

The Ross Sea Committee felt that the reference in the minutes of the Financial Sub-Committee to the Governor-General's approval being sought in the event of the acceptance of the recommendations, implied that your Committee admitted it is bound by the constitution of the Ross Sea Committee, and indeed the Ross Sea Committee would argue that it is.

The many difficult questions involved in assessing a fair apportionment of the residual assets are fully recognised, particularly since the funds have up till now been regarded as pooled. The Finance Sub-Committee of the Ross Sea Committee was instructed to prepare detailed proposals without delay. The Ross Sea Committee has in mind the creation of a charitable trust, administered perhaps by the Royal Society of New Zealand and the Antarctic Society, the income to be used to assist private or semi-private expeditions to Antarctica in the first instance. The share of the assets due to the Ross Sea Committee would be handled in accordance with Section 28(d) of its constitution.

I was asked to report to the Committee of Management that the recommendations of their Financial Sub-Committee did not commend themselves to the Ross sea Committee, to outline the counter-proposals I have mentioned above, and to stress the need for agreement between the two Committees on this matter. I should perhaps mention that on the basis of your letter to Mr. Bowden of 6 January the Ross sea Committee had not expected that this question would be raised so soon. As I mentioned to the Committee of Management yesterday, the scheme aduabrated by Sir John Slessor when in New Zealand recently was thought to be somewhat different from the proposals put forward by the Financial Sub-Committee and it was believed that he had agreed to a provision that countries should have access to surplus assets in proportion to their participation in the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition.

Yours sincerely,

(J.V. Scott)

AIRMAILCONFIDENTIAL

3rd April, 1959.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.Trans-Antarctic Expedition

A meeting of the Committee of Management of the above Expedition was convened on 25th March with the primary purpose of considering the Finance Sub-Committee's recommendations on the winding-up of the Expedition's affairs, and on the setting up of "The Trans-Antarctic Expedition Foundation". This office was represented by Mr. A. F. Drake.

It emerged at the meeting that the Expedition can now expect a probable surplus of some £33,000, taking into account the future income which is almost assured from publications and films. This profit, which is largely the result of the individual efforts of members of the Expedition donated to its general financial benefit, bears no relation, of course, to the original contributions which financed the venture at the outset. Publications and films alone will produce an estimated revenue of as much as £20,000, which is considerably in excess of the most optimistic original forecasts. As an illustration, sales to date of "The Crossing of Antarctica" written by Sir Vivian Fuchs and Sir Edmund Hillary have exceeded 104,000 copies in the English edition and are proceeding at the rate of about 500 copies per week. The American edition has been well received in the United States and comfortable sales are expected in that country as well.

The Trans-Antarctic Expedition in London (i.e. the company registered under that title) is now more or less functus officio and it is generally accepted that there is no point in continuing its existence in its present form. Similarly, its New Zealand counterpart, set up by the Ross Sea Committee, awaits liquidation. In these circumstances the Finance Sub-Committee (on which, incidentally, the contributing Commonwealth Governments are not represented) has lately been considering what would be the most appropriate method of disposing of the Expedition's surplus assets, consisting mainly of copyrights. At a meeting on 9th March the Sub-Committee decided that the following recommendations should be submitted to the Committee of Management, viz:

- (a) that a new Body be set up to be called 'The Trans-Antarctic Expedition Foundation'.
- (b) that it be incorporated as a Company limited by guarantee.

/ (c)

*See also Kom.
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- (c) that its objects should be to encourage research and exploration in Polar regions, with suitable ancilliary objects. It would support only projects organised or developed in Commonwealth countries, or participated in by Commonwealth nationals.
- (d) that the Trans-Antarctic Expedition should gradually transfer its surplus funds to this Body, as and when convenient.
- (e) that as soon as its assets are handed over, the Trans-Antarctic Expedition should be liquidated.
- (f) that the Governing Body of the proposed Trans-Antarctic Foundation should consist of seven members:
 - i. In the first instance a Chairman nominated by the Trans-Antarctic Expedition.
 - ii. One member nominated by each of the following organisations:
 - The Royal Society
 - The Royal Geographical Society
 - The Scott Polar Research Institute
 - The Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey
 - New Zealand House
 - The Commonwealth Relations Office
- (g) when the Trans-Antarctic Expedition is finally liquidated, members of the Governing Body of the newly established Foundation should appoint their own Chairman as an addition to their own number.
- (h) that, in the first instance, the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey be invited to undertake the administrative work of the new Foundation.

In view of the links between the Trans-Antarctic Expedition in London and its counterpart in New Zealand, the Ross Sea Committee, these proposals were submitted in advance of the meeting of the Committee of Management to New Zealand House for transmissiion by telegram to Wellington, the intention being that if the recommendations proved acceptable to the Ross Sea Committee, the latter should be asked to obtain the approval of the Governor-General of New Zealand to hand over to the proposed new Foundation in London any surplus funds left in their account.

As things turned out at the meeting of the Committee of Management, a final settlement of these issues on the lines contemplated in the above recommendations is extremely unlikely. The New Zealand representative, acting as spokesman for the Ross Sea Committee, dropped what

/appeared

appeared to be a mild bombshell into the placid stream of debate when he stated categorically that the proposals of the Finance Sub-Committee did not commend themselves at all to the Ross Sea Committee which, furthermore, considered that it was debarred by its constitution from agreeing to them. This constitution provides in one of its chapters for an adjustment to be made for the purpose of distributing surplus assets of the joint expedition in an "equitable manner" between the component bodies in London and Wellington; and, as the New Zealand representative emphasised, the relevant section had been specifically approved by the Committee of Management in London in 1955. The Ross Sea Committee had been extremely surprised that the Finance Sub-Committee in London should have made such far-reaching proposals without consulting them and had, in fact, decided on 20th March to set up an independent trust fund to be administered by the Royal Society of New Zealand. The feeling in Wellington was that there should be a fund with a local flavour and that its purposes should not be limited to polar research but should also embrace scientific and geographical projects. The New Zealand representative continued his argument (in terms which appeared to go rather further than his brief) by implying somewhat vaguely that if an equitable apportionment of assets between the London and New Zealand bodies proved difficult or impossible to achieve the entire surplus could perhaps be utilised to advantage in New Zealand which, after all, was "close to the Antarctic" and in which there had been growing public interest in Antarctic exploration and research over the last five years.

As could be expected, the uncompromising nature of the Ross Sea Committee's proposals visibly startled the majority of the Committee of Management, and evoked an immediate and unsympathetic response. References were made to the fact that the Ross Sea Committee had at one stage run a deficit of some £12,000 subsequently made good by London, and that repayment of this sum might be required before any redistribution of surplus assets was effected. If this were insisted on, it was pointed out, the New Zealand body would stand to gain nothing by an apportionment.

The Chairman, Sir John Slessor, went out of his way to emphasise that South Africa and Australia were also interested parties; and there is no doubt that the Committee of Management as a whole would be strongly opposed to any suggestion which might imply the termination of the present Commonwealth flavour attaching to the venture.

The other Commonwealth representatives present were invited by the Chairman to express their views, the general tenor of which, by implication, was opposed to any attempt by the Ross Sea Committee to arrogate to its own use an undue proportion of the surplus assets of the Expedition. The Commonwealth Relations Office representative made it clear that United Kingdom financial support of the Expedition had been in the nature of an outright cash grant without 'strings', and that the issue which had arisen was a domestic one to be resolved by the London and Wellington Committees themselves. At the same time, however, the Commonwealth Relations Office was concerned to preserve the

general Commonwealth flavour which had been such a happy feature of the Expedition, and felt that it would be a pity if invidious distinctions were to be drawn in allocating credit for individual contributions. The United Kingdom would therefore welcome the employment of the surplus in any suitable trust fund providing for a continuation of the joint effort.

The South African representative agreed that any decision regarding the disposition of the Expedition's surplus assets was primarily a matter for the Committee of Management. Nevertheless he thought the Union Government would probably prefer any such surplus to be employed towards the implementation of future joint schemes of the same nature as the original project. The Union Government was, of course, not aware of the proposals but he would transmit any recommendation that finally emerged to his Government. The Australian representative was in the same position.

The meeting was thus completely abortive. It was agreed that the New Zealand representative should circulate a memorandum setting out the case of the Ross Sea Committee for consideration at a further meeting in the near future of the Finance Sub-Committee. The South African representative asked that Commonwealth Governments not represented on that Sub-Committee should also receive a copy of the memorandum, and the New Zealand representative undertook to make this available. It will be passed to you in due course.

There is a general feeling that it is most unfortunate that this contretemps between the London and Wellington Committees should have arisen right at the end of what has been a most successful venture. The situation could well develop into an unpleasant bickering over the surplus, (with shades of the reported differences in the Antarctic between Fuchs and Hilary), and the Commonwealth Relations Office is concerned to ensure that it does not transform itself into an argument between the New Zealand Government and the Committee of Management here. They feel that Governments would do well to keep out of the dispute. The Secretary of the Expedition, incidentally, has told us off the record that the Ross Sea Committee is probably aiming at an apportionment of about 40% of the surplus.

It would be appreciated if we could be informed as soon as possible whether you would wish us to follow any particular line at the next meeting of the Committee of Management. No date has yet been set for such a meeting as the whole problem is now again in the hands of the Finance Sub-Committee. It occurs to us that we might perhaps attempt at the next meeting to have the objectives of any future fund that may be set up out of the surplus confined strictly to Antarctic exploration and research. There seems to be a tendency, particularly on the part of New Zealand (and perhaps largely on account of the diversified interests of Sir Edmund Hilary) to expand into wider fields which are inconsistent with the primary purposes for which

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TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

Minutes of the forty-second meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee held at Kirkland House on Monday 9th March 1959 at 2.30.p.m.

PRESENT: Sir Edwin Herbert (Chairman)
Sir Miles Clifford
Mr. G.P.Pirie-Gordon
Sir Vivian Fuchs

ALSO ATTENDED: Mr. C.G.Johnston (Kemp Chatteris & Co.)
Mr. P. Williams, (Kemp Chatteris & Co.)
Mr. G. Greenfield (John Farquharson Ltd.)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED FROM:

Captain A.R.Glen

The Minutes of the forty-first meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee held on 21st November 1958 were confirmed.

Financial Report.

1. The Treasurer tabled a Statement of the financial position to date which was discussed in detail. Having covered a deficit of £12,000 in the New Zealand accounts, the Statement shows a possible surplus of £23,443, but it was pointed out that it may still be necessary to repay the loan of £5,000 received from the Mount Everest Foundation. The surplus when the Expedition is finally wound up is likely to be in the region of £25,000 to £30,000.

2. It was reported that the New Zealand IGY party now occupying Scott Base had agreed to purchase the two Sno-Cats left behind when the Expedition was evacuated, for £600 each.

Sales of 'The Crossing of Antarctica'.

3. Mr. Greenfield reported that 'The Crossing of Antarctica' had now sold 104,000 copies in the English edition, bringing in excess royalties of £7,350. At present sales are steady at about 500 copies per week. The American edition had so far sold 9,000 copies. It has been well reviewed in the States, and comfortable follow-on sales are expected.

Husky Edition.

4. Sir Vivian Fuchs reported that the script of the Husky edition of 'The Crossing of Antarctica' has been delivered to Messrs. Cassells and edited chapters are now being returned for final approval. It is hoped that the book will be completely finished by the end of this month.

Schools Reader.

5. It was reported that Cassells have made an offer for the publication of a Schools Reader to be compiled from 'The Crossing of Antarctica', by Dr. Andrew Scotland who is a noted educationalist. He would use Sir Vivian's text throughout, cutting the material down to about 176 pages, and writing linking paragraphs to make the text intelligible. The published price would be about 8/6, the book would appear in the early months of 1960, and the royalty rate offered is 7½%. The Committee agreed to this proposal and Mr. Greenfield was authorised to proceed with negotiations.

Book to be written by George Lowe.

6. The Chairman reminded the Committee that a letter had been circulated to members stating that Messrs. Cassells were anxious that George Lowe should write a book of his experiences, to include chapters concerning the Expedition. He had sought permission from the Committee to do this and as it had not then been possible to arrange a meeting, the Chairman had seen Mr. Lowe and had come to an arrangement which he hoped the Committee would feel to be fair and reasonable. Cassells had offered £700 for the book, and after Mr. Lowe had paid tax on this money he was likely to receive about £350. Sir Edwin had therefore agreed that permission would be granted for this book to be written providing:

- (a) that Expedition funds benefitted to the extent of £75, or roughly 20%.
- (b) that the text of any material relating to the activities of the Expedition should be submitted to Sir Vivian Fuchs for approval.

The Committee endorsed this decision.

Honorarium for Sir Vivian Fuchs.

7. The Chairman said that when he had proposed that Sir Vivian Fuchs should receive an honorarium for writing 'The Crossing of Antarctica' he had entirely overlooked the fact that he is a member of the Committee of Management, and cannot under the Articles of Association, receive any payment from the Company. Several suggestions were made to overcome this technical difficulty, and Mr. Johnston said that meanwhile, the money which had been paid to Sir Vivian, was shown on the books as expenses in connection with the preparation of the script.

Disposal of assets.

8. The Secretary reported that a letter has been received from the Chairman of the Ross Sea Committee intimating that the New Zealand Company is now to be liquidated and a decision is necessary as to the disposal of its assets. Sir Miles Clifford said that when Sir John Slessor was in New Zealand, it was agreed between him and members of the Ross Sea Committee, that only one fund, with suitable Trustees, should be set up to administer the joint assets of both ends of the Expedition, and that this could probably best be handled in the United Kingdom.

9. Considerable discussion then took place on the various suggestions which have been made regarding the form and membership of a suitable Body to be charged with the responsibility of administering the surplus monies earned by the Expedition, and it was decided that the following recommendations should be submitted to the Committee of Management:

- L a) that a new Body be set up to be called 'The Trans-Antarctic Expedition Foundation.'
- b) that it be incorporated as a Company limited by guarantee.
- c) that its objects should be to encourage research and exploration in Polar regions, with suitable ancillary objects. It would support only projects organised or developed in Commonwealth countries, or participated in by Commonwealth nationals.

- d) that the Trans-Antarctic Expedition should gradually transfer its surplus funds to this Body, as and when convenient.
- e) that as soon as its assets are handed over, the Trans-Antarctic Expedition should be liquidated.
- f) that the Governing Body of the proposed Trans-Antarctic Foundation should consist of seven members:
- i. In the first instance a Chairman nominated by the Trans-Antarctic Expedition.
 - ii. One member nominated by each of the following organizations:
 - The Royal Society
 - The Royal Geographical Society
 - The Scott Polar Research Institute
 - The Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey
 - New Zealand House
 - The Commonwealth Relations Office
- g) When the Trans-Antarctic Expedition is finally liquidated, members of the Governing Body of the newly established Foundation should appoint their own Chairman as an addition to their own number.
- h) that, in the first instance, the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey be invited to undertake the administrative work of the new Foundation.

10. The Secretary was asked to write privately to Mr. Scott at New Zealand House, outlining these recommendations to enable him to obtain New Zealand reactions before the next meeting of the Committee of Management when the proposals would be discussed.

11. It was further agreed that if these recommendations are accepted, the Chairman of the Ross Sea Committee should be asked to obtain the Governor General of New Zealand's approval, and to hand over to the new Body, any surplus funds left in their account.

Grant to Glaciological Magazine.

12. Sir Vivian Fuchs said that he was most anxious that a glaciological paper written by Dr. Hal Lister and Dr. Jon Stephenson, on expedition work, should receive worldwide circulation in the Journal of Glaciology. This is a reputable scientific journal receiving periodical support from the Royal Society, but it is very short of funds and the publishers ask contributors to assist financially in the preparation of the material for publication.

13. The Committee agreed that £50 should be given to the Journal of Glaciology towards the cost of publication of this paper, this sum to be regarded as part of the costs budgeted for the publication of scientific results.

Lectures.

14. The Secretary reported that 65 free lectures have so far been given by members of the Expedition, and the 208 paid lectures have brought in £9,920. The Expedition's share of this money amounts to £5,570. Lectures fees still outstanding amount to about £500.

TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

12th March 1959.

22 Gayfere Street
LONDON. S.W.1.

There will be a meeting of the Committee of Management at Glyn Mills, Kirkland House, Whitehall, S.W.1. on Wednesday 25th March 1959 at 10.am.

A G E N D A .

1. Financial Statement.
2. Finance Sub-Committee recommendations on the winding up of Expedition affairs.
3. Finance Sub-Committee recommendations on setting up 'The Trans-Antarctic Expedition Foundation.'
4. Report on:
 - a) Sales of THE CROSSING OF ANTARCTICA. *104,000 copies to date*
500 per book, etc
 - b) The Husky edition.
 - c) The Schools Reader. *1.500*
5. Report on Lectures. *heres*
6. Progress of scientific work. ✓

NOTE: Attention is drawn to items 2 and 3 on the Agenda. In view of the importance of these, it is hoped that as many members as possible will be able to attend this meeting.

C.R.L.PARRY.
Secretary.

*Approved.
A.P.M.*

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enquirers should be asked to make direct arrangements with the individual concerned who would be supplied with the necessary slides. This was agreed and it was decided that if Expedition members wished to go on lecturing free lance they were at liberty to negotiate any mutually acceptable arrangement regarding fees, but the present terms of their agreement with the Committee regarding lectures would continue to operate, whereby a proportion of any fee over twenty guineas is payable to Expedition funds.

Disposal of the Queen's Portraits.

5. Sir Vivian Fuchs reported that he had been in touch with the Palace regarding the disposal of the portraits signed by Her Majesty the Queen for the Expedition. Her

*only 1 1/2 mins
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TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

Minutes of the thirty-fourth meeting of the Committee of Management held at 64 Victoria Street on 27th November 1958 at 4 pm.

PRESENT.

Sir James Wordie (in the Chair).
Sir Miles Clifford
Mr. G.P. Pirie-Gordon
Professor H.H. Read
Sir Vivian Fuchs
Mr. J.V. Scott (representing Ross Sea Committee)

ALSO ATTENDED.

Mr. C.G. Johnston (Kemp Chatteris & Co.)
Mr. P. Williams (Kemp Chatteris & Co.)
Mr. G. Greenfield (John Farquharson Ltd.)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED FROM:

Sir John Slessor (Chairman)
The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Portsmouth
General Sir James Marshall-Cornwall
Captain A.R. Glen
Mr. A.F. Drake (South Africa House)

The Minutes of the thirty-third meeting of the Committee of Management held on 27th October 1958 were confirmed.

Re-election of members of the Finance Sub-Committee.

1. The Secretary said that in accordance with the Articles of Association, the Finance Sub-Committee has to be re-elected every twelve months. Sir Miles Clifford and Mr. Pirie-Gordon said that they were willing to serve for another year.
2. It was proposed by Professor Read and seconded by Mr. Scott that the Finance Sub-Committee as at present constituted, be re-elected for a further period of one year as from 23rd June, 1958. This was carried.

Lecture Organisation.

3. The Secretary reported that the total number of lectures given to date by members of the Expedition was 213 of which 45 were given free. Another 35 have been booked up to the end of the year. Fees to date totalled £6,045, with a further likely £1,200 due at the end of the year.
4. Sir Vivian Fuchs said that when the office was moved to the F.I.D.S. premises, with the reduced staff available it would be impossible any longer to continue organising lectures on behalf of members of the Expedition. A number were already booked, but he proposed that any further enquirers should be asked to make direct arrangements with the individual concerned who would be supplied with the necessary slides. This was agreed and it was decided that if Expedition members wished to go on lecturing free lance they were at liberty to negotiate any mutually acceptable arrangement regarding fees, but the present terms of their agreement with the Committee regarding lectures would continue to operate, whereby a proportion of any fee over twenty guineas is payable to Expedition funds.

Disposal of the Queen's Portraits.

5. Sir Vivian Fuchs reported that he had been in touch with the Palace regarding the disposal of the portraits signed by Her Majesty the Queen for the Expedition. Her

only 1 1/2 minutes
D.

Majesty had given permission for the portrait from Shackleton, which had been carried across the Continent, to be presented to the Scott Polar Research Institute. This had been accepted with great pleasure. The portrait at present hanging in the London Headquarters would be transferred to the F.I.D.S. premises when the office moved.

6. Mr. Scott said that permission had been granted for Her Majesty's portrait presented to the Ross Sea Party, to remain at Scott Base for as long as this base continued to operate.

'The Crossing of Antarctica'.

7. Mr. Greenfield reported approximate figures for the sale of the expedition book, explaining that firm figures for sales in Australia and New Zealand were not yet available. Messrs. Cassells had indicated that about 91,000 copies of the book had already been sold, which would produce excess royalties to the Expedition of between £6,000 and £7,000. At present the book is selling at the rate of two thousand copies per week, and Cassells have 9,000 copies in hand which should cover adequately any sudden additional demands before Christmas.

8. Mr. Greenfield further reported that the Contract covering the Husky edition has been signed. There will be an advance payment of £500 and the first instalment of £250 has already been paid.

Disposal of Library.

9. Sir Vivian Fuchs reminded the Committee that a valuable collection of books, including many technical and reference works, had been presented to the Expedition. These had been brought home and he felt that it would be useful and appropriate if they could be kept together under conditions where they would be available to those who might need them in the future.

10. After discussion it was agreed that the library should be loaned indefinitely to the F.I.D. Scientific Bureau.

'Antarctic Crossing'.

11. The Secretary reported that the Expedition film, 'Antarctic Crossing' had had a very successful launching, and would now be shown publicly through the Arthur J. Rank organisation. The first public screening will be at the Gaumont Cinema in the Haymarket, for three weeks commencing on Thursday 4th December.

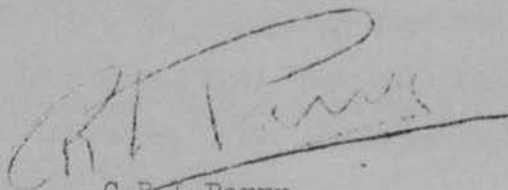
12. The Chairman indicated that the remainder of the agenda concerned only Company matters and Mr. Greenfield therefore left the meeting.

Financial Statement.

13. The Treasurer tabled the financial statement explaining each clause in detail. Mr. Johnston then took the Committee through the Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st October 1958 and submitted the proposed report to be given by the Committee to the Annual General Meeting. This was accepted and Professor Read proposed and Sir Vivian Fuchs seconded the adoption of the accounts. This motion was carried.

14. The Committee then accepted a Resolution, proposed by Professor Read and seconded by Mr. Scott, that the Annual General Meeting be called on 19th December 1958. This was carried.

The Meeting adjourned at 5.55 pm



C. R. L. Parry
SECRETARY
TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

DISTRIBUTION

All Members of the General Committee
Commonwealth Relations Office (4)
Colonial Office (2)
New Zealand House (2)
Australia House
South Africa House
Kemp Chatteris & Co.
H.E. the Governor of the Falkland Islands.

AIR MAIL

13th November, 1958.

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Trans-Antarctic Expedition

I forward for information two copies of the minutes of the 33rd meeting of the Committee of Management held on 27th October, 1958.

The Minutes of the Thirty-second meeting of the Committee of Management held on 27th July 1958 were confirmed.

Financial Statement

A. F. DRAKE

Acting High Commissioner.

The 33rd meeting of the Committee of Management was held on 27th October 1958. The minutes of this meeting were confirmed. The Committee considered the financial statement of the expedition for the period 1st July 1958 to 31st October 1958. The statement was prepared by Mr. J. H. G. ... and Mr. ... in South Africa, who are both working up their expedition results.

Recommendations from the Scientific Sub-Committee.

2. Sir Vivian ... reported that the Scientific Sub-Committee had ... to this Committee's approval. He decided on the form in which the expedition's scientific material would be published. He tabled copies of the F.I.D.S. Reports and said that the Sub-Committee recommended that a separate expedition series would be published in a distinct form and title, within the general framework of the normal F.I.D.S. Reports. It is estimated that the material available will require about 750 pages, of which there are likely to be 250 pages of meteorological observations in extenso, and a new departure will be the publication of engineering data produced by David Pratt.

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3. Sir Vivian also said that it is intended to incorporate the results which will arise from the field work that was done from Scott Base. In this connection he is in close touch with Dr. Falla in New Zealand.

4. In addition to the general geological publications which will arise from the work at both ends, certain paleobotanical material of a similar age and type had been found both from Shackleton and Scott Bases. The study of this material will be done by Professor Plumstead in South Africa to whom the specimens will be despatched.

TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

Minutes of the thirty-third meeting of the Committee of Management held at 64 Victoria Street on 27th October 1958 at 2.30.p.m.

PRESENT: Sir Miles Clifford (in the Chair)
The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Portsmouth
General Sir James Marshall-Cornwall
Mr. G.P.Pirie-Gordon
Sir Vivian Fuchs
Sir Edwin Herbert
Captain A.R.Glen
Mr. J.V.Scott (representing Ross Sea Committee)

ALSO ATTENDED: Mr.A.F.Drake (South Africa House)
Mr. G. Greenfield (John Farquharson Ltd.)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE WERE RECEIVED FROM:

Sir John Slessor (Chairman)
Sir James Wordie
Professor H.H.Read

The Minutes of the thirty-second meeting of the Committee of management held on 23rd July 1958 were confirmed.

Financial Statement.

1. The Treasurer tabled a summary of the financial position to date which was discussed in detail. An extra £2,500 has now been allocated towards the publication of the scientific results, to meet the recommendations made by the Scientific Sub-Committee, and financial provision has been made for clerical assistance for Dr. Jon Stephenson in Australia and Mr. Johannes La Grange in South Africa, who are both working up their expedition results.

Recommendations from the Scientific Sub-Committee.

2. Sir Vivian Fuchs reported that the Scientific Sub-Committee had met and, subject to this Committee's approval, had decided on the form in which the expedition's scientific material should be published. He tabled copies of the F.I.D.S. Reports and said that the Sub-Committee recommended that a separate expedition series should be published in a similar form and size, within the general framework of the normal F.I.D.S.Reports. It is estimated that the material available will require about 700 pages, of which there are likely to be 250 pages of meteorological tables alone. It is intended to publish the meteorological observations in extenso, and a new departure will be the publication of engineering data produced by David Pratt.

3. Sir Vivian also said that it is intended to incorporate the results which will arise from the field work that was done from Scott Base. In this connection he is in close touch with Dr. Falls in New Zealand.

4. In addition to the general geological publications which will arise from the work at both ends, certain paleobotanical material of a similar age and type had been found both from Shackleton and Scott Bases. The study of this material will be done by Professor Plumstead in South Africa to whom the specimens will be despatched.

Final 'Times' Articles.

5. Sir Miles Clifford reported that he had been to see Mr. Francis Mathew in connection with the two final articles still due to the 'Times' covering the scientific aspects of the expedition. Pressure had been put on Sir Vivian Fuchs to supply these but until the scientific material had been worked up he had found it impossible to write articles which the 'Times' felt able to publish. Sir Miles had explained this situation to Mr. Mathew who had now agreed to wait for the articles until the end of November, but had stated that it was essential that they should be available by then.

6. Sir Vivian said that he had asked all his scientists to supply him with some kind of written material outlining their work from which he could compile these articles and he certainly hoped he would be in a position to supply them, as required, by the end of November. He pointed out that the 'Times' had in fact received 29 articles during the expedition when only 20 had been contracted for, and stated that he had provided two scientific articles to the 'Times' which represented the best that could be done at the time that they were needed, but the 'Times' had not seen fit to publish them.

Reduction of Headquarters staff and closing of Expedition office.

7. Sir Miles Clifford said that Sir Vivian Fuchs and the Secretary had reported to the Finance Sub-Committee that when Sir Vivian returned to the F.I.D. Scientific Bureau at the end of this year, it was felt that it would be appropriate to give up the office premises in Victoria Street and to reduce the headquarters staff.

8. Sir Vivian said that in order to deal with the scientific publications and wind up the affairs of the expedition it would obviously be necessary to retain a small staff for some time. The Colonial Office was aware of the situation and there would be no objection to the final stages of the winding up of the Company being carried out at the F.I.D.S. offices where it would be possible for the reduced work to be continued under his personal supervision. The photographic library and all office records and files could be accommodated there.

9. After discussion the Committee agreed that the Victoria Street Headquarters should be closed down on 31st December 1958. Admiral Parry and Mrs. Honnywill would continue in the employment of the Expedition after that date, but the remainder of the office staff would be discharged at the end of the year.

Film Premiere.

10. The Secretary reported that the British Petroleum Company intended to launch the expedition film at a midnight matinee at the Leicester Square Cinema on 18th November. All the organisation for this event is being done from their offices and the invitation list includes all those firms who supported the Expedition.

'The Crossing of Antarctica.'

11. Mr. Greenfield reported that Sir Vivian's book, 'The Crossing of Antarctica' is published in the Commonwealth today. The first edition amounts to 100,000 copies of which Cassells have already sold 60,000 copies firm and over 20,000 on consignment. If necessary, they are in a position

to rush through a re-print before Christmas.

12. Discussing the foreign sales Mr. Greenfield said that to date the book is being translated and published in fifteen countries, including Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. The first printing in Norway will be 15,000 copies and in Germany 8,000 copies. Japan, Hungary, Finland and Brazil are still negotiating publication rights. American originally intended to publish 5,000 copies but since seeing the first proofs this figure had been increased to probably 50,000 copies. He hoped to sell more serial rights, both in the United Kingdom and South Africa.

'Husky' edition.

13. Mr. Greenfield also reported that Messrs. Cassells are anxious to publish a cadet edition of 'The Crossing of Antarctica', to be known as the 'Husky' edition, and the Finance Sub-Committee has already authorised him to proceed with negotiations. It would be published under Sir Vivian Fuchs' name, two specimen chapters had already been submitted to Cassells and approved, and they would hope to receive the full text by the end of March 1959, and to sell something in the region of 45,000 to 50,000 copies. The book would be approximately 45,000 words and it would be very heavily illustrated.

14. Sir James Marshall-Cornwall mentioned that the Everest Expedition had published a 'Schools edition' of Sir John Hunt's book and he felt that the Committee might usefully consider something similar. Sir Vivian felt that possibly the Husky edition might serve both purposes, but it was agreed to bear the suggestion in mind and Mr. Greenfield said he would discuss it with the publishers.

Disposal of surplus monies.

15. Sir Edwin Herbert discussed the winding up of the Company and the disposal of surplus monies which now looked as if they would be in the region of £20,000 or more. It was agreed that it is too early to arrive at conclusions on this matter at present, but members of the Committee were asked to give some thought to it, and the Secretary was requested to place it on the agenda for the next meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Award of the Hubbard Medal to Sir Vivian Fuchs.

16. It was reported that the National Geographic Society in Washington has awarded the Hubbard Medal to Sir Vivian Fuchs, and that he would be going to America to receive it in February. The Committee offered Sir Vivian their heartiest congratulations on this well deserved honour.

Letter of thanks to the Ross Sea Committee.

17. Sir Edwin Herbert said that now the Ross Sea Committee has virtually been wound up, he would like to propose that a letter of appreciation should be sent to its Chairman expressing the thanks of the Committee for all the friendliness and co-operation they had shown throughout the course of the expedition. This was agreed unanimously and the Secretary was requested to ask the Chairman to write in this sense to Mr. Bowden of the Ross Sea Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3.37 pm.

Distribution
Normal.

SECRETARY
TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

P.S. 16/1

Surface
AIRMAIL

7th August, 1958.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Trans-Antarctic Expedition

Enclosed for information are two copies of the Minutes of the 32nd meeting of the Committee of Management held on 23rd July, 1958.

I would mention that copies of the minutes of the 31st meeting of the Committee were not transmitted as they were concerned almost entirely with the arrangements for the reception of Sir Vivian Fuchs and his party on their arrival from New Zealand.

A. F. DRAKE

MINISTER

AD/DL

Committee agreed that all this work should be done before any profits are disposed of.

3. The Chairman asked where it was proposed to lodge the Expedition records. Sir Vivian said he had in mind asking either the Scott Polar Research Institute or the Royal Geographical Society to accept them. He felt that the S.P.R.I. would be the right depository for all the office records and the photographs, when these have been finally catalogued and indexed. He also suggested that sufficient representative pictures from the New Zealand activities should be included. The Committee accepted all these suggestions and agreed that no surplus profits would be disposed of until all this work had been done.

Mr. Drake F.F.

Handwritten notes:
New Zealand
1/4

TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT HELD AT 64, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.1. AT 2.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 23rd JULY, 1958.

PRESENT: Sir John Slessor (Chairman)
Sir Vivian Fuchs
General Sir James Marshall-Cornwall
Captain A.R.Glen
Professor H.H.Read
Sir Miles Clifford
Mr. G.P.Pirie-Gordon
Mr. J.V.Scott (representing
Ross Sea Committee)

ALSO ATTENDED: Mr. G.V.Brady (Australia House)
Mr. A.G.L.Turner (Commonwealth
Relations Office)

APOLOGIES FOR
ABSENCE RECEIVED FROM: Sir Edwin Herbert
The Bishop of Portsmouth

The Minutes of the 31st meeting of the Committee of Management held on 7th May were confirmed.

Financial Statement

1. The Treasurer tabled revised estimates of expenditure for the Expedition in the U.K. based on the assumption that the organisation would continue until the end of June, 1959, together with the available assets. He also reported that on the latest figures sent by the Ross Sea Committee, the New Zealand deficit would be in the region of £13,000. It was clear that although at present there is an overdraft the Expedition is likely to make a profit of between £15,000 and £20,000. The Committee felt that this was a most satisfactory position and the Chairman and those present expressed their thanks to the Treasurer for all the hard work he had done in the interests of the Expedition.

Disposal of Financial Assets

2. The Committee discussed the disposal of any surplus monies available when the Expedition is wound up. Sir Vivian Fuchs said that before the photographs could be handed over to an appropriate body for safekeeping, he felt that a certain amount of money would have to be spent in taking prints from each negative etc. and in reorganising the records. The Committee agreed that all this work should be done before any profits are disposed of.

3. The Chairman asked where it was proposed to lodge the Expedition records. Sir Vivian said he had in mind asking either the Scott Polar Research Institute or the Royal Geographical Society to accept them. He felt that the S.P.R.I. would be the right depository for all the office records and the photographs, when these have been finally catalogued and indexed. He also suggested that sufficient representative pictures from the New Zealand activities should be included. The Committee accepted all these suggestions and agreed that no surplus profits would be disposed of until all this work had been done.

Handwritten: Mr. J. V. Scott 7 F.

4. It was reported that various suggestions have been made for the disposal of surplus funds. It was generally accepted that any profits should be used to assist exploration in some way and Mr. Scott said that it had been suggested that a fund should be set up to enable young people from all the Commonwealth countries who had participated in the Expedition, to take part in expeditions. The Committee felt very attracted to this proposal and it was agreed to refer it to the Finance Sub-Committee for further discussion and recommendations.

5. Mr. Turner mentioned that before any decision is taken regarding the disposal of surplus funds the Commonwealth Relations Office would appreciate it if they could be informed.

It was agreed that however these funds are used it would be desirable if the entity of the Company could be retained and it was decided to ask Sir Edwin Herbert's advice as to how best a Committee or Trustees could be appointed to control the funds, possibly under the aegis of the Royal Geographical Society, if they would accept responsibility. Captain Glen suggested that to begin with the existing Finance Sub-Committee might well be appointed Trustees. It was decided to have this matter referred to an early meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee, to be called as soon as possible.

Newspaper Cuttings

6. Sir Vivian Fuchs said that ever since 1950 the F.I.D.S. organisation had employed a Press Cutting Agency to provide him with material on Polar activities, which he had found very useful. During the course of the Expedition the office had kept up these Press cutting books until he returned to the United Kingdom. He felt that it would be helpful to him if these could be continued. The Committee agreed that the service should be extended until the Expedition is wound up.

Expedition Film

7. The Secretary reported that although a great deal of film material had been shot, World Wide Pictures were finding it difficult to make a major picture to run as long as 90 minutes. They had, therefore, advised the British Petroleum Company that it would be a better commercial proposition to make a first class second feature film, running for between 45 and 60 minutes and this had been agreed.

Sir Vivian said that after British Petroleum have used all the material they require for making the film, he would like to ask them to give the Expedition any remaining footage which would probably be very useful in short lengths, either to show in schools, or for instructional or demonstration purposes.

Progress of Book

8. Sir Vivian reported that he had just completed the official account of the Expedition. He felt that owing to the rushed circumstances in which it had to be written and the lack of all scientific material, there were certain deficiencies, but Messrs. Cassell and Co. appeared to be satisfied with the material that had been provided.

Sir Vivian said he felt that when the book was published a number of people might properly expect to receive copies free. The Secretary said he thought that Messrs. Cassell and Co. would present each member of the Expedition with a copy, and Mr. Pirie-Gordon said that it was quite usual for publishers to make available a certain number of copies at trade prices. It was agreed that, when the time came, appropriate persons should be given free copies with the compliments of the Expedition.

Sir Vivian also said that he felt there was a market for a book of captioned photographs of the Expedition. The Committee agreed and asked him to discuss the matter further with Mr. Greedfield.

Scientific Reports

9. Sir Vivian said that as all his time had been taken up writing the book he had not yet been able to give attention to the important question of writing up the scientific results. He hoped to be able to call a meeting of the Scientific Sub-Committee within a short time as many problems had arisen, both here and in New Zealand, in connection with the publication of the scientific results. As soon as he had discussed these with the Scientific Sub-Committee he would be in a position to make a report and recommendations.

Lectures in America

10. Sir Vivian reported that various suggestions are now being made for members of the Expedition to give lectures in America. He had already stated that he personally was not willing to lecture in the States under the auspices of any Lecture Agency, and would only do so if pressed, for reasons of national prestige; but he saw no reason why members of the Expedition should not accept engagements to lecture if they so wished, subject to the Committee's approval.

The Committee felt that it would be very unfortunate if Sir Vivian did not give any lectures in the States and the Chairman said he would like to make enquiries through the English Speaking Union in America about a short, suitably sponsored tour for Sir Vivian early in December.

11. The Secretary will be absent on leave from early in August until about 10th September on a visit to Ecuador.

The meeting adjourned at 3.47 p.m.


C.R.L. Parry
SECRETARY
TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

Distribution

All members of the General Committee
Commonwealth Relations Office (4)
Colonial Office (2)
New Zealand House (2)
Australia House
South Africa House
The Ross Sea Committee (2)
Kemp Chatteris and Co.
H.E. The Governor of the Falkland Islands
Chairman, Scottish Appeal Committee

Miss Gosling

PS 16/1

file kept by you
17.7.58



TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

A Meeting of the Committee of Management of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition will be held at 64, Victoria Street, S.W.1., at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 23rd. July.

AGENDA

1. Financial Statement.
2. Disposal of financial assets on completion of Expedition matters.
3. Progress of Film about Expedition.
4. Progress of Book.
5. Compilation of scientific reports.

C.R.L. Parry.
SECRETARY
TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Minister
A.C.
17/7
Mr. Phillips
17/7

F.

TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT HELD AT 64 VICTORIA STREET, S.W.1. AT 2.45 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH MAY 1958.

PRESENT:

Sir John Slessor (Chairman)
Sir James Wordie
Captain A.R. Glen
Mr. G.P. Pirie-Gordon
General Sir James Marshall-Cornwall
Professor H.H. Read
Sir Miles Clifford
Mr. F.H. Corner.



Mr. de Villiers

A.G.

ALSO ATTENDED: Mr. M.A. Willis (Colonial Office)

APOLOGIES FOR

ABSENCE RECEIVED FROM:

Sir Edwin Herbert
The Rt. Rev. The Bishop of Portsmouth

The Minutes of the Thirtieth Meeting of the Committee of Management held on 31st March, 1958 were confirmed.

Arrangements for reception etc. of Dr. Fuchs and explorers at Southampton.

1. A detailed Programme of Events, connected with the arrival of Dr. Fuchs and his party at Southampton was tabled and discussed.

The following points were stressed :-

- a) s.s. Rangitoto berths Southampton (Ocean Terminal) 0630, Monday, 12th May.
- b) The special train (with seats reserved for members of Committee) will leave Waterloo at 0700 precisely, stopping at Woking at 0729.
- c) The special train arrives at Southampton Central Station at 0834. Buses are being provided to take the Committee and passengers to the Ocean Terminal.
- d) The Explorers, having passed through Customs, will be reunited with their relatives and friends and all those aboard the special train in an area specially allocated at the Ocean Terminal. (0845 to 0920).
- e) Explorers move to position ready to meet The Mayor, Sheriff and Town Clerk who arrive at the South End of the Ocean Terminal at 0930.
- f) Six cars proceed to Civic Centre at 0945. The Committee and relatives of the Expedition will follow in two buses.
- g) Arrival at Civic Centre 1015 followed by Press Conference and Television and news reel interviews.
- h) Civic Reception commences 1200. The Mayor and Dr. Fuchs will receive the guests. Explorers will have individual hosts to facilitate introductions.
- j) After the Reception is over, members of the Committee and relatives of the Expedition proceed in buses to the Central Station at 1.20.
- k) Special train leaves for Waterloo 1.45 precisely.
- l) Special train arrives Waterloo (Platform 11) at 3.15 P.M.

The arrangements, are chiefly the responsibility of The Mayor and Corporation of Southampton and were unanimously approved. The Secretary emphasized the necessity of adhering strictly to the time-table to enable the programme to proceed smoothly. The Secretary confirmed that Dr. Fuchs and his party had been given details of the programme.

Arrangements on arrival in London.

2. The Secretary reported that the situation in Lond was nearly finalized, but entailed more complicated organisation than Southampton. The programme was tabled and discussed in detail.

The special train with the Committee, explorers and relatives on board will arrive at No. 11 Platform, Waterloo at 3.15 P.M.

The Secretary stated that a special area about 50 yards from the entrance to the platform has been set aside for reception purposes. Athwart the platform and on each side of the area, two large stands will be erected to accommodate press reporters, television cameras, etc. The road space adjoining the platform opposite the train will be kept clear to allow for movements of special cars. Some London County Council School children will be allowed to view the proceedings.

Dr. Fuchs will be greeted by Sir Edwin Herbert and then introduced to the Mayor of Lambeth and the Earl of Home who in turn, is introduced to the explorers. The Earl of Home will make a brief speech of welcome to which Dr. Fuchs will reply.

The Reception Party will include, The Secretary of State for Air, The Rt. Hon. George R. Ward, The High Commissioners of Australia, South Africa and the Acting High Commissioner of New Zealand and The Chairman of The London County Council. After the speech is concluded, Dr. Fuchs will be taken by Sir Edwin Herbert to the remainder of the Reception Party and introduced to the members of this group. While introductions are in progress Mr. David Attenborough of the B.B.C. will have a short interview with David Stratton.

On completion of introductions and B.B.C. interviews, Dr. Fuchs and his party move to their open cars (weather permitting). The procession through the streets of London to The Royal Geographical Society starts not later than 3.40 P.M. The Secretary once more emphasized the importance of exact timing.

Buses for the Committee and passengers of the special train wishing to attend the press conference at the Royal Geographical Society will take passage in the transport parked at the end of No. 11 platform. The Secretary emphasised the fact that members of the Committee will not be required in the special area (with the exception of Sir Edwin Herbert).

Press Conferences.

3. The Secretary reported that a Press Meeting called on Monday, 4th May received good attendance, but little was reported the following day in the newspapers. The object of the meeting was to brief the press with details for welcoming home Dr. Fuchs and his party.

Two Press Conference have been arranged to cover the days happenings on May 12th, one at the Civic Centre at Southampton at 10.20 and the second Conference to be held at The Royal Geographical Society at about 4 o'clock. Both will last approximately one hour.

Subsequent Receptions etc.

4. The major subsequent events were tabled by the Secretary and details of receptions, lectures etc. were discussed. A copy of

the details was circulated to members of the Committee.

Royal Geographical Society Reception, Thursday 15th May.

The Secretary reported that about 400 guests may be expected to accept the Committee's invitation to the Reception. About 150 guests have not yet replied.

It was suggested that at this Reception, members of the Committee should wear a badge labelled "Committee" to facilitate introductions to Dr. Fuchs and the explorers.

Government Reception and dinner, 19th May.

The Secretary confirmed that members of the Committee of Management would be invited to attend the Government dinner and Reception at Lancaster House.

Lectures.

5. The Chairman mentioned that he hoped that Dr. Fuchs would be protected from the press and other commitments in order that he could write his book in comparative peace and quiet. The Secretary replied that all possible means had been taken to organise a clear programme for this purpose after the initial engagements. It was agreed that this be mentioned at both Press Conferences.

Sir Miles Clifford stressed the importance of organising the lectures in Brussels and Holland. These dates will be discussed when the Expedition returns to this country.

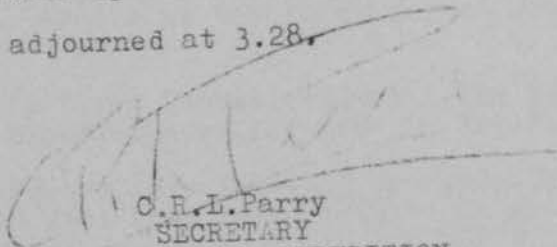
Finance.

6. The Treasurer reported that the New Zealand claim for damaged stores in H.M.N.Z.S. Endeavour had been agreed by the Underwriters, and it is in the process of being met. The Secretary pointed out that this claim had created an enormous amount of work owing to the fact that details were lacking from The Ross Sea Committee. No further progress was reported with regard to the sale of the Otter aircraft, but the Secretary confirmed that the aircraft is being looked after at Scott Base. About £3,000 may be expected from the sale of the Sno-Cat which is returning to The Tucker Sno-Cat Corporation. Otherwise, it was stated, that there were no major changes in the financial situation.

Honours and Awards.

7. The Honours and awards for both parties was discussed. It was agreed that it was now too late to recommend names for the Birthday Honours list, and that the matter should be discussed in detail with Dr. Fuchs upon his return.

The meeting adjourned at 3.28.


C.R.L. Parry
SECRETARY
TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Distribution.

All members of the General Committee
Commonwealth Relations Offices (4)
Colonial Office (2)
New Zealand House (2)
Australia House
South Africa House
The Ross Sea Committee (2)
Kemp Chatteris & Co.
H.E. The Governor of the Falkland Islands.
Chairman, Scottish Appeal Committee.

AIR MAIL.
LUGPOS.



P.S. 16/1

113/34

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

URGENT.

SPECIAL AIR MAIL.



PRETORIA.

5 MAY 1958

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

Proposed Award of Polar Medal.

Further to my telegram No. 94 of the 1st May, 1958, in reply to your minute No. P.S. 16/1 of the 24th April, in regard to the proposed award of an O.B.E. or M.B.E. and Polar Medal to Mr. J. la Grange, South African and a member of the recent Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition, I now send you, for information, copies of:-

- (a) a letter, reference SAR.AL/9, addressed by the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom to the Secretary for External Affairs on the 17th April;
- (b) a personal letter, reference 113/34, addressed by Mr. G.P. Jooste to the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom on the 28th April, outlining the Union's attitude in this matter;
- (c) a minute No. E.M. 20/34 of the 1st May from the Prime Minister's Office.

A. I. G. G.

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

*See de Veltius
re discussion paper*

W.H. 17/5

By 27/5 *Discussed with Chief Clerk C.P.O. - will advise*
Noted *By 27/5*
A.G. 13/5

113/34

COPY.

Office of the High Commissioner
for the United Kingdom
Pretoria.

Mr. Sir. AL/9.

PRETORIA.

CONFIDENTIAL.

28 APR 1958

My dear Sir,

My dear Liesching.

I refer to your confidential letter No. SAR.AL/9 of the 17th April, 1958, containing a request from Dr. Vivian Fuchs, leader of the recent Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition that Mr. Johannes le Grange, South African member of that expedition be recommended for the award of the Polar Medal.

In accordance with the rules governing the awards to South African citizens of non-Union medals and decorations, and as explained to the Commonwealth Relations Office, both by letter and by Dr. Geyer personally in 1952, the Union Government are not able to recommend the award of the Polar Medal to Mr. Johannes le Grange, but, at the same time, the Government raise no objection to a recommendation that the United Kingdom Polar Medal be awarded to him.

Yours sincerely,

G. P. JOOSTE

His Excellency Sir Percivale Liesching, G.C.M.G.,
K.C.B., K.C.V.O.,
High Commissioner for the United Kingdom,
PRETORIA.

JM/CK.

COPY.

Office of the High Commissioner
for the United Kingdom,
PRETORIA.

No. SAR. A1/9.

17th April, 1958.

CONFIDENTIAL.

My dear Jooste,

I have received, through my colleague in New Zealand, the enclosed message from Dr. Vivian Fuchs, the leader of the recent Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition, containing his request that Mr. Johannes La Grange should be recommended for the award of the Polar Medal. Dr. Fuchs has asked that it should be communicated urgently to the Union Government.

I understand from London that Dr. Fuchs was authorised by the Expeditions Offices there to make recommendations to the United Kingdom Government for the award of the Medal and that he was advised to approach the other Commonwealth Governments concerned in the case of members who are citizens of their countries and whom he wished to recommend. I regret that I have been unable to secure a copy of the United Kingdom Government Gazette in which the Royal Warrant concerning the Polar Medal was published, I believe in 1953; in default of this I enclose, in case it may be of assistance to you, a copy of the draft Warrant as communicated to the Governments of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa with Telegram D No. 1 Saving of the 6th September, 1952.

I am not fully aware of the principles by which the Union Government would be guided in considering a recommendation of this rather special nature. If it should be that they find themselves unable to sponsor a recommendation in favour of Mr. La Grange, would it perhaps be possible for them to suggest some other procedure whereby his name could be submitted in order that he may not be the only member of Dr. Fuchs' and Sir Edmund Hillary's parties who will not receive the Medal from the Queen at the ceremony on the 15th May at which it is planned the Medals should be presented.

Should there be any way in which I could be of assistance to you in this matter either by securing further information or by way of discussion please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) P. Liesching.

... appear to be correct. The existing Polar Medal was instituted by the Queen some years ago by Royal Warrant, and awards are normally made only by the First Lord of the Admiralty. Moreover, the Polar Medal is included in the list of decorations of the United Kingdom ...

Ref.No: E.M. 20/34.

1-5-1958

ENQUIRIES:

Mr. Visser,
Tel.No: 3-5421.

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRIME MINISTER.
The Secretary for External Affairs,
Union Buildings,
PRETORIA.

PROPOSED AWARD OF THE O.B.E. OR M.B.E. TO
J. LA GRANGE IN ADDITION TO THE POLAR MEDAL

1. With reference to minute No. P.S. 16/1 of the 24th April, 1958, from the Office of the Union's High Commissioner in London, I am directed to inform you that it is regretted that the Union Government is unable to agree to the proposed award to Mr. la Grange.
2. In general, permission for the acceptance by South African citizens of non-South African awards can only be sought when such awards are made in recognition of -
 - (a) services in the salaried employment of the foreign Government concerned;
 - (b) services as Honorary Consul of the foreign Government concerned for a minimum period of three years; and
 - (c) distinguished services in the saving of life.
3. In view of the special circumstances obtaining in this case, no objection was raised to the proposed award to Mr. la Grange of the Polar Medal, but the Prime Minister is of the opinion that, in view of the rules set out above, which have been strictly observed by the Union Government in recent years, there is no justification for allowing Mr. la Grange to accept an additional British award in recognition of his services with the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition.
4. The statement in the abovementioned minute that "the Polar Medal is not a State decoration", does

not/.....

S.S. 20/34.

not appear to be correct. The existing Polar Medal was instituted by the Queen some years ago by Royal Warrant, and awards are normally made only on a recommendation by the First Lord of the Admiralty. Moreover, the Polar Medal is included in the list showing the order of precedence of the official United Kingdom orders, decorations and medals.

J. P. V. VISSER

SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

The Secretary for External Affairs,
Cairns Building,
Wellington.

PROPOSED AWARD OF THE U.K.B. OR M.B.E. TO
J. LA GRANGE IN ADDITION TO THE POLAR MEDAL

*Vic 2857
Central Chancery*

With reference to minute No. P.E. 15/1 of the 22nd April, 1956, from the Office of the Union's High Commissioner in London, I am directed to inform you that it is regretted that the Union Government is unable to agree to the proposals made to Mr. La Grange.

In general, permission for the acceptance by South African citizens of non-South African awards can only be granted when such awards are made in recognition of -

- (a) services in the related employment of the Foreign Government concerned;
- (b) services as Member of Staff of the Foreign Government concerned for a definite period of time; and
- (c) distinguished services in the course of war.

[Faint, mostly illegible text at the bottom of the page]

THE TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

P.S. 16/1

8th May, 1958.

Dear Sir,

I return herewith, as discussed by telephone with your office, the rail ticket and identity cards that have been sent to me for the reception of the Antarctic Expedition at Southampton.

As I shall not be able to go to Southampton, I informed your office that Commander Goosen would represent South Africa House there instead; he has received a rail ticket and the necessary identity cards.

Yours faithfully,

I.F.A. de Villiers

The Secretary,
Trans-Antarctic Expedition,
64 Victoria Street, S.W.1.

IdV/AG

lines at an angle to the cameras and Dr. Fuchs will escort Lord Home down each line introducing each member of the Expedition. Lord Home will then walk to the microphone and extend an official welcome home to the Expedition on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. After this, Sir Edwin Herbert will take Dr. Fuchs over to where the other official guests are standing and introduce him to each one. During this time, David

7/5

Guidance at Southampton.

Our own representatives will be travelling on the Special Train and will be available at every point throughout the day to assist passengers and to control the coaches which will convey them to the Ocean Terminal and later to the Civic Centre in Southampton. It would be appreciated if everyone would comply with their requests and follow their instructions as quickly as possible as the various operations have been carefully timed and it is important to avoid undue delays.

THE TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

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

64, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

TELEPHONE: TATE GALLERY 7966/68.

TELEGRAMS: TRANSPOLAR, SOWEST, LONDON.

2nd May 1958.

Dear Dr. Holloway

I write to confirm the arrangements for the arrival of Dr. Fuchs on May 12th.

The Special Train will reach Waterloo (Platform 11) at 3.15 p.m. where a reception enclosure is being reserved. Sir Edwin Herbert, Chairman of our Finance Committee, will be your host and we should be grateful if you could arrange to arrive not later than 3.10 p.m.

The arrival is being televised live and for this reason careful arrangements have been worked out as to where people should stand and how they should face. Sir Edwin will explain these arrangements and we would appreciate it if you could remain roughly in the position indicated throughout the proceedings.

In case by some mischance you inadvertently get separated from the main party, the Railway Police have asked that we should issue you with the enclosed identity card as they anticipate large crowds of reporters etc and it might be helpful to them if you could have this with you though they do not anticipate having to ask you for it.

As the train stops, Dr. Fuchs and members of the Expedition will alight from a central door facing the television cameras; he will be welcomed by the Mayor of Lambeth who will then hand over to Lord Home. Meanwhile, the explorers will be marshalled into two lines at an angle to the cameras and Dr. Fuchs will escort Lord Home down each line introducing each member of the Expedition. Lord Home will then walk to the microphone and extend an official welcome home to the Expedition on behalf of Her Majesty's Government. After this, Sir Edwin Herbert will take Dr. Fuchs over to where the other official guests are standing and introduce him to each one. During this time, David

NOT TO ARRIVE AT THE OCEAN TERMINAL UNTIL AFTER 6.15 AM.

Guidance at Southampton.

Our own representatives will be travelling on the Special Train and will be available at every point throughout the day to assist passengers and to control the coaches which will convey them to the Ocean Terminal and later to the Civic Centre in Southampton. It would be appreciated if everyone would comply with their requests and follow their instructions as quickly as possible as the various operations have been carefully timed and it is important to avoid undue delays.

The Ministry 7/5

*Miss Best
see file*

Noted

7/5

Stratton, Deputy Leader of the Expedition, will be interviewed in front of the television cameras for the benefit of B.B.C. viewers.

At approximately 3.30 Dr. Fuchs and the explorers will be directed to their cars. The procession will form up and move off as soon as possible.

Dress will be ordinary lounge suits and the route to be followed by cars going to the station should be via Westminster Bridge Road entrance, the cab road to the Main Entrance to Nos. 11 and 12 Platforms. Cars will be directed to the Reception area on Platform 11 and subsequently marshalled for the return journey. Those cars joining the procession will be placed immediately behind the vehicles conveying Dr. Fuchs and his Party.

Yours sincerely,

E. P. H. Tarry

The Hon. Dr. J.E.Holloway,
South Africa House,
Trafalgar Square,
London, W.C.2.

Guidance at Southampton.

Our own representatives will be travelling on the Special Train and will be available at every point throughout the day to assist passengers and to control the coaches which will convey them to the Ocean Terminal and later to the Civic Centre in Southampton. It would be appreciated if everyone would comply with their requests and follow their instructions as quickly as possible as the various operations have been carefully timed and it is important to avoid undue delays.

FROM: SECEXTERN, PRETORIA
 DESPATCHED: 2.5.58
 TO: HIGH COMMISSIONER, LONDON
 RECEIVED: 2.5.58

No. 94

Your despatch of 24th April.

It is regretted that in accordance with rules governing the acceptance of awards by Union Nationals Union Government are unable to agree to the proposed award to Mr. La Grange. In view of the special circumstances no objection was raised to the proposed award to him of Polar Medal and United Kingdom authorities already informed to this effect. Explanatory letter follows. (X)

/PS

hide letters
 Mr Perry
 (Secy of Antarctic Committee)
 informed by telephone 2/5/57
 letter to follow as receipt of (X)

PA 9/5/58 *Notad A.G. 3/5*

... of those wishing to join it there. The tickets are enclosed herewith - the return fare will be £2.10.0 which will include breakfast and lunch. Those who are only travelling from Southampton to London will be charged £1.5.0. Cheques should be made out to "The Trans-Antarctic Expedition" and sent to this office at your earliest convenience.

Arrival of the SS RANGITOTO.

At present the Rangitoto is expected to reach Southampton at about 2.am on 12th May but she will NOT be handled by the Docks until 7.am. The Cabin Class Hall of the Ocean Terminal will be reserved as a private enclosure for the Expedition. Those going down to meet the ship will be taken straight to this point and will not be permitted on board ship. No one will be allowed to meet the Expedition until after they have complied with the Immigration and Customs formalities, when they too will be directed to the Cabin Class Hall from the opposite direction. It is expected that all formalities and baggage examination will be completed by 8.15.am and those of you who live locally and are going to meet the ship are asked NOT to arrive at the Ocean Terminal until after 8.15.am.

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TRANS ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

2nd May 1958

64 Victoria Street
London. S.W.1.

Information regarding the arrival of
The Trans Antarctic Expedition in
England on 12th May 1958.

Introduction

Arrangements for the arrival of the Expedition on 12th May have now been completed and I enclose an identification Pass which you should have with you throughout the day as it will facilitate transport arrangements and ensure entry to the different functions.

Arrangements for spending Sunday night in Southampton.

Mrs. Honnywill will be spending the night of May 11th at the Polygon Hotel Southampton. Would those of you who are also staying in Southampton overnight please let us know beforehand where they will be, or contact Mrs. Honnywill at the Polygon so that, where necessary, arrangements can be made for transport to the Ocean Terminal early next morning.

Instructions for those travelling in the Special Train.

Would those who are travelling to Southampton in the Special train please note that the train will leave Waterloo from Platform 11 at 7.am. and it cannot be held for any late arrivals. It will stop at Woking at 7.29 am at Platform 4. for the benefit of those wishing to join it there. The tickets are enclosed herewith - the return fare will be £2.10.0 which will include breakfast and lunch. Those who are only travelling from Southampton to London will be charged £1.5.0. Cheques should be made out to "The Trans-Antarctic Expedition" and sent to this office at your earliest convenience.

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Programme at Southampton.

- 0700 Special Train leaves Waterloo calling at Woking
(7.29am at Platform 4)
- 0815 Families and friends will be admitted to the
Cabin Class Hall at the Ocean Terminal.
- 0834 Arrival of Special Train at Central Station
where Buses will be provided to take passengers
to the Ocean Terminal.
- 0845 Arrival of Buses at the Ocean Terminal.
- 0920 Explorers move into position ready to meet the
Mayoral Party coming to welcome them.
- 0930 The Mayor arrives at the Ocean Terminal and is
welcomed by the Chairman. Dr. Fuchs and members
of the Expedition will be presented.
- 0940 The Mayoral Party and the explorers will leave
the Cabin Class Hall by the South End entrance.
After the departure of the explorers families
and friends will be directed to the same entrance
and will be taken to the buses which will then
convey them to the Civic Centre.
- 0945 A car procession conveying the Mayoral Party and
the explorers will move off, led by the Chief
Constable.
- 1015 The car procession will reach the Civic Centre.
Members of the Expedition will at once go to the
Council Chamber to meet the Press. Families
and friends will, on arrival, be directed to the
Public Gallery of the Council Chamber from which
they can listen to the Press Conference.
- 1020 Press Conference in the Council Chamber.
- 1110 Press Conference will be closed and Dr. Fuchs
will give Television and Newsreel interviews
in another room for $\frac{3}{4}$ hour. Members of the
Expedition will be free for about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour and will
then be directed to the Guildhall in preparation
for the Civic Reception.
- 1200 Civic Reception in the Guildhall. All guests
will be received by the Mayor and Dr. Fuchs.
- 1315 Civic Reception will terminate and families and
friends will be directed to the buses waiting to
take them back to Central Station.
- 1330 Buses will leave for the Station. The explorers
will follow later with the Mayoral Party. Families
are asked to keep a seat within their circle so
that they can be joined by members of the Expedition
when they arrive.
- 1345 Special Train will leave for London. Luncheon
will be served.

Arrival in London.

- 1515 Special Train will draw into Platform 11 at
Waterloo. Members of the Expedition will alight
from one special door in the centre of the train
into a special reception enclosure and will receive
an official welcome from the Secretary of State for
Commonwealth Relations and other V.I.Ps.

Families and friends will alight from different doors at the front and the rear of the train and will not be able to enter the special enclosure. Every effort will be made to arrange for them to remain near enough to the Expedition to hear the speeches etc. but the special enclosure will be entirely surrounded by television and newsreel cameras and reporters and this part of the programme will be televised "live" by the BBC.

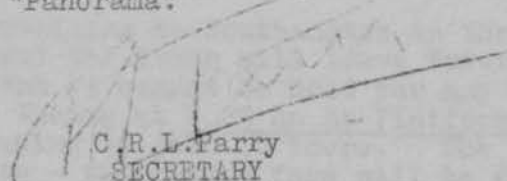
- 1540 A car procession will be formed and members of the Expedition, followed by the V.I.Ps who have come to welcome them, will leave Waterloo and drive to the Royal Geographical Society by the following route: Waterloo Bridge, Strand, Trafalgar Square, The Mall, Constitution Hill, Hyde Park Corner and Knightsbridge.

Families and friends who wish to go to the Royal Geographical Society will be directed to special buses.

- 1630 Press Conference at the Royal Geographical Society.

At the conclusion of this Press Conference members of the Expedition will be free to go home.

Dr. Fuchs, David Pratt and John Lewis will later appear on the BBC Television programme "Panorama".


C.R.L. Parry
SECRETARY
TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

A meeting of the Committee of Management will be held at 2.45 p.m. on Wednesday, 7th May at 64 Victoria Street, S.W.1.

A G E N D A

1. Arrangements for reception etc. of Dr. Fuchs and explorers at Southampton.
2. Arrangements on arrival in London
3. Press conferences
4. Subsequent receptions etc.



P.S. 16/1.

AIR MAIL.

24th April, 1958.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Awards to Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition.

1. I attach, for your consideration, a copy of a letter addressed to the High Commissioner by Sir John Slessor, Marshal of the Royal Air Force and Chairman of the Committee of Management of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition, in which Sir John outlines the procedure to be followed for the making of awards to members of the Expedition and in which he seeks guidance in the particular case of the South African member, Mr. Johannes la Grange.
2. We have since discussed the matter informally with Mr. Parry, the Secretary of the Trans-Antarctic Committee and have ascertained that the awards contemplated are of the order of the O.B.E. or M.B.E. Mr. Parry was aware that Mr. la Grange might be ineligible for an award of this nature but explained that it would be invidious for the Committee on its own initiative to omit the name of Mr. la Grange from its list of meritorious candidates. If Mr. la Grange's name is not to be submitted to the Queen, they would prefer that decision to be taken by the Union Government; they would particularly wish Mr. la Grange to know that he had not been overlooked in the Committee's list of recommendations. The High Commissioner has accordingly informed Sir John Slessor that the Union Government will be advised of his Committee's desire to recognise Mr. la Grange's services and that he will be formally notified of the Union Government's reply.
3. We have also been informed that Dr. Fuchs has already made a direct recommendation to the Polar Committee that certain members of his Expedition, including Mr. la Grange, should be awarded the Polar Medal. The Polar Medal, as you will be aware, is not a State decoration and is bestowed by the Polar Committee itself for research and discovery in the Polar field. It is therefore similar in kind to the decorations awarded by national Academies and Institutes in the Union and we presume that it will not be necessary to enter a caveat against the proposed award of this medal to Mr. la Grange. It is possible that the presentation will be made, on behalf of the Polar Society, by The Queen or by some other member of the Royal Family but this will not alter the origin or nature of the award.

B/A
F 2/5/58
Noted
A.G.
24/4

2/....

4. In view of the urgency of the matter, and in order to avoid any possibility of embarrassment, it would be appreciated if you would inform me by telegraph of the Union Government's views on paragraphs (2) and (3) above.

J. F. A. de VILLIERS,

Minister for Information and Public Relations

Minister.

1. I enclose, for your information, a copy of a letter addressed to the High Commissioner by Sir John Kinross, Member of the House of Commons and Chairman of the Committee of Management of the Press and Printing Industries, in which Sir John outlines the procedure to be followed for the sealing of awards to members of the population and in which he refers particularly to the particular case of the House of Commons member, Mr. Kenneth G. George.

IAV/JGL

2. We have since discussed the matter informally with Mr. Perry, the Secretary of the Press and Printing Industries and have ascertained that the award contemplated was of the order of the A.P.C. or P.P.C. Mr. Perry was aware that Mr. G. George might be ineligible for an award of this order but explained that it would be advisable for the Committee on its own initiative to visit the case of Mr. G. George from the view of eligibility considerations. If Mr. G. George's case is not to be submitted to the press, they would prefer that his name be taken by the Public Authorities. They would presumably visit Mr. G. George to hear that he had not been recommended in the Committee's list of recommendations. The High Commissioner has accordingly referred Sir John Kinross that the Public Authorities will be advised of the Committee's desire to recommend Mr. G. George's services and that it will be desirable to be notified of the Public Authorities's reply.

3. We have also been informed that Mr. Perry has already made a direct communication to the Public Authorities that certain members of his population, including Mr. G. George, should be awarded the Public Award. The Public Award, as you will be aware, is not a State decoration and is bestowed by the Public Authorities itself on persons and services in the public field. It is therefore desirable in view of the decorations awarded by various countries and institutions in the field and to prevent that it will not be necessary to enter a protest against the proposed award of this order to Mr. G. George. It is possible that the presentation will be made, as before, to the Public Authorities, by the House or by some other member of the House, thereby not only will not affect the weight or status of the award.

[Handwritten signature and notes]

27/1/51

THE TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

P.S.16/1.

24th April, 1958.

Dear Sir John,

Thank you for your letter of the 23rd April, 1958, about the proposed awards to members of the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition. It gives me great pleasure to know that your Committee wishes to pay a tribute to the services rendered by the South African member of the Expedition.

As the Union Government does not as a rule submit the names of South African citizens for honours or awards by The Queen, it seems unlikely that an exception will be made in the case of la Grange. I appreciate, however, that your Committee would not of its own initiative wish to omit la Grange's name from its list of recommendations and that the final decision must therefore be left to the Union Government.

I am accordingly advising the Union Government of your Committee's desire that la Grange's services be recognised and will notify you as soon as possible of the Government's reply.

Yours sincerely,

J. E. HOLLOWAY

Marshal of the Royal Air Force,
Sir John Slessor, G.C.B., D.S.O., M.C.,
64 Victoria Street,
London, S.W.1.

IdV/JGL

where a Government reception and Press Conference should be held. This is still under consideration.

Social functions after the Expedition returns.

4. It was reported that the Expedition and their wives will be received at Buckingham Palace on the 15th May when Dr. Fuchs will receive his accolade. The Committee felt that it would be appropriate if Her Majesty would consent to present Polar medals to the members of the Expedition at the same time and the Chairman undertook to approach the Polar Medal Committee asking if this could be arranged.