

1. Coordination of distribution of Bases.

The uncertainty as to which nation will occupy which of the as yet unassigned bases should be cleared up as quickly as possible. For example, if the British intend to occupy the Vahsel Bay base, the Americans would probably be quite content with this arrangement. In this event, the U.S. might consider the occupation of the fourth base on the Knox Coast near the Shackleton Ice Shelf. On the other hand, if the British do not expect to occupy the Vahsel Bay base, then the U.S. might prefer to occupy this base in preference to the Knox Coast, since this base would be better suited to the auxiliary support of a base in Marie Byrd Land.

2. Mutual logistic support.

It is entirely possible that one nation could support the field operations of another by bringing in caches of fuel or supplies to insure their availability for field operations.

3. Mutual support for overland operations.

A number of nations are planning overland traverses to enhance the scientific effort and particularly to provide information on the geomorphology of the ice and land structure of the continent. Such traverses can best be planned through mutual collaboration to insure the mutual support of bases of other nations and to provide for scientific information on all traverses that can mutually support common scientific objectives.

4. Aids to navigation (aerial and terrestrial).

The problem of navigation both by field parties on the ground and in the air is always serious in the Antarctic. With wide distribution of bases now planned, it may be possible to conceive the operation of an improved navigation system that would be available to the parties of all nations in support of their field operations.

5. Emergency Procedures.

The relatively dense operation of the Antarctic should make possible certain elements of mutual support in the event of an emergency. Plans for such emergency support should be made in advance.

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tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

D.B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

The meeting, as I said before, will be held in Paris, but at the moment the location has not yet been fixed.

I have established a draft Agenda, which is attached as appendix I, and which I submit to your agreement, asking you to send me your comments at your earliest possible convenience, as well as any other item you would like to have included in the Agenda.

I hope that your country will be represented at the conference, and I would appreciate to receive their names and addresses as soon as possible. I include herewith forms for hotel reservations, which they should fill out and send me by air mail.

Yours sincerely

G. Laclavere

G. R. LACLAVERE
Secretary General, International
Union of Geodesy and Geophysics.
Member of the Special Committee
for the International Geophysical
Year (CSAGI).

Encl.

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de
vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

D. B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

36/6.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS

30, avenue Rapp

PARIS 7^e

Paris, May 14th 1955

OBJECT; Antarctic Conference.

Dear Sir,

In my capacity as General Secretary of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics and at the request of the Special Committee for the International Geophysical Year (CSAGI) I have organised an Antarctic Conference to be held in Paris from ~~Monday June 26, 1955 to Friday June 24, 1955~~ Wednesday 6 July to Sunday 10 July 1955

It has been considered that, in view of the complexity of planning of the wide scale activity to be developed in the Antarctic during the International Geophysical Year it would be of an extreme importance to call a conference of the nine nations that will be involved in direct Antarctic exploration during the International Geophysical Year. These nations are Argentina, Australia, Chile, France, Great Britain, New Zealand, Norway, the Union of South Africa and the United States.

I much deplore to call the conference at such short notice. But for various reasons and in particular, owing to my absence from Paris, I was unable to do it before. On the other hand, many Antarctic operations will have been commenced by September 1st, and therefore the matter has now become most urgent.

I have the honour to invite your country to send a delegation to this meeting. I deeply regret that the available funds in the CSAGI or in the IUGG do not permit to cover the travelling expenses of the delegates.

However if difficulties are incurred to obtain from your government all the necessary funds, will you kindly advise me and I will see what I can do to help.

.../

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

D.B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

Les Services du Secrétariat seront assurés par Mademoiselle Jacqueline Laclavère et par Madame Bouché (des Expéditions Polaires Françaises).

L'interprétation sera faite en trois langues (français, anglais et russe) par Madame H. Makaroff.

G. Laclavère
G. LACLAVÈRE
Secrétaire Général

(Le numéro de téléphone de M. Laclavère est: INValides 03-27).

... dans les limites de vos possibilités mais je ne pourrais pas de
vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavié,
Sous-Directeur à l'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
INValides

R. L. Sals
Secrétaire d'Admission

La première Séance sera consacrée

- à l'élection du Président et du Secrétaire de la Conférence,
- à la désignation des Groupes de Travail,
- à la désignation des Comités de Rédaction,
- à l'adoption de l'ordre du jour.

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Les Délégués sont invités, avec les personnes qui les accompagnent, à une Cocktail Party que Monsieur et Madame Laclavère donneront le Mercredi 6 Juillet à 18 h 30 à leur domicile, 30, Avenue Rapp, Paris 7^e.

Ils sont également invités à une réception que donneront les Expéditions Polaires Françaises le Samedi 9 Juillet à leur Siège, 47, Avenue du Maréchal Fayolle, à 16 h 00. M. Paul Emile Victor fera visiter les locaux et présentera le matériel des Expéditions Polaires Françaises. Un film sera projeté. Un cocktail terminera la réception.

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Afin d'assurer la rédaction rapide des Comptes-Rendus de la Conférence je proposerai que les séances prennent fin à 17 h 00 chaque jour. Un groupe de rédaction, composé de trois délégués qui changeront chaque jour, se réunira alors pour rédiger le Compte-Rendu de la journée en s'aidant des notes qu'ils auront prises et de celles qu'auront également prises les Secrétaires. Le Compte-Rendu sera ronéotypé chaque jour et immédiatement remis aux délégués.

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Les Pays suivants seront représentés à la Conférence:

Argentine, Australie, Belgique, Chili, Etats-Unis d'Amérique, France, Grande-Bretagne, Norvège, Nouvelle-Zélande, U.R.S.S.

Le Japon, qui a manifesté le désir de se faire représenter, ne pourra sans doute le faire.

Enfin l'Union Sud Africaine, a adressé ses regrets de ne pouvoir prendre part à la réunion et a adressé ses vœux de succès à la Conférence.

L'Allemagne enverra un observateur, M. le Professeur Georgi, qui a participé aux Expéditions Wegener.

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tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,

D.B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

1. Amb: you will notice that U.S.S.R is also represented
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 3. Re J. L. J.
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UNION GEODESIQUE ET GEOPHYSIQUE INTERNATIONALE

30, Avenue Rapp

PARIS 7^e

O B J E T: Conférence Antarctique (6-10 Juillet 1955)

J'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que les réunions de la Conférence Antarctique se tiendront à l'Institut d'Astrophysique, 98bis, Boulevard Arago, Paris 14^e (Téléphone: DANton 89-52).

Le nombre élevé des délégués, qui approchera de 40, m'a obligé à renoncer à l'idée de les réunir autour d'une table et M. le Prof. A. Danjon, Membre de l'Académie des Sciences, et Directeur de l'Observatoire de Paris, a eu la grande obligeance de vouloir bien mettre à notre disposition l'amphithéâtre de l'Institut d'Astrophysique et une salle où pourront se réunir des groupes de travail.

L'Institut d'Astrophysique est tout proche de la station de Métro de Denfert Rochereau où passent trois lignes du métropolitain. La Place Denfert Rochereau est desservie par plusieurs lignes d'autobus.

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La première Séance aura lieu le mercredi 6 Juillet à 10 heures. MM. les Délégués qui en auront la possibilité sont invités à se présenter à partir de 9 h 30 pour y remplir les formalités d'inscription et pour recevoir les documents qui auront été préparés à leur intention.

Au cours de cette première Séance prendront la parole:

M. le Prof. A. Danjon, Directeur de l'Observatoire de Paris, Membre du Comité Spécial de l'Année Géophysique Internationale.

M. le R.P. Pierre Lejay, Président du Comité National Français de l'Année Géophysique Internationale.

M. G. Laclavère, Secrétaire Général de l'Union Géodésique et Géophysique Internationale.

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tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
 Sous Direction d'Afrique,
 Direction Afrique Levant,
 DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

D.B. Sole
 Secrétaire d'Ambassade

Royal Society of New Zealand
 N.Z. National Committee for the Int. Geo. Year
 c/o N.Z. Oceanographic Institute
 Dept of Scientific & Industrial Research
 P.O. Box 8018, Government Bldgs
 Wellington, C.I.

13th June, 1955
 Monday

Monsieur G.E. Laclavère
 General Secretary
 International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics
 30, Avenue Rapp
 Paris 7e
 France

Dear Sir,

On behalf of Dr A.F. Barnett, Chairman of the N.Z. National Committee for I.G.Y., I have to thank you for your invitation to attend discussions in Paris on work in the Antarctic. I regret that it is not possible for Dr Barnett to attend. Nevertheless, arrangements have been made for New Zealand Legation in Paris, who has no doubt been in touch with you.

As yet government approval to participation in I.G.Y. observations in Antarctica, and of the N.Z. I.G.Y. programme, have not been obtained. However, it is anticipated that this will not be long delayed.

The New Zealand government is committed to participation in the trans-polar journey from Weddell Sea to Ross Sea, and is to establish a base in the Ross Sea for this purpose. In all probability this same base could be used for I.G.Y. observations.

My Committee is acting as an overall advisory body. The scientific interests concerned in participation in I.G.Y. have set up an executive committee which will be considering details of work within the next few weeks.

We are of course extremely interested in the outcome of your discussions and wish the Conference every success.

Yours sincerely,

J.W. Brodie
 Secretary

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de
 vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
 Sous Direction d'Afrique,
 Direction Afrique Levant,
 DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

D.B. Sole
 Secrétaire d'Ambassade

APPENDIX VII

SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

P.O. Box 395

PRETORIA

15th June, 1955.

Dr. G. Laclavère
General Secretary I. U. G. G.,
30 Avenue Rapp
PARIS 7e

Dear Sir,

We duly received your communication of May 14th concerning the Antarctic Conference to be held in Paris on June 15th. My reply was delayed as Dr. Schumann, the Chairman of our national committee of A.G.I. was absent at the time.

Your subsequent letter indicating a later date and a further item for the agenda was also received, as well as your letter of June 9th, informing us that the date will now probably be July 6th.

The matter has now been discussed with Dr. Schumann. He advises that it will be quite impossible for him or another suitable representative to attend the meeting. He is of opinion that no useful purpose will be served if your Conference were attended by a member of our Scientific Liaison Office in London or some S.A. scientist now in Europe as the majority of the items are matters that have to be considered by senior government officials or by an expert meteorologist (items 5 & 8).

Dr. Schumann will endeavour to give further consideration to the Agenda and to let you know by letter if he can at this stage express any views which might assist the meeting.

Yours faithfully,

S. M. Naudé

PRESIDENT: COUNCIL FOR
SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de
vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Africain Levant,
DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

D. B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

3. L'Équipement prévu comprend:

Station Principale: environ 300 m² couvert de bâtiments qui seront occupés par 15 à 20 hommes suivant les années.

Station Satellite: une petite construction couvrant 25 m² occupée par 3 hommes à partir de Janvier ou Février 1957.

Transports 2 sno-cats
3 weasels (portes probablement à 5 en Janvier 1957)
7 traîneaux en alliage léger portant chacun 2 tonnes.

En principe, il n'est pas prévu d'utiliser des chiens.

4. La première expédition doit quitter la France en automne 1955 à bord du navire norvégien "NORSEL" et débarquer en Terre Adélie en Janvier 1956. On effectuera à bord du navire, pendant la traversée, des observations météorologiques et océanographiques. Une liaison gravimétrique France - Terre Adélie, sera également réalisée à cette occasion.

Le transport du matériel nécessaire à la Station satellite (environ 15 tonnes) sera fait par la première expédition pendant le printemps 1956. Les hivernants de cette station satellite arriveront en Terre Adélie par le Norsel en Janvier 1957 et seront relevés ainsi que tout le reste du personnel en Janvier 1958. Il est espéré qu'un sup ort aérien permette en Janvier 1957 de compléter le matériel de la Base Satellite et de constituer sur le plateau antarctique un stock d'essence pour les raids envisagés.

La France est prête à envisager une collaboration avec d'autres nations, en particulier, dans le secteur de la mer de Ross, pour utiliser conjointement le navire de l'expédition pendant les campagnes de Janvier 1958 et de Janvier 1959.

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

D.B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

Rapport sur la participation Française dans l'Antarctique pendantl'Année Géophysique Internationale 1957 - 1958

1. La France a projeté d'installer une base en Terre Adélie de Janvier 1956 à Janvier 1959. La station principale serait située en principe dans l'Archipel de Pointe Géologie, (approximativement $140^{\circ} 01' E$ et $60^{\circ} 40' S$). Elle serait complétée de Janvier 1957 à Janvier 1959 par une station satellite à environ 350 km au Sud, sur le Plateau antarctique.

2. Ces deux stations s'occuperont principalement d'études de météorologie, de physique de la haute atmosphère et des phénomènes connexes.

Le programme météorologique comprend 8 observations de surface par jour. De Janvier 1957 à Janvier 1959 il est prévu un radio-sondage et un Rawin quotidien. On diffusera normalement un message météo quotidien, exceptionnellement plusieurs si cela pouvait être utile à d'autres expéditions.

En plus des observations régulières, on envisage des mesures de rayonnement et de gradient thermique au voisinage du sol, en particulier à la station satellite, ainsi que des mesures d'ozone à la station de Pointe Géologie. Cette partie du programme serait complétée par: des mesures classiques de glaciologie et par des sondages sismiques de l'épaisseur de l'Inlandsis pendant les différents trajets sur le plateau antarctique et pendant l'hivernage à la station satellite.

En ce qui concerne la haute atmosphère et les phénomènes connexes, l'étude des aurores se ferait par spectrographie, photométrie, et échos radioélectriques. Les appareils suivants sont en projet:

- Photomètre Gartelein (Recommandé par le C.S.A.G.I.)
- Détecteur fixe et détecteur rotatif d'aurores à cellule photo-électrique
- Spectrographe à réseau pour l'étude de l'effet Doppler dans la raie H et des bandes de l'azote.
- Interféromètre Savart-Lyot, spectrographe pour ciel nocturne.
- Radar aurore fonctionnant sur 75 Mc/s. (Appareil identique à celui de Jordrell Bank Experimental Station).

L'étude de l'ionosphère sera entreprise à l'aide d'un sondeur panoramique et sans doute d'un dispositif de mesures des vents ionosphériques par la méthode des fadings.

L'étude du magnétisme comprendra des enregistrements lents classiques à la Station principale ainsi que l'enregistrement de la composante Z à la station satellite; des enregistrements rapides de pulsations aux deux stations avec un matériel actuellement à l'étude.

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

D.B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

and the necessary means for transportation, probably a few tractors and about 20 dogs. The type of scientific equipment is evident from the outline of the programme under 2.

The personnel will probably comprise 14 persons, including a surveying party of three.

4. It is expected that the expedition will leave Norway in November 1956, on board a Norwegian seal catcher, and it is hoped that the main base can be established in January 1957. Only the main base will be permanently occupied, but a secondary station will be located at the place of unloading. This secondary station will be visited occasionally in order to attend to a few recording instruments to be placed there, and will be occupied during short periods in winter for the purpose of photographing aurora.

It is hoped that a visit to the station in 1957-58 and that the disembarkation of the station in January 1959 can be made in cooperation with other nations, such that it may not become necessary for Norway to send a ship to the Antarctic in the seasons of 1957-58 and 1958-59.

H. U. SVERDRUP
Norsk Polarinstitutt, Oslo.

Oslo, 28 May 1955

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de
vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

D.B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS

30, Avenue Rapp

PARIS 7^e

OBJECT: Antarctic Conference, 20-24 June 1955.

REPORT on the NORWEGIAN participation in the scientific programme in the ANTARCTIC during the INTERNATIONAL GEOPHYSICAL YEAR.

1. Norway plans to occupy a site on Queen Maud Land in the period January 1957 to January 1959. The station will probably be located on the shelf ice in about 1°W and 70°30'S, at a distance of about 30 miles from the barrier.

2. The station will primarily be a meteorological station. The regular meteorological programme will comprise 8 surface observations per day and 2 radiosonde ascents with measurements of winds aloft. It is assumed that meteorological reports will be sent out twice a day.

In addition to the regular observations there will be undertaken radiation measurements and special measurements of temperature and wind profiles up to a height of 8-10 metres, as well as measurements of ozone.

Glaciological observations will comprise measurements of the temperature in the shelfice and measurements of the snow accumulation in the vicinity of the base station.

Visual observations of aurora will be made, and simultaneous photographs will be obtained from two stations about 30 miles apart. Routine magnetic observations will be undertaken.

In addition to the geophysical work at the base station a field party will undertake a topographic survey of the mountain range between the meridians of 0 and 15°E, in order to establish correct charts from the eastern region which was first photographed from the air by the German "Schwabenland" expedition in 1939. The western part of the area was visited during the 1949-52 expedition. The field party will also undertake limited glaciological work.

3. The facilities of the station will be limited to housing

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tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
LES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

D.B. Sols
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS
30, Avenue Rapp
PARIS 7^e

Paris, May 31st 1955

OBJECT: Antarctic Conference 20-24 June 1955

ADDITION to the DRAFT AGENDA.

8. Weather Central in Antarctica.

The United States National Committee for the International Geophysical Year has proposed that a concept of a Weather Central in Antarctica during the International Geophysical Year be discussed during the Antarctic Conference.

Such a Weather Central could, for example, undertake the following:

1. Collect and relay meteorological messages from other Antarctic Stations, field parties, aircraft and ships operating in or close to Antarctica.
2. Keep in touch with all field parties which would be required to submit meteorological messages on a definite schedule. Such close contact with field parties would serve as a necessary safety measure as well as coordinating scientific work in the field.
3. Receive weather information from Southern Hemisphere countries both in the form of weather data and coded weather charts.
4. Transmit Antarctic weather reports on regularly scheduled broadcasts for use of all countries.
5. Prepare, from all available weather reports and map analyses, a once-daily surface-weather chart of the Southern Hemisphere and twice-daily weather charts of Antarctica and adjacent waters, including those for upper levels.

If an Antarctic Weather Central is approved, the Conference should designate a country to be responsible for its operation.

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

D. B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

APPENDIX III

REPORTS BY NATIONAL DELEGATIONS TO THE ANTARCTIC CONFERENCE

In order to make the Antarctic Conference technically effective, the National Delegations are kindly requested to prepare reports on their Scientific program in the Antarctic during the International Geophysical Year to be submitted to the Conference.

Such reports should contain the following informations:

1. List of stations to be occupied with probable dates of occupation.
2. Description of total Scientific effort at each station in the various disciplines covered by the International Geophysical Year.
3. Description of facilities including Scientific equipment and technical personnel.
4. Timetable of scheduled operations at each station.

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Levéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
LES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

D. B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

List of bases to be established in the Antarctica
during the International Geophysical Year 1957-1958.

ARGENTINA (one or more bases)

1. One base at Palmer Peninsula
2. Second base (discussed in argentinan newspapers).

AUSTRALIA (two bases)

1. Main base - Mawson
2. Auxiliary base - 250 miles inland towards Southpole

CHILE

No information on bases to be occupied.

FRANCE (two or three bases)

1. Main base - Point Geologie
2. Satellite base - 250 miles inland towards Pole
3. Maintenance of existing base at Kerguelen Islands

GREAT BRITAIN (one or more bases)

1. Palmer Peninsula
2. Discussion reported in newspapers concerning possibility of second base at Vahsel Bay
3. Possibility of a subantarctic base at Gough Island

NEW ZEALAND (one base)

1. Near Ross Island

NORWAY (one base)

1. Discussion of the establishment of a base at Princess Astrid Land

SOUTH AFRICA (one base)

1. One base at Bouvet Island

UNITED STATES (three or four bases)

1. Main base - Kainan
2. Satellite base - Marie Byrd Land
3. Satellite base - Southpole
4. The U.S. is considering the possibility of establishing a fourth base either at Vahsel Bay, if this is not occupied by another nation, or possibly on the Knox Coast near the Shackleton Ice Shelf.

There will be additional bases in subantarctic regions of Tasmania, New Zealand, South America and islands contiguous thereto.

It is quite clear that very nearly all of the locations recommended by the CSAGI will be occupied between 1957-58 and that many of them will be occupied during 1956.

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

D. B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

6. Meteorological Network and Radio Transmissions.

The network of stations will involve some 25 or 30 permanent bases augmented during the summertime by as many as 15 or 20 field operations. In addition, a large number of whalers and whale chasers off the coast of Antarctica could provide meteorological information during the season. It should be possible, therefore, with cooperation among these bases and field operations, to establish an Antarctic meteorological network involving prompt radio transmission of all necessary meteorological data. Such a meteorological network would provide for at least daily formation of weather maps and forecasts that would be of inestimable value to the Antarctic operations of all of the nations concerned.

Moreover, such forecasts would make possible a great extension of the air activities in the Antarctic Continent, thus greatly enhancing the scientific results that could be obtained. To establish such a network immediate steps should be taken to insure that each nation is equipped with appropriate meteorological and radio equipment and that suitable radio frequency allocations are made to formalize the network.

7. Training of Scientific and Technical personnel.

The possibility of mutual assistance between the countries operating in the Antarctica during the International Geophysical Year, for the training of Scientific and Technical Personnel will be discussed during the conference.

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

D. B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

DRAFT AGENDA of the ANTARCTIC CONFERENCE, PARIS 20-24 JUNE 1955

1. Coordination of distribution of Bases.

The uncertainty as to which nation will occupy which of the as yet unassigned bases should be cleared up as quickly as possible. For example, if the British intend to occupy the Vahsel Bay base, the Americans would probably be quite content with this arrangement. In this event, the U.S. might consider the occupation of the fourth base on the Knox Coast near the Shackleton Ice Shelf. On the other hand, if the British do not expect to occupy the Vahsel Bay base, then the U.S. might prefer to occupy this base in preference to the Knox Coast, since this base would be better suited to the auxiliary support of a base in Marie Byrd Land.

2. Mutual logistic support.

It is entirely possible that one nation could support the field operations of another by bringing in caches of fuel or supplies to insure their availability for field operations.

3. Mutual support for overland operations.

A number of nations are planning overland traverses to enhance the scientific effort and particularly to provide information on the geomorphology of the ice and land structure of the continent. Such traverses can best be planned through mutual collaboration to insure the mutual support of bases of other nations and to provide for scientific information on all traverses that can mutually support common scientific objectives.

4. Aids to navigation (aerial and terrestrial).

The problem of navigation both by field parties on the ground and in the air is always serious in the Antarctic. With wide distribution of bases now planned, it may be possible to conceive the operation of an improved navigation system that would be available to the parties of all nations in support of their field operations.

5. Emergency Procedures.

The relatively dense operation of the Antarctic should make possible certain elements of mutual support in the event of an emergency. Plans for such emergency support should be made in advance.

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Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

D.B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

The meeting, as I said before, will be held in Paris, but at the moment the location has not yet been fixed.

I have established a draft Agenda, which is attached as appendix I, and which I submit to your agreement, asking you to send me your comments at your earliest possible convenience, as well as any other item you would like to have included in the Agenda.

I hope that your country will be represented at the conference, and I would appreciate to receive their names and addresses as soon as possible. I include herewith forms for hotel reservations, which they should fill out and send me by air mail.

Yours sincerely

G. Laclavere

G. R. LACLAVERE
Secretary General, International
Union of Geodesy and Geophysics.
Member of the Special Committee
for the International Geophysical
Year (ISAGI).

Encl.

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de
vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

D. B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS

30, avenue Rapp

PARIS 7^e

Paris, May 14th 1955

OBJECT: Antarctic Conference.

Dear Sir,

In my capacity as General Secretary of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics and at the request of the Special Committee for the International Geophysical Year (CSAGI) I have organised an Antarctic Conference to be held in Paris from ~~Monday June 20, 1955 to Tuesday June 28, 1955~~ Wednesday 6 July to Sunday 10 July 1955

It has been considered that, in view of the complexity of planning of the wide scale activity to be developed in the Antarctic during the International Geophysical Year it would be of an extreme importance to call a conference of the nine nations that will be involved in direct Antarctic exploration during the International Geophysical Year. These nations are Argentina, Australia, Chile, France, Great Britain, New Zealand, Norway, the Union of South Africa and the United States.

I much deplore to call the conference at such short notice. But for various reasons and in particular, owing to my absence from Paris, I was unable to do it before. On the other hand, many Antarctic operations will have been commenced by September 1st, and therefore the matter has now become most urgent.

I have the honour to invite your country to send a delegation to this meeting. I deeply regret that the available funds in the CSAGI or in the IUGG do not permit to cover the travelling expenses of the delegates.

However if difficulties are incurred to obtain from your government all the necessary funds, will you kindly advise me and I will see what I can do to help.

.../

tion de ces possibilités mais je ne manquerai pas de vous tenir au courant.

Monsieur Pierre Lavéry,
Sous Direction d'Afrique,
Direction Afrique Levant,
DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

D. B. Sole
Secrétaire d'Ambassade

34/16

36/6

This should go on 36/6 D.S.

51 Avenue Hoche, Paris (8e)
21 juin 1955.

Monsieur le Directeur,

Ainsi que vous le savez certainement l'Union de l'Afrique du Sud participe à certaines activités de l'Année Internationale de Géophysique et le Directeur des Services Météorologiques sud-africains fait partie du petit comité institué à propos de cette manifestation par l'Organisation Mondiale de la Météorologie.

J'ai été tout récemment avisé par mon collègue de Nouvelle Zélande à Paris qu'une réunion des représentants des pays qui participent à l'Année Internationale de Géophysique sera organisée à Paris du 6 au 10 juillet prochain. Bien que je n'ai reçu aucune instruction de mon Gouvernement à ce sujet j'aimerais, étant donné la participation de l'Afrique du Sud au programme de l'Année Internationale de Géophysique, obtenir des renseignements complémentaires sur la réunion projetée, entre autres, si elle intéresse l'Union de l'Afrique du Sud et si vous prévoyez la présence au cours de ses séances d'un représentant de mon pays.

Bref, je vous serai infiniment reconnaissant de toutes précisions que vous pourriez me donner en la matière et je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Directeur, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

D.B. SOLE

Secrétaire d'Ambassade.

Monsieur le Directeur
de l'Expédition Polaire
Française,
47 Rue du Maréchal Foyolle
PARIS (16e)

DBS/CS

p 30/6

- (6) Seismology: Measurements of short period vertical and medium or long period horizontal

Equipment: 2 seismographs and photographic paper to be installed

Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous

- (7) Possibly gravity observations

300 MILES SOUTH OF VAHSEL B Y
(Trans-antarctic Expedition Base)

Occupation dates: April-November 1957

Observations to be made: Surface meteorological observations

Personnel: Members of Expedition

Timetable of scheduled operations: Daily

- (1c) Meteorology: Ozone measurements of total ozone amount
Equipment: Dobson spectrophotometer
Timetable of scheduled operations: as frequent as possible
- (2) Geomagnetism: Measurements and continuous of D.H.Z. components
Equipment: Q.H.M. (E) Kew unifilar magnetometer (D)
B.M.Z. (Z) 2 La Cour magnetographs of different sensitivities
Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous record
- (3) Aurora: Auroral observations, visual and photographic and radio echo
Equipment: All sky camera. Special radio echo equipment and aerials
Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous
- (4a) Ionospheric measurements: Vertical incidence ionospheric characteristics
Equipment: Automatic recorder for v.i.c.
Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous
- (4b) Ionospheric measurements: absorption measurements
Equipment: Manual recorders
Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous
- (4c) Ionospheric measurements: atmospheric noise measurements
Equipment: Manual recorders
Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous
- (4d) Ionospheric measurements: ionospheric drift
Equipment: Manual recorders
Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous
- (5) Glaciology: Accumulation measurement, movement in relation to a surveyed network of stakes; past vicissitudes of annual and perhaps seasonal accumulation to be obtained by means of examination of the section within a pit, or boring apparatus and microscopic examination of cores.
Equipment: Standard minor equipment
Timetable of scheduled operations: as frequent as possible

26/6

(2) Meteorology Normal meteorological observations

Equipment: Standard equipment
Personnel: Same as above

7. MARGUERITE B.Y 68°15'S - 67°W

Occupation dates: Permanent station

Observations to be made:

- (1) Glaciological measurements of simple type on adjacent glaciers

Equipment: Minor standard equipment
Personnel: Permanent staff
Timetable of scheduled operations: As opportunity affords

- (2) Auroral observations: Visual

- (3) Meteorology: Normal meteorological observations

Equipment: Standard equipment

8. VAHSEL B.Y 77°S - 35°W

Occupation dates: January 1957 - January 1959

Personnel: 15 persons

Observations to be made:

- (1a) Meteorology: Aerological measurements by 2 RS (radio sonde (temperature, humidity) daily, including VMI days. Possibly upper wind measurement.

Equipment: Standard British radio sonde equipment (2 big balloons (BB) on all days.

Timetable of scheduled operations: Daily

- (1b) Meteorology: Radiation measurements of total and diffuse radiation on horizontal surface and flux of total radiation over land.

Equipment: Thermophile solarimeters with thread recorder flux radiometers with either photographic or pen recorder

Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous record

Equipment: 3 seismographs and photographic paper to be installed
Personnel: Part-time assistant
Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous for at least a year

(3) Auroral Observations: Visual

Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous record

(4) Geomagnetism: Measurement and continuous recording of D.H.Z. components

Equipment: Q.H.M. (H) Kew unifilar magnetometer (D)
B.M.Z. (Z)
2 La Cour magnetographs of different sensitivities

Personnel: Permanent staff

Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous record

Occupation dates: January 1957 - January 1959

Observations to be made:

(5) Oceanography: Measurement of tides and long waves. Possibly measurement of seasonal changes in sea temperature and salinity

Equipment: Tide gauge, long-wave recorder attached to rocks or staging.

Microbarograph, bathythermograph

Personnel: Part-time assistance

Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous recording records changes weekly

6. HOPE BAY 63°25'S - 57°W

Occupation dates: Permanent station

Observations to be made:

(1) Glaciological measurements of simple type on adjacent glaciers

Equipment: Minor standard equipment

Personnel: Permanent staff

Timetable of scheduled operations: as opportunity affords

- (2) Ionospheric measurements of vertical incidence ionospheric characteristics (possibly other ionospheric and atmospheric noise measurements may be made)

Equipment: automatic recorder available
Personnel: 1 officer
Timetable of scheduled Operations: Continuous

- (3) Meteorology: Limited observations

Personnel: Permanent staff
Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous

5. ARGENTINE ISLAND 65°15'S - 64°15'W

Occupation dates: Permanent Station

Observations to be made:

- (1a) Meteorology: serological measurements by one RS radio sonde (temperature, humidity) daily including 24 hours

Equipment: Standard British radio sonde equipment (1 big balloon (BB) on all days
Personnel: Permanent staff
Timetable of scheduled operations: Daily during IGY

- (1b) Meteorology: Radiation measurements of total and diffuse radiation on horizontal surface and flux of total radiation over land.

Equipment: Thermophile solarimeters with thread recorder flux radiometers with either photographic or pen recorder

Personnel: Same as above
Timetable of scheduled Operations: Continuous record

- (1c) Meteorology: Ozone measurements of total ozone amount

Equipment: Dobson spectrophotometer
Personnel: Same as above
Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous record

- (1d) Normal meteorological observations

- (2) Seismological measurements of short period vertical and medium or long period horizontal

Occupation dates: April 1957 to December 1958

Observations to be made:

- (3) Oceanography: Measurements of tides and long waves. Possibly measurements of seasonal changes in sea temperature and salinity in water.

Equipment: Recording apparatus fitted to Govt. jetty at Grytviken. Microbarograph and bathythermograph.
 Personnel: Local personnel part-time
 Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous recording.
 Records changed weekly

3. KING GEORGE ISLAND - (Admiralty Bay- 62°03'S - 58°24'W)

Occupation dates: Whole of IGY period

Observations to be made

- (1) Glaciological measurements: Position and movement of snouts of glaciers. Establishment of survey marks. Study of accumulation and ablation in relation to local conditions.

Equipment: Hut and meteorological and survey-observers available
 Additional survey equipment, snow-sampling gear and marking stakes.

Personnel: Permanent Staff plus 1 additional officer
 Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous

- (2) Meteorology: Normal meteorological Observations

Personnel: Permanent staff
 Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous

4. PORT LOCKROY 64°49'S - 63°30'W

Occupation dates: Permanent station

Observations to be made:

- (1) Auroral Observations. Visual (alternative in Marguerite Bay)

Personnel: Permanent staff
 Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous

(2b) Ionospheric measurements of absorption

Equipment: Manual recorders
Personnel: Same as (2a)
Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous

(2c) Ionospheric measurements of atmospheric noise

Equipment: Manual recorders
Personnel: same as (2a)
Timetable of scheduled operations: continuous

(3) Seismological measurements of short period vertical and medium or long period horizontal

Equipment: 3 seismographs and photographic paper to be installed
Personnel: Part-time assistant
Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous for at least one year

2. SOUTH GEORGIA - 54°16'S - 36°31'W

Occupation dates: Whole of IGY period

Observations to be made:

(1) Meteorology: Normal meteorological observations at Grytviken

Personnel: Permanent Staff
Timetable of scheduled operations: Daily during IGY

(2) Glaciological measurements: Position of snouts of accessible glaciers. Level of snow line. Precipitation as snow. Banding in relation to accumulation. Local meteorological observations. Study of ablation. Physical properties of local glaciers.

Equipment: Hut to be provided instruments to include survey equipment, theodolites, base-measuring apparatus, stakes, photographic apparatus, microscopes, minor equipment.

Personnel: 3 officers
Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous

June 27, 1955

OBJECT: Antarctic Conference

Report by the U.K. National Delegation

to the Antarctic Conference for the

International Geophysical Year

Paris 6-10 July 1955

1. PORT STANLEY - 51°42'S - 57°52'W.

Occupation dates: Permanent Station

Observations to be made:

(1a) Meteorology: Aerological Measurements by one radio sonde (temperature, humidity) and one radar wind (wind direction and speed) daily including III days.

Equipment: Standard British RS and R equipment using BB (bigger balloon) for greater heights on all days

Personnel: Permanent staff

Timetable of scheduled operations: Daily during IGY

(1b) Meteorology: Radiation measurements of total and diffuse radiation on horizontal surface and flux of total radiation.

Equipment: Thermopile scalarimeter with thread recorder, flux radiometers with either photographic or pen recorder.

Personnel: Permanent Staff

Timetable of scheduled operations: Daily during IGY.

(1c) Meteorology: Normal Meteorological Observations

Personnel: Permanent Staff

Timetable of scheduled operations: Daily during IGY

(2a) Ionospheric measurements of vertical incidence ionospheric characteristics.

Equipment: Automatic recorder for v.i.c.

Personnel: 3 officers to be appointed

Timetable of scheduled operations: Continuous

6. METEOROLOGICAL NETWORK AND RADIO TRANSMISSIONS
and 8. WEATHER CENTRAL IN ANTAROTICA

These matters are closely related and could well be considered together. The Union Weather Bureau is one of the two collecting centres for Weather reports sent by radio from whaling ships in the Antarctic and has for a number of years compiled and broadcast Antarctic inferences for use of the whaling fleets. This service would be maintained at least during the summer (December to April) months of the Geophysical Year and could be extended to include analyses and to meet additional requirements of land operations in areas where data are available.

Experience in the collection and exchange of meteorological data in the Southern Hemisphere has proved that in any arrangement using one collecting and broadcasting centre interception at all places requiring the data is most unlikely to be regular and reliable. It is therefore suggested that two such centres should be established each acting as a collecting centre for half the hemisphere and exchanging reports with the other. Depending on requirements of expeditions or other uses each centre should then broadcast data for the whole hemisphere or for the part for which it is the responsible collecting centre.

In informal discussions with U.S. authorities it was suggested that Cape Town and Little America might act as these two collecting centres. Radio engineers here consider that reliable communication between these places could be carried out on 13-14 mcs between 0400-0800 and 1800-2200 GMT using a transmitter with an output of about 15 kilowatt. Although formal approval would have to be obtained it is probable that equipment meeting these requirements could be made available in Cape Town.

Reports from Tristan da Cunha, Marion Island, Mawson, Kerguelen and Amsterdam Island are received daily by radio in Cape Town and I would like to suggest that provision be made for direct communication with Cape Town from all expeditions with bases in the sector 90°W to 90°E through the Greenwich Meridian.

3

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS

30, avenue Rapp

PARIS 7^e

Letter received from Dr. T. SCHUMANN
Director, Weather Bureau
PRETORIA
Union of South Africa.

Im 03.27

25 - 6 - 1955

Dr. G. Laclavère,
General Secr. I.U.G.G.,
30, avenue Rapp,
Paris (7^e)

Dear Sir,

I wish to refer to a letter 14/1/6 of June 15th to you from Dr. S.M. Naudé regarding the agenda for your Paris meeting. In connection with items 6 and 8, I am herewith enclosing a brief memorandum, which might serve as a basis of discussion.

Unfortunately, I am obliged to state that the South African Government has not as yet decided upon the establishment of a station on Bouvet Island. A second reconnaissance party will probably leave Cape Town on August 25th, and it is likely that a final decision will be taken only after the return of this party in September. At this stage I can only express the hope that it will indeed prove possible to have a station there although the difficulties are recognized to be considerable.

May I express the wish that your conference in Paris will be very successful and that useful results will be attained.

Yours very sincerely

T. SCHUMANN

DIRECTOR

(Please turn over)

George J. C.

36/L

WINTER BASE SET FOR ANTARCTICA

Inland Station Is Scheduled for '57 to Support British Trek Across Pole

By WALTER SULLIVAN

Special to The New York Times

PARIS, July 10—Britain is to establish a winter station on the inland Antarctic ice sheet in 1957. This brings to at least six the number of such stations projected for the next three years.

No man has ever wintered on the South Polar plateau, although Admiral Richard E. Byrd in 1934 kept a lonely winter vigil on the floating ice sheet south of Little America. Weakened by carbon monoxide poisoning, he finally had to be removed.

The plans for the British station became known during the conference of nations sending expeditions to the Antarctic. The station is to support a transcontinental tractor journey by Britons.

Conference Is Concluded

The Antarctic conference, before dissolving today, adopted a series of resolutions on the program of the coming years. It designated the United States to create a weather center to collect and process all weather data and also to convene a working group to prepare a communications plan.

It recommended that the Soviet Union set its inland base at the geomagnetic pole and that France put a station at the magnetic pole. The latter is the point where the magnetic force is vertical whereas the geomagnetic pole is where the theoretical axis of the earth's magnetic field pierces the earth's crust.

It is hoped that the British winter station can be placed 300 miles south of Vahsel Bay, the starting point of the transcontinental trek. It will give the British advance warning as to what mountain ranges and mazes of glacial crevasses must be crossed to reach the Pole.

Almost the entire 800 miles the British must traverse to the Pole is across unknown territory, but it is suspected that the Queen Maud Mountains, as lofty as the Alps, extend across this route.



The New York Times July 11, 1955

BASES IN ICY WASTES: Britain hopes to set up a camp about 300 miles south of Vahsel Bay (1). New Zealand plans one 300 miles south of McMurdo Sound (2).

6. METEOROLOGICAL NETWORK AND RADIO TRANSMISSIONS
- and
8. WEATHER CENTRAL IN ANTARCTICA

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/COPY

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS

30, avenue Rapp,

PARIS. 7^e

Letter received from Dr. T. SCHUMANN
Director, Weather Bureau
PRETORIA.
Union of South Africa.

Dr. G. Laclavère,
General Secr. I.U.G.G.,
30, avenue Rapp,
PARIS. (7^e)

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May I express the wish that your conference in Paris will be very successful and that useful results will be attained.

Yours very sincerely,

T. SCHUMANN

DIRECTOR.

/COPY.

SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

P.O. BOX 392

PRETORIA

15th June, 1955.

Letter received from Dr. T. Schumann
Director, Weather Bureau
Pretoria -
Union of South Africa.

Dr. G. Laclavère
General Secretary I.U.G.G.,
30, Avenue Rapp
PARIS. 7^e.

Dr. G. Laclavère,
General Secy. I.U.G.G.,
Dear Sir, Rapp,
PARIS. (7^e)

We duly received your communication of May 14th concerning the Antarctic Conference to be held in Paris on June 15th. My reply was delayed as Dr. Schumann, the Chairman of our national committee of A.G.I. was absent at the time.

I wish to refer to a letter D/I/A of June 1955. Your subsequent letter indicating a later date and a further item for the agenda was also received, as well as your letter of June 9th, informing us that the date will now probably be July 6th.

The matter has now been discussed with Dr. Schumann. He advises that it will be quite impossible for him or another suitable representative to attend the meeting. He is of opinion that no useful purpose will be served if your Conference were attended by a member of our Scientific Liaison Office in London or some S.A. scientist now in Europe as the majority of the items are matters that have to be considered by senior government officials or by an expert meteorologist (items 6 & 8).

Dr. Schumann will endeavour to give further consideration to the agenda and to let you know by letter if he can at this stage express any views which might assist the meeting.

Yours very sincerely,

Yours faithfully,

S.M. Maudé.
PRESIDENT: COUNCIL FOR
SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.

The main base is to be on the Knox Coast of the Australian sector at roughly Long. 104 degrees E. The expedition is to be carried aboard a specially fitted ship, the Ob. of 12,500 tons and 8,300 horsepower. Presumably it will require icebreaker escort. This is a type of navigation in which the Russians have had much experience.

The touchy problem of allocating base sites was resolved amicably this morning, thanks largely to the diplomacy of the conference chairman, Georges Laclavere.

Originally five nations expressed an interest in placing stations on the Knox Coast, but it appears now that the United States and the Soviet Union will be the only ones in that immediate area. The United States base will probably be at Long. 110 degrees E.

The multiple bases planned for the Antarctic are mostly linked to the International Geophysical Year. In the program, to run from 1957 to 1958, observers all over the world will take simultaneous observations of weather and other phenomena to try to learn more of the basic laws governing them.

The following bases were agreed to by the conferees this morning:

The United States, six stations: Knox coast, Long 110; McMurdo Sound; Kainan Bay (Little America); Marie Byrd Land; Vahsel Bay, South Pole.

Soviet Union, three stations: Knox coast, Long 104 degrees E., midway from there to the South Pole on Long. 105 E., in the vicinity of the pole.

Britain and Argentina, Vahsel Bay; New Zealand, McMurdo Sound; Norway, on coast at Long. zero (probably in Byrd Bay); Australia, at Mawson on Mac-Robertson coast, plus one station inland from that point; France, at Pointe Geologie in Adelle Land, plus one satellite station inland from there; Belgium, near Haswell Island at Long. 95 E.

Japan, at the request of the conference, will occupy Peter I Island. There are also a number of permanent Argentine, British and Chilean bases on the Palmer Peninsula.

Lawrence Gould, head of the United States delegation, said the United States planned to have twenty men at the Knox Coast station. If the bases are placed as announced today the Soviet and American outposts will be more than 100 miles apart, but site selection must ultimately depend on local conditions.

Although South Africa decided not to be represented at the Conference, in view of South Africa's interest in the Antarctic the Embassy was in touch with the Conference organisers prior to the meeting, and has arranged for copies of the proceedings to be made available in due course.

DBS/SW

D. E. SOLE
AMBASSADOR.

I append below a brief press report on the outcome of the Conference and would invite attention to the significance of the Conference's recommendation that the U.S.S.R. should establish a base on the Knox Coast of Antarctica:

Amicable Agreement is made at parley in Paris on the allocation of sites to nations forming Expeditions.

PARIS, July 8. The Soviet Union revealed plans today for a major expedition to cross about 1,600 miles of unknown terrain in the heart of Antarctic and establish three bases.

Prof. Vladimir Belousov, Soviet delegate to the conference here of nations sending expeditions to the Antarctic told the group this morning that one Soviet station would be near the South Pole. The United States has already completed plans for such a station.

Likewise a British trail party is scheduled to pass through the pole during the Antarctic operations of the next few years. A German expedition has spoken of establishing a base there, and it is thought that Argentina may make a dash to the pole from her new base at Vahsel Bay.

Thus the South Pole, which has been trod by only ten men --all within one month-- may become comparatively crowded. The only men to reach the pole on the surface were the parties of Scott and Amundsen who raced for that spot in the southern summer of 1911-12.

Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, who is to lead the new United States expedition, has twice flown over the pole. Other delegates to the conference suggested that to avoid duplication of effort the Russians place a station near the "pole of inaccessibility" rather than at the geographical pole. The latter is the southernmost point on earth. The former is the more difficult to reach for it lies in the center of a region roughly the size of Europe that is completely unexplored. It is believed to be at least 10,000 feet high.

Professor Belousov said "we do not insist on the geographical pole", but added that the Soviet station should be in that general area. He said the views of the conference would be passed on to the Soviet Academy of Sciences, which is preparing the expedition.

The Soviet delegate outlined the program of the expedition. It is to employ transport planes, helicopters and tractor trains for the placing of its bases. About eighty persons will be stationed ashore, including thirty at the polar station and fifteen at an intermediate station between there and the coast.

THE.....

International Geophysical Year, for the training of Scientific and Technical Personnel will be discussed during the conference.

8. Weather Central in Antarctica.

The United States National Committee for the International Geophysical Year has proposed that a concept of a Weather Central in Antarctica during the International Geophysical Year be discussed during the Antarctic Conference.

Such a Weather Central could, for example, undertake the following:

1. Collect and relay meteorological messages from other Antarctic Stations, field parties, aircraft and ships operating in or close to Antarctica.
2. Keep in touch with all field parties which would be required to submit meteorological messages on a definite schedule. Such close contact with field parties would serve as a necessary safety measure as well as coordinating scientific work in the field.
3. Receive weather information from Southern Hemisphere countries both in the form of weather data and coded weather charts.
4. Transmit Antarctic weather reports on regularly scheduled broadcasts for use of all countries.
5. Prepare, from all available weather reports and map analyses, a once-daily surface-weather chart of the Southern Hemisphere and twice-daily weather charts of Antarctica and adjacent waters, including those for upper levels.

If an Antarctic Weather Central is approved, the Conference should designate a country to be responsible for its operation.

An invitation to attend the Conference was addressed to South Africa in the form of a letter from the Secretariat of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics dated May 14th, 1955 to Dr. S.M. Naudé, President of the C.S.I.R. Similar invitations were addressed to Argentina, Australia, Chili, France, Great-Britain, New Zealand, Norway, the United States. The U.S.S.R., Japan and Germany also showed interest in the proposed Conference and requested invitations.

South Africa decided not to be represented at the Conference, vide letters from Dr. Naudé and Dr. Schumann attached.

/I append.....

3. Mutual support for overland operations.

A number of nations are planning overland traverses to enhance the scientific effort and particularly to provide information on the geomorphology of the ice and land structure of the continent. Such traverses can best be planned through mutual collaboration to insure the mutual support of bases of other nations and to provide for scientific information on all traverses that can mutually support common scientific objectives.

4. Aids to navigation (aerial and terrestrial).

The problem of navigation both by field parties on the ground and in the air is always serious in the Antarctic. With wide distribution of bases now planned, it may be possible to conceive the operation of an improved navigation system that would be available to the parties of all nations in support of their field operations.

5. Emergency Procedures.

The relatively dense operation of the Antarctic should make possible certain elements of mutual support in the event of an emergency. Plans for such emergency support should be made in advance.

6. Meteorological Network and Radio Transmissions.

The network of stations will involve some 25 or 30 permanent bases augmented during the summertime by as many as 15 or 20 field operations. In addition, a large number of whalers and whale chasers off the coast of Antarctica could provide meteorological information during the season. It should be possible, therefore, with cooperation among these bases and field operations, to establish an Antarctic meteorological network involving prompt radio transmission of all necessary meteorological data. Such a meteorological network would provide for at least daily formation of weather maps and forecasts that would be of inestimable value to the Antarctic operations of all of the nations concerned.

Moreover, such forecasts would make possible a great extension of the air activities in the Antarctic Continent, thus greatly enhancing the scientific results that could be obtained. To establish such a network immediate steps should be taken to insure that each nation is equipped with appropriate meteorological and radio equipment and that suitable radio frequency allocations are made to formalize the network.

7. Training of Scientific and Technical personnel.

The possibility of mutual assistance between the countries operating in the Antarctica during the

/International....

BOUVET SAL WEER BESOEK WORD

Poging om in die Winter Daar te Land

(Eie Berig)

PRETORIA

SUID-AFRIKA se aandeel aan 'n wêreldpoging van 'n groep lande om gelyktydig natuurverskynsel te soek, sal op 'n konferensie bespreek word wat vir Augustus deur die Wetenskaplike en Industriële Navoringsraad in Pretoria belê is. Dit staan in verband met die sogenaamde geofisiese jaar waartydens 'n groep lande sal saamwerk om natuurtoestande na te spoor.

Suid-Afrika se aandeel sal waarskynlik hoofsaaklik op weerkundige gebied lê. As eerste bydrae het die Unie teen die end van verlede jaar 'n oorlogskip na die eiland Bouvet gestuur om na te gaan of daar 'n geskikte landingsplek op die eiland is om 'n weerkundige waarnemingspos op te rig. Daar is bevind dat wel gesê kan word. Die ekspedisie het in die somertyd plaasgevind.

Die plan is dat op 25 Augustus nog 'n Suid-Afrikaanse oorlogskip op 'n verkenningstrek na die eiland moet vertrek om vas te stel of dit ook in die winter moontlik is om daar 'n ekspedisie aan wal te sit en om

na te gaan watter geboue daar vir 'n nedersetting nodig sal wees.

Dit lê nie in die vooruitgang op Bouvet, wat 'n Noorse eiland suidwes van Kaapstad is, 'n bygewende nedersetting vir weerkundige waarnemings te stig nie, maar om daar 'n ekspedisie te betrek wat tydens die geofisiese jaar waarnemings kan maak.

Eiland Marion

Die konferensie van 17 Augustus in Pretoria sal hierdie saak moet bespreek, benewens ander moontlike gebiede waarop die Unie met natuurwaarnemings deur 'n reeks van internasionale navorsers saamwerk, o.m. op die gebied van weerkunde, aardbewings, sonstraling en storings in radio-uitvang.

Dit is ook die voorneme om binnekort na 'n ander ekspedisie van die weerdienst op die eiland Marion, suidoois van die Unie, 'n oorlogskip te stuur.

Op die eiland het die Unie 'n klein personeel vir weerkundige waarnemings wat eenmaal per jaar met die besoek van 'n oorlogskip afgevoer word, saam met tegelyk voorrade vir die onderhoud van die personeel aan wal gesit word. Die buitengewone belang van binnekort onderneem word is met die doel dat beter voorrade vir die ekspedisie gereed word as die huidige waarin die ekspedisie in die koue winter van 1954-55 was.

**Les terres australes
et antarctiques françaises
sont érigées
en territoires autonomes**

L'Assemblée nationale vient de voter en dernière lecture la loi érigeant les terres australes et antarctiques françaises en territoires autonomes. Ce texte est une prise de position formelle de notre pays, qui entend ainsi consacrer ses droits sur les îles australes et la terre Adélie, au sein d'une région du globe naguère à peu près inaccessible, que les progrès des techniques modernes ont ouverte à l'activité humaine.

La France a matérialisé sa possession par l'établissement de bases administratives permanentes dans les îles australes et des expéditions scientifiques importantes sur le continent. Les îles de Saint-Paul et de la Nouvelle-Amsterdam des archipels des Crozet et de Kerguelen, la terre Adélie constituent un ensemble dont la surface dépasse deux fois celle de la France, dont l'intérêt stratégique est considérable, dont les ressources économiques ne sont pas négligeables et qui contient peut-être dans son sous-sol, à peu près inconnu, des richesses insoupçonnées.

Dès l'entrée en application de la nouvelle législation, des études seront entreprises pour la mise en place d'un équipement économique convenable, et des mesures seront prises pour la parfaite coordination de toutes les activités de recherches à effectuer dans les diverses parties du territoire. Cette loi, dont le ministre de la France d'outre-mer vient d'obtenir le vote, fera date dans l'histoire de l'Union française en consacrant la naissance d'un nouveau territoire.

LE FIGARO - 6/7 AOUT 1955 - 36/6

Les terres australes
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The text of the law such as
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6.8.55

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Home Rule in Antarctic Regions Wins French Assembly Approval

Adelie Coast's and Isles' Scientists and Penguins Subjects of Reform

By THOMAS F. BRADY

Special to The New York Times.

PARIS, Aug. 5—What is called "autonomous status" is being conferred by France on unnumbered penguins, 1,500 head of cattle and ninety Frenchmen who inhabit a territory as big as the mother country.

Unlike the natives of other French possessions, the inhabitants of this territory, known as the Southern and Antarctic French Lands, have not been agitating for home-rule reform.

The establishment of the new Autonomous Territory is an administrative move, according to the Ministry of Overseas France. The National Assembly approved it unanimously today.

What it means is that Adelie Coast in Antarctica, and the Crozet, Kerguelen, Saint Paul and Amsterdam Islands in the Southern Indian Ocean will cease to be dependencies of the big French island of Madagascar. From now on, the Southern and Antarctic Lands Administration will have its own budget and will be represented in Paris by a Consultative Council attached to the Overseas Ministry.

The Adelie Coast, discovered in 1840 by the French explorer Dumont d'Urville, is a sector of Antarctica between 136 degrees 20 minutes and 142 degrees 20 minutes East Longitude. France maintains there a meteorological station where some of the ninety Frenchmen work.

The 1,500 cows live about 2,000 miles to the northwest on Amsterdam Island. They are descended, according to legend at the Ministry of Overseas France, from a bull and a heifer left on the sixteen-square-mile island about half a century ago.

Amsterdam Island, at 37:50S, 77:34E, was discovered in 1552



The New York Times Aug. 6, 1955
France is giving the areas underlined on map a status separate from Madagascar.

and named in 1663 by the Dutch explorer Van Dieman. France claimed it in 1843. It has a meteorological station. Frenchmen.

The neighboring three-square-mile Saint Paul Island abounds with lobsters, but not with Frenchmen.

The Crozets, 1,500 miles off the southeast coast of Africa at about 46 S, 51 E, are a dozen isles so forbidding and dangerous to ships that only the most daring seal hunters go there.

The Kerguelens are about 300 islands and islets with an area of 2,700 square miles at about 49 S, 70 E. The largest is called Desolation Island. Frenchmen have tried to raise sheep there, but they gave up in 1932.

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JF/
UNION GÉODÉSIQUE ET GÉOPHYSIQUE INTERNATIONALE
(INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS)

PRÉSIDENT : PROF. S. CHAPMAN (Grande-Bretagne)
VICE-PRÉSIDENTS : PROF. J. BJERKNES (États-Unis) et PROF. G. CASSINIS (Italie)
SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL : GEORGES LACLAVÈRE, 30, AVENUE RAPP, PARIS (VII^e)

36/6 (?)

Paris, le 18 Août 1955

S. Ex.
Monsieur l'Ambassadeur de l'Union
de l'Afrique du Sud,
51, avenue Hoche,
Paris.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

J'ai l'honneur de vous adresser ci-joint le compte-
rendu de la Conférence de l'Antarctique qui s'est tenue à Paris du
6 au 10 Juillet .

Des exemplaires de ce compte-rendu ont été adressés vers
le début d'Août à M. le Président, Council for Scientific and Industrial
Research, P.O.Box 395, Pretoria.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, l'expression
de ma haute considération.

G. Laclavère
G. LACLAVÈRE
Secrétaire Général

P. J.



AIR BAG

original on file 311

UNION INTERNATIONALE ET GÉOPHYSIQUE INTERNATIONALE
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODISY AND GEOPHYSICS

Copy on 36/6 —

PRÉSIDENT - PROF. J. CHAPMAN (Southampton)
VICE-PRÉSIDENTS - PROF. J. HEDGECOCK (Southampton) et PROF. G. CASATI (Paris)
SECRETARIAT GÉNÉRAL - GEORGES LAFLAVIAL, 26 AVENUE SAINT PARS (Paris)

Paris, le 19th August, 1955

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
Monsieur l'Ambassadeur P R E T O R I A
de l'Afrique du Sud,
51, Avenue Louise,
Pretoria (in duplicate)

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur Conference on Antarctica - Paris, July 6th to July 10th, 1955

With reference to my despatch of 15th July,
I send you herewith, as promised, a copy of the
proceedings and recommendations of the above Conference.
Copies have been sent direct by the Secretary General
of the Conference to the President of the C.S.I.R.,
Pretoria, who will no doubt make them available also
to Dr Schumann.

Please note the references to the Union
in paragraph II, paragraphe 27 and paragraph (f) of
Appendix II.

I recall a report in the South African
press recently that a meeting was to be held in
Pretoria this month to concert arrangements for
South Africa's participation in the International
Geophysical Year. I should be grateful if you would
ensure that this Embassy is informed of any decisions
of note which may be taken by this meeting.

D.B. SOLE

Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

F

3) to consolidate, in the international sense, French claims to Adélie land.

The text (in French) of the new legislation is attached for record.

21 Avenue de la République, Paris (20e)
19th August, 1957

D.B. SOLE

Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

French Territories in Antarctica and the Antarctic Ocean

In continuation of previous messages on French interests in Antarctica, this is to report that last week French legislation was promulgated concerning administrative and financial matters on the French possessions in Antarctica and the Antarctic Ocean.

These possessions consist of the Islands of Saint Paul, Assorted Islands, the Crozet Archipelago, the Tergueland Archipelago and Adélie land. Formerly they were administered as dependencies of the Administration of Madagascar and were under the control of the Commissioner in Madagascar.

DBS/GS

The legislation provides for the appointment of an "Administrator in Chief" to administer the territory who will be assisted by an Advisory Council which will meet at least twice a year. This Council will include representatives of the Ministry of Overseas of the Department of Scientific Research, of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and of the Ministry of the Merchant Shipping. The 100 persons mentioned in the Ministry of France's document who were listed in the scientific missions which have visited the French Antarctic possessions. The Council will advise the Administrator on budgetary questions, development questions and scientific questions.

The purpose of the new legislation, which has been in gestation since 1955, is:

- 1) to highlight the importance attached by France to her Antarctic possessions;
- 2) to facilitate the making of special credits to develop these possessions (for some time there has been criticism in the French Parliament that the Government was showing insufficient initiative in this regard, particularly as regards the possibilities of exploitation);

AIR MAIL BAG

36/6

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Paris 3/9
for Adm. of
the New States
to enquire again about
the proceedings to be
conducted in Paris in July
1952 (21.6.55)

51 Avenue Hoche, Paris (8e)
19th August, 1955

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
PRETORIA
(in triplicate)

French Territories in Antarctica and the
Southern Ocean

In continuation of previous despatches on French interest in Antarctica this is to report that last week French legislation was promulgated conferring administrative and financial autonomy on the French possessions in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

These possessions consist of the Island of Saint Paul, Amsterdam Island, the Crozet Archipelago, the Kerguelen Archipelago and Adelle land. Formerly they were administered as dependencies of the Administration of Madagascar and came under the control of the High Commissioner in Tananarive.

The legislation provides for the appointment of an "Administrateur en Chef" to administer the territory who will be assisted by an Advisory Council which will meet at least twice a year. This Council will include representatives of the Department of Defence, of the Departments of Scientific Research, of the Department of Civil Aviation and of the Department of the Merchant Shipping plus two persons nominated by the Ministry of France d'Outremer who must have participated in the scientific missions which have visited the French Antarctic possessions. The Council will advise particularly on budgetary questions, development problems, and scientific missions.

The purpose of the new legislation, which has been in gestation since 1952, is :

- 1) to highlight the importance attached by France to her Antarctic possessions ;
- 2) to facilitate the voting of special credits to develop these possessions (For some time there has been criticism in the French Parliament that the Government has shown insufficient initiative in this respect, particularly as regards the possibilities of Kerguelen) ;