

19/88/2.

2nd February, 1956.

56.

Dear Jockel,

Thank you for sending me the gist of the instructions which were telegraphed to the Australian Ambassador in Washington in connection with the joint approach to the United States Government on the question of Antarctica.

Yours sincerely,

J. R. JORDAAN.

G. A. Jockel, Esq.,
Australian External Affairs Office,
Australia House,
London. W.C.2.

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OPHELDERING

Die belangrikste doelstelling van die Internasionale Geo-
fisiese Jaar is die opheldering van aardse en atmosferiese verskynsels waarvoor gelyk-
tydige waarnemings wat die hele aardoppervlakte dek, noodsaaklik is. Gedurende die tydperk sal veral pogings aangewend word om meer waarnemingsgewens uit moeilik toeganklike en normaalweg onbewoonde gebiede te verkry. So sal byvoorbeeld sowat elf maats saamwerk om sowat 24 stasies in Antarktika op te rig en in stand te hou.

'n Ekspedisie van die Statebond onder leiding van dr. Fuchs sal probeer om dwarsoor die

oos- en in die gebied sal waarnemings aanmerklik uitgebrei word. Waarnemings vanaf landposte sal aangevul word deur seewaartse waarnemings gedurende die S.A. Lugmag en S.A. Vloot se opleidingsoefeninge wat gereël is om saam te val met die wêreldtussenperiodes.

PRESS CUTTING.

From DIE VADERLAND.

Dated 23 Januarie 1956.

UNIE SE BYDRAE TOT GEOFISIESE JAAR

VOORSTELLE vir Suid-Afrika se deelname aan die Internasionale Geofisiese Jaar 1957-58, opgestel deur 'n komitee onder die voorsitterskap van dr. T. E. W. Schumann, is deur die Regering goedgekeur.

Die voorstelle sluit in meer uitgebreide metings van weerkundige toestande in die hoër luglae deur die Weerburo, ionosferiese en verwante waarnemings deur die W.N.N.R. se Telekommunikasie - navorsingslaboratorium. Johannesburg, metings van kosmiese strale deur die Universiteit van Stellenbosch en Potchefstroom, geomagnetiese waarnemings deur die Magnetiese Observatorium, Hermanus, Oseanografiese ondersoeke deur die Universiteit van Kaapstad en die S.A. Vloot, awaartekragwaarnemings deur die Geologiese Opname, en Seismologiese metings deur die Bernard Price Instituut vir Geofisiese Navorsing van die Universiteit Witwatersrand.

Al hierdie programme sal deel vorm van die internasionale program wat breedvoerig opgestel is deur 'n internasionale komitee bekend as C.S.A.G.I. (voortsetters van die Franse naam vir die spesiale komitee vir die Internasionale Geofisiese Jaar van die Internasionale Raad vir Wetenskaplike Unies). Dr. Schumann, voorsitter van die Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Komitee, is 'n lid van C.S.A.G.I., waarop hy as een van die verteenwoordigers van die Wêreldorganisasie vir Meteorologie dien. By hierdie komitee het die taak berus om die doelstellings te definieer en die programme te koördineer van die 40 soewereine nasies wat tot dusver hulle plan om aan die I.G.J. deel te neem, te kenne gegee het. Hulle het reëlings getref vir „wêreldtussenperiodes“ wanneer intensiewer waarnemings gemaak sal word en 'n radiowaarskuwingsstelsel vir „spesiale wêreldtussenperiodes“ gedurende tye van steuring van atmosferiese, ionosferiese en verwante toestande.

OPHELDERING

Die belangrikste doelstelling van die Internasionale Geofisiese Jaar is die opheldering van aardse en atmosferiese verskynsels waarvoor gelyktydige waarnemings wat die hele aardoppervlakte dek, noodsaaklik is. Gedurende die tydperk sal veral pogings aangewend word om meer waarnemingsgewens uit moeilik toeganklike en normaalweg onbewoonde gebiede te verkry. So sal byvoorbeeld sowat elf nasies saamwerk om sowat 24 stasies in Antarktika op te rig en in stand te hou.

'n Ekspedisie van die Statebond onder leiding van dr. Fuchs sal probeer om dwarsoor die

Antarktiese vasteland te reis. Die Unie-regering dra £18,000 by tot die koste van die ekspedisie waarby 'n lid van die Weerburo aangesluit het.

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Komitee meen dat baie van die waarde van die netwerk van waarnemingsposte in Antarktika verlore sal gaan as die omliggende oseane nie op soortgelyke wyse deur waarnemingsposte gedek word nie. Aangesien daar min landmassas in die Suidelike Halfrond is, sal die waarnemingsprogramme van Suid-Afrika se weersstasies op die afgesonderde Tristan da Cunha- en Marion-eilande van besondere belang wees.

Drie meridiane wat van die Noordpool tot die Suidpool loop, is vir besonder intensiewe studie gekies. Een hiervan, 10 grade oos van Greenwich, loop naby die Weskus van Suid-Afrika verby en in die gebied sal waarnemings aanmerklik uitgebrei word. Waarnemings vanaf landposte sal aangevul word deur seewaartse waarnemings gedurende die S.A. Lugmag en S.A. Vloot se opleidingsoefenings wat gereël is om saam te val met die wêreldtussenperiodes.

29/88/2

AIRMAIL

21st January, 1956.

THE SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Trans-Antarctic Expedition

I forward herewith one copy each of the agenda and the minutes of the ninth meeting of the Committee of Management of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition held on Thursday, 12th January, 1956.

A member of the Committee enquired informally at the meeting when the sum of £10,000 which the Union had decided to contribute towards the general cost of the expedition would be paid. He also enquired whether we had received a reply from the Union about the use of the sum of £8,000 originally allocated for the purchase of radio-sonde equipment. This matter was raised in my minute of the 22nd December, 1955.

I should be grateful if you would inform me whether a decision has been reached regarding this matter.

J. R. JORDAAN,

Minister Counsellor.

JB/AG

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for his approval and signature.

Organisation for the handling of Photographs

3. The Secretary reported that the British Petroleum Company had most generously given the Expedition all the necessary equipment for the setting up of a photographic library. The first batch of negatives had been received from Montevideo and the library has been established.

The Books

TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

Minutes of the ninth meeting of the Committee of Management held at 64 Victoria Street S.W.1. on Thursday 12th January 1956 at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Mr. J.M. Wordie (in the Chair)
General Sir James Marshall-Cornwall
Mr. G.P. Pirie-Gordon
Professor H.H. Read
Mr. A.R. Glen
Sir Miles Clifford
Mr. F. Corner (representing Ross Sea Committee)

ALSO ATTENDED: Mr. G. Price Jones (Commonwealth Relations Office)
Mr. J.J. Becker (South Africa House)
Mr. C.G. Johnston (Kemp Chatteris & Co.)

APOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED FROM:

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

The Minutes of the eighth meeting of the Committee of Management held on 9th November 1955 were confirmed.

Financial Report

1. Mr. Pirie-Gordon said that he had now received the budget estimate of expenses from the Ross Sea Committee which has enabled him to prepare a combined Budget Estimate for the whole Expedition. The Appeal has so far realised £27,000 in this country and even if no further money was received the financial position would be stable until the autumn of this year, after which - among other things - provision would have to be made for the charter of the 'Magge Den' at the rate of £13,000 per month. He then gave a full financial report which is attached as Appendix 1.

Appeal Information to the Press

2. The Secretary said that the Press are now constantly seeking information regarding the progress of the Appeal and as the Committee did not wish the figures to be published at present, he had been advised that the easiest way to end embarrassing enquiries was to send a personal and confidential letter to the editors asking for their co-operation. A draft letter was tabled and accepted and the Secretary was asked to send this to the Chairman for his approval and signature.

Organisation for the handling of Photographs

3. The Secretary reported that the British Petroleum Company had most generously given the Expedition all the necessary equipment for the setting up of a photographic library. The first batch of negatives had been received from Montevideo and the library has been established.

Film arrangements between British Petroleum Co. and the Ross Sea Committee

4. In order that the official film of the Expedition can be made entirely with material supplied by B.P., the latter has suggested that film equipment should be sent to the Ross Sea Committee and that a New Zealand photographer be trained in its use. This proposal has been submitted to the Ross Sea Committee and a reply is awaited. This would in no way interfere with existing arrangements for the New Zealand Film Unit to accompany the Ross Sea contingent to take pictures for distribution in New Zealand.

Visit of U.S. Ice-breaker to Weddell Sea.

5. The Secretary reported that he had received a letter from the Royal Naval observer in the U.S.S. 'Glacier' saying that having completed her programme in the Ross Sea it was possible that the ship might visit the Weddell Sea - probably early in March.

Offer of assistance from Argentine

6. The Secretary said that following the Press reports giving details of the difficulties which the 'Theron' is now encountering in the pack-ice, the Naval Attache in Buenos Aires had been offered the assistance of the Argentine ice-breaker 'San Martin' with the assurance that no propaganda value would be made of its use. After consultation with the Admiralty a message had been sent thanking them for this gesture but saying that no anxiety was felt for Dr. Fuchs and his Party at present.

Present position regarding the 'John Biscoe'

7. Mr. Corner said that the Ross Sea Committee have made an offer to the Colonial Office for the purchase of the 'John Biscoe' but, despite many efforts, it does not seem possible to obtain a definite answer from the Government. In view of the constant American offers to transport the New Zealand Expedition contingent this is becoming embarrassing - particularly if the Appeal in New Zealand should fail to reach its target when it will be increasingly difficult to substantiate the necessity for a separate vessel at considerable cost to the Expedition.

Visit of H.M. the Queen to the 'Magga Dan'

8. The Secretary said that 14th November has tentatively been fixed for the departure of the Main Party in the 'Magga Dan' and Her Majesty the Queen has graciously consented to visit the ship and meet members of the Expedition on 13th November.

Invitation to Dr. Fuchs to visit New Zealand.

9. The Secretary reported that the Ross Sea Committee has extended an invitation to Dr. Fuchs to visit New Zealand during the summer. The Committee much appreciated this gesture and realised that such a visit would do much good and provide fruitful results. In view, however, of Dr. Fuchs' heavy administrative responsibilities for the Expedition in the United Kingdom and the mounting calls being made upon him for lectures radio appearances etc.

which were of particular value in connection with the Public Appeal, they did not feel able to comit him to such a visit in his absence. It was agreed that Mr. George Lowe would in any case go to New Zealand to provide a liaison between the two Committees and that Dr. Fuchs would do likewise if circumstances permit.

Lecture Tours

10. Sir Miles Clifford said that Wilfrid Van Wyck Ltd. had received many requests for lectures about the Expedition and had suggested that Dr. Fuchs, Sir Edmund Hillary (for the limited time he will be in the United Kingdom) and other members of the Expedition should undertake lecture tours during the Spring and Autumn. Mr. Van Wyck had himself attended the last meeting of the Finance Committee to discuss his proposals and the following arrangements had been agreed to:-

- a) Dr. Fuchs and Sir Edmund Hillary will give a joint lecture at the Festival Hall on 27th May.
- b) The Expedition will retain an option on the Festival Hall for a date in October when it is hoped that Dr. Fuchs may be able to give another lecture.
- c) Dr. Fuchs and Sir Edmund Hillary will accept an invitation to lecture to the Scottish Royal Geographical Society during the week May 20th to 27th.
- d) One lecture will be given in a Midland town in October. The present suggestion is that it should be given by Dr. Fuchs in Bradford.
- e) Mr. George Lowe will be free to lecture during May and from mid September until the Expedition sails. Mr. Van Wyck is to submit proposals as to where these could most advantageously be given.

Additional Personnel for New Zealand contingent.

11. The Ross Sea Committee wish to add an Australian dog-driver to the New Zealand contingent, bringing the Party up to 17 and have asked whether there would be any objection to this. The Committee felt that this was a matter to be decided in New Zealand but they have no objection to the proposal.

Press relations.

12. The Secretary reported that cordial relations exist between the Expedition office and Press reporters and the majority of newspapers are being most co-operative. Cables received from Dr. Fuchs are normally passed to Mr. Wordie and Sir Miles Clifford for comment and are then expanded and given to Reuters, who circulate them to the national Press. In view of 'Theron's' difficulties in the ice pack, the Secretary said that the newspapers are now asking leading questions and sought guidance as to the answers they should be given. The Committee discussed the 'Theron's' position in the light of Dr. Fuchs most recent message and felt that there was no real cause for

anxiety at present. Expedition plans would not be seriously jeopardised provided she comes free of the ice by the end of January. It will be necessary for her to leave the Weddell Sea between the third week in February and the first week in March, according to whether this proves to be a good "ice year". The Secretary was asked to send a message, on behalf of the Committee, to Dr. Fuchs expressing their confidence in him and his Party and wishing him success.

Liaison with the Royal Society

13. The 'Tottan', carrying the Royal Society International Geophysical Year Party has already arrived and is establishing Base in Antarctica. This has led to a considerable exchange of messages, etc., between the Society and the Expedition office and Mr. Wordie suggested that at times a specially convened Liaison Committee would be helpful in dealing with Press matters, etc. The Committee agreed and asked Sir Miles Clifford, Mr. Glen and the Secretary to represent them. The Royal Society's committee on this matter consists of Sir David Brunt, Mr. Wordie and Dr. Martin.

Date of next Meeting.

14. The next meeting of the Committee of Management will take place at 64 Victoria Street on Tuesday, 24th January, at 2.30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12.47 p.m.

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

Distribution

All members of General Committee.
Kemp Chatteris & Co.
Commonwealth Relations Office.
Colonial Office.
Ross Sea Committee.
New Zealand House,
Australia House,
South Africa House.
Governor of the Falkland Islands.

APPENDIX 1.

Financial Report by the Treasurer to the Committee of Management, submitted on 12th January 1956.

We have now received the Budget Estimate from the Ross Sea Committee. A combined estimate of expenses has been prepared, but since many of these figures are uncertain it is not intended to circulate them as widely as the figure for expenditure. They are available after this Meeting should any member of the Committee wish to inspect them more closely.

The position can be summarised roughly as follows:

The total cost of the Expedition, including the Ross Sea Committee and allowing some £20,000 for contingencies, is about £500,000. The known income from Commonwealth Governments, from special Grants, and from the sale of publications, broadcasting and film rights, amounts approximately to £296,000 - leaving £203,500 to be raised elsewhere. Not all of this sum however need be raised from the public, as the New Zealand I.G.Y. have already promised £8,000 for the Ross Sea Committee's expected services to the New Zealand I.G.Y. Party, and it is hoped that possibly the United Kingdom I.G.Y. Party might contribute say £38,750, being a half share of the total cost of the 'Magga Dan', of which it is understood they will have need. If both these I.G.Y. contributions are in fact made, the amount to be raised from the public appeal is reduced to £150,750.

A figure for the New Zealand Appeal has not yet been received. The U.K. Appeal to date has realised £27,500. There is therefore still to be raised from the Public in the U.K. and New Zealand combined £129,250.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee and Appeal Sub-Committee yesterday evening, it was reported that the Prime Minister did not feel he could take any further action in support of the Appeal by way of bringing unofficial pressure to bear on the Lord Mayor to open a subscription list in the Lord Mayor's name.

The Appeal Sub-Committee are meeting again on Tuesday of next week and the detail of further special approaches to industry and selected concerns will be discussed, and also the making known of the Appeal to the public generally by way of large-scale advertising will be discussed. It is not intended to re-engage Mr. Scott-Paton as an Appeal Organiser after his present agreement expires next month.

The Committee of Management might care to know that, disregarding any further receipts from the General Appeal, the Expedition will be in credit by the middle of October, 1956 a few hundred pounds, but that during the Summer they may have had to incur an overdraft of up to 13½ thousand pounds. By the end of October, 1956 however the Expedition will have taken on charter the 'Magga Dan' whose monthly cost will be of the order of about 13 thousand pounds.

There are one or two financial points that should be drawn particularly to the attention of the Committee of Management:-

1. "The Times" has been so successful in the sale overseas of the feature rights that the income due to the Expedition under the contract is now not only the basic £10,000 but also a further £6,000.
2. Other publishing rights have also shown an increase over the expected figure of at least some £5,000.
3. An analysis of the Appeal results by groups of donors is available. The most significant feature is that personal approach to commercial and professional concerns has been of immense value; the personal contact has ensured a very good response, whereas anonymous approaches have had a very disappointing result.
4. Some 30 thousand schools were circulated and so far 1,600 have contributed £4,500 between them, and a further 1,650 have promised support later. In acknowledgement of this very good response special wall maps and certificates are being sent to all supporting schools. This extra effort is due to the co-operation of "The Times" and it is hoped that it might encourage further subscription as the terms pass and fresh pupils are available.

Although there are many encouraging aspects on the financial front, the position is not satisfactory and the success of the enterprise depends on the results of the next stage in the general appeal to the public.