

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR

ANTARCTIC RESEARCH.

(a) The investigation of scientific projects suggested

The South African National Committee for Antarctic Research (S.A.N.C.A.R.) is the body which has been established in South Africa to advise the Government on Antarctic policy. It is at present constituted as follows:-

follows:-

Chairman : Mr. M.P. van Rooy (Director of the Weather Bureau)

Members : Mr. H.S. v.d. Walt (Under-Secretary, Department of Transport)

Mr. J.G. Stewart (Under-Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs)

Mr. A.J.J. Kotzé (Under-Secretary, Department of Defence)

Dr. S.M. Naude (President, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research)

(d) The maintenance of a firm
Dr. W.S. Rapson (Vice President, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research)

Prof. P.H. Stoker (University of Potchefstroom)

Prof. S.P. Jackson (University of the Witwatersrand)

Dr. T.E.W. Schumann (Deputy-Chairman, Atomic Energy Board)

Chairman : Dr. W.S. Rapson
Mr. S.A. Engelbrecht (Weather Bureau)

Secretary : Mr. J.J. Smit (Weather Bureau)

S.A.N.C.A.R. is assisted in its activities by a Scientific Advisory Committee whose functions are as follows:-

Dr. F.C. Esterhuysen (Zoology, Botany and related zoological sciences)
Prof. A.S. Walke (Zoology, Botany and related zoological sciences)
Prof. H.G.A. Steyn (Zoology)
Dr. J.W. Huchler (Zoology)

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- (a) The investigation of scientific projects suggested by interested authorities for inclusion in the national research programme, with due regard to the programmes recommended by the Special Committee on Antarctic Research (S.C.A.R.)
- (b) The planning and co-ordination of the full national programme for submission thereof to S.A.N.C.A.R.
- (c) Periodic reporting, inter alia to S.C.A.R. and to member states, on South Africa's Antarctic activities in so far as the scientific programmes are concerned and the publication of observation data and research results.
- (d) The maintenance of a firm link between S.A.N.C.A.R. and the interested scientists and scientific institutions in South Africa.

The Scientific Advisory Committee of S.A.N.C.A.R.

is at present constituted as follows:-

- Chairman : Dr. W.S. Rapson (Vice President, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research)
- Members : Dr. J.J. Taljaard (Meteorology)
- Mr. A.M. van Wyk (Geomagnetism and Aurora Australis)
- Dr. B.J. Meyer (Medical Research)
- Dr. P.C. Truter }
Prof. A.L. Hales } Geology, Glaciology and
Prof. E.S.W. Simpson } related geophysical
disciplines
- Dr. J.H. Moolman (Geography)

Director, Trigonometrical Survey - Ex-Officio (Cartography)
Prof. J.H. Day (Biology and Oceanography)
Prof. S.P. Jackson (Geography and Climatology)
Secretary: Mr. C.G. Hide (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research).

In addition to the above the following members have been co-opted:

Mr. H.S. v.d. Walt	(Under-Secretary, Department of Transport)
Dr. F.J. Hewitt	Ionospheric studies
Prof. P.H. Stoker	Cosmic Rays (Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs)
Dr. R.A. Dyer	Biology (Botany)
Mr. S.A. Engelbrecht	S.A.N.O.A.R. (Logistics).

The Government Department principally concerned with Antarctic matters is the Department of Transport which makes budgetary provision for South African activities in Antarctica. This Department falls under the Honourable B.J. Schoeman, Minister of Transport, whose departmental head is the Secretary for Transport, Mr. D.J. Joubert. The international political aspects of Antarctic policy are the concern of the Department of Foreign Affairs headed by the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. G.P. Jooste, who is responsible to the Honourable Eric H. Louw, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

A Scientific Advisory Committee whose functions are as follows:

FROM: ANNUAL REPORT OF NEW ZEALAND, 1961
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

1961

New Zealand has always played an active role in Commission activities, and it has drawn considerable assistance from the services the Commission has made available to New Zealand territories in the area. It has always regarded the Commission as playing a restricted but valuable part in the economic and social development of the South Pacific region, particularly in facilitating cooperation and coordination among the governments responsible for the administration of Pacific territories. It welcomes the indications that the Commission is becoming increasingly concerned to develop contacts between the islands administrations themselves and to foster a growth of regional awareness in the South Pacific.

X
Antarctica

During the past year New Zealand's Antarctic programme in the Ross Dependency was continued at the same level as in 1959-60. At Scott Base and at the joint United States - New Zealand Hallett Station research was undertaken in many branches of science. Thirteen men spent the 1960 winter at Scott Base, while over 60 men took part in the summer programme. Three scientific officers were assigned to Hallett Station.

New Zealand and the United States have consistently maintained the closest relationship over the whole field of Antarctic operations. As in previous years, the range of scientific activities successfully carried through by New Zealand parties would have been impossible without logistic support provided by the United States authorities. In turn the New Zealand Government has as far as possible provided facilities in New Zealand for United States Antarctic expeditions. The Agreement of 24 December 1958 between the two countries covering the provision of facilities was renewed by an Exchange of Notes on 18 October 1960. The Agreement is to be regarded as remaining in force for the full period during which United States personnel, ships, and aircraft continue to be based in New Zealand in connection with United States Antarctic operations. It is subject to termination by either Government at 90 days' notice.

The Department of External Affairs has continued to take a close interest in all aspects of New Zealand activities in Antarctica. It is represented on the Ross Dependency Research Committee, which is responsible for drawing up the annual Antarctic programme, and on the Ross Sea Committee which, set up to administer the New Zealand contribution to the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, will shortly cease to exist. The assets of the expedition are to be pooled in a central fund to be used for the promotion of research and exploration in Antarctica. One-third of the fund will be available for New Zealand projects. The fund will be administered by a Committee of Management in London, on which New Zealand will be represented. An advisory committee has been set up in New Zealand to receive applications for assistance from the fund.

The spirit of scientific cooperation in Antarctica initiated during the International Geophysical Year has found political expression in the Antarctic Treaty which was signed at Washington on 1 December 1959 by 12 countries, including New Zealand. The Antarctica Act 1960, which gives effect to the jurisdictional provisions of Article XIII of the Treaty, was passed by the New Zealand Parliament in October and New Zealand's instrument of ratification was deposited on 1 November 1960.

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WELLINGTON
NEW ZEALAND

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Mr Steenberg:
copies of this correspondence
should go to Mr King (Lieut.
Attache) who is S.A's rep on
the Trans-Antarctic Exped. here.
G. 1.6.
4/viii

During the year the Treaty was ratified by eight other countries, the United States, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, France, Belgium, Norway, South Africa, and Japan. It will enter into force after it has been ratified by all 12 signatories. In the meantime representatives of the Treaty powers have been meeting in Washington in accordance with the Final Act of the Treaty to consider various interim arrangements regarding the matters dealt with in the Treaty, and to prepare the ground for the first consultative meeting of the Contracting Parties in Canberra, which under Article IX of the Treaty must be held within two months of its entry into force.

New Zealand also cooperates with other countries engaged in scientific research in Antarctica through its membership of the Special Committee for Antarctic Research (SCAR) and was represented at the Committee's fourth meeting at Cambridge, England, in August 1960. Through SCAR New Zealand scientists have made a significant contribution to international cooperation in Antarctic research. The Antarctic Treaty powers have placed on record their intention to encourage SCAR to continue its work.

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Mr Stanley
Copies of this correspondence
should go to Mr King (Lieut.
Attache) who is S.A.'s rep on
the Trans-Antarctic Exped. Sec.
G.16
9/viii

The South African Embassy presents its compliments to the Embassy of Chile and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the latter's Note No. 503 of the 1st August, 1961, requesting certain particulars of the organisation of Antarctic research in South Africa.

The information is unfortunately not available at this Embassy and the enquiry has been referred to South Africa. The South African Embassy will be honoured to convey the reply to the Chilean Embassy when it is received.

The South African Embassy takes this opportunity of renewing to the Chilean Embassy the assurance of its highest consideration.

London,
8th August, 1961.

By 31 Aug '61
Mr Steenkamp MGE
Noted
A.C. 9/8

By 30 September
AS 3/8



TIS/MJE

Mr Steenkamp:
Copies of this correspondence should go to Mr King (Sec. Attaché) who is S.A.'s rep on the Trans-Antarctic Exped. here.
C.16.
4/viii

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P.S.16/1

8th August, 1961.

I mentioned to you last week that we had received an enquiry from the Chileans about the organisation of Antarctic research in South Africa.

I attach a copy of our minute to Pretoria, embodying the Chileans' request: you may wish to have this on file.

(T.I. Steenkamp)

J. A. King, Esq.,
South African Scientific Liaison Office,
Chichester House,
278 High Holborn, W.C.1.

TIS/MJE

Mr Steenkamp:
copies of this correspondence
should go to Mr King (Sci.
Attaché) who is S.A.'s rep on
the Trans-Antarctic Exped. here.
G.I.G.
4/viii

South African Embassy

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Airmail.

3rd August, 1961.

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

South African National Committee for Antarctic Research: Chilean request for information on organisation of Antarctic Research in S.A.

The following particulars have been requested by the Chilean Ambassador for transmission to his Government:

- "1) The name of the Director of the Antarctic Institute of the Union of South Africa.
- 2) The names of members of the National Antarctic Commission, or of whatever organization undertakes these functions.
- 3) The name of the Head of Director of the Antarctic Department of the Union of South Africa, and the Government Ministry with which it is connected."

The Chilean Ambassador has been informed that the enquiry has been referred to South Africa, and I should be glad to receive an answer for transmission to the Ambassador.

A. J. OXLEY

Minister.

TIS/MJE

Mr Steynberg:
 Copies of this correspondence should go to Mr King (Attache) who is S.A.'s rep on the Trans-Antarctic Exped. here.
 G.1.6.
 4/viii

No. 503
VSC/PWM

The Chilean Ambassador presents his compliments to the Ambassador of the Union of South Africa, and, to enable him to comply with instructions received from his Government, would be glad if the following particulars could be forwarded to him:-

- X 1) The name of the Director of the Antarctic Institute of the Union of South Africa.
- 2) The names of members of the National Antarctic Commission, or of whatever organization undertakes these functions.
- 3) The name of the Head or Director of the Antarctic Department of the Union of South Africa, and the Government Ministry with which it is connected.

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In thanking the Ambassador of the Union of South Africa for his courtesy in attending to this enquiry, the Chilean Ambassador avails himself of the opportunity of reiterating to His Excellency the assurances of his highest consideration.

LONDON, 1st August 1961.

Mr Steynkamp:

Psc

(a) refer to Union
~~personally~~
(b) ack receipt.

C.F.B.
2/viii

TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

25, GAYFERE STREET, LONDON, W.1

8th August, 1961.

The Scientific Attaché,
South African Scientific Liaison Office,
Chichester House,
278 High Holborn, W.C.1.

Trans Antarctic Association
United Kingdom Advisory Committee

With reference to your letter 7/8 of 31st July to the Ambassador, we enclose for your information a copy of a reply received from Sir John Slessor, the Chairman of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, welcoming your nomination to the United Kingdom Advisory Committee of the proposed Trans-Antarctic Association.

A. F. DRAKE
Minister.

AD/AG

4. You may wish in due course to examine our file and perhaps have copies made of recent documentation on the subject of the Trans-Antarctic Association. I might add that the Secretary of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, who is at present attending to the registration of its successor, the Trans-Antarctic Association, is Mrs. Eleanor Honnywill. Her address is as follows:

/2....

J. A. King, Esq.,
South African Scientific Liaison Office,
Africa House,
Kingsway, W.C.2.

AD/AG

THE TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

CHAIRMAN, MARSHAL OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE, SIR JOHN SLESSOR, G.C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

22, GAYFERE STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

TELEPHONE: ABBEY 7730 EXT. 398
TELEGRAMS: TRANSPOLAR, BOWEST, LONDON

31st July 1961

1961.

- ① *Quib.*
- ② *Mr Oxley*

Dear Mr Ambassador

Thank you so much for your letter. We shall be delighted to have your Scientific Attache, Mr. King on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee and the Secretary will be getting in touch with him as soon as the Trans-Antarctic Association is registered.

James ...

M. Slessor

*Mr Slessor to
a copy to
Mr King, p.c. C.F.O.
4/1/61*

H.E. The South African Ambassador
The South African Embassy
LONDON.

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Trans-Antarctic Association should be submitted to the Department of Foreign Affairs in triplicate, to enable them to coordinate distribution to the Secretary for Transport and the President of the C.S.I.R. On this score it might also perhaps be possible for you to keep us in the picture by making available for our own file copies of any of your reports and of the minutes of meetings. We should appreciate it if you could do this, though of course we do not wish to add unnecessarily to your burdens.

4. You may wish in due course to examine our file and perhaps have copies made of recent documentation on the subject of the Trans-Antarctic Association. I might add that the Secretary of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, who is at present attending to the registration of its successor, the Trans-Antarctic Association, is Mrs. Eleanor Honnywill. Her address is as follows:

/2....

J. A. King, Esq.,
South African Scientific Liaison Office,
Africa House,
Kingsway, W.C.2.

AD/AG

SOUTH AFRICAN SCIENTIFIC LIAISON OFFICE

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Office of the South African
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

Telephone CANCEERY 9641
Cables & Telegrams NAVORS



CHICHESTER HOUSE
278 HIGH HOLBORN
LONDON WC1

, 1961.

Our Ref. 7/8
Your Ref. P.S.16/1

31st July 1961

His Excellency Dr. H. Muller,
South African Ambassador,
South African Embassy,
Trafalgar Square,
W.C.2.

Dear Dr. Muller

Trans Antarctic Association
United Kingdom Advisory Committee

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Thank you for your letter of 25th July regarding my nomination as the South African representative on the above-named Committee. I shall be very pleased to serve on this Committee, particularly as I have been associated with matters relating to Antarctica over the past twelve years.

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Yours sincerely
M. King

J.A. King
Scientific Attaché.

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Mr. Drake
Mr. Oxley.

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that your future reports on matters relating to the Trans-Antarctic Association should be submitted to the Department of Foreign Affairs in triplicate, to enable them to coordinate distribution to the Secretary for Transport and the President of the C.S.I.R. On this score it might also perhaps be possible for you to keep us in the picture by making available for our own file copies of any of your reports and of the minutes of meetings. We should appreciate it if you could do this, though of course we do not wish to add unnecessarily to your burdens.

4. You may wish in due course to examine our file and perhaps have copies made of recent documentation on the subject of the Trans-Antarctic Association. I might add that the Secretary of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, who is at present attending to the registration of its successor, the Trans-Antarctic Association, is Mrs. Eleanor Honnywill. Her address is as follows:

/2....

J. A. King, Esq.,
South African Scientific Liaison Office,
Africa House,
Kingsway, W.C.2.

AD/AG

26th July, 1961.

Dear Joe,

Trans-Antarctic Association :
United Kingdom Advisory Committee

You will have received the Ambassador's letter of 25th July, formally confirming that you have been nominated as the South African representative on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee which is being constituted within the framework of the Trans-Antarctic Association.

2. In this regard I am enclosing for your information and file:

- (a) a copy of our minute dated 8th June to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs. It was in response to this minute that it was decided in Pretoria that you should be nominated;
- (b) copies of two letters dated 8th June and 26th July from the Ambassador to Sir John Slessor, Chairman of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, informing him that we should like to be represented on the Committee and of your nomination for that purpose.

3. The Secretary for Foreign Affairs has asked that your future reports on matters relating to the Trans-Antarctic Association should be submitted to the Department of Foreign Affairs in triplicate, to enable them to coordinate distribution to the Secretary for Transport and the President of the C.S.I.R. On this score it might also perhaps be possible for you to keep us in the picture by making available for our own file copies of any of your reports and of the minutes of meetings. We should appreciate it if you could do this, though of course we do not wish to add unnecessarily to your burdens.

4. You may wish in due course to examine our file and perhaps have copies made of recent documentation on the subject of the Trans-Antarctic Association. I might add that the Secretary of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, who is at present attending to the registration of its successor, the Trans-Antarctic Association, is Mrs. Eleanor Honnywill. Her address is as follows:

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J. A. King, Esq.,
South African Scientific Liaison Office,
Africa House,
Kingsway, W.C.2.

22nd July, 1942.

Secretary,
Trans-Antarctic Expedition,
22 Gayfere Street,
S.W.1.

(Telephone: ABBey 7730, Extension 398)

5. Mrs. Honnywill recently mentioned to us that the process of registering the new Association is not likely to be completed for about two months and the United Kingdom Advisory Committee will not therefore start functioning properly for some time.

Yours sincerely,

(A. F. Drake)

2. In this regard I am reflecting on your information and file.

(a) A copy of your letter of the 11th July 1942 to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs is in the possession of this office and is being reviewed in relation to your proposed Association.

(b) Copies of the letter from the 11th July 1942 to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs and the letter from the 11th July 1942 to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs are in the possession of this office and are being reviewed in relation to your proposed Association.

3. The Secretary for Foreign Affairs has advised that your proposed Association is being reviewed in the Department of Foreign Affairs and is being reviewed in relation to your proposed Association.

4. The Secretary for Foreign Affairs has advised that your proposed Association is being reviewed in the Department of Foreign Affairs and is being reviewed in relation to your proposed Association.

5. The Secretary for Foreign Affairs has advised that your proposed Association is being reviewed in the Department of Foreign Affairs and is being reviewed in relation to your proposed Association.

J. L. King, Esq.,
British Antarctic Survey Office,
Madingley Road,
Cambridge, C.B.3.

P.S. 16/1

26th July, 1961.

Dear Sir John,

May I refer to my letter of the 8th June concerning South Africa's representation on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee which is being constituted as a constituent body of the new Trans-Antarctic Association.

I should now like to let you know that I have nominated Mr. J. A. King, Scientific Attaché, as the South African representative on the Committee.

As from the beginning of August, Mr. King's address will be:

South African Scientific Liaison Office,
Chichester House,
278 High Holborn, W.C.1.

(Telephone: CHAncery Lane 9641)

Yours sincerely,

H. MULLER.

Marshal of the Royal Air Force
Sir John Slessor, G.C.B., D.S.O., M.C.,
Chairman,
The Trans-Antarctic Expedition,
c/o 22 Gayfere Street,
S.W.1.

P.S.16/1

25th July, 1961.

My dear Mr. King,

I understand from Mr. Drake that he has already informally discussed with you the question of South Africa's representation on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee to be constituted within the framework of the new Trans-Antarctic Association.

I now write to say that, after consultation with the South African authorities concerned, including the C.S.I.R., it has been decided to nominate you as the South African representative on the Committee. I have informed Sir John Slessor, who is the Chairman of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition (the predecessor body of the Trans-Antarctic Association) accordingly.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you a fruitful association with the new Committee.

Yours sincerely,

H. MULLER.

J.A. King, Esq.,
South African Scientific Liaison Office,
Africa House,
Kingsway,
W.C.2.

AD/TIS/MJE

Mr Drake

211

SFA's minute 102/2/4 of 8/7/61.

I phoned Mrs Honeywill today (Monday 17/7) to tell her of Mr King's nomination and to say that the Ambassador would upon his return from leave be writing to the Chairman about it. (I thought she might in the meantime wish to establish contact with King).

Mrs Honeywill told me that they were at present in the process of having the "Ltd." removed from their name, and that as that would take some two months, the Association and, consequently, the U.K. Committee would not start functioning properly for some time. We could therefore take our time with letting them know of Mr King's nomination.

2. I also phoned Mr King

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and told him that we would be waiting to hear soon.

3. Drafts of the two letters are attached. The letter to Mr King does not contain a reference to the mode of submission of his reports (final paragraph of SFA's minute and par. 7 of your memo of 29/5/61 to 1st Secretary).

You may think it more appropriate to convey such a bread-and-butter request in another way than under the Ambassador's signature.

AS 17/7.

LUGPOS.
AIR MAIL



Republiek VAN SUID-AFRIKA.
Republic UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

102/2/4

DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKKE
Foreign
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

PRETORIA.

- 6. 7. 1961

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Republic of South Africa,
LONDON.



South Africa's Representation on the
Trans-Antarctic Association.

With reference to your minutes P.S. 16/1
of the 8th and 29th June, 1961, I have to inform you
that it has now been decided that Mr. J.A. King, Scientific
Attaché, should be nominated as the South African
Representative on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee
to be constituted within the framework of the above
Association. You may accordingly advise the Chairman
of the Trans-Antarctic Association to this ~~subject~~.

It would be appreciated if Mr. King's reports
on matters relating to the Association could be submitted
to this Department in triplicate for onward transmission
to the Secretary for Transport and the President of the
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

Handwritten notes:
Standard
draft letter
to (a) T.A.A.
(referring)
King
Oxley
A.C. 14/5

Handwritten signature: J. P. ...
ACTING SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

... the Royal Society, the Royal Geographical
Society, the Scott Polar Research Institute and the
Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, all of which
have scientific connotations.

4. It is, of course, not intended that
responsibility for South Africa's representation
would automatically in future devolve upon the
incumbent for the time being of the post of
Scientific Attaché. The nomination would be open

Handwritten notes:
M. ... 28/6
B/F 28/6
X

to 2/.....

South African Embassy,
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AIRMAIL

29th June, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Trans-Antarctic Association

I refer to your file 102/2/4 and to my minute of 8th June, 1961, recommending that the Scientific Attaché, Mr. King, should be nominated as the first South African representative on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee to be constituted within the framework of the above Association.

An early reply would be most appreciated as we are anxious to inform the Secretary of the name of our nominee.

A. F. DRAKE

Minister.

AD/AG

*CANCELLED.
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*Noted
A.G.
29/6*

*M. Drake
29/6 my
B/F noted my
28/6
D*

... the Royal Society, the Royal Geographical Society, the Scott Polar Research Institute and the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, all of which have scientific connotations.

4. It is, of course, not intended that responsibility for South Africa's representation would automatically in future devolve upon the incumbent for the time being of the post of Scientific Attaché. The nomination would be open

South African Embassy,
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AIRMAIL

23rd June, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Rumoured German Expedition to
Antarctica

With reference to your file 102/2/7/2 and correspondence in the above connection resting with my minute of 11th April, I append for your further information the text of a letter now received from Westralian Farmers:

"We have now obtained confirmation that the people concerned are the 'Deutsches Institut Für Auslandsforschung', Prinz Albertstrasse 142, Munich.

"However, it seems that both on account of shortage of time and funds, it is unlikely that they will be able to organize an Expedition to Antarctica during the coming season, although they express hopes of being able to do so in 1962/63."

A. F. BRAKE
Minister.

AD/AG

... the Royal Society, the Royal Geographical Society, the Scott Polar Research Institute and the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, all of which have scientific connotations.

4. It is, of course, not intended that responsibility for South Africa's representation would automatically in future devolve upon the incumbent for the time being of the post of Scientific Attaché. The nomination would be open

to 2/.....

Handwritten notes:
M. D. ...
28/6 M
B/F ...
28/6
X

WESTRALIAN FARMERS TRANSPORT LIMITED

CHARTERING BROKERS AND SHIP MANAGERS

Directors
E. T. LOTON (CHAIRMAN)
K. W. EDWARDS E. W. RICHARDS
A. P. MCGURK C. W. BAYLY, M.C.
J. R. SMITH

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LONDON E.C.3

Telephone No
MANSION HOUSE 6661/4

Telegrams
INLAND: WESTAUST, LONDON, TELEX
FOREIGN: WESTAUST, LONDON
TELEX NO: 24197

LONDON REPRESENTATIVES
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL LINE

PLEASE QUOTE RNS/CW/GEN/A.25.

22nd June, 1961.

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

For the attention of A.F. Drake, Esq.



Dear Sir,

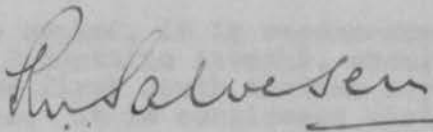
German Antarctic Plans.

[We have now obtained confirmation that the people concerned are the 'Deutsches Institut Für Auslandsforschung', Prinz Albertstrasse 142, Munich.

However, it seems that both on account of shortage of time and funds, it is unlikely that they will be able to organize an Expedition to Antarctica during the coming season, although they express hopes of being able to do so in 1962/63.]

As promised, we will let you have this information as soon as we can as you will no doubt wish to inform Pretoria.

Yours faithfully,
For WESTRALIAN FARMERS TRANSPORT LTD.


R.N. Salvesen.

*File
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... the Royal Society, the Royal Geographical Society, the Scott Polar Research Institute and the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, all of which have scientific connotations.

4. It is, of course, not intended that responsibility for South Africa's representation would automatically in future devolve upon the incumbent for the time being of the post of Scientific Attaché. The nomination would be open

*M. Allen
28/6/61
B/F
revised
M/C
28/6/61
D*

AIRMAIL

8th June, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Trans-Antarctic Association

I refer to your minute 102/2/4 of 15th May and to your telegrams Nos. 79 and 93 regarding South Africa's representation on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee which is to be constituted within the framework of the new Trans-Antarctic Association.

2. The Chairman of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition (the predecessor body of the Trans-Antarctic Association) has been informed of our acceptance of the invitation to be represented on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee, and that our representative will be the nominee of the Ambassador.

3. In this regard, it is recommended that Mr. J.A. King, Scientific Attaché, should be nominated as the first South African representative on the Committee. It is considered that Mr. King would be the appropriate choice firstly, because he has had direct experience of Antarctic matters, including a visit to the area; and secondly, in view of the fact that the activities of the Trans-Antarctic Association (the objects of which will be broadly the encouragement of research and exploration in Antarctic regions) will to some degree possess a scientific basis. It may be added in this regard that, apart from the representatives of Australia and South Africa, the United Kingdom Advisory Committee is to consist, in the main, of persons with close associations with such bodies as The Royal Society, The Royal Geographical Society, the Scott Polar Research Institute and the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, all of which have scientific connotations.

4. It is, of course, not intended that responsibility for South Africa's representation would automatically in future devolve upon the incumbent for the time being of the post of Scientific Attaché. The nomination would be open

*M. Drake
28/6 MFE
B/F noted MFE
28/6
X*

to review in the event of Mr. King's absence or transfer from London and periodically thereafter depending on staff circumstances.

5. I should be grateful to learn as soon as possible whether you concur with this recommendation. If so, Mr. King would report to you on all matters relating to the Trans-Antarctic Association to enable you to co-ordinate the distribution of material to all interested authorities such as the Department of Transport and the C.S.I.R.

M. I. BOTHA.

Minister.

Note:

I spoke to Mrs. Houghton,
deputy of I.P.F. She said
we would let them know
within the next few weeks
the work of our representative.

7/6.

It has, of course, not intended that responsibility for South Africa's representation should eventually in future devolve upon the Government for the time being of the post of Antarctic Attaché. The nomination would be open

P.S. 16/1

8th June, 1961

Dear Sir John,

As you will know, South Africa was recently invited, on behalf of the Committee of Management of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, to nominate a representative on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee to be constituted within the framework of the new Trans-Antarctic Association.

This invitation is greatly appreciated and is accepted with pleasure. It has been arranged that the South African representative on the Committee should be nominated by myself and I hope to let you know shortly who will be appointed to that body.

May I take this opportunity of conveying my cordial good wishes for the successful functioning of the new Association.

Yours sincerely,

H. MULLER.

Marshal of the Royal Air Force,
Sir John Slessor, G.C.B., D.S.O., M.C.,
Chairman,
The Trans-Antarctic Expedition,
c/o 22 Gayfere Street,
S.W. 1.

THE FIRST SECRETARY:*Ms Drake*Trans-Antarctic Association

1. Relevant correspondence on file P.S.16/1 is:
 - a) Letter from External Affairs dated 15th May
 - b) Telegram no. 79 from External Affairs
 - c) Our telegram no. 85
 - d) External Affairs' telegram no. 93.

2. I have verbally informed the Secretary of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition (the predecessor body of T.A.A.) that South Africa wished to be represented on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee of T.A.A., and that our representative would be the nominee of the South African Ambassador. This verbal notification was quite sufficient for the Secretary's immediate purposes in arranging for the registration of the T.A.A.

3. The matter must now be formalised. The Secretary suggested that the High Commissioner/Ambassador should address a letter to:

Marshal of the Royal Air Force, Sir John Slessor,
G.C.B., D.S.O., M.C.,
Chairman,
Trans-Antarctic Expedition,
c/o 22 Gayfere Street,
London, S.W.1.

- This letter will confirm the arrangements set out in paragraph 2 above; it might also, the Secretary suggested, nominate our first representative on the Committee.

4. As regards the actual nomination, it would seem that the nominee will be either Mr. J. King, Scientific Adviser, or myself. C.S.I.R. in Pretoria strongly urges Mr. King's nomination; the Department of Transport, on the other hand, considers that a member of the High Commissioner's staff should be nominated. The decision, in view of our exchange of telegrams with Cape Town, can now be taken by the High Commissioner.

5. Australia House have nominated Mr. Marshall, First Secretary on the External Affairs staff. He has had experience on various Committees here concerned with Antarctic matters.

6. My feeling is that Mr. King would be an admirable initial choice to represent South Africa. He has had experience on Antarctic matters and, I believe, has actually visited the area. I would mention that the objects of the T.A.A. will be broadly, the encouragement of research and exploration in Antarctic regions; the Advisory Committee will consider applications for assistance for projects in this field from the funds of the Association. Thus, the activities of the T.A.A. will possess, to some extent, a scientific basis and the ideal representative on the Committee would be an officer with some scientific background and an equal measure of administrative experience. In this regard I might usefully add that, apart from the representatives of Australia and South Africa, the
* United Kingdom Advisory Committee is to consist, in the main, of persons with close associations with such bodies as The Royal Society, The Royal Geographical Society, the Scott Polar Research Institute and the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, all of which have scientific connotations.*

7. If it is decided that Mr. King should be nominated as the first South African representative, I would suggest that he might take steps to ensure that this office is kept informed of the activities of the United Kingdom Advisory Committee by making available for our file copies of the minutes of meetings, and of any reports or recommendations he might find it necessary to send to South Africa. He should also channel all his communications to South Africa via the Department of External Affairs, which is itself interested in Antarctic matters, and would also be responsible for co-ordinating the distribution of material to other interested Departments such as Transport and the C.S.I.R. If in the course of the Committee's activities matters should arise with political implications (which is probably unlikely), it would be left to Mr. King's discretion to consult the External Affairs Section at South Africa House.

8. It is suggested further that responsibility for the representation of South Africa on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee should not henceforth automatically devolve upon the incumbent of the post of Scientific Liaison Officer (or Scientific Attaché if the designation is changed). The nomination should be open to review on Mr. King's transfer from London, and periodically thereafter depending on staff circumstances. Mr. King's nomination, in other words, would be a personal one.

9. I have mentioned this matter informally to Mr. King who would be happy to serve on the Committee if so designated. Could the appointment be referred for decision, please? I shall then draft the letter to Sir John Slessor.

yes me
6.1.6.
20/5.

A. F. Drake
Second Secretary

29th May, 1961.

12/28/3

CODE TELEGRAM

FROM: SECEXTERN CAPE TOWN.

S. 24.5.61.

TO: H.C. LONDON.

R: 25.5.61.

No. 93.

Your telegram No. 85.

Proposal re representation in Transantarctic Association approved.

Mr. Drake

*Refused Mrs. Harrison
(Secy, T.A.E.) It done. We
have no address a formal letter to:
Handwritten in R-A-7 new Sir
John Sloman G.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.
to T.A.E. at the address
in Guyton St. in the
Some letter we can appoint
our nominee, if we wish.
21/5.*

uitgelaat: ...vervoer new himself as volg hieroor

W.N.N.R.

"We feel very strongly that we should have direct representation on this Committee and that Mr. J.A. King, our present Scientific Liaison Officer in London, should be the person to represent us as he is very familiar with Antarctic matters and has attended a number of meetings on Antarctic Research (S.C.A.R.) in London and is very familiar with the workings of S.C.A.R."

Departement van Vervoer.

"This Department agrees with the view that, in the light of the changed circumstances, it would be more appropriate for South Africa to accept direct representation on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee. It is accepted that direct representation will not entail any financial commitments.

"It is considered that a member of the staff of the High Commissioner would be the best choice as representative. Should a person with sufficient knowledge and background regarding Antarctic matters not be available, however, it is suggested that the scientific liaison officer of the C.S.I.R. in London be nominated as the South African representative."

VERT ROULIK.

/....

CODE TELEGRAM

FROM: HIGH COMMISSIONER: LONDON.

TO: SECEXTERN CAPE TOWN.

D: 20.5.61.

No. 85.

Your minute 102/2/4 of 15th May. Would recommend that we inform Secretary Trans-Antarctic Association that our representative on United Kingdom Advisory Committee will be the nominee of the South African Ambassador. This formula has been adopted by Australia and will allow flexibility in representation. Grateful for your urgent telegraphic approval as registration and Association must now be proceeded with.

4

De Secretaris van vervoer het nu self as volg hieroor uitgelaat:

W.N.N.R.

"We feel very strongly that we should have direct representation on this Committee and that Mr. J.A. King, our present Scientific Liaison Officer in London, should be the person to represent us as he is very familiar with Antarctic matters and has attended a number of meetings on Antarctic Research (S.C.A.R.) in London and is very familiar with the workings of S.C.A.R."

Departement van Vervoer.

"This Department agrees with the view that, in the light of the changed circumstances, it would be more appropriate for South Africa to accept direct representation on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee. It is accepted that direct representation will not entail any financial commitments.

"It is considered that a member of the staff of the High Commissioner would be the best choice as representative. Should a person with sufficient knowledge and background regarding Antarctic matters not be available, however, it is suggested that the scientific liaison officer of the C.S.I.R. in London be nominated as the South African representative."

VERTROUWLIK.

/....

AIRMAIL
LUGPOS.



102/2/4.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.

*HST
Mev. van*

VERTROULIK.

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

DRINGEND.

15 MAY 1961

was Oxley

*only -
1961/1.*

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

Trans-Antarktika Vereniging.

Met verwysing na u diensbriewe P.S. 16/1 van 24 en 28 Maart 1961 moet ek u meedeel dat daar besluit is dat dit in beginsel wenslik sou wees dat Suid-Afrika regstreeks op die Verenigde Koninkryk se Adviserende Komitee van bogenoemde Vereniging verteenwoordig moet wees.

Geen beslissing is egter tot dusver gevel oor wie die Unie op hierdie liggaam moet verteenwoordig nie. Die President van die Wetenskaplike en Nywerheidsnavorsingsraad en die Sekretaris van Vervoer het hulself as volg hieroor uitgelaat:

W.N.N.R.

"We feel very strongly that we should have direct representation on this Committee and that Mr. J.A. King, our present Scientific Liaison Officer in London, should be the person to represent us as he is very familiar with Antarctic matters and has attended a number of meetings on Antarctic Research (S.C.A.R.) in London and is very familiar with the workings of S.C.A.R."

Departement van Vervoer.

"This Department agrees with the view that, in the light of the changed circumstances, it would be more appropriate for South Africa to accept direct representation on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee. It is accepted that direct representation will not entail any financial commitments.

"It is considered that a member of the staff of the High Commissioner would be the best choice as representative. Should a person with sufficient knowledge and background regarding Antarctic matters not be available, however, it is suggested that the scientific liaison officer of the C.S.I.R. in London be nominated as the South African representative."

VERTROULIK.

/....

VERTROULIK.

- 2 -

Daar sal dus nou besluit moet word of 'n lid van u diplomatieke personeel of die Wetenskaplike Skakelbeespte genomineer moet word. Graag ontvang ons u kommentaar en aanbeveling. In hierdie verband sal u natuurlik die aanstelling van die Britse en Nieu-Seelandse Adviseerende Komitees en ook Australië se keuse inagneem.

U kan egter intussen die Sekretaris van die Trans-Antarktiese Ekspedisie in kennis stel dat die Unie graag direk op die Verenigde Koninkryk se Adviseerende Komitee verteenwoordig wil word en dat u die naam van die verteenwoordiger later sal verskaf.

C.P. Booth

SEKRETARIS VAN BUITENLANDSE SAKKE.

VERTROULIK.

CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: SECEXTERN CAPE TOWN
D: 15.5.61
TO: H. C. LONDON
R: 15.5.61

No. 79

Your telegram no. 78

You may inform the Secretary, Trans Antarctic Association that the Union wishes to be represented on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee and that the name of the representative will be submitted later.

Special airmail letter regarding representative follows today.

Note:
I inform the Hon. Secy of the T-A. Assn. in
write to be about the fact that
homestead contains car hire for days
RD. 15/5.

Munich
14/5/61
RD 15/5

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

F

A. V. BOOTH

Minister.

Yours faithfully,

MR. A. V. BOOTH, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

AD/AG

[Signature]

A. V. BOOTH

Copies of the minute and telegram mentioned in the minute from London, have already been passed to you.

*Mr. P. G. ...
The Hon. Secy
6/6-7/10*

Full

A. V. BOOTH

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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

Copy for your information with reference to your minute No. P.S. 16/1 of the 24th March, 1961.

[Signature]

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

P.S. 16/1

OFFICE NOTE:

Please also see minute P.S. 12/22/3 dated 1st May re aspects of future relations between the Union and the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

ciation.
ute no.

M. I. BOTHA

12/5.

F

AD/AG

Copies of the minute and telegram mentioned in the minute from London, have already been passed to you.

*Mr. ...
...
6/6-7/10*

7/10

J.S.F. BOTHA

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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

Copy for your information with reference to your minute No. P.S. 16/1 of the 24th March, 1961.

[Signature]

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: H. C. LONDON
TO: SECXTERN CAPE TOWN
D: 10.5.61

No. 78.

My no. 75 regarding Trans-Antarctic Association.
Matter now urgent. Reference also my minute no.
P.S.12/22/3 of 1st May.

get the backing of the German
scientific authorities.

could be made at this time by your
Department with a view to finding out something about the German plans.

For your private information, A. F. BRAKE
Dr. Gerhard de B. Borchgrevink is the Secretary of the Trans-Antarctic Association. He tells us that
for a number of years there have been some German expeditions in arranging expeditions to the Antarctic.
Minister. It is not thought that at the moment any one group has got the backing
of the German scientific authorities.

AD/AG

Copies of the minute and telegram mentioned in
the minute from London, have already been passed to you.

A. J. W. J. F. BOTHA

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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

Copy for your information with reference to your
minute No. P.S. 16/1 of the 24th March, 1961.

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*Mr. F. G. ...
The ...
6/6-7/10*

7/10

[Handwritten signature]

CODE TELEGRAM.

FROM: H. C. LONDON
TO: SPOKEXTERN CAPE TOWN
D: 3.5.61
No. 75.

My minute P.S.16/1 of 28th March and your 102/2/4 of 1st April regarding Trans-Antarctic Association.

Secretary wishes to proceed with legal steps necessary for registration of new Association. If South Africa wishes to join United Kingdom Advisory Committee invitation to do so must be accepted before registration. Grateful therefore for earliest cabled advice whether invitation may be accepted. Australia has already accepted.

...the group has got the backing of the German scientific authorities.

...could be made of this line by your department with a view to finding out something about the above plans.

For your private information, A. F. DRAKE, Minister. Dr. Gordon de Q. Sillitoe is the Secretary of the Association. For a number of years there have been some German interests in arranging expeditions to the Antarctic. It has not thought that at the moment any one group has got the backing of the German Scientific Authorities.

AD/AG

Copies of the minute and telegram mentioned in the minute from London, have already been passed to you.

*Mr. Drake
see above
C.F. - 7/10*

*Fu
D*

A. F. DRAKE

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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

Copy for your information with reference to your minute No. P.S. 16/1 of the 24th March, 1961.

[Signature]
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

AIRMAIL

11th April, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Rumoured German Expedition to Antarctica

I refer to your file 102/2/7/2 and to my minutes of 23rd March and 7th April, 1961.

Westralian Farmers have now informed us that, according to Dr. Robin, the Director of the Scott Polar Research Institute, there have for a number of years been several groups in Germany interested in arranging expeditions to the Antarctic. So far, however, nothing has come of this and it is not thought that at the moment any one group has got the backing of the German scientific authorities.

A. F. BRAKE

Minister.

AD/AG

Copies of the minute and telegram mentioned in the minute from London, have already been passed to you.

J.S.F. BOTHA

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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

Copy for your information with reference to your minute No. P.S. 16/1 of the 24th March, 1961.

[Signature]
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*Mr. Brake
The Hon. Sec.
6/6 7/10*

*File
D*

WESTRALIAN FARMERS TRANSPORT LIMITED

CHARTERING BROKERS AND SHIP MANAGERS

Directors:
E.T. LOTON (CHAIRMAN)
J. THOMSON (MANAGING DIRECTOR)
E.W. RICHARDS A.P. MCGUIRE
C.W. BAYLY M.C. J.R. SMITH
K.W. EDWARDS
LONDON REPRESENTATIVES
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL LINE

UNITED DOMINIONS HOUSE
51 EASTCHEAP
LONDON E.C.3

Telephone No
MANSION HOUSE 6861/4

Telegrams
INLAND: WESTAUST, BILGATE, LONDON
FOREIGN: WESTAUST, LONDON

PLEASE QUOTE RNS/CW/GEN/A.25.

7th April, 1961.

CONFIDENTIAL.

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

For the attention of Mr. A.F. Drake.

Dear Sir,

Confirm our telephone conversations this morning the name of the firm in Johannesburg who have been making enquiries through their London Office about vessels for a German expedition to Antarctica in 1961/62 is:-

South African Shipbrokers (Pty.) Ltd.,
P.O. Box 2863,
1st Floor,
Prudential Assurance Building,
93, Marshall Street.

Apparently, the person in charge is Mr. Cordell and we shall be most grateful if enquiries could be made of this firm by your Department with a view to finding out something about the German plans.

For your private information, we have today spoken to Dr. Gordon de Q. Robin who is the Secretary of SCAR. He tells us that for a number of years there have been several groups in Germany interested in arranging expeditions to the Antarctic, but so far nothing has happened and it is not thought that at the moment any one group has got the backing of the German Scientific Authorities.

Yours faithfully,
For WESTRALIAN FARMERS TRANSPORT LTD.

R.N. Salvesen
R.N. Salvesen.

Copies of the minute and telegram mentioned in the minute from London, have already been passed to you.

A.F. BOTHA

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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

Copy for your information with reference to your minute No. P.S. 16/1 of the 24th March, 1961.

[Signature]
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*Mr. Drake
The Minister
A.F. 7/10*

*File
D*

102/2/4. 10/1



URGENT.

PRETORIA.

7th April, 1961.
N. APR 1961

~~THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.~~

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT.

Your minutes No. WB 12/1 of the 19th May and 19th June, 1959, refer.

THE PRESIDENT, COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH.

Your letter No. 14/43/A of the 24th November, 1959, refers.

Your file 102/2/4 and my minute of 23rd March refer.

Trans-Antarctic Expedition : Formation of the Trans-Antarctic Association
that the... of the Trans-Antarctic Association...
for a "Trans-Antarctic Expedition" to Antarctica later this year
have originated from the following sources in the Union:

I refer to my evenly numbered minute of the 16th February, 1961, regarding the formation of a Trans-Antarctic Association in which it was stated that steps were being taken to give effect to the proposal that South Africa would be represented on the Association by the Commonwealth Relations Office nominee on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee. In this connection I now enclose a copy of minute No. P.S. 16/1 dated the 24th March, 1961, from the Office of our High Commissioner in London enquiring whether we would be prepared to accept an invitation to nominate our own representative to the United Kingdom Advisory Committee as suggested by the Commonwealth Relations Office on reconsideration of the matter.

This Department's preliminary reaction is to endorse the view expressed by the High Commissioner's Office, viz. "... that there would be something to be gained by accepting direct representation on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee, and nothing to be lost."

Before however, replying to this effect, we would like to seek your views on this subject.

Copies of the minute and telegram mentioned in the minute from London, have already been passed to you.

A. F. BRADY
J.S.F. BOTHA

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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

Copy for your information with reference to your minute No. P.S. 16/1 of the 24th March, 1961.

[Signature]
SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*Mr. Frank
The Chairman
6/6-7/10*

*7/11
D*

AIRMAIL

7th April, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Rumoured German Expedition to Antarctica

Your file 102/2/7/2 and my minute of 23rd March refer.

We have today learnt from Westralian Farmers that the enquiries they have been receiving through another firm as to the availability of the "Polarhav" for a "German expedition" to Antarctica later this year have originated from the following concern in the Union:

South African Shipbrokers (Pty.) Ltd.,
(Mr. Cordell),
1st Floor,
Prudential Assurance Building,
93 Marshall Street,
Johannesburg.
(P.O. Box 2863, Johannesburg).

The latest request received from Johannesburg has been for an indication from the Owners of the "Polarhav" of the terms and conditions on which that vessel could be made available. On this score, however, as we have already reported, Westralian Farmers are, of course, endeavouring to secure for the Department of Transport first option on the "Polarhav" until about June or July.

We should be interested to learn the result of any investigation which may be made into this rather mysterious matter if the details are not already known to you.

A. F. DRAKE

Minister.

AIRMAIL

URGENT

28th March, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Trans-Antarctic Expedition : Formation
of the Trans-Antarctic Association

With reference to your file 102/2/4 and following on my minute of 24th March, 1961, I append for consideration the text of a letter dated 27th March which we have now received from the Secretary of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition:

"As you are aware, it is expected that when the Trans-Antarctic Expedition is finally wound up, its assets will amount to approximately £30,000. The Committee of Management has decided to hand over this money to a new Company, to be known as the Trans-Antarctic Association, formed to foster research and exploration in the Antarctic.

It has been decided that Advisory Committees shall be set up in both the United Kingdom and New Zealand, to assess any claims made on the funds, and to make recommendations to an executive 'Committee of Management' which will consist of two members from each country and an independent Chairman.

It has already been agreed that the United Kingdom Advisory Committee shall consist of the following persons, each one having close associations with the Body shown beside his name, and that in due course, the Bodies themselves shall nominate the members to this Committee:

Sir Miles Clifford, Chairman (The Royal Society)
 Captain A. R. Glen (The Royal Geographical Society)
 Dr. G. de Q. Robin (Scott Polar Research Institute)
 Dr. R. J. Adie (Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey)
 Mr. David Stratton (Deputy Leader, Trans-Antarctic Expedition)

It has further been agreed with New Zealand that the new 'Committee of Management' shall consist of:

Sir Edwin Herbert (Chairman)
 Sir Vivian Fuchs (U.K.)
 Mr. G.P. Pirie-Gordon (U.K.)
 Dr. R. Scott-Russell (N.Z.)
 Mr. J. V. Scott (N.Z.)

/You

You will remember that it was recommended, and accepted at our last Committee of Management meeting, that the Commonwealth Relations Office should be invited to nominate one member to the U.K. Advisory Committee, who would be specifically charged with the responsibility of watching over the interests of Australia and South Africa, both of whom provided substantial financial assistance and sent representatives on the Expedition.

I have today heard that under the changed circumstances in the status of South Africa, the Commonwealth Relations Office do not feel this would be suitable, and I am therefore writing to suggest that South Africa should herself nominate one member to the United Kingdom Advisory Committee.

I would be most grateful if you will find out whether such a suggestion would meet with approval, and would assure you that my Committee would welcome a South African nominee."

As indicated in my minute of 24th March, a similar invitation has been extended to Australia.

It would be appreciated if I could be informed as soon as possible whether a representative from this Office may be nominated as South African member on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee.

A. J. OXLEY

Minister.

AD/AG

THE TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

CHAIRMAN: MARSHAL OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE, SIR JOHN BLESSOR, G.C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

22, GAYFERE STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

~~3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100~~

TELEPHONE: ABBEY 7730, EXT. 305

TELEGRAMS: TRANSPOLAR, SOWEST, LONDON.

27th March 1961.

Dear Mr. Drake,

x [As you are aware, it is expected that when the Trans-Antarctic Expedition is finally wound up, its assets will amount to approximately £30,000. The Committee of Management has decided to hand over this money to a new Company, to be known as the Trans-Antarctic Association, formed to foster research and exploration in the Antarctic.

It has been decided that Advisory Committees shall be set up in both the United Kingdom and New Zealand, to assess any claims made on the funds, and to make recommendations to an executive 'Committee of Management' which will consist of two members from each country and an independent Chairman.

It has already been agreed that the United Kingdom Advisory Committee shall consist of the following persons, each one having close associations with the Body shown beside his name, and that in due course, the Bodies themselves shall nominate the members to this Committee:

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Captain A.R.Glen (The Royal Geographical Society)
Dr. G. de Q. Robin (Scott Polar Research Institute)
Dr. R.J.Adie (Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey)
Mr. David Stratton (Deputy Leader, Trans-Antarctic Expedition).

It has further been agreed with New Zealand that the new 'Committee of Management' shall consist of:

Sir Edwin Herbert (Chairman)
Sir Vivian Fuchs (U.K.)
Mr. G.F.Pirie-Gordon (U.K.)
Dr. B. Scott-Russell (N.Z.)
Mr. J.V.Scott (N.Z.)

You will remember that it was recommended, and accepted at our last Committee of Management meeting, that the Commonwealth Relations Office should be invited to nominate one member to the U.K. Advisory Committee, who would be specifically charged with the responsibility of watching over the interests of Australia and South Africa, both of whom provided substantial financial assistance and sent representatives on the Expedition.

I have today heard that under the changed circumstances in the status of South Africa, the Commonwealth Relations Office do not feel this would be suitable, and I am therefore writing to suggest that South Africa should herself nominate one member to the United Kingdom Advisory Committee.

Africa
Fin

TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

I would be most grateful if you will find out whether such a suggestion would meet with approval, and would assure you that my Committee would welcome a South African nominee.] x

Yours sincerely,

Eleanor Amorywill

Eleanor Amorywill
SECRETARY
TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

R.
E. Marshall Inc.
Australia House
Strand
LONDON, W.C.2.

28th March, 1961.

Dear Mrs. Honnywill,

I thank you for your letter of 27th March, 1961, kindly conveying an invitation for a South African representative to be nominated as a member of the United Kingdom Advisory Committee to be constituted within the framework of the new Trans-Antarctic Association.

As I have explained, I have referred the matter to the South African authorities and I hope to let you have a reply fairly shortly.

Yours sincerely,

MD
(A.F. Drake)

Mrs. Eleanor Honnywill,
Secretary,
Trans-Antarctic Expedition,
22 Gayfere Street,
S.W.1.

AD/AG

... telegram no. 140 of 27th November, 1959, in which you raised the possibility that the direct representation of the Union on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee might involve additional commitments which could not be undertaken. On this score, however, the Commonwealth Relations Office assure us that direct representation would not entail any financial commitments. It seems clear that the object of the new Association (vide the recommendations of the Finance Sub-Committee sent to you under cover of our minute of 15th December, 1959.) would be to utilise the income from the assets transferred to it by its predecessor, the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, by making grants for the encouragement of Antarctic research and exploration.

Mr. Drake
17/4/61
mge

B/F 12/4/61 noted mge
24/4/61 noted mge
27/3/61 noted mge
12/4/61 noted mge
Mr Drake 20/4/61 mge
27/4/61 mge
27/4/61 mge
27/4/61 mge
In



AIRMAIL

URGENT

24th March, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Trans-Antarctic Expedition : Formation
of the Trans-Antarctic Association

I refer to your file 102/2/4 and to my minute of 25th January, 1961, in which we mentioned that we were making arrangements to give effect to the proposal that the Commonwealth Relations Office nominee on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee would represent South African interests on that body, and in relation to the new Trans-Antarctic Association as a whole.

On reconsideration of the position, however, the Commonwealth Relations Office have now told us informally that, in their view, it would be more practicable and appropriate for South Africa and Australia to have their own representatives on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee. The Commonwealth Relations Office itself would propose to fall out of the picture entirely, leaving the United Kingdom's interests to be looked after by the representatives on the Advisory Committee of the various scientific societies etc. concerned. We understand that this arrangement is likely to prove quite acceptable to the other interested parties. The Commonwealth Relations Office have asked us therefore whether we would be prepared to accept an invitation to nominate a representative to the United Kingdom Advisory Committee.

In this connection we would refer you to paragraph 6 of your minute 102/2/4 of 19th November, 1959, to the Secretary for Transport, and also to your telegram no. 140 of 25th November, 1959, in which you raised the possibility that the direct representation of the Union on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee might involve additional commitments which could not be undertaken. On this score, however, the Commonwealth Relations Office assure us that direct representation would not entail any financial commitments. It seems clear that the object of the new Association (vide the recommendations of the Finance Sub-Committee sent to you under cover of our minute of 15th December, 1959.) would be to utilise the income from the assets transferred to it by its predecessor, the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, by making grants for the encouragement of Antarctic research and exploration.

*Mr. Drake
19/4/61
mpe*

*B/F 19/4/61
noted mpe*

*24/4/61
noted mpe*

*noted mpe
27/3/61*

*Mr. Drake
24/4/61
mpe*

*Mr. Drake
26/4/61
mpe*

*W/S
noted mpe*

*Mr. Drake
28/4/61
mpe*

In

In the circumstances it seems to us that there would be something to be gained by accepting direct representation on the United Kingdom Advisory Committee, and nothing to be lost. We have told the Commonwealth Relations Office that we can see no objection to their proposals but that we are nevertheless referring the matter to you for your approval. We expect that we shall shortly receive a formal invitation to nominate a representative to the Committee and we should be grateful therefore if we could be informed as soon as possible whether this invitation may be accepted. We would add that, in view of the feeling of the Commonwealth Relations Office that it is unnecessary for them to be represented on the Committee, non-acceptance on our part could mean that there would be no adequate machinery for representing and promoting any interests we may have in the activities of the Trans-Antarctic Association. So far as the Australians are concerned, we understand that they would probably agree to the proposals for their representation on the London Committee, subject to Canberra's concurrence.

A. F. DRAKE
Minister.

AD/AG

AIRMAIL

23rd March, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Rumoured German Expedition to Antarctica

Your file 102/2/7/2 refers.

We referred in our minutes P.S.16/7 of 21st February and 1st March to rumours which had reached Westralian Farmers from South African sources of a possible German expedition to the Antarctic late in 1961.

In this connection Westralian Farmers have now sent us the enclosed map which they have obtained from the other firm of London shipbrokers who recently asked them to enquire whether the "Polarhav" would be available for a German expedition should it materialise. This other firm had apparently been sent the map by their agents in Johannesburg whose name, however, is not at present known to us.

Westralian Farmers point out that the map is a German edition of the old I.G.Y. plan dating from about 1954 and that it is in several respects inaccurate, as the programmes of some countries have altered since that time.

In our minute P.S.16/7 of 21st February, we mentioned that the rumoured German expedition might be bound for Breid Bay. The original information received by Westralian Farmers in fact referred to Byrd Bay which Westralian Farmers interpreted at the time as a typing error. However, the map confirms the existence of Byrd Bay adjacent to the area of Neu-Schwabenland, designated German thereon.

Westralian Farmers point out that if the Germans do plan to go to Byrd Bay, situated about 75°W longitude, they will be pretty near the South African base and "presumably in territory lying within your province". According to Westralian Farmers, the Germans displayed some prospective interest in this area in the middle thirties, though this was not followed up in any tangible way.

Westralian Farmers have been actively making enquiries to establish whether there is any foundation

/for

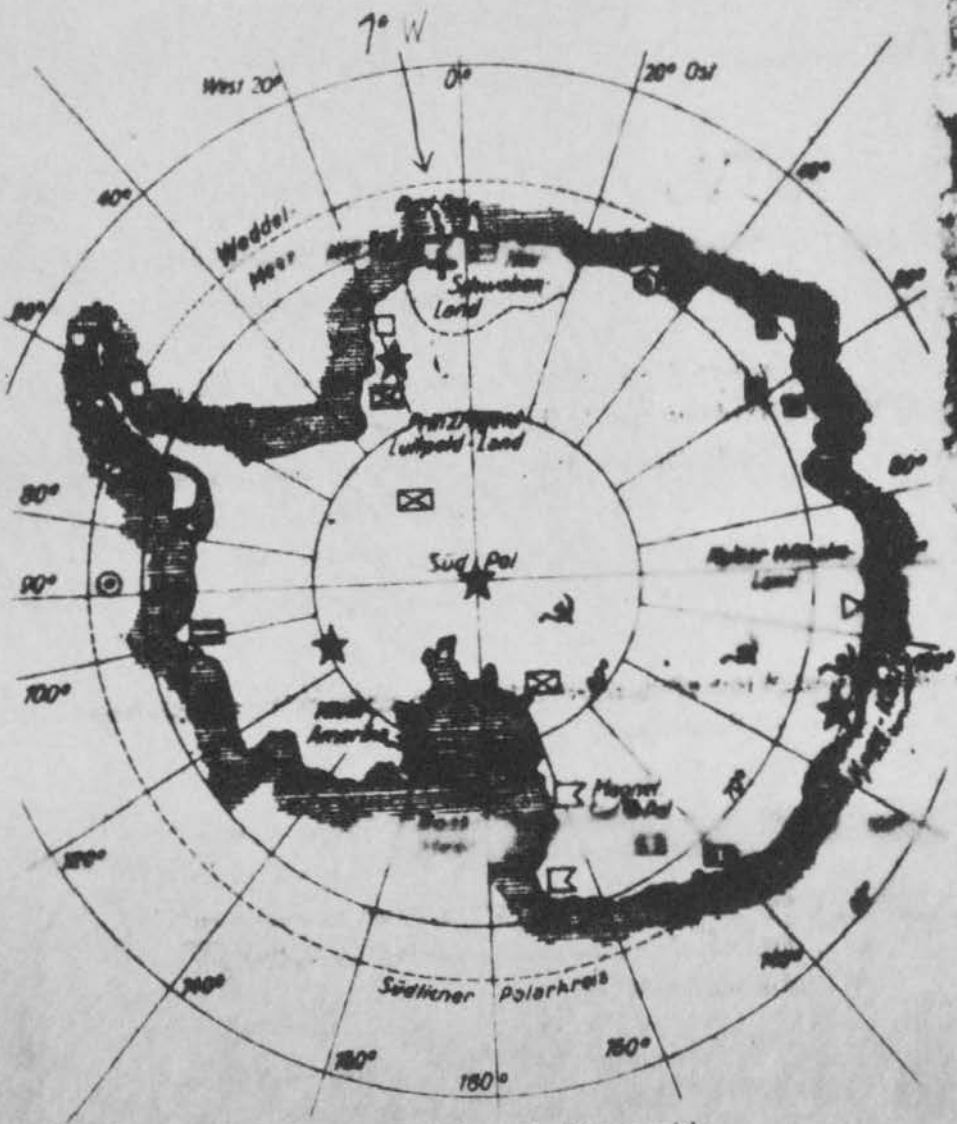
for the rumour of the German expedition. As a result of their bringing the matter to the notice of the United Kingdom authorities, we understand that the British Embassy in Bonn in fact approached the German Foreign Ministry who, it turned out, had no knowledge of any such expedition. The Foreign Office in London, to whom we have spoken informally, have confirmed this and the preliminary indications are therefore that there is no substance to the report.

Nevertheless, we learn from Westralian Farmers that Dr. Robin, the Secretary of S.C.A.R. and the Director of the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge, is also looking into the matter and it is hoped that he will shortly be able to establish whether there is any truth in the rumour.

A. F. DRAKE

Minister.

AD/AG



ANTARKTIS · Geplante Stützpunkte

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|---|-------------|---|------------|---|------------|
| + | Deutschland | ★ | Amerika | ↘ | Russland |
| ⊞ | Norwegen | ⊙ | Japan | ⊞ | Frankreich |
| ⊞ | Spanien | ⊞ | England | ▷ | Belgien |
| ⊞ | Neu-Seeland | ■ | Australien | ● | Chile |
| ⊞ | Argentinien | | | | |



Note: Telephone Mr Hornett (C.R.O.). CRG has been asked to nominate a representative to the U.K. Advisory Committee, with a view to watch over the interests of the British in the Antarctic. Mr Hornett said he would see who is AD/AG and advise him whether we could receive the Advisory Committee - also of the way out, however, we would like the committee to be formed yet.

free

Noted A.C. 7/2

B/F 27/3

Mr Kriger m/E 27/3/61

7/4/61