

CONFIDENTIAL.

C.S.

1924.

No. C/28/1926.

H. E. the Acting Governor

SUBJECT.

192 6

30th November.

PELAGIC WHALING.

DEVELOPMENTS IN

Previous Paper.

1925
C/14/1926.

D/102/25

MINUTES.

1. Minute from the Acting Governor, dated 30th November, 1926.
2. Copy of telegram from Whaling Officer, So. Shets, 25rd Nov. 1926.
3. Telegram to Whaling Officer, South Shetlands, 1st Dec. 1926.

y.g. H. y.g.'s verbal directions vol 3 has not yet been despatched to W. Bennett. H.P.P. are resubmitted as directed.

W.D. 2.12.26.

H.C. Thank you. I had in mind some modification of the proposed telegram, but on re-consideration I think that it can go on.

H.
2 Dec. 1926

H. Telegram from Whaling Officer South Shetlands, 3rd December 1926

Subsequent Paper.

C/2/27

40
Re: 4 Sublet. In the circumstances I
do not think that any immediate action is
necessary beyond that of 17.12.26 for news
of "Larney" and of any further "pelagic"
developments.

JMS

3.12.26.

Act.
I took the opportunity when seeing Mr.
Preece at his monthly interview on 6th inst.
of discussing this question with him. I gave
Mr. Craigie-Stalketh these papers for perusal with
a request that he should furnish me with his
views on the matter. A minute with accompanying
memorandum received from him to-day is annexed... (5)-(7)

2. It is noteworthy that Mr. Craigie-Stalketh,
like Mr. Bennett does not anticipate any
attempt at evasion of duties by licensed whalers
on oil which may have been manufactured outside
territorial limits. Mr. Barlas has expressed
similar views to me.

3. As soon as we have some more definite
information to work upon, it will be necessary
to advise the Secretary of State of the position.
In the meantime, the paper can be held over
as proposed for any further developments

JMS
9 Dec. 1926

Inside Minute Paper.

(8)-(9).....

H. Some days ago, I prepared some rough notes on the situation. For convenience of record I have attached them to this M.P.

D.
13 Dec. 1926

H.C.

Will you please have a copy of Mr. Bennett's telegram of 16th Dec. (no 5 on M.P. of 9/12/26) placed on this M.P., and the telegram as in draft attached sent to Secy. of State

D.
18 Dec. 1926

- 10. Telegrams from Mr. A.S. Bennett dated 16.12.26.
- 11. Telegram to Secy. of S. dated 20.12.1926.
- 12. Extract of telegram received from Mr. A.S. Bennett - 20.12.26.

4 20. 1. 27

4 21. 12. 26.

- 13. Extract from telegram recd from Whaling Officer Original in 7/95/26. So Sub. 31/11/26

- 14. Telegram from Master (?) 'Lancing' 11 Jan 1927.

yo. Schmitt. I see no point in such

Government can refer to past this

somewhat unusual request?

Just

12.1.27

Nel.

1. The Situation is different and delicate.
2. In the S. of S.'s Confidential despatch of 9th July 1926 (copy is red 25 in int. C/14/1925) the previous instruction as to when no facilities being granted was qualified by the direction that "Pending further consideration of the general question, vessels engaged in pelagic whaling, which are not charged with any offence against the laws of the Colony, should not be subjected to any special restrictions in regard to obtaining repairs, coal and supplies."
3. Interpreted strictly I cannot see that the collection of mussels comes within the three latter categories. On the other hand ~~the mussels are not a cargo~~ it is difficult to see on what ground we can base a refusal - there being, as far as I can ascertain, no question of any offence against the laws of the Colony.
4. Will you please refer to Honble. Mr. Craigie Hackett in his capacity as Hon. Treasurer, Collector of Customs and Registrar of Shipping for his observations. If the "Lancing" enters at Lami Island do not the provisions of Ordinance No. 6/1903 come into force?

As
12 Aug. 1927.

Mr. Treasurer

Referred to you accordingly please.

J. M. H. S.
G. Col. Sec.

13.1.27

Hon. Col. Sec.

If the s.s. "Lancuz" enters any Port or place in the Colony she must be regarded as a vessel from parts beyond the seas and would require to conform to Sections 2, 3 and 4 of Ordinance 6 of 1903.

2. There is a Govt. office at Signy Island, South Orkneys, and the vessel could enter there. Laurie Island is about 2 hours steam from Signy Island.

3. It is possible that the "Lancuz" wishes to lay at Laurie Island for a week to give her oil a chance to settle, or perhaps to pick up seals. I cannot understand that it would take a week to collect mussels. If the vessel lay at Laurie Is. to scute her oil then I think she could be considered to be operating in territorial waters without a license.

4. If the vessel enters at Signy Island then I think Mr. Cavettes might be given permission to land on Laurie Island. There is nothing in red (14) to indicate that the "Lancet" wishes to lay at Laurie Island.

M. Craigie Hallett,
Secy
18.1.27

J.P. Sketch with a draft telegram to

Alberton Cavettes et to the Magistrate, South Georgia.

J.P.

17.1.27

Telegrams to Cavettes and Magistrate, South Georgia approved.

J.P.
17 Jan. 1927.

Telegram from Alberton Cavettes, Lancing. 15.
15th January, 1927.

Telegram to Alberton Cavettes, Lancing. 16.
18th January, 1927.

Telegram to Magistrate, So Geo. 18th Jan. 1927. 17.

The Trans.

To see

J.P.

9. Col. Sec

18.1.27

Hon. Col. Sec.

Thank you - seen.

M. Ganji Karkhan
Treas
19. 1. 27

4 30. 1. 27

19. 1. 27

18. Telegram from Magistrate, S. Poonja - 20. 1. 27.

J.P. Sathal. This is not really

satisfactory at all with respect to the nature
of the provision of arrangements for communication
in code between the Magistrate, Salt Poonja,
and the Deputy Officer, Salt Poonja, similar
to those in operation between the Deputy
Officer, Salt Sathal, and myself.

C.C.

has. P.P. please

J.P. 21/1

Leat with
on M.P.

21/3/27.

21. 1. 27.

J.P.

21 Jan. 1927.

Extract from
Telegram from Whaling office, St. Kittans. 19.
21/1/27.

Telegram from Magistrate, Santo Georgia. 20.
23 January 1927.

Hon. Treasurer
and Collector of Customs.

Ref 20.

For your observations, please, with
reference to previous correspondence herein.

J. M. L.

q. Col. Sec

24. 1. 27

Hon. Col. Sec.

I see no objection to a catcher
entering at Signy Island for the purpose
of taking on board the Govt. Officer at
that place.

M. Brian Halkett
Treas.

24. 1. 27

Yr. Skilled with a draft telegram
to Uqitkah Salt Agency.

J. M. L.

25. 1. 27

J. M. L.
25 Jan 1927

21. Telegram to Magistrate, So. Geo., 26/1/27.

y. 16. 2. 27.

le 26. 1. 27

22. Telegram from Magistrate, So. Geo., 28/1/27.

y. E. S. L. H. e. d. + i. n. f. o. r. m. a. t. i. o. n. - This episode would thus seem to be at an end.

2. I will let Mr. Treasurer at Collector of Customs see.

Jul

28. 1. 27.

28 Jan 4. 1927

Mr. Treasurer at
Collector of Customs.

To see

28. 1. 27.

Jul
G. L. S.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Thank you very much. It would be interesting to know why "Lancing" has left vicinity of S. Orkneys for S. America at this period - probably weather conditions or scarcity of whales.

M. Annie Halkett
Frens

24. 1. 27

Mr. Schellert - I might telegraph to the
Magistrate South Georgia at enquire whether he
can find any reason for the departure of
"Lancing" for S. America at this season of
the year.

JMS

29. 1. 27.

Hel. Please do so. It would certainly
be interesting to know the reason of this
early departure.

B.

29 Jan. 1927.

Telegram to Magistrate, S. Geo., 15 Feb. 1927. 23.

J. 11. 2. 27

to (1. 2. 27).

Extract from telegram from Whaling
Office, South Shetlands, 2nd Feb. 1927. 24.

y.2. Submitted. From vol 8 in H.P. D/110/25
 it seems that "Lancing" had 5,200 barrels
 of oil on 21. 1. 26 and as 30,000
 barrels in an entire season is a good catch
 even for one of the larger factories if it is
 the fact that "Lancing" has over 18,000 barrels
 at half season she would appear to be doing
 exceptionally well.

J.M.D.

3. 2. 27.

B.
3 Feby. 1927

vol 25

Telegram from Nayitah Salt Works

3. 2. 27.

y.8. vol (25) submitted.

J.M.D.

3. 2. 27.

y. 10. 2. 27
to 4. 2. 27.

H.C. I hope that we will get a further
report. B.P. 10th Feby

B.
4 Jan. 1927

g.s.

M.P. brought forward as directed / report

the delay of one day - two days then this

week g.s. - in submission.

jud

11. 2. 27.

Hel. Please ask Magistrate by telegram whether
he has any further information as to financing

D.
17 Feb. 1927

Telegram to Magistrate. S. George - 26.
14. 2. 27.

24. 2. 27.

14. 2. 27.

Extract from telegram dated 5. 2. 1927 from
Magistrate. 27.

Extract from telegram dated 16. 2. 1927 to S. G. 28.

Telegram from Magistrate dated 16. 2. 1927. 29.

g.s. Subscribed. Await Magistrate's promised letter.

2. Re State Island referred to in previously

Pub off Terr del Fuero.

jud

16. 2. 27.

D.
16 Feb. 1927

by 2.3.27

by 14.2.27

30

Letter for Magistrate Park Seogi

rel 30

y.p.

rel 30 submitted for information.

Yudh

25.2.27

25 Feb. 1927

The Treasurer

at Collector of Customs

To see

Yudh

G. G. Lee

1.3.27

Hon. Col. Sec.

Thank you.

M. Francis Hutcheon

Treas.
1. 3. 27

U 22. 3. 27

L 21. 3. 27

Extract from Communication Report 3/3/27 31.

" " Telegram from Whaling Office, South Shetlands, 10/3/27. 32.

g.p. Submitted with reference to H.L. 3/10/27

submitted simultaneously.

Just

H.L.
9 March 1927 9. 3. 27

U 29. 3. 27

~~U 22. 4. 27~~

L 30. 3. 27

L 9. 3. 27

Telegram to Whaling Office, South Shetlands, 14 April, 1927. 33.

" from " " 14 April, 1927. 34.

Inside Minute Paper.

42
 I thought it this is so Lancing
 cannot be having a particularly good
 season as on the showing of the
 figures on reds 34 at 32 26 less 16
 only 5000 tons of oil in the period
 early March to early April.

J. W.

16.4.27.

B.
16 April, 1927

4 9.5.27

to 19.4.27.

I saw Capt Hansen at W. Peterson, Manager
 at Sundry, respectively, of S.S. "Southern Queen" on
 25.4.27. They told us that the comparison
 was taken of the "Lancing" this season is

due to the fact that her captain was unable
to unwilling to follow the rules along or into the
ice pack. Capt. Hansen stated that if he had himself
been in "Lancing" with his own captain in command,
i.e. of navigation, he would have obtained much better
results.

"Lancing" apparently state to the Department that
not follow the rules on her own account but lay
down to the "Southern Queen" through, usually
past outside territorial limits.

The feeling among licensed whalers is that the
British Govt should put a stop to "Lancing's" fishing
methods.

Jul
27. 4. 27.

Off. Sec.

For information at record.

2. Please let the Treasurer at Coll. of Customs see.

Jul

The Treasurer of Coll. 27. 4. 27.

To see

GRH:13

Off. Sec.

28 April 1927.

C.S.O. No. 928/26.

Inside Minute Paper.

Sheet No. 9.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Thank you.

M. Brangie Hukete

Wras.

29. 4. 27.

Off. Sec.

Please ask W. Bennett whether he can
furnish any further report as to the operations
of the Lancy - subject to vol 34.

[Signature]

10. 5. 27

Mr. A. G. Bennett.

Accordingly.

[Signature]

Off. Sec.

10 May 1927

Off. Sec.

The last information I secured was
that Lancy had 29,500 bbls. this was
about 30/4/27 & still in operation,
also states that 350 whales had been taken
on the Argentine coast alone for about 8,500 bbls.

Such information (wireless gossip) must
be accepted with all reserve

I also learned, on the voyage up that
the Kamchatka - Peru expedition

being a failure the factory =
"Commandoran" was fitting out for
the Patagonian Coast.

This information is derived from a cousin
of the Captain, - a man I know quite well,
& was for years on S. Shetlands.

Ag Bennett
wh. off
11/5/27

G.O.
Submitted
S.P.H. 1926
Office
12 May 1927.

✓ J.M.D.
13.5.27

Off. 1/2 Sect.

I should be glad of any further
information that can be gleaned from any source
e.g. from W. Bennett or from Capt. P. at P.
as to the operations or movements of "Lancy"
during the past fishing season, i.e. in particular subsequent
to 30. 4. 27.
2. In any case please let me have
this info gain on 25. 5. 27 J.M.D. 15.5.27

Mr A.S. Bennett.
Superintendent of T & T.

Referred
G.M. [unclear]
D.J. [unclear]
18 May 1927

On 6 Dec

I regret I have no further
information on the operations of
"Lancing"

a.s. Bennett
of Soc Naturalist
17/5/27

Sup of T & T.

To you please.

a.s.
as Nat
17/5/27

(35)

Service message to Subt. T & T.

Hon. Col. Sec

Further report if communication established
as expected will follow, p.m.

J.H.
18/5/27

V.C. Submitted.

Capt Nethercote has informed me that no
further news of "Lancing" has been received. G.M. to

22th 1927 D.J. [unclear]

Off. G. Sed.

Draft duplicate herewith of Fairing.

Jul

27.5.27

Confidential despatch to S. of S. of 4/6/27. 36-39.

Y/E. Despatch submitted for signature.

seen A.H.

11/6 27.

G.K.H. 13

Off. Sec.

7 June 1927.

✓ J.M.S.
8.6.27.

~~15.11.27~~

~~13.6.27~~

Minute from Supt. T. & I. 10/12/27. 40.

Y/E. Submitted for information.

(i.d.g.)
for 10/12/27.

Hon. C.S

Gene Jan

12/27.

M.

~~Confidential~~

Acting

From His Excellency the Governor

to The Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

PELAGIC WHALING

Will you please have a copy of Mr. Bennett's telegram of 23rd November (4 on sub. 95/26) attached to C/14/1925 or registered separately Confidential, whichever you think most convenient, and then telegraph to Mr. Bennett in following sense

"Confidential with reference to your telegram 23rd November ~~what~~ where is Lancing operating what are latest reports concerning her x Report by telegram as fully as possible regarding new operations Saragosa Jack x Do you consider that they are being undertaken with view to evasion duties or as a matter of convenience"

2. On receipt of Mr. Bennett's reply I propose to take up the matter of a report to Secretary of State.

D.
30 Nov. 1926

DECODE.

COPY

(Original filed as Encl. 4 in M. P. D/95/26)

(2)

TELEGRAM.

From The Whaling Officer, South Shetlands.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Dispatched: 23rd November..... 1926

Time: 2 p.m.

Received: 25th November..... 1926

Time: 10.35 a.m.

Colonial Secretary

Port Stanley.

Latest reports state that Sanagossa Falk now in operation South Orkneys similar to and competing with Lancing. I submit that dangerous precedent created by licensees operating beyond limit as specified ice broken up cleared whaling very poor Admiralty Bay Lancing silent.

Bennett

DECODE.

3

TELEGRAM.*From* The Colonial Secretary.*To* The Whaling Officer, South Shetlands.*Dispatched:* 1st December, 1926. *Time:* 12.30 p.m.*Received:* 192 *Time:*

BENNETT

WHALING OFFICER

SOUTHSHETLANDS.

2nd sent JMS - 2.12.26

Confidential with reference to your telegram 23rd November where is Lancing operating what are latest reports concerning her. Report by telegram as fully as possible regarding new operations Saragossa Falk. Do you consider that they are being undertaken with view to evasion duties or as a matter of convenience.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

D ODE.

C/28/26.

7

CONFIDENTIAL.

TELEGRAM.

From Mr. A. G. Bennett, Whaling Officer, S. Shetlands.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Dispatched: 3rd December, 1926. *Time:* 1 p.m.

Received: 3rd December, 1926. *Time:* 2.20 p.m.

COLONIAL SECRETARY
PORTSTANLEY

Lancing maintains silence believed to be in operation adjacent to South Orkneys. South Orkneys reported to be surrounded by 40 nautical miles ice packs weeks. Lancing ocean operating factories have secured very great catches and also damage to ship. Falk Orn II have been Admiralty Bay for water and repairs Solstrief Deception Island ditto Sarragossa transit Admiralty Bay damaged following factories now operating 23 days steaming east Admiralty Bay and have oil (barrels) as stated Falk 9200 Orn II 7700 Solstrief 5500 Southern Queen 3000 Sarragossa 4000 Pythia unknown remainder 1000. I do not anticipate evasion revenue.

BENNETT.

Confidential

(7)

MINUTE

His Excellency the Acting Governor,

In accordance with Your Excellency's verbal instructions, I beg to submit herewith a Memorandum on the subject of pelagic whaling recently prosecuted by certain Companies licensed to operate in the territorial waters of the S. Shetlands.

M. Traige Ha Moa.

Treas.
9.12.26

Confidential

6

MEMORANDUM

It would appear from the report of the Whaling Officer, South Shetlands (red 2) that other whaling Companies have been prosecuting whaling operations on the high seas near the Dependencies.

2. In the past it has been the practice for Whaling Companies to take up Stations at the South Shetlands from which whaling operations are prosecuted. It is not clear why certain Companies have recently been prosecuting whaling on the high seas instead of from their usual Stations. The only explanation which presents itself is that Stations usually taken up were unapproachable at the commencement of the season owing to ice conditions. If this is so the vessels concerned had either to whale at sea or return to some port pending improvement in the ice conditions. I believe that similar conditions prevailed in 1914 when some of the Whaling vessels had to remain at Staten Island for a considerable time.

3. I do not consider that there is any danger that Companies at present licensed will take up pelagic whaling. The arguments put forward in enclosures 2-4 in C.14/25 were doubtless made as strong as possible by Andvig & Coy in their endeavour to obtain another license. It does not appear that pelagic whaling is so successful as whaling carried on from a fixed station where whales can be worked expeditiously and safely with the minimum of risk to the vessels engaged.

4. Revenue derived from the Whaling Industry. If Companies which are licensed to operate in the Dependencies are likely to prosecute operations on the high seas in preference to taking out a license to operate in the territorial waters of the Dependencies then there is danger that the Revenue derived from the whaling Industry will become seriously affected. In the case of the Globus Coy their factory ship "Lancing" clears from Norway on a Whale Fishing Expedition vessel is not obliged to enter or clear from any port so long

as she can keep to the high seas, and it seems to me that other Companies such as those at present licensed could if they so desired follow the same procedure and thus evade payment of export duties.

5. I am of opinion :

- (a) That it would be impracticable to levy an import duty on whale oil taken on the high seas. If a vessel carrying on pelagic whaling did enter a Port in the Colony or its Dependencies, cargo in transit could not I think be regarded as an import.
- (b) That export duty could be demanded provided of course satisfactory proof was not forthcoming that the catch had been taken and operated outside the territorial waters of the Colony and its Dependencies.
- (c) That there is no jurisdiction over vessels prosecuting whaling outside the territorial limits of the Colony and its Dependencies, as regards collection of export duty or otherwise.

With regard to (a) and (b) there would be no likelihood of a vessel prosecuting pelagic whaling entering a port in the Colony or its Dependencies unless in distress.

6. The fact that certain licensed Companies have recently obtained part of their catch on the high seas would not, in my opinion, entitle them to raise any question regarding payment of export duty on the catch so taken. These Companies under the terms of their licenses have the benefit of working in territorial waters and it was apparently only owing to adverse conditions at the beginning of the season that they were unable to take advantage of that benefit.

7. To effectually control whaling operations the services of a patrol vessel appears to be essential. It seems to me that a vessel carrying on pelagic whaling would make use of a harbour for working purposes if the Master knew he would not be observed. It is known that there is no patrol vessel to protect the rights of licensed Companies against vessels carrying on pelagic whaling.

M. Craigie Harkness

Notes on situation as to Pelagic Whaling

1. Pelagic Whaling in the Dependencies of the Falkland Islands has now resolved itself into two different categories:—

(A.) The operations of the specially fitted out "lancing" which operates without a licence. Without such a licence she is debarred from either taking whales or manufacturing whale products within territorial waters. So long as she conducts her operations outside territorial limits, the Colonial Government has at present no control whatsoever.

(B.) The operations recently reported by the Whaling Office, South Shetlands, whereby certain only licenced factories, are now, for some reason not yet defined, carrying out the manufacture of whale products in the open sea instead of as heretofore 'working up' the whale in a harbour or under the shelter of land.

2. At page 7 of the Interdepartmental Report of 1920 occurs the following pregnant passage:—

"The control of the industry by the Government of the Falkland Islands has been made possible by the fact that, although most of the whales are caught outside territorial waters, they cannot be commercially utilised without the employment of harbours."

The position which has now arisen demonstrates that the absolute necessity for the employment of harbours no longer obtains.

3. As to "A" the general question of pelagic whaling is under the consideration of H. M. Govt. — See Secy. of State's despatch Confidential of 9th July. In that despatch instructions are given that the previous restrictions placed upon the "fancing" are to be relaxed, and that vessels engaged in pelagic whaling, which are not charged with any offence against the laws of the Colony, should not be subjected to any special restrictions in regard to obtaining repairs, coal and supplies.

M.P. C/14/25

Copy on C/14/25

In his Confidential despatch of 3rd of May Sir John Middleton requested that on his arrival in England he should be ^{afforded} an opportunity of discussing the situation. From a private letter dated the 15th of August, I gather that some informal discussion did take place. The question of the provision of a Patrol Boat was considered, but the expense of such a craft was thought to be an obstacle. Certain Government Departments are stated to be strongly averse "to anything being done which would be likely to lead to repercussions in other parts". Sir John Middleton added in his letter that a full meeting of the Discovery Committee, when representatives of all departments concerned and of New Zealand would attend, was likely to take in September, and the whole question would come under discussion. The mail expected towards the end of this month may bring some information as to the results of this discussion.

4. In regard to "B" there is as stated
 ante no information available as to the
 reasons which have induced certain floating
 factories to work away from their harbours
 or the shelter of land. It may possibly be that
 the harbours are icebound, or there may be other
~~strong~~ ^{strong} reason. A dangerous contingency which
 might arise however is an attempt to disclaim
 liability in respect of ^{duties on} any whale products
 manufactured outside territorial limits. Duties
 on whale oil and guano are at present
 levied under the Customs Ordinance 1900 which
 in Section 7 provides for the collection of
 Customs duties on certain scheduled kinds of
 produce "which shall have been raised in
 this Colony".

Mr. Bader and Mr.
 Bennett do not
 anticipate such
 a contingency

R.

Such an attempt is I trust very problematical
 for the effect would be to jeopardise the ~~renewal~~
 renewal of their licences. Incidentally, it is
 to be noted from Mr. Bennett's telegram of
 3rd Dec. that the prosecution by factories of
 operations in the open sea has resulted in
 injury to the vessels thereby necessitating
 return to their normal harbour bases.

R.

5 Dec. 1916.

DECODE.

EXTRACTED FROM :- 95/26.

10

TELEGRAM.

From Mr. A. G. Bennett, "ROALD AMUNDSEN".

To The Colonial Secretary.

Dispatched: 16th December, 1926. *Time:* 1.45 p.m.

Received: 17th December, 1926. *Time:* 10.50 a.m.

COLONIAL SECRETARY

PORT STANLEY

Whaling very poor Fin whales only Lancing 8th
December 10,000 barrels of oil seagoing operations sus-
pended or finished.

BENNETT.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Acting Governor.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Dispatched : 20th December, 1926. Time : 3.55 p.m.

Received : ... 192 ... Time : ...

CHAPEIRIES

LONDON

Information as to operations of LANCING this season very meagre. She is understood to be in South Orkneys area and reported to have 10,000 barrels of oil to 8th December. Whaling Officer South Shetlands reports that several licenced floating factories in attempt to operate in open sea have sustained damage and forced to return to harbours.

GOVERNOR.

12.7

EXTRACT FROM TELEGRAM FROM WHALING OFFICER,
SOUTH SHETLANDS, dated 20th of DECEMBER, 1926.

(Original File in M.P. D/95/26).

. Lancing 11,000

17th December.

TELEGRAM.

From The Whaling Officer, South Shetlands.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Dispatched: 31st December, 1926. *Time:* 1.30 p.m.

Received: 31st December, 1926. *Time:* 2 p.m.

EXTRACT FROM TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM THE WHALING OFFICER,
SOUTH SHETLANDS, DATED 31st December, 1926,)Original
filed as Red (7) in M.P. D/95/26.

.
No information Lancing.

TELEGRAM.

15

From Mr. Alberton Carcelles,
Assistant on board s.s. "LANCING".

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched: 15th January, 1927. 1.40 p.m.

Received: 16th January, 1927. 10.45 a.m.

COLONIAL SECRETARY

PORTSTANLEY

Request answer telegram 11th referring permission
Station Meteorologique collecting mussels Museum Buenos
Aires.

ALBERTON CARCELLES

ASSISTANT ON BOARD LANCING.

DECODE.

14

TELEGRAM.

From Mr. Alberton Carcelles, s.s. Lancing.
To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched: 11th January, 1927. 2.30 p.m.

Received: 12th January, 1927. 10.50 a.m.

COLONIAL SECRETARY

PORTSTANLEY

Begs permission land Laurie Island stay
Meteorologic Station one week collecting mussels.

Alberton Carcelles.

c/28/1926.

16

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary.

To Mr. Alberton Carcelles, s.s. "LANCING"

Despatched: 18th January, 1927. 12.50 p.m.

Received:

ALBERTON CARCELLES
LANCING

No objection your landing Laurie Island for period and purpose stated provided that Lancing duly enters Dependency of South Orkneys at Signy Island and takes on board Customs Officer during stay in territorial waters returning him on departure to Signy Island.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

C/28/1926.

(17)

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary.
To The Magistrate, South Georgia.

Despatched: 18th January, 1927. 12.27 p.m.

Received:

MAGISTRATE

SOUTHGEORGIA

Confidential permission has been granted to Alberton Carcelles Assistant on board Lancing to land Laurie Island for period of one week for purpose of collecting mussels for Museum Buenos Aires provided that Lancing duly enters Dependency of South Orkneys at Signy Island and takes on board Customs Officer during stay in territorial waters returning him on departure to Signy Island. You should arrange details direct with Lancing and Rumbolds. Particular attention should be given to operations of Lancing while in territorial waters in regard to direct or indirect whaling purposes which may possibly underlie ostensible purpose of visit. Opportunity should also be taken to ascertain discreetly any information regarding general activities.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DECODE.

C/23/26.

187

TELEGRAM.

From.....The Magistrate,.....South Georgia.....

To.....The Colonial Secretary.....

Despatched : 20th January 1927. Time : 11.5 a.m.

Received : 21st January 1927. Time : 10.40 a.m.

SECRETARY

PORTSTANLEY

Your telegram of 18th January Confidential have communicated necessary instructions Rumbolds and informed planning of arrangement. The latter part of telegram must be left to discretion of Rumbolds as he is not in possession of a code book and there is no means of communication other than wireless.

MAGISTRATE.

C/28/26.

19

RECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Whaling Officer, South Shetlands.

To Colonial Secretary.

Despatched: 21st January, 1927. Time: 11.45 a.m.

Received: 22nd January, 1927. Time: 10.30 a.m.

COLONIAL SECRETARY

PORTSTANLEY

Extract

. No information Lancing

BENNETT RONALD

C/28/26.

20

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Magistrate, South Georgia.

To The Colonial Secretary.....

Despatched : 25rd January, 1927. *Time* : 11 p.m.

Received : 24th January, 1927. *Time* : 10.55 a.m.

SECRETARY

PORTSTANLEY

Your telegram of 18th January Confidential Manager Lancing is not willing to enter Signy Island on account of risk to vessel. Will alternatively send a catcher for Rumbolds is this acceptable to you. Lancing operating 40 (?) miles from Signy Island.

MAGISTRATE.

DI CODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary.

To The Magistrate, South Georgia.

Despatched: 26th January, 1927. Time: 12.30 p.m.

Received: 192 Time: ...

MAGISTRATE

SOUTHGEORGIA

No objection catcher from Lancing entering Signy
Island to take Rumbolds on board.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

C/28/26.

22

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Magistrate, South Georgia.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : 28th January, 1927. *Time* : 01.00

Received : 28th January, 1927. *Time* : 10.40.

SECRETARY

PORTSTANLEY.

With reference to your telegram of 26th January
LANCING sailed from South Orkneys yesterday for
South America.

MAGISTRATE.

C/28/26.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary.

To The Magistrate, South Georgia.

Despatched: 1st February, 1927. *Time:* 12.30

Received: ... 192 *Time:*

MAGISTRATE

SOUTHGEORGIA

With reference to your telegram of 28th January can you give any reason for departure of Lancing for South America at this season of year.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DOC CODE.

EXTRACT FROM

24

TELEGRAM.

From The Whaling Officer, South Shetlands.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched: 2nd February, 1927. Time: 9.15.

Received: 2nd February, 1927. Time: 14.00.

C. S.

PORTSTANLEY.

..... Lancing over 18,000 barrels oil
reported to be operating South Georgia.

BENNETT.

C/28/26.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

(23)

From The Magistrate, South Georgia.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched: 3rd February, 1927; Time: 01.00.

Received: 3rd February, 1927. Time: --

SECRETARY

PORTSTANLEY.

With reference to your telegram of 1st February Rumbolds reported by telegraph Lancing having sailed for South America. She has undoubtedly left South Orkneys and today Wednesday reports position 200 miles southwest of South Georgia apparently operating on the way. Wireless signal strength increasing daily. Know no reason for these movements.

MAGISTRATE.

DECODE.

C/28/26.

26

TELEGRAM.

From..... The Colonial Secretary.....

To..... The Magistrate, South Georgia.

Despatched : 14th February, 1927. *Time* : 12.55 p.m.

Received : ... 192 *Time* : ...

MAGISTRATE

SOUTHGEORGIA

With reference to your telegram of the 3rd
of February have you any further information as to
Lancing.

SECRETARY.

0/28/26.

(27)

CODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Magistrate, South Georgia.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : 5th February, 1927. *Time* :19.20.

Received : 6th February, 1927. *Time* :10.50.

EXTRACTED FROM D/8/27.

SECRETARY

PORTSTANLEY

The following shows catches and output up to and inclusive of 31st January

.

Lancing 347 (?) whales 21,000 barrels. latter is now operating off South Georgia.

MAGISTRATE.

C/28/26.

(28)

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Acting Governor.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 16th February, 1927. *Time* : 12 noon.

Received : ... 192 *Time* : ...

EXTRACTED FROM M.P. D/95/26.

CHARTERIES

LONDON

.....

Lancing reported to have 21000 barrels and to have left neighbourhood of South Georgia in general direction of South America for unknown destination and object.

GOVERNOR.

C/28/1926.

DO CODE.

29.

TELEGRAM.

From The Magistrate, South Georgia.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : 16th February, 1927. *Time* : 12.10 a.m.

Received : 16th February, 1927. *Time* : 10.50 a.m.

SECRETARY

PORTSMOUTH

Your telegram of 14th February Lancing sailed for Staten Island 12th February. Letter follows.

MAGISTRATE.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

C.S. No.....

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMO.

Departmental Number.

From: Magistrate, South. Georgia.

S.G.No. 52/27

Date: 16th February, 1927.

To: Hon. Col. Sec. Stanley.

Reference
Numbers.

With reference to my telegram of yesterday's date, I have to inform you that I received a telegram from "Lancing" requesting permission to land a sick man and replied in the affirmative subject to the Catcher making due Entry Inwards.

The man was landed on the 9th inst., shortly after midnight and was a little later operated for acute appendicitis.

I learned from the Manager (who was a gunner with "Lancing" last year) that it was necessary for them to leave South Orkneys as the nights were getting dark and it was dangerous to lay so near the constantly moving ice.

The "Lancing" left here on the 12th inst., for Staten Island where she will be met by a coaling steamer and after filling with water and cleaning boilers will catch Right Whales principally on the coast of Chile, until the 15th of April.

The Manager stated that he would have possibly had a better catch had there been less competition at South Orkneys.

The average output was about 70 barrels per whale.

E.B. Birnie

Magistrate.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

C.S. No.....

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMO.

Departmental Number.

From Magistrate, South. Georgia.

S.G.No. 52/27

Date.. 16th February, 1927.

To Hon. Col. Sec. Stanley.

Reference
Numbers.

With reference to my telegram of yesterday's date, I have to inform you that I received a telegram from "Lancing" requesting permission to land a sick man and replied in the affirmative subject to the Catcher making due Entry Inwards.

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The Manager stated that he would have possibly had a better catch had there been less competition at South Orkneys.

The average output was about 70 barrels per whale.

Magistrate.

EXTRACT FROM COMMUNICATION REPORT DATED
3rd March, 1927.

'Thorsdal' bound Bahia Blanca and 'Lancing' whaling
off coast of Patagonia. Both these vessels are
pelagic whalers.

*Splk U heard the whine that the "Thorsdal"
is a collier to "Lancing".*

Jud

12.5.27

DECODE.

EXTRACT FROM

TELEGRAM.

From The Whaling Officer, South Shetlands.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : 5th March, 1927. Time : 17.45.

Received : 6th March, 1927. Time : 10.40.

C. S.

PORTSTANLEY.

also failure is announced Lancing in the Argentine
21,000.

BENNETT.

DECODE.

C/28/26.

33.

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary.

To The Whaling Officer, South Shetlands.

Despatched: 14th April, 1927. *Time:* 2 p.m.

Received: ... 1927 *Time:*

BENNETT

WHALING OFFICER

SOUTHSHETLANDS.

Have you any news of Lancing.

SECRETARY.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Whaling Officer, South Shetlands.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : 14th April, 1927. *Time* : 18.00.

Received : 15th April, 1927. *Time* : 11.00.

C. S.

PORTSTANLEY.

Lancing left South Orkneys early March coaled at Staten Island still in operation Argentine coast catch unknown was 26,000 week since - Discovery sailed this morning.

BENNETT.

OFFICE STAMP.

8/5/27

No. AND CIRCUIT

The following TELEGRAM received at _____

From _____

Foreign No. _____ No. of Words _____

Dated _____ Time _____

SUPT.
To _____

REMARKS.

35

CLERK'S STAMP.

W.B.D.

STANLEY.

"LANCING" LAST HEARD ON 30th. APRIL HE WAS GOING NORTHWARDS BUT HAD NOT FINISHED FISHING NOTHING HEARD SINCE ALTHOUGH ARGENTINES HAVE BEEN CALLING HIM WITH TRAFFIC THIS LAST WEEK APPARENTLY EXPECTING HIM BACK

V.P.C.

Telegrams for Europe and beyond should be marked "**Via Madeira**" to ensure transmission by the direct cable route.

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

Head Office: "ELECTRA HOUSE," FINSBURY PAVEMENT, LONDON, E.C.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.
CONFIDENTIAL.

3. From the end of November GOVERNMENT HOUSE, beginning of February the s.s. STANLEY, seems to have remained off the South 4th June, 1927. departure from there and from the Dependencies Sir, whole coincided almost exactly with the visit I have the honour to submit the following report on the activities of the pelagic whaling factory s.s. "Lancing" during the past season 1926-1927. I would explain that it has not been an easy matter to obtain information in this connection and that much of that obtained must of necessity be accepted with reserve.

2. The s.s. "Lancing" was first reported during the month of October, 1926, as being off the Argentine coast and as making her way southward, fishing as she went. She was reported next off the Falkland Islands during November and reached the vicinity of the South Orkneys towards the end of that month. During this early period she is said to have made a good catch until she sustained damage in the course of her operations close to the pack ice. The allegation has been made to me personally, however, by the Manager of the s.s. "Southern Queen" of the Southern Whaling and Sealing Company that the undue caution or the lack of skill displayed by her Captain in navigating the pack ice materially affected the results obtained from these operations

RIGHT HONOURABLE
 J. M. S. AMERY, P.C., M.P.,
 SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

3. From the end of November until the beginning of February the s.s. "Lancing" seems to have remained off the South Orkneys. Her departure from there and from the Dependencies as a whole coincided almost exactly with the visit of the R.R.S. "Discovery" to the South Orkneys and the South Shetlands. For after calling in at South Georgia to land a sick man who was operated upon for acute appendicitis, she sailed on the 12th of February for Staten Island near Cape Horn with the avowed intention of taking in coal and water there and of cleaning her boilers before continuing to fish in the neighbourhood until the 15th of April.

4. The Magistrate, South Georgia, reports that on the occasion of the call of the s.s. "Lancing" to which reference is made in the preceding paragraph he learned from her Manager who was employed last season as a gunner with the same expedition that it was necessary to leave the South Orkneys as the nights were growing dark and it was dangerous to lie so near to the constantly moving ice and that in the opinion of the latter better results might have been obtained if there had been less competition at the South Orkneys. The average output of oil was stated to be seventy barrels (sic) from each whale. Further information as to her movements is unfortunately very meagre.

5. She was still in operation off the coast of South America at the middle of April and was last heard by the local wireless station proceeding

northward/

northward on the 30th of April, again fishing as she went. Her catch at the beginning of March is said to have been 21,000 barrels of oil and at the beginning of April 26,000 barrels of oil from a comparison of which figures it would seem that there is some ground for the rumour as to the partial failure of her operations off the South American coast.

6. I would add that permission was granted on application in January, 1927, for the s.s. "Lancing" to proceed to the meteorological station on Laurie Island for the purpose of landing there a certain Alberton Carcelles, described as an "assistant on board Lancing" and presumably a scientist of Argentine nationality, who stated that he desired to collect mussels there for the Buenos Aires Museum. This permission was conditional on the s.s. "Lancing" entering the Dependency of the South Orkneys in the usual manner at Signy Island and taking on board the customs officer for the period of one week during which she proposed to remain in territorial waters. Advantage was not taken, however, of the permission on the grounds that the risk of entering Signy Island was too great. Incidentally it is believed that in addition to Alberton Carcelles the s.s. "Lancing" had on board during the past season an Argentine customs official.

7. It would not appear to be the case that the results obtained during the 1926-1927 season by the s.s. "Lancing" are appreciably better than those obtained by her in her initial season. The

catch /

catch may exceed in some instances that of the South Shetlands licensed factories but the expenses of the expedition must be considerably heavier. The general opinion so far as it can be judged is to the effect that s.s. "Lancing" will probably not do much more than meet the capital outlay involved. She is said, however, to have been working in conjunction with a second pelagic whaling factory the s.s. "Neilsen Alonso" which it is reported has had a successful season in the Ross Sea and whose profits may help to improve the total account.

8. In conclusion I must fain repeat that it is most difficult to verify facts or reports in this regard locally and I should be grateful for any further information which you may find it possible to obtain in confirmation hereof or otherwise.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

J. M. ELLIS.

CONFIDENTIAL.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute the above Number and the date may be quoted).

MINUTE.

(40)

10/12/27. 19

From Supt. T.&T.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

The Pelagic Whaler "Lancing" is now fishing approximately 250 miles S.W. of S. Georgia and between 800 and 850 miles E.S.E. of Port Stanley.

J.M.
10/12/27.