

27th December 1960

The Acting High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa presents his compliments to His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan and has the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the latter's Note of the 23rd November, 1960 kindly transmitting information on the procedures adopted by the Japanese authorities for the relief of their vessel "Soya" when it became icebound in Antarctic waters. This information has been passed on to the South African authorities concerned.

The Acting High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa avails himself of this opportunity to renew to His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan the assurance of his highest consideration.

London,
2nd December, 1960.



File

AFD/JH

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*Mr. Deane
A.G.
24/11*

AIRMAIL

6th December, 1960.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.Possible Assistance in Antarctica

With further reference to your minute 102/2/7/2 of 8th June and to our interim reply of 11th July, 1960, we wish to advise that we enquired informally at the Foreign Office last week whether there had been any further developments in United Kingdom thinking on the general question of procedures for the relief of vessels ice-bound in Antarctic waters.

We learn that such proposals as have been made for the provision of a British icebreaker for use in Antarctic waters have been temporarily shelved pending the preparation by the Colonial Office of a paper for the Cabinet which will examine in detail the costs involved. It is expected that this paper will be ready for submission to the Cabinet in about April, 1961.

It was suggested to us in the course of conversation that the South African representative on the Antarctic Treaty Interim Group in Washington might possibly care to raise in this body as a whole, or in an inner group composed of representatives of the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and the United States, the question of the adoption of recognised procedures for affording relief to vessels becoming ice-bound; alternatively, the matter could perhaps be discussed at the proposed Canberra meeting. The Foreign Office official with whom we spoke added that he would be mentioning the matter to the United Kingdom representative on the Interim Group. We said that we would pass the suggestion on to you.

We are sending copies of this minute, of our minute of 11th July, of your minute of 8th June and of the replies received from the Norwegian and Japanese Embassies in London to the South African Embassy in Washington for information, in case the question should be broached informally with our representative on the Interim Group.

We should be glad if we could be kept informed of any further action you may decide to take in the matter.

A. F. DRAKE

Acting High Commissioner.

I have passed on to Pretoria your suggestion that the South African representative on the Interim Group in Washington might possibly raise in that body as a whole, or in an inner group consisting of representatives of the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and the United States, the question of the adoption of recognised procedures for affording relief to vessels becoming ice-bound in Antarctic waters. I would mention, however, that since June we have not had any further indication that the South African authorities do, in fact, intend to pursue the matter. I shall be in touch with you again when I have received a reply from Pretoria.

Yours sincerely,

(A. F. Drake)

Went

P.S.16/5

9th December, 1960.

Dear MacInnes,

Referring to our telephone conversation last week on the question of procedures for the relief of vessels becoming ice-bound in Antarctic waters, you may recall that I undertook to let you have a note of the views of the South African authorities, as they were in June last, when Mr. de Villiers of this Office first raised this matter informally with Mr. Hankey.

Broadly, in the view of the South African authorities one of the biggest hazards that all Antarctic expeditions face is the danger of relief vessels becoming ice-bound. This proved to be the case during the last Antarctic season when the Polarbjorn, the vessel that conveyed the South African personnel and equipment to Queen Maud Land, had to be assisted through the ice by an Argentine ice-breaker.

The "American Support Program" is designed primarily for the support of United States stations and expeditions in Antarctica, but does also provide the necessary assistance by formal agreement for the New Zealand operations in the Antarctic. As far as the South African authorities are aware, this is the only agreement of its type in existence although the Americans have also in the past been very co-operative in responding on an ad hoc basis to calls for help from other expeditions which have found themselves in difficulties.

Although future expeditions which may find themselves ice-bound will no doubt be willingly assisted by ships and ice-breakers of other countries which happen to be in the vicinity, this, in the South African view, is clearly an uncertain and risky basis on which to operate. In the circumstances the South African authorities started last June looking tentatively into the possibilities of a less haphazard arrangement - perhaps in the nature of a formal agreement - whereby assistance might be sought and confidently expected as and when necessary. As a first step, and before deciding whether to make any formal approaches to other Governments, the South African authorities asked us to obtain information on the procedures and policies which might have been evolved by other countries with expeditions in Antarctica. It was in consequence of this that we approached the Foreign Office.

/I have

K. G. MacInnes, Esq.,
American Department,
Foreign Office.

AD/AG

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1 - 113 F.O) Voted 8.1



102/2/1/2.

AIR MAIL.
LUGPOS.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

PRETORIA.

20 DEC 1960



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

Moontlike Bystand in Antarktika.

Ek verwys na u diensbrief P.S.16/5 van 6 Desember 1960, waarin u die moontlikheid opper dat die hele kwessie van bystand in geval van nood bespreek word by die vergaderings van die Tydelike Groep in Washington of in die alternatief by die komende byeenkoms in Canberra.

Ek mag meld vir u inligting dat die kwessie geplaas is op die voorlopige agenda vir die komende Canberra Byeenkoms van die Antarktika Verdragslande, op voorstel van Frankryk gesteun deur die Unie. Die agenda item se juiste benaming is „Wederkerige Bystand tussen Ekspedisies“.

Mr. Deane

Frie

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Philip

SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

concurrently expected as and when necessary. As a first step, and before deciding whether to make any formal approaches to other Governments, the South African authorities asked us to obtain information on the procedures and policies which might have been evolved by other countries with expeditions in Antarctica. It was in consequence of this that we approached the Foreign Office.

/I have

K. G. MacInnes, Esq.,
American Department,
Foreign Office.

AD/AG

B/F 9/1/61

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AIRMAIL.
LUGPOS.



102/2/7/1.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

PRETORIA.

30 JAN 1961

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

Acquisition of an Oliver OC6 Diesel
Tractor for S.A.N.A.E.

With further reference to your minute P.S.16/5 of the 20th May, 1960, and to paragraph 2 of the note dated 13th May, 1960, addressed to you by the Norwegian Embassy in London, I should like to invite your attention to the fact that no indication has yet been given as to whether any refund is due to the Union in respect of the seat and two heater valves which were not fitted to the abovementioned tractor ordered for the South African National Antarctic Expedition. It would accordingly be appreciated if you could make suitable enquiries in this connection.

W. Malan

SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Mr. Decker
BF 14/3



107/27/1.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
REP. VAN SUID-AFRIKA

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT VAN BUITENLANDSE SAKKE
Pretoria.



P.S.16/5

30 JAN 1961

The Acting High Commissioner for the Union of South Africa,

The South African High Commission presents its compliments to the Royal Norwegian Embassy and has the honour to refer to the Embassy's Note of the 13th May, 1960, regarding the procurement and fitting of the Oliver O.C.6 diesel tractor ordered towards the end of 1959 through Messrs. B. M. Heede A/S, Oslo, for the South African National Antarctic Expedition.

As the Norwegian Embassy will recall, it was stated in their Note that Messrs. B. M. Heede A/S, as well as the manufacturers, were investigating the circumstances in which the Oliver tractor was received in Cape Town without a seat assembly and two heater valves which, in consequence, had to be supplied by the local agents. The Embassy intimated further that, if it were found that the value of these accessories had not been subtracted in the manufacturer's price, the amount in question would be refunded.

The South African High Commission has the honour to inform the Norwegian Embassy that it has recently received an enquiry from the South African authorities concerned as to whether a refund is in fact due in respect of the accessories mentioned.

In the circumstances the South African High Commission would be most appreciative if the Norwegian Embassy would be good enough to refer this enquiry to the appropriate quarters.

The South African High Commission avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Royal Norwegian Embassy the assurance of its highest consideration.

London,
9th February, 1961.



Handwritten notes:
Mr Drake 17/4/61
mfc BF 144
mge 20/3/61
Mr Drake 27/3/61
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Noted
A.C.
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AD/AG

Royal Norwegian Embassy

External Affairs
K
20/2/61



Mr. Drake
A.G.
21/2

The Royal Norwegian Embassy presents its compliments to the South African High Commission and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of its note No. P.S. 16/5, dated the 9th February, 1961, regarding the procurement and fitting of the Oliver O.C.6 diesel tractor ordered towards the end of 1959 through Messrs. B.M.Heede A/S, Oslo, for the South African National Antarctic Expedition.

The contents of the note from the South African High Commission has been conveyed to the Norwegian Authorities.

The Norwegian Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the South African High Commission the assurances of its highest consideration.

London, 18th February, 1961.



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AIRMAIL

9th May, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.Acquisition of an Oliver OC6 Diesel
Tractor for S.A.N.A.E.

As requested in your minute 102/2/7/1 of 30th January, 1961, we duly drew the attention of the Norwegian Embassy in London to the statements in their Note dated 13th May, 1960, that Messrs. B. M. Heede A/S and the manufacturers were investigating the circumstances in which the abovementioned tractor was received in Cape Town without a seat assembly and two heater valves, and that if the value of these accessories had not been subtracted in the manufacturers' price the amount in question would be refunded. We enquired whether any refund had in fact been found to be due.

In response to our communication we received an acknowledgment from the Norwegian Embassy dated 18th February, 1961, intimating that the contents of our Note to the Embassy had been conveyed to the Norwegian authorities.

We have not yet heard from the Embassy again in this connection and it would seem therefore that B. M. Heede A/S are not disposed to make any refund. We would not in the circumstances propose to follow the matter up unless you specifically instruct us to do so. We shall, of course, report to you again should a further reply be received from the Norwegian Embassy.

A. F. BRAKE

Minister.

AD/AG

File

BFW 9/7
DNoted
A.C.
11/5

19/6

I should be grateful if you ~~could~~ ^{would} also advise the Norwegian authorities that ~~after vacating Norway Station, it is the intention of the South African Expedition~~ ^{now intends moving} to move to a new Antarctic site, ~~which is situated to the North-east of Norway Station and about halfway nearer approximately halfway nearer to the coast than Norway Station and to the North-east thereof.~~ ^{to the coast.}

~~At that time it is anticipated that~~ ^{By} the buildings and certain of the Norwegian equipment presently on loan to the South African Government will by virtue of weight, size or position be ~~impossible to salvage~~ ^{unsalvable} and will therefore have to be abandoned at Norway Station. It is assumed that such equipment can then, in the circumstances mentioned, be regarded as being unsuitable for use in terms of paragraph 2 of the Norway Station Agreement.

~~It is expected that~~ ^{Other} Norwegian equipment at Norway Station will, however, be capable of being salvaged and of being moved to the ~~contemplated~~ new site where it could again be used to advantage by the South African Expedition. I have accordingly been requested to enquire whether, and if so on what basis, the Norwegian Government would be prepared to allow the transfer of such ~~salvageable~~ ^{salvable} equipment to the new site, ~~and, if so, on what basis.~~ ^{and, if so, on what basis.}

Please accept, Your Excellency, etc.

Suggested Note to the Norwegian
Ambassador in regard to the
Necessity for Abandoning Norway
Station and for Establishing a
New Base for the South African
National Antarctic Expedition.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to our exchange of notes on the 30th October, 1959, in terms of which an agreement was concluded between our respective Governments for the loan to South Africa of Norway Station in Antarctica, which has been occupied by the South African National Antarctic Expedition since December, 1959.

In this connection I have the honour to inform you that the annual accretion of snow at Norway Station during its approximately four years of existence has been such that the buildings there are now not considered to be safe for human occupation beyond the end of 1961. ~~In the circumstances~~ The South African Expedition has concluded that it will have no alternative but to leave the present installations at the end of this year.

It would be much appreciated if you ^{would} ~~could~~ transmit ^{this} the foregoing information to your Government, ^{at the same time} ~~and could at the same time convey~~ the sincere appreciation of the Government of the Republic of South Africa to the Norwegian authorities for their kindness in having made Norway Station available on loan to the South African Expedition, ~~during the period in question.~~ As a co-signatory of the Antarctic Treaty my Government is most grateful for the willing co-operation of the Norwegian Government in this connection.

/...

VERTROULIK.

- 2 -

4. Die oprigting van 'n nuwe basis sal onder andere die volgende onvermydelike gevolge hê:-

- (a) Die geboue by die bestaande basis sal ontruim en laat vaar word.
- (b) Sekere uitrusting (wat ook ingevolge die ooreenkoms aan die Unie geleen is) sal vanaf die bestaande na die nuwe basis verwyder word indien daar geen beswaar teen so 'n stap is nie.
- (c) Sekere ander uitrusting wat, as gevolg van die feit dat dit te groot of te swaar mag wees, nie verwyder kan word nie, sal saam met die geboue laat vaar word. Die ooreenkoms maak daarvoor voorsiening dat die Unieregering nie vir uitrusting verantwoordelikheid sal aanvaar nie nadat dit onbruikbaar of ondiensbaar geword het."

Met die oog op Suid-Afrika se bogenoemde ooreenkoms met Noorweë waarkragtens ons bewoning van hul basis en gebruik van hul uitrusting gereguleer word asook die feit dat die ligging vir die voorgestelde nuwe basis in Koningin-Maudland geleë is, blyk dit nou onvermydelik te wees dat die Noorweegse owerhede in verband met die verhuising S.A.N.A.E. genader sal moet word.

Daar mag dan net vir u inligting bygevoeg word dat dit Suid-Afrika se beleid in die afgelope paar jaar was om nie eers by implikasie die soewereiniteit van Noorweë of enige ander moondheid in Antarktika te erken nie. Hierdie probleem van ons erkenning of nie-erkenning van die Noorweegse territoriale eis in Antarktika is byvoorbeeld gladnie tydens die onderhandelings ten opsigte van die ooreenkoms insake Noorweë-Stasie geopper nie. Dit word dus nodig geag dat hierdie kwessie ook in toekomstige onderhandelings met die Noorweërs vermy moet word en in die huidige geval word aanbeveel dat bloot 'n verklaring van die feit dat ons ekspedisie verplig is om te verhuis oorgedra moet word sonder om enigsins die indruk te skep dat ons goedkeuring vir sodanige optrede aanvra.

Met inagneming van bogenoemde faktor is die aangehegte konsepnota opgestel om as leiding vir u te dien wanneer u die aangeleentheid by die Noorweegse Ambassadeur aanhangig maak. Indien u van mening is dat dié voorgestelde nota enigsins gewysig moet word na gelang van plaaslike of ander omstandighede waarvan u dalk bewus is, sal dit op prys gestel word indien u eers die Departement sal raadpleeg alvorens u met die Ambassadeur in verbinding tree.

L. J. ...

WAARN. SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.



REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

102/2/7/2.

DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKES
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

PRETORIA.



VERTROULIK.

Die Buitengewone en Bevollmagtigde Ambassadeur
van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika,
LONDON.

Vernuising van S.A.N.A.E. na 'n Nuwe
Basis in Antarktika.

Verwys asseblief na u diensbrief nr. P.S.16/5 van 3 November 1959, waarin u die Departement meegedeel het dat die ooreenkoms insake Noorweë-stasie op 30 Oktober 1959, by wyse van 'n notawisseling tussen u en die Noorweegse Ambassadeur in Londen gesluit is.

In hierdie verband wil ek u graag meedeel dat die Departement van Vervoer onlangs as volg verslag gedoen het oor die noodsaaklikheid van 'n verhuising vanjaar van ons ekspedisie in Antarktika:-

1. Soos u bewus is, bepaal die oorspronklike ooreenkoms tussen die Suid-Afrikaanse en Noorweegse Regerings dat die geboue en uitrusting by die huidige basis in Antarktika gratis aan die Unieregering geleen word.

2. Die geboue by die basis, wat oorspronklik opgerig is met die bedoeling dat dit slegs vir een jaar gebruik sou word en nou reeds vier jaar in gebruik is, is reeds in so 'n swak toestand dat hulle nie meer as veilig beskou word nie en die Departement het besluit om aan die einde van 1961 'n volledige nuwe basis, op 'n ander plek, op te rig. As gevolg van die besondere omstandighede en toestande wat in Antarktika heers, is dit nodig dat voorrade vir 'n nuwe basis uitgestuur word voordat die basis werklik opgerig word en die "Polarhav", wat tans na die basis op pad is, het dan ook voorrade vir hierdie doel aan boord.

3. Tydens veldwerk het die huidige ekspedisie 'n baie geskikte plek vir so 'n nuwe basis aangetref. Dit is ongeveer helfte nader aan die kuslyn as die huidige basis en is ten noord-ooste daarvan geleë. Reëlins is getref om die voorrade vir 1962 na hierdie plek te neem en dit daar te berg totdat die nuwe basis opgerig word.

*The Minister
your comments, etc.
C.L.G. /vi*

VERTROULIK.

can then, in the circumstances mentioned, be regarded as being unsuitable for use in terms of paragraph 2 of the Norway Station Agreement.

It is expected that other Norwegian equipment at Norway Station will, however, be capable of being salvaged and of being moved to the contemplated new site where it could again be used to advantage by the South African Expedition. I have accordingly been requested to enquire whether, and if so on what basis, the Norwegian Government would be prepared to allow the transfer of such salvageable equipment to the new site.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

H. Muller

It would be much appreciated if you would transmit this information to your Government, and also at the same time convey the sincere appreciation of the Government of the Republic of South Africa to the Norwegian authorities for their kindness in having made these facilities available on loan to the South African Expedition during the period in question. As a co-sponsor of the Antarctic Treaty my Government is most grateful for the willing co-operation of the Norwegian Government in this connection.

It would be grateful if you would also advise the Norwegian authorities that after receiving further details of the intention of the South African Expedition to visit the ice-free Antarctic area which is situated approximately halfway between the coast and the party station and to the west-west thereof.

It would also be anticipated that the buildings and contents of the Norwegian station previously on loan to the South African Government will be ready to be used, given or provided as appropriate by the Norwegian Government to be abandoned in ready service. It is assumed that such equipment

The Secretary General
Antarctic Treaty Secretariat
of Norway.

P.S. 16/5

25th July, 1961.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to our exchange of notes on the 30th October, 1959, in terms of which an agreement was concluded between our respective Governments for the loan to South Africa of Norway Station in Antarctica, which has been occupied by the South African National Antarctic Expedition since December, 1959.

In this connection I have the honour to inform you that the annual accretion of snow at Norway Station during its approximately four years of existence has been such that the buildings there are now not considered to be safe for human occupation beyond the end of 1961. In the circumstances the South African Expedition has concluded that it will have no alternative but to leave the present installations at the end of this year.

It would be much appreciated if you would transmit this information to your Government, and would at the same time convey the sincere appreciation of the Government of the Republic of South Africa to the Norwegian authorities for their kindness in having made Norway Station available on loan to the South African Expedition during the period in question. As a co-signatory of the Antarctic Treaty my Government is most grateful for the willing co-operation of the Norwegian Government in this connection.

I should be grateful if you would also advise the Norwegian authorities that after vacating Norway Station it is the intention of the South African Expedition to move to a new Antarctic site which is situated approximately halfway nearer to the coast than Norway Station and to the north-east thereof.

At that time it is anticipated that the buildings and certain of the Norwegian equipment presently on loan to the South African Government will by virtue of weight, size or position be impossible to salvage and will therefore have to be abandoned at Norway Station. It is assumed that such equipment

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His Excellency Monsieur Erik Braadland,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Norway.

File

Noted
A.C. 25/7

Noted
B/F
15/11/61
18/11/61
20/11/61

Royal Norwegian Embassy

London, 27th July, 1961.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note dated 25th July, 1961 regarding the South African Expedition to Norway Station in Antarctica. It has been noted that the expedition has concluded that in the circumstances mentioned in Your Excellency's note, it will have no alternative but to leave the present installations at the end of this year. This, together with the other points dealt with in the note, have been passed on to the Norwegian Government, and I shall not fail to inform Your Excellency as soon as their reply is to hand.

Please, accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Knut Aars
(Knut Aars)
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

His Excellency Dr. Hilgard Muller,
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary of the Union of South Africa,
South Africa House,
Trafalgar Square,
W.C.2.

C.L. 6. 2/8/7

To
B.F. 25/10
M. Drake
A.C.
30/8
B/F 20/9
P. 15/8

His Excellency Monsieur Erik Braadland,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Norway.

Noted to B/F 15/8
Drake 20/8
P. 15/8

P.S. 16/5

South African Embassy,
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LONDON.

AIRMAIL

3rd August, 1961.

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

South African National Committee for
Antarctic Research : Third Report to
S.C.A.R.

We have received from the Department under a compliment slip two copies of the abovementioned Report recently published by the C.S.I.R. It is presumed that this document has already been submitted direct to S.C.A.R. and that the copies despatched to us were intended merely for our own information. If this is so - and we should be glad to have your confirmation - we would propose nevertheless to pass a copy to the Scott Polar Research Institute for their records.

It would be appreciated if a further two copies of the Report could be sent to us if available.

A. F. DRAKE
Minister.

The Scientific Attaché,

A copy of the Report is attached for your information, pending a reply from Pretoria.

A. F. DRAKE
Minister.

AD/AG

South Africa House,
Trafalgar Square,
W.C.2.

2.6.2/7

B/F 25/10

M. Drake

A.G.

30/8

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B/F 4/9/61
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A.G. 8/8
File

His Excellency Monsieur Erik Braadland,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Norway.

Noted to B/F 1/10/61

AIRMAIL
LUGPOS.



102/2/9

Republic
Republiek

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Department of Foreign Affairs.
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

PRETORIA.

21.8.1961

Die Buitengewone en Gevolmagtigde Ambassadeur
van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika,
LONDEN.



Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Komitee vir
Antarktiese Navorsing : Derde Verslag
aan S.C.A.R.

Na aanleiding van u diensbrief nr. P.S.16/5 van
3 Augustus 1961, deel ek u graag mee dat afskrifte van
bogenoemde verslag reeds aan verskeie belanghebbende lig-
game - insluitend S.C.A.R. en die Scott Polar Research
Institute - gestuur is.

Die twee afskrifte wat onder dekking van 'n
komplimentêre strokie aan u gestuur is, is derhalwe
bedoel slegs vir u inligting en die gebruik van die Ambassade.

Philip

u WAARN. SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

*Miss
Phoned Mr King
to see him*

27/8 Jui

Mr Drake

*Mr. Orley
A.C. 28/8*

AD/AG

South Africa House,
Trafalgar Square,
W.C.2.

6.6.28/7

B.F. 28/10

*Mr. Drake
A.C.
30/8*

P. 28/8

His Excellency Monsieur Erik Braadland,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Norway.

*Noted
B/F
15/8*

25.16/5

AIRMAIL
LUGPOS.



102/2/7/2.

Republic of SOUTH AFRICA
Republiek VAN SUID-AFRIKA.

Department of Foreign Affairs.
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

VERTROULIK.

PRETORIA.

29.8.1961

Die Buitengewone en Gevolmagtigde Ambassadeur
van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika,
LONDEN.



Verhuising van S.A.N.A.E. na 'n nuwe
Basis in Antarktika.

Ek verwys na my enersgenommerde diensbrief
van 7 Julie 1961 en verneem graag of die Noorweegse
owerhede dalk al gereageer het op die voorgestelde
verhuising van die Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Antarktiese
Ekspedisie na 'n nuwe basis in Antarktika.

SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.

VERTROULIK.

B/F 399
25/10
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AD/AG

South Africa House,
Trafalgar Square,
W.C.2.

6.1.6.
20/7

M. Drake
A.G.
30/8
P. 15/8

His Excellency Monsieur Erik Braadland,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Norway.

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom left corner.

South African Embassy,
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AIRMAIL

Confidential

30th August, 1961.

THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.



Establishment of a new Base for the
South African National Antarctic
Expedition

I wish to inform you that a note in connection with the above-mentioned matter was duly addressed to the Norwegian Ambassador in London in accordance with the draft which accompanied your minute 102/2/7/2 of 7th July.

In response we received an acknowledgment dated 27th July from the Norwegian Chargé d'Affaires a.i., indicating that the contents of our note had been duly conveyed to the Norwegian Government. The Chargé d'Affaires added that he would inform us of his Government's reply as soon as it was received.

The purpose of this minute is merely to inform you that we have not, as yet, had any further reactions from the Norwegians in the matter.

A. J. OXLEY

Minister.

AD/AG

Mr Drake 9/10 m/c 2/10 noted m/c BF 9/10 30/8 Noted A.G. 30/8

South Africa House,
Trafalgar Square,
W.C.2.

C.I. 6. 28/7

M. Drake 30/8 A.G. 30/8 P. 15/8

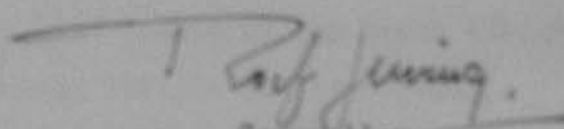
His Excellency Monsieur Erik Braadland,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Norway.

Noted B/F 15/8

the movement of the ice shelf. Y

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance
of my highest consideration.

For the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.,


Counsellor.

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text follows, likely the body of the letter.]

His Excellency Monsieur Erik Broadland,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Norway.

[Handwritten notes and initials in the bottom left corner.]

Royal Norwegian Embassy

London, 13th October, 1961.

Monsieur

Your Excellency,

*

I have the honour to refer to my note of the 27th July last regarding the South African Expedition to Norway Station in Antarctica.

I have now received a reply from Norway regarding the disposition of the buildings and equipment at Norway Station. The Norwegian Government are agreeable to everything at Norway Station, with the exception of the meteorological tower, which the Norwegian Government has loaned to the South African Government under the agreement of the 30th October, 1959 between the two governments, being transferred to the contemplated new site of the South African station in Dronning Maud Land and remaining at the disposal of the South African expedition free of charge for as long as the expedition may have use of it. They have no objection to the buildings being destroyed in order to provide material which may be of use in erecting the new station. The meteorological tower should remain in position in case it should be required for future observations, particularly with regard to

*no reply
14/10*

MT

His Excellency Dr. Hilgard Muller,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Republic of South Africa,
South Africa House,
Trafalgar Square,
W.C.2.

Mr. Drake *File*

His Excellency Monsieur Erik Braadland,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Norway.

*noted
B/F
Mr. Drake
15/10*

regarded as being unsuitable for use in terms of paragraph 2 of the Norway Station Agreement. The general tenor of the reply would seem to suggest, however, that the Norwegians would entertain no objections on this score.

MEMORANDUM FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

A. F. DRAKE

Minister.

Establishment of a New Base for the
South African National Antarctic Expedition

With reference to your minute 1228/173 of 7th July and our memo 1228/173 of 28th August, 1951, I wish to inform you of the following communication, dated 15th October, which has been received from the Norwegian Charge d'Affaires at Cape Town:

"I have the honour to refer to my note of the 27th July last regarding the South African Expedition to King George V Land."

I have now received a reply from Norway regarding the observations of the buildings and equipment at Norway Station. The Norwegian Government are prepared to accept the use of Norway Station, with the exception of the meteorological tower, which the Norwegian Government has loaned to the South African Government under the agreement of the 28th October, 1950 between the two Governments, being transferred to the stipulated new site of the South African station in King George V Land and remaining at the disposal of the South African expedition free of charge so long as the expedition may have use of it. They have no objection to the buildings being destroyed in order to provide material which may be of use in erecting the new station. The meteorological tower should remain in position in case it should be required for future observations, particularly with regard to the movement of the ice shelf."

AD/MJE The receipt of this communication has been acknowledged with thanks.

It will be noted that the Norwegian reply does not directly confirm the assumption expressed in our note to the Norwegian Embassy that, after Norway's reaction had been ascertained, articles of the unserviceable Norwegian equipment belonging to the South African Government may be

South African Embassy.

////////////////////////////////////

Airmail.

17th October, 1961.

THE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Establishment of a new Base for the
South African National Antarctic
Expedition.

With reference to your minute 102/2/7/2 of 7th July and our interim reply dated 30th August, 1961, I wish to inform you of the following communication, dated 13th October, which has been received from the Norwegian Chargé d'Affaires a.i. in London:-

"I have the honour to refer to my note of the 27th July last regarding the South African Expedition to Norway Station in Antarctica.

I have now received a reply from Norway regarding the disposition of the buildings and equipment at Norway Station. The Norwegian Government are agreeable to everything at Norway Station, with the exception of the meteorological tower, which the Norwegian Government has loaned to the South African Government under the agreement of the 30th October, 1959 between the two Governments, being transferred to the contemplated new site of the South African station in Dronning Maud Land and remaining at the disposal of the South African expedition free of charge for as long as the expedition may have use of it. They have no objection to the buildings being destroyed in order to provide material which may be of use in erecting the new station. The meteorological tower should remain in position in case it should be required for future observations, particularly with regard to the movement of the ice shelf."

The receipt of this communication has been acknowledged with thanks.

It will be noted that the Norwegian reply does not directly confirm the assumption expressed in our note to the Norwegians Embassy that, after Norway Station has been vacated, certain of the unsalvageable Norwegian equipment presently on loan to the South African Government may be

File

20th October, 1961.

Mr. Chargé d'Affaires,

I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks receipt of your note of the 13th October, kindly conveying the views of the Norwegian Government regarding the disposition of the buildings and equipment at Norway Station in Antarctica. I have informed my Government accordingly.

Please accept, Mr. Chargé d'Affaires, the assurance of my high consideration.

H. MULLER.

Mr. Knut B. Aars,
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.,
Norwegian Embassy.

AD/MJEE

The receipt of this communication has been acknowledged with thanks.

It will be noted that the Norwegian reply does not directly confirm the assumption expressed in our note to the Norwegians Embassy that, after Norway Station has been vacated, certain of the unsalvageable Norwegian equipment presently on loan to the South African Government may be

Highlighted from Voluntas - try get from Norway - (the district) - improve from meeting see table in photo.

CODE TELEGRAM

FROM: SECEXTERN PRETORIA.
D: 17.11.61.
TO: S.A. EMBASSY LONDON.
R: 17.11.61.

No.214. Department of Transport is anxious to recruit in Advisory capacity a suitable navigating officer with Antarctic experience to accompany their R.S.A. now nearing completion in Japan on its first voyage to Antarctica. Vessel scheduled to leave Japan early in December and will sail from Cape Town to Antarctica early in Jan. 1962 returning to Cape Town after about 3 months depending on ice conditions encountered. Officer would have to assume duty at Cape Town not later than Jan 2nd. and his air or sea fare from and to England will be paid by Transport.

Please urgently ascertain whether suitable officer available for this purpose. If so, telegraph whether salary and other services conditions requested. Suggested you include Westralian Farmers in your enquiries.

*Handled
Totten
Robinson x Great Ings. Post*

Please accept, Mr. Chargé d'Affaires, the assurance of my high consideration.

H. MULLER.

Mr. Knut B. Aars,
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.,
Norwegian Embassy.

AD/MJRE

The receipt of this communication has been acknowledged with thanks.

It will be noted that the Norwegian reply does not directly confirm the assumption expressed in our note to the Norwegians Embassy that, after Norway Station has been vacated, certain of the unsalvageable Norwegian equipment presently on loan to the South African Government may be

File

Note on telegram no 214.

- 1) Miss Thorne to Mr Thornhill & Mr Kelly, and passed to Mr Bidwell for my action
presence in contact with action on my
part.
- 2) Mr Bidwell 'phoned ^{the father of} an applicant for the
Master's position on ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{new vessel.} Applicant
is ^{his} back in Antarktika with the
John Birch (F.I.D.S.).
- 3) I phoned Westman Fanner (Mr Salvesen).
Mr Salvesen knows of nobody in England;
he suggests we try F.I.D.S. Alternatively,
Westman Fanner could try Norway (Rothow,
Toban, Nasel Personnel may be available).
- 4) I tried to get hold of Mr Stoman, in
charge of personnel at - F.I.D.S. He is
away until next Wednesday, 22nd, and
if nobody else there is likely to be able to help.
- 5) Mr Salvesen suggests that if Finner's services
are, he would probably get an actual-
mode of Rothow - by banks for low-
I shall refer our suggestion to Finner.

Stoman
17/11/61.

22nd November, 1961.

Dear Sir Vivian,

I am writing to you at the suggestion of Mr. Sloman, with whom I discussed on the telephone today a request we have received from the South African Department of Transport.

The Department is anxious to recruit, in an advisory capacity, a "suitable navigating officer" with Antarctic experience, to accompany the new South African vessel, now nearing completion in Japan, on its first voyage to Antarctica. The vessel is scheduled to leave Japan early in December, and will sail from Cape Town to the Antarctic early in January, 1962, returning to Cape Town after about three months, depending on the ice conditions encountered.

We are informed that the officer concerned would have to assume duty at Cape Town not later than 2nd January. His air or sea fare from and back to the United Kingdom would be paid by the Department of Transport.

We have been asked to ascertain urgently whether a suitable officer is available in the United Kingdom for this purpose and, if so, to advise the South African authorities of the salary and other service conditions requested.

We appreciate, of course, that it will not be easy to fill this vacancy at this time of the year, but we should be very grateful indeed for any assistance which you might be able to give us in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

(A.F. Drake)

Sir Vivian Fuchs,
 Director,
 Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey,
 22 Gayfere Street,
 LONDON, S.W.1.

Note to File

1. Mr. Egan, FIDS, suggested the Thomas Hunt is a possibility. However he has Sir Vivian Fuchs could contact of any other offices who might be available.
2. Mr. Hunt is presently staying at Nelson Guest House in Rowstead, Cambridge Gardens.
Tel: WANN 3939
Capt. McCarty runs this establishment.
3. I had 2 interviews with Mr. Hunt, the first in the presence of Mr. Bedwell.
4. I discussed Francis Solary, Contrails of Service, with Mr. Stowen. His recommendations appear in the telegram sent to F.A.
5. Mr. Stowen mentioned Mr. Hunt as very sensible, quiet and reliable. He pointed out that Mr. Hunt did not know the Queen Mary land area, and that the contrails might be somewhat different from Lyabankland. Hunt also made the point that any landing would involve a different procedure when the vessel was right up to the ice shelf. However, he thought this would be fact be easier; because he had Mr. Stowen thought this part of any importance.
6. Mr. Hunt mentioned to want a week for a reply.

W.A. Stowen
23/11/61.

DEBIT: TRANSPORT.

MR. DRAKE.

23.11.61.

LT SECXTERN PRETORIA

No237.

YOUR NO 214.

- See for!*
1. ON RECOMMENDATION FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY WE INTERVIEWED THOMAS FLACK. FLACK AGED 36 HOLDS MASTER'S CERTIFICATE AND HAS BEEN FIRST OFFICER AND TEMPORARILY IN COMMAND OF SHACKLETON. HE WORKED FOR FIDS FROM 1955-59 HAVING FOUR SEASONS IN BRITISH ANTARCTIC SECTION. HAS NOT REPEAT NOT VISITED AREA OF SOUTH AFRICAN BASE, BUT THIS NOT REPEAT NOT CONSIDERED IMPORTANT.
 2. FIDS CONSIDER FLACK RELIABLE AND WE FORMED FAVOURABLE ~~XXXXXXXX~~ IMPRESSION.
 3. FIDS SUGGEST SALARY BE BASED PRO RATA ON PRESENT REMUNERATION MASTER OF SHACKLETON I.E £1716 PER ANNUM PLUS PRO RATA UNIFORM ALLOWANCE OF £35 PER ANNUM. THESE REPRESENT STANDARD MERCHANT NAVY RATES SLIGHTLY WEIGHTED ON ACCOUNT SPECIAL CONDITIONS. THIS BASIS AGREEABLE FLACK PROVIDED SUITABLE SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE OR EXPENSES PAYABLE IN CAPE TOWN IF REQUIRED TO LIVE ASHORE PENDING VESSELS' DEPARTURE.
 4. FIDS ALSO PAYS OFFICERS GRATUITY OF APPROXIMATELY £50 PER ANNUM WHICH MIGHT BE PRO RATA FOR FLACK. PREFERABLY
 5. FLACK PREPARED LEAVE ANYTIME DECEMBER ~~XXXXXXXX~~ BY SEA ON ACCOUNT BAGGAGE CONSIDERATIONS. PRACTICE SEEMS TO BE THAT HALF SALARY PAYABLE WHILST ON PASSAGE WITH FULL SALARY COMMENCING ON ARRIVAL CAPE TOWN.
 6. FLACK PROBABLY ONLY SUITABLE EXPERIENCED OFFICER AVAILABLE IN BRITAIN AT PRESENT. EARLIEST DECISION WITHIN SEVEN DAYS THEREFORE IMPERATIVE. ONLY ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO SEEK OFFICER IN NORWAY

OPPOSITELY

Rated

Just very!

Copy sent to
Mr. Bradwell

PRIORITY CODE TELEGRAM

Note:
I phone Mr
Stewart of FIDS
& explain the
situation. He expresses interest
in the Naval Officer's name &
Transport - I said I am
sure about his name &
would see him.
J/12

FROM: SECEXTERN PRETORIA.
D: 29.11.61.
TO: S.A. EMBASSY LONDON.
R: 29.11.61.

No. 228.

Your tel No. 237.

We are now informed by Transport that there has been a new development in that the services of a South African Naval Officer with previous Antarctic experience have become available. After careful consideration it has been decided to appoint him as navigational adviser to the expedition. Please explain the foregoing to FIDS and Flack and express appreciation for their helpfulness.

Note: I informed Mr Flack of this last night by telephone, and expressed regrets. J/12 30/11

Wife
arrives to tel.
for Flack
at 7 pm. tonight
out of his hotel now.
J/12 29/11

Free
J

3. FIDS SUGGEST SALARY BE BASED PRO RATA ON PRESENT REMUNERATION MASTER OF SHACKLETON I.E £1716 PER ANNUM PLUS PRO RATA UNIFORM ALLOWANCE OF £35 PER ANNUM. THESE REPRESENT STANDARD MERCHANT NAVY RATES SLIGHTLY WEIGHTED ON ACCOUNT SPECIAL CONDITIONS. THIS BASIS AGREEABLE FLACK PROVIDED SUITABLE SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE OR EXPENSES PAYABLE IN CAPE TOWN IF REQUIRED TO LIVE ASHORE PENDING VESSELS' DEPARTURE.
4. FIDS ALSO PAYS OFFICERS GRATUITY OF APPROXIMATELY £50 PER ANNUM WHICH MIGHT BE PRO RATA FOR FLACK. PREFERABLY
5. FLACK PREPARED LEAVE ANYTIME DECEMBER ~~XXXXXX~~ BY SEA ON ACCOUNT BAGGAGE CONSIDERATIONS. PRACTICE SEEMS TO BE THAT HALF SALARY PAYABLE WHILST ON PASSAGE WITH FULL SALARY COMMENCING ON ARRIVAL CAPE TOWN.
6. FLACK PROBABLY ONLY SUITABLE EXPERIENCED OFFICER AVAILABLE IN BRITAIN AT PRESENT. EARLIEST DECISION WITHIN SEVEN DAYS THEREFORE IMPERATIVE. ONLY ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO SEEK OFFICER IN NORWAY

Rated

See entry!

OPPOSITELY

102/2/7/2



REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKKE
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

PRETORIA.

2. 12. 1961

Die Buitengewone en Gevolmagtigde Ambassadeur
van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika,
LONDEN.

Oprigting van 'n Nuwe Basis vir S.A.N.A.E.

Met verwysing na u diensbrief P.S.16/5 van 17 Oktober 1961 sal dit op prys gestel word indien u u Noorweegse kollega in Londen kan meedeel dat die Suid-Afrikaanse owerhede met genoeë kennis geneem het van en graag hul opregte dank aan die Noorweegse Regering wil oordra vir hul tegemoetkoming ten opsigte van die voorgestelde verskuiwing vanaf „Norway Station" na die nuwe basis van die bergbare gedeelte van Noorweegse apparaat en toerusting wat tans deur S.A.N.A.E. gebruik word.

Kennis is ook geneem van die feit dat die Noorweërs dalk verdere gebruik van die weerkundige toring by „Norway Station" sal kan maak en die toring sal, ooreenkomstig hul versoek, gevolglik nie daarvandaan verwyder word nie.

Geliewe ook u kollega mee te deel dat lyste mettertyd aan hom verstrekk sal word van die apparaat en uitrusting wat na die nuwe basis verskuif is en van die wat by „Norway Station" agtergelaat is.

u SEKRETARIS VAN BUITELANDSE SAKKE.

Handwritten notes:
Mr. D...
A.C. 27/12

AVAILABLE IN BRITAIN AT PRESENT. EARLIEST DECISION WITHIN SEVEN DAYS THEREFORE IMPERATIVE. ONLY ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO SEEK OFFICER IN NORWAY

OPPOSITELY

8th January, 1962.

Mr. Chargé d'Affaires,

I have the honour to revert to your note of the 13th October, 1961, conveying the views of the Norwegian Government regarding the disposition of the buildings and equipment at Norway Station in Antarctica.

I have now been asked to inform you that the South African authorities are most grateful for the co-operation shown them by the Norwegian Government as regards the proposed transfer from Norway Station to the new base of the salvageable part of the Norwegian apparatus and equipment which is presently in use by the South African National Antarctic Expedition. I should be glad if this expression of thanks could be passed on to your Government.

The South African authorities have noted that the meteorological tower at Norway Station may possibly be required for future observations and, in accordance with the Norwegian Government's request, it will not be removed.

I would add that the South African authorities will in due course provide lists of the apparatus and equipment transferred to the new base and of that left behind at Norway Station.

Please accept, Mr. Chargé d'Affaires, the assurance of my high consideration.

H. MULLEN

Mr. Knut B. Aars,
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.
Norwegian Embassy.

Royal Norwegian Embassy

London, 16th January, 1962.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note of the 8th January, the contents of which have been passed on to the Norwegian Government.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.


Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

His Excellency Dr. Hilgard Muller,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Republic of South Africa,
South Africa House,
Trafalgar Square,
W.C.2.

7

Mr. Knut B. Aars,
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.
Norwegian Embassy.

VII. Principal scientific equipment.

(a) The principal scientific equipment at the base consists of the following:

- (i) One "Stoffregen" All-sky camera.
- (ii) One radiosonde receiver (Väisälä type).
- (iii) One radio theodolite.
- (iv) Meteorological instruments for surface observations.
- (v) Two QHM (Quartz Horizontal force Magnetometers).
- (vi) One BMZ (Magnetometric Zero Balance).

(b) Communication Equipment.

The principal communication equipment will consist of two "G.40" Redifon transmitters with a power output of 750 watt each, as well as two receivers.

VIII. Transportation Facilities.

There will be four tractors (three Muskeg caterpillar and one Oliver OC.3) as well as two dog teams at the base.

IX. Facilities for rendering assistance.

The expedition would be quite prepared to render any assistance within its means. Facilities for doing so are very limited, however, as there is no aircraft stationed at the base.

X. Other expeditions.

No other expedition(s) will be organized in or proceed from South African territory. Other expeditions might call at South African ports on their way to or from Antarctica but no particulars in this regard are available.

(c) Geology.

General reconnaissance of area between the base and approximately 2°W and 4°30'W, down to latitude 71°30'S. Samples for geological and palaeomagnetic studies will be collected.

(iv) Cartography.

Limited cartographic work will be carried out in the vicinity of the base and during traverses. Cartographic, navigational and survey assistance will be available to all disciplines.

(v) Glaciology.

Station and traverse observations will be carried out at, and in the vicinity of, the base measuring snow accumulation and ablation, stake patterns, snow surface observations, snow stratigraphy, Ramsonde soundings to 150 cm. below snow surface, and microscopic examinations of ice crystals. The distribution and nature of the pack ice will be recorded during the relief voyages from Cape Town to the base.

(vi) Oceanography.

During the relief trip the oceanographic programme will include the following:

- (i) sea-surface temperatures,
- (ii) bathythermograph measurements,
- (iii) water sampling,
- (iv) collection of plankton samples,
- (v) observations of marine and bird life.

(vii) Medical Programme.

This will be carried out at the new base. It will consist of an extension of the present programme of observations regarding the acclimatization of Man to cold and stress, with special reference to metabolic changes of calory and vitamin adjustments.

- (c) After the winter of 1962 several trips will be undertaken from the base to the ice shelf and in the direction of the mountains. During these trips various observations will be made. Samples will also be collected.

(i) Upper Atmosphere Physics.

(a) Ionosphere

- (i) Vertical incidence sounding
Antarctic Station (New Site)
- (ii) Oblique incidence sounding
Antarctic Station (New Site)
- (iii) Ionosphere recording programme
Antarctic Station (New Site).

(b) Aurora and Airglow

Visual observations will be made at the new base. All-sky photography will be carried out.

(ii) Meteorology.

The programme of conventional surface observations at the four standard hours 0000, 0600, 1200, 1800 GMT will be continued. Radiosonde and radiowind soundings will be carried out once daily at 1100 GMT. If possible wind and temperature measurements at several levels above the surface and snow temperature measurements down to 4 m will be continued. Blowing snow will be measured and optical phenomena will be observed and recorded.

(iii) Earth Sciences.

(a) Geomagnetism.

Continuation of present programme. Recording of vertical and horizontal components and declination of the earth's field using a low sensitivity magnetograph. Absolute measurements will be made at regular intervals with the QHM and BMZ apparatus. Magnetic traverses will be carried out in conjunction with seismic and gravimetric programmes in the area from the ice front to the mountains between roughly longitude 0° and 5°W. Field observations will be made with a Proton magnetometer.

(b) Gravity.

Surveys will be carried out at, and in the vicinity of, the base, using the Worden Master model gravimeter. In addition, surveys will be carried out during traverses.

- (b) Pre-fabricated buildings and equipment for an entire new base have been sent out in the "RSA". A working team of 13 employees of the Department of Public Works accompanied the boat. They will be responsible for the erection of the buildings and will return with the ship. The new base will be put up at 70°16 S, 2°21 W and will be known as SANAE. (South African National Antarctic Expedition). When this base is completed, the existing base will be abandoned. No other bases will be established.

IV. Details of Personnel.

- (a) The 1962 expedition consists of 15 persons namely:

1 Radio technician (leader)
1 Medical officer
1 Radio operator
2 Diesel mechanics
5 Senior Assistant Meteorologists
3 Assistant Meteorologists
2 Carpenters.

These men will spend the winter of 1962 in Antarctica and will return to the Republic by February 1963.

- (b) The leader of the expedition is Mr. M.J. du Preez. He was deputy leader during 1960 and is well versed with Antarctic conditions.
- (c) The Master of the "RSA" is Captain K. McNish. The ship has a complement of 37 (14 officers and 23 crew members). During the present voyage Commander Netterberg of the South African Navy is acting as adviser. He accompanied the "Polarbjorn" during her visit to Antarctica (1959/1960 summer) and joined the United States' "Operation Deep Freeze 61" as South African observer.

V. Armaments possessed by personnel.

Only three .303 Lee Enfield rifles will be available for use by the personnel at the base.

VI. Programme of work, including scientific activities.

- (a) During the first part of their stay, the expedition members will assist the Public Works Department team with the erection of buildings for the new base, and will complete any work which may remain when the ship leaves.
- (b) The scientific programme for 1962 will include:

INFORMATION CONCERNING SOUTH AFRICAN
ACTIVITIES IN ANTARCTICA : 1962.

I. Ships.

- (a) An Antarctic Research ship, the "RSA", was built for South Africa by a Japanese shipbuilding concern during 1961. The "RSA" is a 1550 gross ton cargo/passenger boat, with one turbo-charged diesel motor of 1560 BHP capacity. The vessel was constructed in accordance with Lloyd's Register of Shipping and has been certified as "+100 Al +LMC Ice Class I Strengthening". She is capable of sailing at approximately 13.75 knots.
- (b) The "RSA" will be in operation in the Antarctic during the 1961/62 summer season. She left Cape Town on the 6th January, 1962, with the 1962 expedition on board. After her return from Antarctica she will also undertake relief voyages to the South African weather stations on the islands Marion and Gough (approximately March/April 1962).
- (c) The vessel has a helicopter platform but does not carry a helicopter or any other aircraft on the present mission. The ship is sailing from Cape Town direct to Antarctica and back. She will not call at any points during the voyage.
- (d) The date on which the vessel will return to Cape Town will depend on the progress made with the erection of buildings for a new base (see paragraph III(b)) but it is expected to be back by the beginning of March.

II. Armament and military equipment.

Except for one .303 Lee Enfield rifle the "RSA" does not carry any arms or military equipment. The rifle is being used to shoot seals to provide meat for the dogs at the base. No military equipment of any description is being kept at the South African base.

III. Bases.

- (a) The 1960 and 1961 expeditions occupied a base at 70°30 S, 2°52 W, on loan from the Norwegian Government.



102/2/7/1.



DEPARTEMENT VAN BUITELANDSE SAKE.
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

PRETORIA.

14.2.1962

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

LONDON.

WASHINGTON.

PARIS.

(b) The BRUSSELS.

CANBERRA.

BUENOS AIRES.

The Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of South Africa,
APRIL SANTIAGO.

(c) The vessel has a helicopter platform but does not
carry a helicopter or any other aircraft on the
Exchange of Information on Expeditions and
Stations in Antarctica, 1962. She will

(d) The date on which the vessel will return to Cape
Town

I should be grateful if a copy of the attached
memorandum summarising South Africa's proposed activities
in Antarctica during 1962 could be forwarded to the
government to which you are accredited for their information.
It would be appreciated if the Ambassador, London, could
also provide his Russian and New Zealand colleagues
with copies for this purpose.

A copy of the memorandum is also being made
available to the Norwegian and Japanese Governments
through their Consuls-General in the Republic.

SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Mr Drake



The South African Embassy presents its compliments to the New Zealand High Commission and, at the request of the South African authorities, has the honour to enclose for the information of the New Zealand Government two copies of a memorandum summarising South Africa's proposed activities in Antarctica during 1962.

The South African Embassy takes this opportunity to renew to the New Zealand High Commission the assurance of its highest consideration.



London,
1st March, 1962.

22/BJE

Mr Drake

SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Room 100 Mr. Drake A.C. 6/3

11/1/2



New Zealand High Commission,
415 Strand,
London, W.C.2.

The New Zealand High Commission presents its compliments to the South African Embassy, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Embassy's note PS. 16/5 of 1 March 1962, with which were forwarded copies of a memorandum describing South African activities in Antarctica during 1962.

It is understood that copies of a similar summary of New Zealand activities have been transmitted to the South African authorities through the South African Embassy in Washington.

The New Zealand High Commission avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the South African Embassy the assurances of its highest consideration.

London.
2 March 1962.



Mr Drake

[Signature]

SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

(a) The 1960 and 1961 expedition...
No. 3, 2952 S. on loss from
Government.



Room 100 3
Mr. Drake
A.C. 6/3



New Zealand High Commission,
415 Strand,
London, W.C.2.

The Secretary of State for Foreign
Affairs has the honour to acknowledge
the receipt of *His Excellency*
the South African
Ambassador's note
no. P.S. 16/5 of
March 1, 1962
which is receiving attention.

Commission presents its
in Embassy, and has the
part of the Embassy's note
which were forwarded
concerning South African activities

Foreign Office,

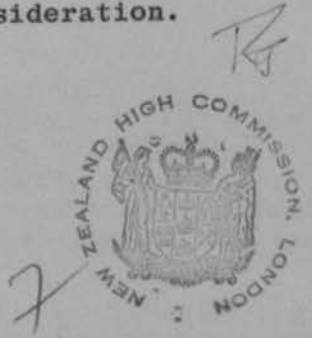
March 2, 1962



copies of a similar summary
been transmitted to the
through the South African

The New Zealand High Commission avails itself of
this opportunity to renew to the South African Embassy
the assurances of its highest consideration.

London.
2 March 1962.



Mr Drake

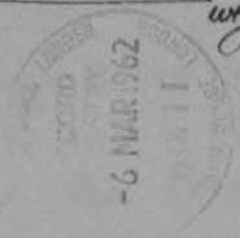
(a) The 1960 and 1961 expeditions...
70,000 £, 2,000 £, as loan from
Government.

Philip

SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Mr Drake

Pls Secy
1
6/3



wof 6/3/62

EMBASSY
OF THE UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
IN LONDON

13 Kensington Palace Gardens,
London, W.8.

The Embassy of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics present their com-
pliments to The South African Embassy

and have the honour to acknowledge receipt of
its note of 1st March 1962 No. P.S. 16/5
and enclosure

the contents of which have been duly noted.

The Soviet Embassy avail themselves of
this opportunity to renew to The South
African Embassy

the assurance of their highest consideration.

London, 3rd March, 1962.

7

(a) The 1960 and 1961 expeditions
70030 B, 2-100 B, and 1000 B
Government.

/ SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Mr Drake

P.S.16/5

South African Embassy,

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AIRMAIL

7th March, 1962.

THE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Exchange of Information on Expeditions
and Stations in Antarctica, 1962

Your minute 102/2/7/1 of 14th February refers.

In acknowledging receipt of copies of the memorandum summarising South Africa's proposed activities in Antarctica during 1962, the New Zealand High Commission in London has indicated that, according to its information, copies of a similar summary of New Zealand activities have been transmitted to the South African authorities through our Embassy in Washington.

In the circumstances the Department may perhaps think it appropriate to channel future exchanges of information in this field with the New Zealand Government through the South African Embassy in Washington, rather than through this Mission.

Copy to Washington.

London, A. F. DRAKE

Minister.

AD/AG

(a) The 1960 and 1961 expeditions
70°30 S, 30°00 E, on land of
Government.

Handwritten signature

SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Mr Drake

The South African Embassy presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and, in acknowledging receipt of the Embassy's note 261/A of 2nd March, 1962, has the honour to express to the Embassy its appreciation of the very prompt attention which was accorded to its request for information as to the likelihood of assistance being available from icebreakers of the Soviet Union for the South African Antarctic vessel "RSA".

The South African Embassy takes this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the assurance of its highest consideration.



London,

6th March, 1962.

AFD/MJE

(a) The 1960 and 1961 expeditions
70°30 S, 27°30 W, of the
Government.

Mr Drake

K. K. L. P.

SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Room 100 1/5. 1/3

No. 264/A



The Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics presents its complements to the South African Embassy and referring to the Embassy's note P.S.16/5 of March 1st, 1962 has the honour to inform that the copies of the memorandum summarising South Africa's proposed activities in Antarctica during 1962 have been forwarded to the Soviet authorities concerned.

The Soviet Embassy takes this opportunity to renew to the South African Embassy the assurance of its highest consideration.

London, " 8 " March, 1962.

SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY
L o n d o n .

File
A

7/15

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