drie-  
hoeksmeting aan die Direkteur van Corsese Opnames, Surrey,  
Engeland gerig het, aangaande voorgenome waarnemings wat  
tussen 14 en 24 April 1958 op die Gough en Tristan da  
Cunha eilande gemaak sal word.

Dit sal gewaardeer word indien u so gou  
doenlik die belanghebbende instansies om die nodige toe-  
stemming vir die waarnemings sal nader.

*[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely a translation or summary of the letter's content.]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely a translation or summary of the letter's content.]*

*[Handwritten signature]*  
SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

*[Handwritten notes in the left margin, including 'M. J. Sak...' and other illegible text.]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely a translation or summary of the letter's content.]*

Yours faithfully,

J. J. BOONZAATER,  
Office of the High Commissioner for South Africa,  
Trafalgar Square,  
DIRECTOR : TRIGSURVEY

HPW/EAK  
*[Faint, mostly illegible text at the bottom of the page.]*

Copy for 12/3029

P.S. 17/192

4th March, 1958.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that, in connection with the Union's participation in the activities of the International Geophysical Year, the South African authorities are anxious to obtain magnetic observations on the islands of Gough and Tristan da Cunha. It is accordingly proposed that the hydrographical survey ship S.A.S. "Natal" should call at the islands for this purpose between the 14th and 24th April, 1958. The vessel is expected to remain not longer than two days at either island.

It would be greatly appreciated if the United Kingdom authorities would grant their approval for the observations to be made.

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

L. F. A. de VILLIERS.

Minister.

*The High Commissioner*

*For your information*

*(Hd)*

The Under-Secretary of State for  
Commonwealth Relations.

KVS/AG

CANCELLED  
3/E-27/3 ED.

Noted  
#R- JT  
7/3

J. J. BOONZAAIER,

Office of the High Commissioner for Southern Africa,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
LONDON: DIRECTOR: TRIGSUNWEY

HPW/EAK

For your information. Copy of the letter referred to above is enclosed. Will you please arrange to pay an amount of 2950.0 to either Mr. J. J. Boonzaier or the leader of the British Expedition to Gough Island, etc. as appropriate.



COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE  
DOWNING STREET  
LONDON, S.W.1

25 March, 1958

Whitehall 333

Your Reference:

Please quote in reply: GEN.151/558/2

Please address reply to THE PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

Sir,

I am directed by the Earl of Home to refer to your letter P.S. 17/192 of the 4th March, and to inform you that the Secretary of State for the Colonies is pleased to grant permission to the South African authorities to obtain magnetic observations on the islands of Gough and Tristan da Cunha in connection with the International Geophysical Year.

2. The Administration of Tristan da Cunha is being informed accordingly.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

(E. R. SUDBURY)

THE SECRETARY,  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA,  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.C.2.



Mr. von Schuding  
for info EA

I. F. A. de VILLIERS.

Minister.

For your information

(Handwritten initials)

The Under-Secretary of State for  
Commonwealth Relations.

KVS/AG

CANCELLED  
3/E 27/3

Noted  
#G. JT  
7/3

J. J. BOONZAAIER,  
Director of the High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
London, W.C.2.

DIRECTOR : TRIGSUVEY

HPW/EAK

For your information. Copy of the letter referred to above is enclosed. Will you please arrange to pay an amount of R250.0.0 to either Mr. ... of the ... of the British Expedition to Gough Island, ...

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE  
DOWNING STREET  
LONDON, E.W.1

28 March, 1958

P.S.17/192.

AIR MAIL.

I am directed by the Earl of Home to refer to your letter No. 17/192 of the 24th March, and to inform you that the Secretary of State for the Colonies is pleased to grant permission to the South African expedition to make magnetic observations on the islands of Gough and Tristan da Cunha in connection with the International Geophysical Year.

28th March, 1958.

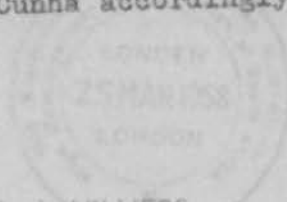
THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

Magnetic observations on the islands of  
Gough and Tristan da Cunha.

With reference to your minute 102/2/6; 1/64/1 of the 27th February, 1958, I have to inform you that the United Kingdom authorities are agreeable to the Union authorities obtaining magnetic observations on the islands of Gough and Tristan da Cunha in connection with the International Geophysical Year. They have informed the administration of Tristan da Cunha accordingly.

LONDON, E.C.2.



L. F. A. de VILLIERS,  
Minister.

Kvs/JGL

Handwritten notes: "Checked", "17/192", "28/3/58"

J. J. BOONZAAIER,

DIRECTOR : TRIGSURVEY

HPW/EAK

For your information. Copy of the letter referred to above is enclosed. Will you please arrange, if possible, to pay an amount of 2050.0.0 to either Mr. Peter ... or the leader of the British Expedition to Gough Island, St. Helena.

P.S. 17/192

LUGPOS.  
AIR MAIL.



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

102/2/6  
1/64/1

DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

PRETORIA.

25 MAR 1958

URGENT.



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

Magnetic observations on Gough and  
Tristan Da Cunha Islands.

I shall be glad to learn whether you are now  
in a position to furnish me with a reply to my minute  
102/2/6 over 1/64/1 of the 27th February, 1958, regarding  
permission for the proposed magnetic observations on  
Gough and Tristan da Cunha Islands between the 14th  
and 24th April, 1958.

*Dear Sir.*  
*f.*

*Alid*  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Kv6/JGL

J. J. BOONZAAIER,

DIRECTOR : TRIGSURVEY

HPW/EAK

For your information, copy of the letter referred to  
above is enclosed. Will you please arrange, if possible, to  
pay an amount of 2500.0.0 to either Mr. Miles or the  
leader of the British Expedition to Gough Island, P. 1958.



P.S. 37/3

AIR MAIL  
LUGPC



102/2/6  
102/1

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

PRETORIA.  
27 SEP 1958

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

Gough Island : Continuation of Weather  
Station.

You will recall that your telegram No. 8 of the 21st January, 1956, conveyed [the United Kingdom Government's approval for the erection and operation on Gough Island of a South African Scientific observation station during the International Geophysical Year.]

*you will know*

[ The I.G.Y. as such is now drawing to a close, but, as following the recent CSAGI conference in Moscow, it has been decided that many of the scientific activities undertaken under its aegis will be continued. One of the regions particularly affected by this decision is the Antarctic whose definition for the purposes of the Special Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), has been extended to include, inter alia, Gough Island. The delegates of the Western countries represented at the Moscow conference referred to were exercised by the evident Soviet intention to broaden and extend the scope of their activities in Antarctica, and current feeling was that Western countries should endeavour to match the Soviet effort.]

②

[ The Union Government feel that the continuation of the Union's weather station on Gough Island would, it is felt, serve this end admirably, and it would accordingly be appreciated if permission could be obtained from the United Kingdom authorities for the retention of the presently existing weather station for a further period until March/April, 1960.]

④

[ As it is imperative that all activities in the Southern oceans be coordinated in good time for the coming season, some urgency attaches to this request, and an early reply, would be appreciated.]

*very important*

*Mr. Jones*

*hpl*

*3/10*

*R. Jones*

ACTING SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CONFIDENTIAL.

73.37/3

700/2/0  
10/7



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

27 SEP 1958

P.8.37/3

Confidential

7th October, 1958.

Sir,

As you will recall, your letter CON.58/4/1 of the 20th January, 1956, conveyed the United Kingdom Government's approval for the erection and operation on Gough Island of a South African scientific observation station during the International Geophysical Year.

The I.G.Y. as such is now drawing to a close, but, as you will know, following the recent CSAGI conference in Moscow, it has been decided that many of the scientific activities undertaken under its aegis will be continued. One of the regions particularly affected by this decision is the Antarctic whose definition for the purposes of the Special Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), has been extended to include, inter alia, Gough Island. The delegates of the Western countries represented at the Moscow conference mentioned were exercised by the evident Soviet intention to broaden and extend the scope of their activities in Antarctica, and current feeling was that Western countries should endeavour to match the Soviet effort.

The Union Government feel that the continuation of the Union's weather station on Gough Island would serve this end admirably, and would accordingly be most appreciative if permission could be granted by the United Kingdom Government for the retention of the presently existing weather station for a further period until March/April, 1960.

As it is imperative that all activities in the Southern oceans be co-ordinated in good time for the coming season, I would add that some urgency attaches to this request, and I should be very grateful therefore for an early reply.

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

L. F. A. de VILLIERS.

Acting High Commissioner.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State for  
Commonwealth Relations.

*Mr. Drake  
15/10  
B/F  
29/10  
1/10*

FD/JH

75.31/3

In this connection it is the understanding of the United Kingdom Government that all the livestock kept by the South African party on the Island will either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves.

I am,  
Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,

106 (L. J. W. C.)  
(J. CHADWICK)

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... was that western countries should endeavour to match the Soviet effort.

The Union Government feel that the continuation of the Union's weather station on Gough Island would serve this end admirably, and would accordingly be most appreciative if permission could be granted by the United Kingdom Government for the retention of the presently existing weather station for a further period until March/April, 1960.

As it is imperative that all activities in the Southern oceans be co-ordinated in good time for the coming season, I would add that some urgency attaches to this request, and I should be very grateful therefore for an early reply.

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

I. F. A. de VILLIERS.

Acting High Commissioner.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations.

Mr. Drake  
15/10  
B/F  
29/10  
11/10  
FD/JH

Mr. Vassar

*The express appreciation of members of UK Govt to answer  
US Govt in this matter is very much appreciated regarding the  
provision of more facilities will be brought to attention of the  
responsible authorities.*

25 3/3



COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

DOWNING STREET

LONDON, S.W.1

CONFIDENTIAL

Whitehall 2323

Your Reference:

Please quote in reply: CON.58/4/1

Please address reply to THE PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

27th October, 1958



INTERNAL AFFAIRS  
TELETYPE SAKE

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.P.S.37/3 of the 7th October 1958, I am directed by the Earl of Home to say that the United Kingdom Government gladly gives its approval to the retention by the Union Government of their existing weather station on Gough Island for a further period until March or April 1960.

2. I am, however, to add that for scientific reasons it is important that the flora and fauna of the Island should be left as far as possible undisturbed. When Mr. M.A.Willis of the Colonial Office was in Cape Town in 1956 he discussed with Dr. Schumann, the then Head of the Union Meteorological Department, the question of importation of livestock into Gough Island and was assured that the United Kingdom Government's wishes on this point would be borne in mind. It has, however, recently been learned from the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha, under whose charge Gough Island falls, that the South African party have imported some goats which, with rabbits, were specifically mentioned as undesirable importations. It would be appreciated if they could be asked in future not to import any livestock into the Island without the prior consent of the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha.

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THE ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER,

In....

SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE

...to match the Soviet effort.

The Union Government feel that the continuation of the Union's weather station on Gough Island would serve this end admirably, and would accordingly be most appreciative if permission could be granted by the United Kingdom Government for the retention of the presently existing weather station for a further period until March/April, 1960.

As it is imperative that all activities in the Southern oceans be co-ordinated in good time for the coming season, I would add that some urgency attaches to this request, and I should be very grateful therefore for an early reply.

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

I. F. A. de VILLIERS.

Acting High Commissioner.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations.

*Mr. Drake  
15/10  
B/F  
29/10  
1/10  
PD/JH*

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE  
DOWNING STREET  
LONDON, S.W. 1

P.S. 37/3

29th October, 1958.

Confidential

Sir,

I wish to thank you for your letter no. COM.58/4/1 of the 27th October, 1958, and to express appreciation of the readiness of the United Kingdom Government to meet the Union Government's request that it be permitted to retain the existing weather station on Gough Island for a further period until March/April, 1960. The wishes of the United Kingdom Government regarding the preservation of the flora and fauna of the Island are being brought to the attention of the appropriate Union authorities.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. F. A. de VILLIERS.

Acting High Commissioner.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State for  
Commonwealth Relations.

DV/AG

coming season, I would add that some urgency attaches to this request, and I should be very grateful therefore for an early reply.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. F. A. de VILLIERS.

Acting High Commissioner.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State for  
Commonwealth Relations.

Mr. Drake  
15/10  
B/F  
24/10  
11/10  
FD/JH

AIRMAILConfidential

29th October, 1958.

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.Gough Island : Continuation of Weather  
Station

With reference to your minute no. 102/2/6 over 102/1 of the 27th September, 1958, I append for your information the text of the reply received from the Commonwealth Relations Office on the 27th October:

"I am directed by the Earl of Home to say that the United Kingdom Government gladly gives its approval to the retention by the Union Government of their existing weather station on Gough Island for a further period until March or April 1960.

"I am, however, to add that for scientific reasons it is important that the flora and fauna of the Island should be left as far as possible undisturbed. When Mr. M. A. Willis of the Colonial Office was in Cape Town in 1956 he discussed with Dr. Schumann, the then Head of the Union Meteorological Department, the question of importation of livestock into Gough Island and was assured that the United Kingdom Government's wishes on this point would be borne in mind. It has, however, recently been learned from the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha, under whose charge Gough Island falls, that the South African party have imported some goats which, with rabbits, were specifically mentioned as undesirable importations. It would be appreciated if they could be asked in future not to import any livestock into the Island without the prior consent of the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha.

"In this connection it is the understanding of the United Kingdom Government that all the livestock kept by the South African party on the Island will either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Acting High Commissioner.

FD/

DV/AG

LUGPOS.  
AIR MAIL.



P.S. 37/3

102/2/6.



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PRETORIA.  
20 AUG 1959

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

Gough Island: Wireless Station ZOE.33.

At the beginning of the International Geophysical Year, the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha was good enough to grant a gratis licence to the Department of Transport for the operation, in connection with its weather station, of wireless station ZOE.33 on Gough Island for the duration of the I.G.Y.

The Secretary for Transport has now informed the Department that though the weather station has continued as part of the International Geophysical Co-operation 1958, the licence has not as yet been renewed after its expiry date (31st December, 1958).

It would be appreciated if you would approach the appropriate British authorities for the renewal of the licence for a further period of one year from 31st December, 1958. Please send the original copy of the licence to the Department.

*her Mr. Lehmann* *J. S. P. Brown*  
the question of importation of livestock into Gough Island and was assured that the United Kingdom Government's wishes on this point would be borne in mind. It has, however, recently been learned from the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha that the party charge Gough Island falls, that the party were specifically sent to Gough Island for the purpose of importing livestock. It would be appreciated if you would advise the Department of External Affairs of any such importations. It would be appreciated if you would advise the Department of External Affairs of any such importations. It would be appreciated if you would advise the Department of External Affairs of any such importations.

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

"In this connection it is the understanding of the United Kingdom Government that all the livestock kept by the South African party on the Island will either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK  
Acting High Commissioner.

FD/

DV/AG

26th August, 1959.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter CON.58/4/1 of the 27th October, 1958, conveying the United Kingdom Government's approval to the retention by the Union Government of their existing weather station on Gough Island until March or April, 1960.

At the beginning of the International Geophysical Year the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha was good enough to grant a gratis licence to the Union's Department of Transport for the operation, in connection with this weather station, of wireless station ZOE.33 on Gough Island for the duration of the I.G.Y. It is understood that the licence of this station has not as yet been renewed after its expiry date (31st December, 1958) and it would accordingly be much appreciated if the United Kingdom authorities could be requested to renew the licence for a further period of one year from 31st December, 1958. The licence could be sent to this Office for transmission to the Union.

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

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State  
for Commonwealth Relations,  
Downing Street, S.W.1.

KvS/AG

*BF 2 months*  
*Schurman*  
*28.9.59*  
*Noted A.C. 27/8*

kept by the South African party on the island will either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

FD/





COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE  
DOWNING STREET  
LONDON, S.W.1

Whitehall 2323/Ext.

Your Reference:

Please quote in reply: CON. 58/4/1

10 September, 1959

59.

Dear Schalkwyk,

Please refer to your letter PS 37/3 of 26th August about the renewal of the licence of wireless station ZOE.33 on Gough Island. We have forwarded your request to the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha.

*Yours sincerely,*  
*M. J. Rabarts.*

(M. J. RABARTS)

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ment

s

ed

*Van der Schijning*

*file*

W. D. VAN SCHALKWYK, ESQ.,  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
W. C. 2.

*F 2 months*

Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State  
for Commonwealth Relations,  
Downing Street, S.W.1.

*17-11-59*  
*Schalkwyk*  
*24/9*  
*28.9.59*  
*B/F*  
*Noted*  
*A.C.*  
*27/8*

KvS/AG

kept by the South African party on the island will either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Acting High Commissioner.

FD/

DV/AG

LUGPOS.  
AIR MAIL.



RELATIONS OFFICE  
DOWNING STREET  
LONDON, 102/2/6

P.S. 37/3

UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. September, 1959



DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
PRETORIA.

5.11.1959

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

Gough Island: Wireless Station ZOE.33.

It would be appreciated if you would let me know whether you have succeeded in obtaining the renewed licence for the operation of Wireless Station ZOE.33 on Gough Island, as requested in my minute 102/2/6 of the 20th August, 1959.

W. D. van SCHALKWYK, ESQ.,  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
S.S.1.

*Philip*

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*Now see ...  
the ...*

The Secretary of State  
Commonwealth Relations,  
Whitehall Street, S.S.1.

KvB/AG

kept by the South African party on the ...  
either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally  
leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK  
Acting High Commissioner.

FD/

DV/AG

37/3

P.S. 37/3

10th November, 1959.

BE SAKE.  
AFFAIRS

Dear Rabarts,

Would you please refer to your letter CON.58/4/1 of the 10th September about the renewal of the licence of wireless station ZOE.33 on Gough Island. I should be grateful to learn whether a reply has yet been received from the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha.

Yours sincerely,

(K.R.S. von Schirnding)

M. J. Rabarts, Esq.,  
Commonwealth Relations Office.

KvS/AG

*Handwritten signature*

The Secretary Under-Secretary of State  
Commonwealth Relations,  
Downing Street, S.W.1.

KvS/AG

*Handwritten notes:*  
17-5-59  
3/E  
NOTED  
A.C.  
21/10

kept by the South African party on the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK  
Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

FL

AIRMAIL

10th November, 1959.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Gough Island : Wireless Station ZOE.33

Please refer to your minute 102/2/6 of the 5th November, 1959.

The United Kingdom authorities have informed us that our request for the renewal of the licence of wireless station ZOE.33 on Gough Island was forwarded to the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha during September, 1959. They expect that a reply will now not be long delayed.

K. R. S. von SCHIRNDING  
Minister.

KvS/AG

*to please*  
~~CANCELLED~~  
*Noted*  
*A.G.*  
*11/11*  
*27/10/59*

kept by the South African party on the island either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK  
Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

FL



COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

DOWNING STREET

LONDON, S.W.1

17 November, 1959

Whitehall 2373

Your Reference:

Please quote in reply: CON. 58/4/1

Please address reply to THE PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

, 1959.

Sir,

I am directed by the Earl of Home to refer to your letter P.S. 37/3 of the 26th August, and to enclose a wireless licence for 1959 in respect of Gough Island.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

(O.R. BLAIR)

The High Commissioner,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
London,  
W.C.2.

The United Kingdom authorities have informed us that an application for the renewal of the licence of P.S. 37/3 on Gough Island was forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies during September, 1959. A reply will not be long delayed.

KVS/AG

~~CANCELLED~~ *Noted A.G. 11/11*

kept by the South African party on the island until either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

FL

P.S. 37/3

18th November, 1959.

, 1959.

Dear Blair,

Thank you for your letter  
CON.58/4/1 of the 17th November, enclosing  
a wireless licence for 1959 in respect  
of Gough Island.

*Yours sincerely,*

(K.R.S. von Schirnding)

O. R. Blair, Esq.,  
Commonwealth Relations Office.

KvS/AG

KvS/AG

*please*  
~~CANCELLED~~  
*Noted*  
*A.G.*  
*11/11*  
*27/10/59*

kept by the South African party on the island  
either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally  
leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK  
Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

FL

AIRMAIL

18th November, 1959.

18th November, 1959.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Gough Island : Wireless Station  
ZOE.33

With reference to your minute 102/2/6 of the 20th August, 1959, I enclose herewith a wireless licence for 1959 in respect of wireless station ZOE.33 on Gough Island.

K. R. S. von SCHIRNDING  
Minister.

KvS/AG

kept by the South African party on the island shall either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK  
Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

FD

LUGPOS.  
AIRMAIL



P.S. 37/3

102/2/6.

UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CONFIDENTIAL.

PRETORIA.

3.12.1959

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



Gough Island: Continuation of  
Weather Station.

With reference to your minute P.S.37/3 of the 29th October, 1958, I have to inform you that the Union authorities are desirous of maintaining their weather station on Gough Island for a further period beyond March/April 1960. It would be appreciated if you could again approach the United Kingdom authorities for permission for the further retention of the existing weather station on Gough Island until March/April 1961.

For your information the continuation of the weather station on Gough Island is closely linked with the question of establishing a weather station on Bouvet Island. No decision on this latter question can be taken until a further reconnaissance of Bouvet Island has been carried out, probably in January or February, 1960. Thereafter the whole position will be considered. In the meantime it is desired to keep the weather station on Gough Island in operation.

*Handwritten signature*

*hjt  
7/12*

*J.S.G. Booysse*  
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CONFIDENTIAL.

kept by the South African party on the island...  
either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally  
leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK  
Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

FD



P.S. 37/3

8th December, 1959.

CONFIDENTIAL

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter COH.58/4/1 of the 27th October, 1958, conveying the United Kingdom Government's approval to the retention by the Union Government of their weather station on Gough Island until March or April, 1960.

I have now been informed that the Union Government wish to maintain this station for a further period beyond March/April, 1960, and I should accordingly be grateful if permission could be granted by the United Kingdom Government for the retention of the existing weather station until March/April, 1961.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State,  
Commonwealth Relations Office.

KvS/AG

CANCELLED  
B/F 8/1/60  
Noted  
A.C.  
13/12

kept by the South African party on the island until either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

FD

CONFIDENTIAL



COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE

DOWNING STREET

LONDON, S.W.1

29 December, 1959.

Whitehall 2323

Your Reference:

Please quote in reply: CON. 58/W/1

Please address reply to THE PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

, 1959.

Sir,

I am directed by the Earl of Home to acknowledge the receipt of your Minister's letter P.S. 37/3 of the 8th December about the operation of a South African weather station on Gough Island.

2. The views of the United Kingdom authorities concerned are being sought on the Union Government's proposal to maintain this station for a further year beyond March or April 1960 and a further letter will be sent to you as soon as possible.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

(B.E.H. HUNTER)

THE SECRETARY,  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA,  
SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE,  
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,  
W.C.2.

*Noted A.C. 30/12*

*CANCELLED 2/30/12*

CONFIDENTIAL

Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State,  
Commonwealth Relations Office.

*B/F 8/1/60  
Noted A.C. 13/12*

KvS/AG

kept by the South African party on the island until either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

FD



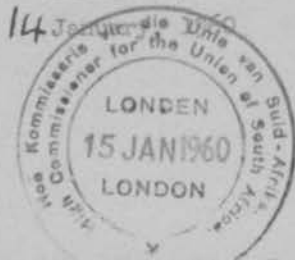
COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE  
DOWNING STREET  
LONDON, S.W.1

Whitehall 2323

Your Reference:

Please quote in reply: CON 58/4/1

Please address reply to THE PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE



, 1959.

Sir,

I am directed by the Earl of Home to refer to your letter P.S. 37/3 of the 8th December, 1959, and to state that the United Kingdom Government have no objection to the Union Government continuing the operation of their weather station on Gough Island for a further year until March or April, 1961.

2. I am, however, to invite attention to the requirement mentioned in the letter from this Office of the 27th October, 1958, that no livestock should be imported into Gough Island without the first consent of the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha, and to request that this requirement may continue to be strictly observed.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

*C. W. Dixon*

(Sir C. Dixon)

*obtaining the*

*Am van Schalkwyk, Psc over & inform Pm.*

*[Copy made of P.S. 37/3 of 16 29<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1958]*

The Minister,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
London, W.C.2.

CONFIDENTIAL

Minister. CANCELLED  
B/F 8/1/60  
Noted  
A.C.  
13/12

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State,  
Commonwealth Relations Office.

KvS/AG

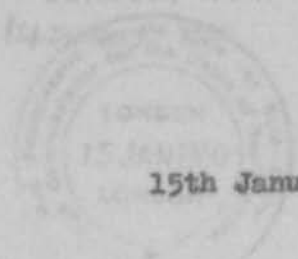
kept by the South African party on the island shall either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE  
DOWNING STREET  
LONDON, S.W.1



P.S. 37/3

15th January, 1960.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter CON.58/4/1 of the 14th January, 1960, conveying the approval of the United Kingdom Government to the retention by the Union Government of their weather station on Gough Island for a further year until March or April, 1961. The readiness of the United Kingdom Government to assist the Union Government in this matter is greatly appreciated.

The request regarding the importation of live-stock into Gough Island is being brought to the attention of the responsible authorities in the Union.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

I. F. A. de VILLIERS.

Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of State,  
Commonwealth Relations Office.

KvS/AG

kept by the South African party on the island shall either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

AIRMAIL

CONFIDENTIAL

15th January, 1960.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Gough Island : Continuation of Weather Station

Please refer to your minute 102/2/6 of the 3rd December, 1959. The United Kingdom authorities have replied as follows to our approach in this connection:

".... the United Kingdom Government have no objection to the Union Government continuing the operation of their weather station on Gough Island for a further year until March or April, 1961.

2. I am, however, to invite attention to the requirements mentioned in the letter from this Office of the 27th October, 1958, /my minute P.S.37/3 of the 29th October, 1958/ that no livestock should be imported into Gough Island without first obtaining the consent of the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha, and to request that this requirement may continue to be strictly observed."

J. F. A. de VILLIERS.

Minister.

KvS/AG

kept by the South African party on the island and either be withdrawn or destroyed when the party finally leaves."

W. D. van SCHALKWYK

Acting High Commissioner.

DV/AG

- (a) Extension of the Union's right to maintain a weather station on Gough Island for a further period of three years from April, 1961.
- (b) The erection by the Union of a new, fully-equipped weather station on the plateau on the South East side of the Island above "Transvaal Bay".
- (c) The construction in the bay by our authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

*Philip*

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*File.*  
*SK*  
30.9.60.

AIRMAIL  
LUGPOS.



102/2/6.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.  
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

PRETORIA.

23 SEP 1960

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

Gough Island: Continuation of Weather Station.

With reference to your minute P.S.37/3 of the 15th January, 1960, I have to inform you that the buildings on Gough Island presently occupied by the personnel of the South African weather station there are now not only in a very poor condition but also inadequate. It is accordingly regarded as essential that an entirely new station should be erected. If permission is granted to do so, the Union authorities would wish to abandon the existing station towards the end of 1961 and to occupy the proposed new station from about the beginning of 1962. To make this possible and to ensure that the Union may, meteorologically speaking, gain the maximum benefit from the expenditure involved in the erection of new buildings and the installation of new equipment it is necessary that application be made for our right to maintain a weather station on the Island to be extended for a further period of at least three years beyond the present authorised Term which expires in March/April 1961.

The site of the present station is moreover not suitable for proposed future activities such as for example comprehensive upper air observations. As the plateau on the South East side of the Island, just above "Transvaal Bay", is, however, thought to be adequate for this purpose it is regarded as necessary that permission also be sought for the right to erect the new better-equipped station at this more suitable site.

In the circumstances and in view of the fact that the Cabinet has already agreed to the proposed continuation of the weather station it would be appreciated if you could now approach the British authorities to enquire whether they would be prepared to authorise:-

1...

F

102/5.

CONFIDENTIAL

3rd October, 1960.

Sir,

As you will recall, your letter no. CON 58/4/1 of the 14th January, 1960, conveyed the approval of the United Kingdom Government for the retention by the Union Government of their weather station on Gough Island until March or April, 1961.

I have now been informed that the buildings on Gough Island presently occupied by the personnel of the South African weather station there are now not only in a very poor condition but also inadequate. It is accordingly regarded as essential that an entirely new station should be erected. The site of the present station is moreover not suitable for proposed future activities such as, for example, comprehensive upper air observations. The plateau on the south-east side of the Island, just above "Transvaal Bay", however, is thought to be a more suitable site for the purpose of erecting a new better-equipped station.

To ensure that the Union may, meteorologically speaking, gain the maximum benefit from the expenditure involved in the erection of new buildings and the installation of new equipment, it is necessary that the Union Government maintain a weather station on the Island for a period of at least three years beyond the present authorised term and they would therefore wish to abandon the existing station towards the end of 1961 and to occupy the proposed new station from about the beginning of 1962.

In the circumstances, I have been instructed to ask whether the United Kingdom Government would be prepared to authorise:

- (a) the extension of the authority granted to the Union Government to maintain a weather station on Gough Island for a further period of three years from April, 1961,
- (b) the erection by the Union Government of a new, fully equipped weather station on the plateau on the south-east side of the Island above "Transvaal Bay", and
- (c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,

Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

PvV/BK/AG

Pend 2 months  
4/10/60. Noted J+4/90





COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE  
DOWNING STREET  
LONDON, S.W.1

Whitehall 3323

Your Reference:

Please quote in reply: GON 58/4/1

Please address reply to THE PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE



10<sup>th</sup> October, 1960

960.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Sandys to acknowledge the receipt of your Minister's letter P.S. 37/3 of the 3rd October about the operation of a South African weather station on Gough Island.

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The views of the United Kingdom authorities concerned are being sought on the Union Government's proposals and a further letter will be sent to you as soon as possible.

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I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

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(B.E.H. HUNTER)

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The Secretary,  
Office of the High Commissioner  
for the Union of South Africa,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
S.W.1.

*See file  
L 12/10/60*

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ask whether the United Kingdom Government would be prepared to authorise:

- (a) the extension of the authority granted to the Union Government to maintain a weather station on Gough Island for a further period of three years from April, 1961,
- (b) the erection by the Union Government of a new, fully equipped weather station on the plateau on the south-east side of the island above "Transvaal Bay", and
- (c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

FVV/BK/AG

*Recd 2 minutes  
L 11/10/60. J+4/90*

PRIORITY CODE TELEGRAM.

OFFICE  
DOWNING STREET  
LONDON, S.W.1  
October, 1960

FROM: SECXTERN PRETORIA

D: 2.11.60

TO: H. C. LONDON

R: 2.11.60

No. 194.

My despatch 23rd September 102/2/6

Regarding permission to erect building Gough Island, matter now most urgent since initial survey must be undertaken and only available transport leave, in weeks time. Please inform by telegram whether authority obtained.

*Plan of Mrs. Hunter.  
promised to phone back.*

*despatched 2/11  
checked  
R 8/11/60*

*Director Mr. Butterfield*

*Noted  
A.G. 10/11  
Read 25/11 M  
R 10/11/60*

The Secretary,  
Office of the High Commissioner  
for the Union of South Africa,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
S.W.1.

*See file  
R 12/10/60*

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ask whether the United Kingdom Government would be prepared to authorise:

- (a) the extension of the authority granted to the Union Government to maintain a weather station on Gough Island for a further period of three years from April, 1961,
- (b) the erection by the Union Government of a new, fully equipped weather station on the plateau on the south-east side of the island above "Transvaal Bay", and
- (c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

FVV/BK/AG

*Pend 2 months  
R 7/11/60. Noted  
J+4/90*

CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: H. C. LONDON  
TO: SECXTERN PRETORIA  
D: 8.11.60

No. 173.

Your no. 194.

Request re Gough Island still under consideration and although matter being expedited U.K. authorities regret that decision not expected in time to enable Union to make use of transport presently available.

*This tel. sent after discussion with Mr Butterfield of the Constitutional Department.*

*h 21/11/60*

*file 10/11*

*B/F 28/12/60  
Noted A-C 28/11*

*Mr van Vuuren*

The Secretary,  
Office of the High Commissioner  
for the Union of South Africa,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
S.W.1.

*See file  
h 12/10/60*

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1962.

ask whether the United Kingdom Government would be prepared to authorise:

- (a) the extension of the authority granted to the Union Government to maintain a weather station on Gough Island for a further period of three years from April, 1961,
- (b) the erection by the Union Government of a new, fully equipped weather station on the plateau on the south-east side of the Island above "Transvaal Bay", and
- (c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

PVV/BK/AG

*Pend 2 months  
h 2/10/60. Noted J+4/90*

IMMEDIATE CODE TELEGRAM

FROM: SECXTERN PRETORIA.

D: 19.11.60.

TO: H.C. LONDON.

R: 19.11.60.

No. 213.

Your telegram 173.

Owing to inter-departmental misunderstanding Messrs McCall and Kotze of the Public Works Department already en route Gough in <sup>the</sup> Marionette and will arrive November 26th. Please express regret to British Authorities. Since these officials en route and in view scarcity of transport facilities, please ascertain if any objection to them landing and carrying out preliminary survey without commitments or prejudices to final decision.

*N. Inform Mr Butterfield, C.R.O.  
He will inform the authorities  
and give us their reaction.*

*Mc Call*

*20/11*

Office of the High Commissioner  
for the Union of South Africa,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
S.W.1.

*See Mr [unclear] 12/10/60*

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ask whether the United Kingdom Government would be prepared to authorise:

- (a) the extension of the authority granted to the Union Government to maintain a weather station on Gough Island for a further period of three years from April, 1961,
- (b) the erection by the Union Government of a new, fully equipped weather station on the plateau on the south-east side of the island above "Transvaal Bay", and
- (c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

FVV/BK/AG

*Recd 2 minutes  
21/11/60. J+4/90*

CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: H. C. LONDON  
TO: SEJSEKTERN PRETORIA  
D: 21.11.50

No. 188.

Your telegram 213.

Under circumstances United Kingdom authorities agree without prejudice to final decision.

*7-11/11*

Office of the High Commissioner  
for the Union of South Africa,  
South Africa House,  
Trafalgar Square,  
S.W.1.

*See R 12/10/60*

copy 962.

ask whether the United Kingdom Government would be prepared to authorise:

- (a) the extension of the authority granted to the Union Government to maintain a weather station on Gough Island for a further period of three years from April, 1961,
- (b) the erection by the Union Government of a new, fully equipped weather station on the plateau on the south-east side of the Island above "Transvaal Bay", and
- (c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

FVV/BK/AG

*Recd 2 minutes  
7/11/60. Noted J+4/90*



102/2/6.

LUGPOS.  
AIR MAIL.

UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.



DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

PRETORIA.

14 DEC 1960

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

Gough Island : Wireless Licence.

Your minute P.S. 37/3 of the 18th November, 1959,  
and my evenly numbered minutes of the 20th August, 1959,  
and 23rd September, 1960, refer.

*you*  
The Secretary for Transport has now informed  
the Department that if authority <sup>is</sup> granted for our  
meteorological station on Gough Island to be maintained  
for a further period it will also be necessary to approach  
the ~~British~~ authorities for a renewal of the licence to  
operate and maintain wireless station ZOE.33 on the island  
for a further twelve months as from 1st January, 1961. It  
would accordingly be appreciated if you could ask the British  
authorities to consider this matter in conjunction with the  
requests transmitted in my evenly numbered minute of the  
23rd September, 1960. *letter of*

I may add that since the beginning of the  
International Geophysical Year, free licences for the  
operation of this station have been issued by the  
Administrator of Tristan da Cunha, and it is presumed that  
no charge will be raised in respect of the desired renewal.

*PLC Me*  
*M. v. Jansen*  
*M. v. A. C.*  
*19/12*

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

(c) the construction in the bay by the Union  
authorities of a safe landing berth with  
facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

PVV/BK/AG

*Pend 2 minutes*  
*Noted*  
*7/11/60*  
*J+4/90*

21st December, 1960.

Dear Mr. Hunter

Might I refer to the Minister's letter of 3rd October, 1960, to the Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations on the Gough Island weather station and your reply no. CON58/4/1 of 10th October, 1960?

We have now been informed by the authorities in the Union that if authority is granted for our meteorological station on Gough Island to be maintained for a further period it will also be necessary to approach you for a renewal of the licence to operate and maintain wireless station ZOE.33 on the island for a further twelve months as from 1st January, 1961. I should therefore be most grateful if the United Kingdom authorities would kindly consider this matter in conjunction with the requests transmitted in the Minister's letter of 3rd October.

I should also be grateful to learn if the desired renewal is granted, whether this would be free of charge, as free licences for the operation of this station have been issued by the Administrator of Tristan da Cunha since the beginning of the International Geophysical Year.

Yours sincerely  
(Sgd)  
(P.H.J.J. van Vuuren).

M. v. Vuuren  
11/11/61 Sk.

B.E.H. Hunter, Esq.,  
Commonwealth Relations Office,  
Downing Street,  
S.W.1.

Noted at  
2/1/61  
had 3 weeks ago

PvV/JH

(c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

Pend 2 months  
4/1/60. Noted J+4/90

PvV/BK/AG

AIRMAIL  
LUGPOS.



102/2/6.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

PRETORIA.

20 DEC 1960

DRINGEND.

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

Gough Eiland: Voortsetting van Weerstasie.

Ek verwys na ons enersgenommerde skrywe van 23 September 1960, en na u telegram nr. 173 van 8 November 1960, in verband met die voortsetting van die Weerstasie op Gough eiland.

Die hele aangeleentheid het nou baie dringend geword, aangesien daar in die nabye toekoms 'n begin gemaak sal moet word met die oprigting van die nuwe geboue indien goedkeuring verleen word deur die Britse Regering. Dit sal op prys gestel word indien u iets kan doen om die beslissing te bespoedig.

Die redes vir die lang versuim is nie heeltemal duidelik nie en ons sal dit waardeur indien u nadere inligting in hierdie verband kan verstrek, veral of daar besondere probleme of moeilikhede betrokke is.

*In the  
with the Union*

SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

*Mr. Van Vliet  
Mr. Botha*

*would you go into  
this urgently please?*

*1/11/60*

(c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

PVV/BK/AG

*Recd 2 minutes  
4/1/60. J+4/90*



AIRMAIL

29th December, 1960.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRSGough Island

With reference to your minute no. 102/2/6 of 20th December, 1960, in connection with the South African weather station on Gough Island, I made further enquiries and was informed by the Commonwealth Relations Office that while they were considering our request, as contained in your minute of 23rd September, 1960, the representatives of the United Kingdom High Commissioner's office in Pretoria were summoned by the Department of Transport to discuss the future of the weather stations in Bechuanaland and on Tristan da Cunha.

It seemed that, at these discussions, the closing down of the weather station at Tristan was proposed by the South African authorities, the intention being to hand back the station to the United Kingdom authorities with possibly a few South Africans remaining attached to the station.

Our original proposals regarding Gough Island had therefore to be reviewed in the light of the discussions that took place in Pretoria and particularly as the proposed closing down of the Tristan da Cunha station, would cause certain complications for the Colonial Administration. Some delay was also caused by the fact that two channels, were used in raising these related matters with the United Kingdom authorities.

We were assured however that the United Kingdom authorities were considering the matter urgently and that we could expect a reply in the near future.

P.H.J.J. van VUUREN.

PvV/JH

Acting High Commissioner.

(c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,

Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

PvV/BK/AG

Pend 2 minutes  
Noted  
4/1/60. J+4/90

AIRMAIL

16th January, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Gough Island Weather Station.

With reference to the correspondence on the Gough Island weather station under your reference no. 102/2/6, I wish to inform you that the Commonwealth Relations Office has suggested to us informally that all further negotiations on the above matter be conducted in Pretoria. As you will recall from my letter of 29th December, 1960, Gough Island, as well as the future of the Tristan da Cunha station, has been under discussion between the United Kingdom High Commission in Pretoria and the Department of Transport, and the Commonwealth Relations Office feels that it may be better to use one channel of communication in these related matters.

M. I. BOTHA

Acting High Commissioner.

PHJvV/SL

ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER.

(c) the construction in the bay by the Union authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading.

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

FVV/BK/AG

*Recd 2 minutes  
4/1/60. Noted  
Jr 4/90*



102/2/6.

AIR MAIL.  
LUGPOS.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA  
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.  
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.  
PRETORIA.

URGENT.

21 JAN 1961

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

Gough Island : Continuation of Weather Station.

With reference to your minute P.S. 37/3 of the 29th December, 1960, I have to inform you that the decision in regard to the proposed continuation of the South African weather station on Gough is now most urgently awaited in view of the pressing need for the planning of new buildings as well as the necessity for arrangements which will shortly have to be made for relieving the personnel of the Station. In the circumstances any steps which you may possibly be able to take to expedite the decision of the British authorities would be much appreciated.

*W. Malan*

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*See our letter of 16<sup>th</sup> January. bly m*

ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER.

(c) the construction in the bay by the Union of authorities of a safe landing berth with facilities for unloading. If you could now be prepared to authorize...

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

M. I. BOTHA,  
Minister.

The Permanent Under-Secretary of  
State for Commonwealth Relations.

PVV/BK/AG

*Recd 2 minutes  
4/1/60. JF 4/90*

scientific relations with other Governments. The provision of rent-free sites in the Union for scientific projects sponsored from abroad, and of free passages for British officials proceeding to and from Tristan da Cunha are but two examples of this type of co-operation. The United Kingdom Government can also claim with justification to have honoured this international spirit of co-operation in the past, and will doubtless be among the first to acknowledge its value in the scientific field.

10. In these circumstances, it would be appreciated if the appropriate authorities could be requested to reconsider the decision to levy these fees on the occupation of the Gough Island site and the operation of the radio transmitter there. I refer specifically to the "site" since I assume that the proposal is to impose a rental on the "site" and not on the "station" as stated in the letter under reply. The buildings to be erected at the new base would of course remain the property of the South African Government.

11. As regards the second condition mentioned, namely the restrictions on importation of livestock into the island, the proposal is not entirely clear. Paragraph 2(b) of the letter states that no foreign fauna or flora should be introduced into the island "without first obtaining the approval of the Administrator". The interpretation here would seem to be that slaughter-sheep to provide fresh meat for the station personnel may still be imported provided the Administrator's prior approval is obtained - which in fact reflects the current procedure. Paragraph 3, on the other hand, seems to imply a total ban on the importation to, or maintenance on, the island of livestock for this purpose. Your clarification on this point would be much appreciated.

12. I should be most grateful if you would be kind enough to convey the considerations outlined above to the appropriate United Kingdom authorities, and if you would in due course inform me of their reply.

*Yours sincerely,*

H. Phillip

Office of the High Commissioner  
for the United Kingdom  
P.O. Box 100  
Cape Town

relieved them of a responsibility which was rightly theirs.

5. This task was undertaken in a spirit of co-operation and, does not imply that the Union Government has assumed any obligation to maintain a station which is not in South African territory. A parallel situation exists in Bechuanaland which is a British Protectorate and where, by agreement, the Union Government similarly mans and maintains meteorological stations. Since, therefore, the Union Government has agreed in this spirit to discharge what, in terms of Regulation 2.2, amounts to a United Kingdom responsibility, it is difficult to agree that justification exists for payment by the Union of rental and licence fees as well.

6. The Union Government derives no special advantage from operating this station. In February, 1957, Regional Association I (Africa) of W.M.O. passed Resolution 13/11/RAI, subsequently endorsed by W.M.O. itself, directing the Union to undertake the duties of, and to act as, a "communications centre". Technical Regulation 5.1 lays down that

"each member shall make available to the communications centre

- (a) those meteorological reports made at synoptic stations in its territory which are by Regional Association Resolution required for International dissemination,
- (b) meteorological reports received from ships and aircraft."

It follows that, had the United Kingdom Government maintained the Gough Island station, the results of its observations would in any case have been at the disposal of the Union Government in terms of the above-quoted regulation.

7. It follows also that the benefits flowing from the operation of the station are in no sense exclusive to the Union, but are available to all territories of the region. The information collected is freely disseminated to all interested institutions and is, thus, of international interest and importance. That the Union should be required to pay rental to provide this international service does not seem equitable.

8. The same considerations apply to the conditional payment of a radio licence fee. The station's radio installation is used exclusively in connection with the scientific work performed on the Island, and not for commercial or any other purposes. Licences to operate it were issued gratis in the past, and it is not clear what new circumstances have arisen to justify a change in this practice.

9. The maintenance of the station by the South African Government is a considerable financial burden which it is now proposed to increase by the imposition of these fees. I would, however, emphasise that it is the principle rather than the amount involved which is causing concern. The new procedure proposed would not appear to be in accordance with the generally accepted principle of scientific co-operation in the international sphere, which formed the basis of the Gough Island arrangement in the past, and which has guided the Union Government in its

102/2/6.

CAPE TOWN.

29 MAY 1961

Dear Peter,

As you will doubtless be aware, the continued operation of a weather station on Gough Island by the South African Government, and the transfer of this station to another site on the Island, have been the subject of correspondence which culminated in a letter (SAR.467/3) which Eleanor Emery addressed to me on the 7th March, 1961.

2. In that letter, we were informed that there would be no objection to the continued operation of the station for a further period and its transfer to another site, provided, however, that two conditions were observed. It is in connection with these conditions that I am writing to you now.

3. The first condition envisages "a rental of £100 per annum for the lease of the station on Gough Island and £50 per annum for the wireless licence". This is a new departure from previous practice, and contains several implications which are discussed below.

4. Technical Regulation 2.2, which was framed under the provisions of Article 7(d) of the Convention of the World Meteorological Organisation provided that

"Each member shall establish in its territory a network of synoptic stations on land."

It follows that, since Gough Island is a British dependency, the responsibility for establishing and maintaining a weather station there would normally fall upon the United Kingdom Government. In fact, however, the Union Government has been maintaining this station in accordance with an arrangement reached during the International Geophysical Year. Since the results of meteorological observations on the island are of great benefit to Southern Africa as a whole - including both British and South African territories - and since the British authorities were not at the time prepared to establish a station there, the Union Government

The maintenance of the station by the South African Government is a considerable financial burden and it is now proposed to induct by the imposition of these conditions, however, expensive that it is the primary purpose of the station which is causing concern. It would not appear to be in the interests of the United Kingdom, or of the generally accepted principles of international operation in the International system, which regard the basis of the Gough Island arrangement in the past, and which has guided the Union Government in the

Peter Lewis, Esq.,

Office of the High Commissioner

for the United Kingdom,

CAPE TOWN.