

18/18
Vol. I
1951-

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

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18/18 Vol. I 1951-

MARION + PRINCE EDWARD ISLANDS

Received
20/26

[1951]



26/5 20/26



P.M. 102/23.

AIR MAIL
LUGPOS.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

CAPE TOWN.

7 - MAY 1951

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Union of South Africa,
PARIS.

WFR 5

Radio Link-up between Kerguelen and Marion
Islands.

I wish to inform you that I was approached in the course of February by the French Ambassador with a proposal that a radio link-up between Kerguelen and Marion Islands in the Antarctic should be established.

This would enable the two stations to exchange information of mutual interest, especially of a meteorological nature. It was also suggested that it might be useful to set up direct contact between Kerguelen and Pretoria.

The matter was referred to the Department of Transport and the Chief of General Staff who have indicated that they are in favour of the proposal.

The Department of Transport in particular welcomed the idea from a meteorological aspect. They added that in regard to traffic between the Union and Kerguelen it would be preferable from an engineering point of view that messages from or to Kerguelen be relayed through Marion Island, instead of setting up direct radio contact between Kerguelen and the Union.

The Ambassador has been informed accordingly and he has been asked to indicate what steps will have to be taken to put the proposal into effect.

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J. D. B. B. B.
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.



P.N. 102/53.

20/26

AIR MAIL
L'UNION

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
UNIE VAN SUID AFRIKA

Depas 51, Avenue Hoche, Paris (8e)
Dewas 1, Buitelantse Depas

L'Ambassade de l'Union de l'Afrique du Sud présente ses compliments au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et a l'honneur de porter à sa connaissance que le Gouvernement de l'Union de l'Afrique du Sud étudie actuellement les moyens de mettre en valeur l'île Marion.

La tâche du Gouvernement serait facilitée par l'obtention de rapports officiels relatifs au développement de l'horticulture, de l'afforestation, du cheptel, etc... dans les îles soumises à des conditions similaires à celles prévalant à l'île Marion; il a donc chargé cette Ambassade de demander au Gouvernement Français si les autorités responsables des îles Kerguelen, Amsterdam et Crozet, n'auraient pas établi des rapports de cette nature et dans l'affirmative s'il serait possible de les communiquer aux Autorités sud-africaines.

L'Ambassade serait en conséquence très reconnaissante au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de tous renseignements qu'il pourrait lui donner en la matière et qui seront aussitôt transmis au Gouvernement de l'Union.

L'Ambassade remercie à l'avance le Ministère de l'aide qu'il voudra bien lui apporter et saisit cette occasion pour lui renouveler les assurances de sa très haute considération.

J. FOURIE

Paris, le 18 Juin 1951.

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES
Service du Protocole,
Quai d'Orsay,
Paris (7e)

JF/CS

Recd 18/8/51
[Signature]

[Signature]

Embassy of the Union
of South Africa, Paris

AIRMAIL

20/26

51, Avenue Hoche, Paris (8e)
31st July, 1951.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
P R E T O R I A

(in duplicate)

Marion Island Development

With reference to your minute No.P.M. 1/96/2 of the 6th June, 1952, I subjoin a translation of the contents of a note dated the 27th July, 1951, received from the French Ministry of External Affairs : -

"With reference to the note of the Embassy of the Union of South Africa dated the 18th June, 1951, the Ministry of External Affairs has the honour to transmit to the Embassy the information which it has received from the competent French authorities regarding Kerguelen, Amsterdam and Crozet Islands : -

"The French Missions on the Austral Islands, whose activities have only been of two years' duration, have so far devoted themselves essentially to structural work with the result that it has been possible to realise important administrative and scientific installations.

"As a result of the priority accorded to structural work, the experience of the Missions as regards local acclimatization of fauna and flora has as far been too limited to allow the formulation of any authoritative or reliable conclusions.

"The experiments undertaken in the latter field will from now on be pursued systematically and it is hoped that the results will supply material for documentation which the French Government will be only too pleased to place at the disposal of the Union, thereby continuing the good relations already started on the occasion of the consideration of the possibilities of permanent radio-telegraphic links between Marion and Kerguelen Islands. "

J.FOURIE

JF/CS

SECRETARY

File
[Signature]

20/26

P.M. 1/96/2.

Ambassade van die Unie van Suid-Afrika
Parys
30-8-1951
Paris
Embassy of the Union of South Africa

PRETORIA.

17-8-1951

DIE SEKRETARIS VAN VERVOER.


Ontwikkeling van Marioneiland.

Na aanleiding van my diensbrief nr. P.M.1/96/2 van 9 Augustus 1951 stuur ek hierewens, vir u inligting, 'n afskrif van diensbrief nr. 20/26 gedateer 31 Julie 1951 van die Unie Ambassade te Parys, in verband met die ondervinding van die Franse Regering in die ontwikkeling van Kerguelen-, Amsterdam- en Crozeteilande.

D.A.V. FISCHER
SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKKE.

Die Buitengewone en Gevolmagtigde Ambassadeur van die Unie van Suid-Afrika,
PARYS.

Ontvangs van die betrokke verslag word met dank erken.


SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKKE.

File
[Handwritten initials]

4. In the absence of reports from whaling ships the information for the completion of a weather analysis in high southerly latitudes is very meagre, but if the intended flight is scheduled to take place before the antarctic inference is brought into operation additional data for a limited period will be added to those given in the inference being broadcast daily from ERO.1/2 at 1015 G.M.T.

5. The Department of Transport would be happy to afford any assistance possible. It would be appreciated, however, if advice could be furnished as soon as possible giving the dates when the flights will take place.

PRETORIA,

20 November, 1951.

D. B. SOLE

DNA/RduP.

The Department of External Affairs has the honour to refer to ^(in English) your Note No. 35 of 20th September, 1951, in regard to the establishment of an air link between Madagascar and Kerguelen Island during November or December as an experiment and has the honour to state that

1. On the 8th October, 1951, arrangements were brought into operation for the scheduled transmission of Marion Island reports to Kerguelen Island at 0645 and 1245 G.M.T. from Wingfield (Cape Town). These messages include reports of observations made at 0600 and 1200 G.M.T. which are the only main synoptic hours at which observations are made on Marion Island.

2. During the whaling season an antarctic inference is broadcast from Cape Town radio (ZSL) at 2130 G.M.T. on the following frequencies:

148, 4735, 8333 and 16670 Mcs.

3. These broadcasts begin when the whaling fleet is on the antarctic fishing grounds and it is expected that the service will be introduced again during December. These inferences are issued in plain language and give the position of centres of low and high pressure and fronts together with their expected future development and/or movement.

File

P.M. 102/2/3

P.M. 102/2/3.

20/26



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDE SAKKE.

17th November, 1951.

The Ambassador Extraordinary
and Minister Plenipotentiary,
Paris,

With the compliments of the
Secretary for External Affairs.

Met die komplimente van die
Sekretaris van Buitelandse Sake.

For your information.



K. A. G. J.
M.M. 29/11

file

External Affairs has the
honour to state
that on the 25th of 20th September,
in connection with the
opening of an air link
between Cape Town and
St. Helena Island during November
1951, arrangements were
made for the transmission of
weather forecasts to the
Island at 0645 and 1200
hours (Cape Town time). These messages
will be transmitted at 0600 and 1200
hours (St. Helena time) at which
times the sun is visible on the
Island.

2. During the whaling season an Antarctic
weather service is broadcast from Cape Town radio (SBL) at
2130 G.M.T. on the following frequencies:
148, 4735, 8333 and 16670 Kcs.

3. These broadcasts begin when the whaling fleet
is on the Antarctic fishing grounds and it is expected that
the service will be introduced again during December.
These forecasts are issued in plain language and give the
position of centres of low and high pressure and fronts
together with their expected future development and/or
movement.

file

2/.....

Amb.

If you are seeing Admiral Barjac.
again, might I suggest that you sound
him about the Kerguelen Island project.
(see below).

Noted ²⁸ ~~25/8~~
[Signature]

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2. During the whaling season an Antarctic
inference is broadcast from Cape Town radio (2SL) at
2130 G.M.T. on the following frequencies:

148, 4735, 8333 and 16670 Kcs.

3. These broadcasts begin when the whaling fleet
is on the Antarctic fishing grounds and it is expected that
the service will be introduced again during December.
These inferences are issued in plain language and give the
position of centres of low and high pressure and fronts
together with their expected future development and/or
movement.

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