


(51)

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF
SOUTH AFRICA.

No. 5 / 121

<p>OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL From</p> <p>S of S No. 102.</p> <hr/> <p>1925 29 May</p>	<p>SUBJECT</p> <p>FISHERIES : WHALE</p> <p>Itinerary of Royal Research Ship "Discovery" : question of marking of whales : alterations to vessel : probability of vessel calling at Tristan da Cunha.</p>
<p>PREVIOUS PAPERS</p> <p>5/120</p> <hr/> <p>16:6:25 To Ministers</p>	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>? To Min. for information.</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 16/6/25</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 16/6/25</p> <p>Special note of proposed call at Tristan da Cunha to be made on memo card.</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 16/6/25</p>
<p>SUBSEQUENT PAPERS</p> <p>5/124.</p>	<p>No. 5 / 121</p>



objections to the old rigging. The sail area has been increased by over 20 per cent and it is anticipated that, with these alterations, the ship should carry an easy helm and be a much improved sailer.

6. It will be observed from the itinerary that it is hoped that the "Discovery" may call at Tristan da Cunha if weather and sea conditions make it possible to do so. It is hoped to take advantage of this opportunity to send mails and a limited amount of supplies to the Island.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,
humble servant,

J. Amery

made by the South Africa Fisheries Survey Committee.

4. The question of the marking of whales is referred to on page 7 of the Note enclosed in my despatch of the 20th of May. Further steps are in contemplation for securing the assistance of the Whaling Companies and particulars of the measures proposed will be forwarded in due course. The Discovery Committee will welcome the co-operation of the South Africa Fisheries Survey Committee, and suggest that, in the first instance, arrangements for securing such co-operation should be discussed, if possible, with the Director of Research during the call of the "Discovery" at Cape Town.

5. The criticisms of the late Captain Scott regarding the sailing qualities of the "Discovery" were taken into careful consideration in drawing up the specification for the re-conditioning of the vessel, and extensive alterations have been made in the masting and general sailing plan. Barquentine rig was not regarded as suitable since, among other reasons, a boom main-sail could not be carried owing to the funnel and other obstructions between the main and mizzen mast. Also in order to carry sufficient handy canvas if square rigged on the fore mast only, the vessel would have to be rigged as a four masted barquentine. The fore mast and main mast have been placed further forward - the fore mast 4 feet and the main mast 8 feet - and more head sail will now be carried to meet Captain Scott's objections



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UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
No. 102

Downing Street,
29 May, 1925.

My Lord,

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In continuation of my despatch Dominions No.212 of the 20th of May, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, the accompanying itinerary of the Royal Research Ship "Discovery" on her initial voyage to Stanley, Falkland Islands, via West and South Africa. It will be observed that the places of call include Walfisch Bay, Saldanha Bay and Cape Town; but as scientific work will be undertaken during the voyage it is not possible to give any specific dates of call. The "Discovery" is, however, equipped with wireless, and the Commanding Officer has standing instructions to notify the local authorities by telegram of an impending call at a British port abroad.

2. I trust that the Expedition may be afforded all possible facilities when the "Discovery" calls at ports in the Union of South West Africa.

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3. I take this opportunity of stating that the enclosures to your despatch No.297 of the 16th of June 1924, were communicated to the Discovery Committee and that the Committee desire that their thanks may be expressed for the suggestions and offer of assistance

GOVERNOR GENERAL,

HIS EXCELLENCY,

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE,

THE EARL OF ATHLONE, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O.,

etc., etc., etc.

Copy sent to Ministers made
For Information ✓
Minute No. 5/121
Date 16th June 1925
(Signed) A. B. ...

ITINERARY OF THE ROYAL RESEARCH SHIP
"DISCOVERY".

5/121

Leaving England about
the middle of June

Calling at:-

- Las Palmas,
- Lagos,
- Annobon,
- Fernando Po,
- Cape Lopez,
- Elephant Bay,
- Walfisch Bay,
- Saldanha Bay,
- Cape Town,
- Tristan da Cunha (weather permitting),
- Stanley (Falkland Islands).

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