

BIPOLAR BOTANICAL EXPEDITION SOUTH GEORGIA.

CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER

6

BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY thow oik.

FORMERLY FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEY

DIRECTOR: SIR VIVIAN FUCHS

30, GILLINGHAM STREET, S.W. I

TELEPHONE: VICTORIA 3687-8-9 TELEGRAMS POLASURVEY, LONDON SWI

AS/107/2 AS/164/8



18th November 1966

I am sending you a copy of some preliminary proposals for complementary botanical work in West Greenland and South Georgia. This work would fall within the scope of the International Biological Programme and has already received preliminary support from the Royal Society. Dr. Greene, who is one of the co-sponsors, looks after the B.A.S. botany although he is not in our employ. proposes to take his wife (also a botanist who works on our material unpaid) as one of the Greenland party.

Clearly the permanent team working at Birmingham University will need to have knowledge of both areas. To this end it is proposed that four to six of them should go to South Georgia for the 1967/68 season and owork from King Edward Point. Subsequently, only two botanists would be required to continue the work for two years.

I imagine that you will have no objection to the general proposition? However, Greene wants to take his wife with him as a member of the reconnaissance team in 1967/68. I have told him that I am not sure what your attitude would be to a woman going to the Tues would be up present administrative station, but that I would ask you.

I also said that if and when King Edward Point(2) a hour of

/becomes a B.A.S. station Com Could be solved.

10 28/12

becomes a B.A.S. station I would not want a woman there because our arrangements and facilities would not be more than those provided for a base. In any case I would not want to open the door to women in B.A.S. as this poses far too many problems.

I would be grateful if you could let me know your attitude to his proposal.

Jours sincely Burny Fuch

V.E. FUCHS

H.E. The Governor, Government House, Port Stanley, Falkland Islands, SOUTH ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM.

Department of Botany.

BIPOLAR BOTANICAL PROJECT.

Drs. S.W. Greene and M.C. Lewis.

1. Introduction.

Since 1958, Birmingham University has played an increasingly important role in the botanical investigation of Polar Regions. Most of the work has been related to the Antarctic and the Department of Botany, through Dr. S. J. Greene, now acts as the N-ordinating centre for the Antarctic botanical programmes undertaken by the British Antarctic Survey. An Antarctic herbarium of some 10,000 specimens has been established as well as unique living conditions. The Department also possesses an extensive polar botanical library, including the records of most major expeditions (British and foreign). An Arctic herbarium is presently being built up, its basis being the collections made in Norway by Professor West in 1918-2J and in Arctic-Lapland by Birmingham University Biology Society Expedition in 1958.

Antarctic work undertaken in the Department has included taxonomic and distributional studies (Greene 1964 a, b) vegetational studies (Longton, ain press), investigations into the reproductive physiology of Antarctic mosses (Longton and Greene, in press; Longton, bin press), and genecological studies on Antarctic Flowering Plants (Holton and Greene, in press). Current work includes an assessment of long-term microclimatological data in relation to Bryophyte growth patterns at various sites in Antarctica.

Some of the plants being investigated are unique to Antarctic regions, but others are more widespread in the Southern Hemisphere, while another group - the Bipolar group - is common to both North and South Polar Regions. However, so far the species of this Bipolar group have only been studied in one area independently of the other, by a variety of methods, few of which are directly comparable.

The appointment of Dr. M.C. Lewis to the staff of the Department of Botany, resulted in an expansion of departmental research interests into North Polar regions. Before joining the staff, he had spent 5 years working with Professor Böcher of Copenhagen University, one of the foremost authorities on the Arctic Flora. Dr. Lewis is a joint author of

the English edition of the Greenland Flora (in press), and is an active worker on physiological genecological problems. Thus a unique opportunity was provided for undertaking comparative studies of plants common to North and South Polar Regions.

2. Programme.

The primary objectives of this Bipolar study are to obtain strictly comparable data, using similar methods of investigation and presentation of results, to allow a critical comparison of northern and southern populations of selected species. These objectives can be achieved by measurements of plant performance under field conditions, by assessing:

- a. Productivity, e.g. vegetative yield as expressed by dry weight accumulation, photosynthetic and respiratory rates.
- b. Reproductive performance, e.g. flower and fruit production, seed setting.
- c. Establishment rates, e.g. seed viability, germination rates, and seedling growth.

These assessments of plant performance will be most meaningful in combination with synchronous measurements of the microclimatic conditions under which the plants are growing throughout the growth cycle. Therefore, it is proposed to obtain continuous, long-term data concerning the following factors:-

(i) Microclimate at plant level.

- a. Air temperature
- b. Water vapour pressure
- c. Wind velocity
- d. Solar radiation

(ii) Soils.

- a. Temperature
- b. Soil moisture tension
- c. Physical properties
- d. Chemical properties.

Data on other climatic factors such as precipitation, day length, hours of sunshimetc., can be obtained from synoptic meteorological records.

This series of observations can best be achieved by establishing two primary long-term study sites, an Arctic site on Disko Island, West Greenland, and an Antarctic site in Cumberland Bay, South Georgia. In addition, short-term comparative data will be obtained from secondary sites in the two areas and the results from these related to the continuous records from the primary site. In this way, a picture can be formed of how the plants are functioning in relation to the environmental complex and the diversity of the ecosystem within each area.

It is also proposed to transplant living material to a control site in the Department of Botany's Research Gardens at Winterbourne. Some of these plants will be used for controlled, environmental studies in the Departmental Phytotron, while others will be the subject of cytotaxonomic studies.

3. Timetable.

as planned at present, it is proposed to initiate this programme in the following stages:-

- a. A reconnaissance expedition to West Greenland in the summer of 1967, to select the Arctic study site and to collect preliminary data from field tests of equipment and methods.
- b. A comparable reconnaissance expedition to South Georgia during the austral summer of 1967/68.
- c. Establishment of the Arctic site in 1968 and its operation for at least two full seasons.
- d. Establishment of the Antarctic site during the austral summer of 1968/69 and its operation for a comparable period.

4. Logistics.

Since the programme outlined above incorporates many of the principal objectives of the International Biological Programme (IBP) preliminary negotiations are being initiated with the British National Committee of the IBP in the hope of getting the project officially accepted. Such recognition would it is believed, ensure financial support through the Royal Society.

An application to cover the costs of the Greenland Reconnaissance Expedition will be made to the University of Birmingham Expeditions Fund, and to the Royal Society. As a result of satisfactory discussions with Professor Böcher and Dr. Køie of Copenhagen University, it is the intention to establish the Arctic site in the vicinity of the Arctic Research Station on Disko Island, and to finance its operation jointly from Royal Society and Danish funds. The work will be carried out by research assistants under the supervision of Dr. Lewis.

The main expenses of the Reconnaissance Expedition and the operation of the Antarctic site would it is hoped, be provided through the British Antarctic Survey, with the possibility of support through the Southern Zones Committee of the Royal Society. The work at this site will be undertaken by Research Assistants under the supervision of Dr. Greene.

It is planned to apply to one of the Research Councils for the costs of operating the control site at Winterbourne Research Gardens, University of Birmingham. Although some specialized equipment already exists in the Department of Botany, the provision of a temperature-controlled Polar greenhouse is essential for the matisfactory cultivation of some Polar plants.

5. References.

Greene, S.W., 1964a The Vascular Flora of South Georgia.

British Antarctic Survey Scientific Reports

58 pp. No. 45

Greene, S.W. 1964b Problems and Progress in Antarctic Bryology.

Carrick, R., M. Holdgate and J. Prevost, (ed): Biologic Astarctique, First International

Symposium on Antarctic Biology. Paris 2 - 8

The growth and reproduction of Antarctic

English Edition of Böcher, T.W., K. Holmen

flowering plants. Proc. roy. Soc.

Sept. 1962. pp. 173-79.

Ed. 2, Copenhagen 307 pp.

Holtom, Anne & S.W. Greene

(in press)

Lewis, M.C. & T.T. Elkington

(in press)

Longton, R.E. (a. in press)

Longton, R.E. (b, in press)

Vegetation in the Maritime Antarctic.

and K. Jacobsen, 1966 Grønlands Flora

Proc. roy. Soc.

Botanical studies in the Antarctic during

the 1963-64 and 1964-65 seasons. British

Antarctic Survey Bulletin No.10.

The Growth and Reproduction of Polytrichum

alpestre Hoppeon South Georgia.

Proc. roy. Soc.

Longton, R.E. & S.W. Greene (in press)

> S.W. Greene M.C. Lewis

> > Birmingham, Nov 1966.

West Greenland Reconnaissance Expedition.

Application for financial support to the University of Birmingham Expeditions Fund.

Drs. S. W. Greene and M.C. Lewis.

Introduction.

As indicated in our prospectus outlining the Bipolar Botanical Project, this expedition forms the starting point of a projected extensive study of Bipolar Plants. Its purpose is to enable the selection of an area suitable for the Arctic Study site, as well as obtaining preliminary results from the testing of equipment and methods under field conditions. Thus it is envisaged primarily as a research expedition. The proposed methods of achieving these objectives are as follows:-

Location - Disko Island.

As a result of the interest and keenness of Frofessor Böcher and Dr. Keie, of Copenhagen University, an assurance has been received that the necessary sleeping and messing facilities will be available to the Expedition at the new and excellently equipped Arctic Research Station at Godhavn, Disko Island. In addition the necessary field transport (boat, jeep) and specialized laboratory equipment (balances, ovens, microscopes) will be provided. Regular Danish air services operating between Copenhagen and Godhavn provide the best means of transport to and from Disko Island. Duration.

Mid-July to mid-August 1967, the exact dates being dependent upon transport schedules. It is envisaged that one month should be spent in the field, an additional 6 days being required for travel.

Personnel.

- Dr. M.C. Lewis Lecturer in Botany, University of Birmingham Leader. Field responsibilities to include
 measurements of photosynthetic and respiration
 rates and supervision of work on flowering plants.
- Dr. S.W. Greene- Lecturer in Cryptogamic Botany, University of

 Birmingham Deputy Leader. Field responsibilities

 to include the microclimatogical measurements and

 supervision of work on bryophytes.
- G. Clarke B.A. S.R.C. Research Student, working on Bipolar bryophyte species under Dr. Greene's supervision.

 Field responsibilities to include sampling of bryophyte populations.

Mrs. D.M. Greene M.Sc. - Demonstrator in Botany, University of
Birmingham. Research Assistant associated
with Antarctic Botanical Research Programme.
Field duties to include processing of field
samples in laboratory, i.e. dry weight accumulation etc.
Arctic Research Assistant to be appointed to

work under Dr. Lewis's supervision. Field responsibilities to include sampling of flowering plant populations.

.. A general assistant to be available to assist any of the expedition members with their projects, and to be responsible for assembling the expedition's collections and photographic records.

Notes:-

- (i) It is articipated that suitable research assistants to fill the two unassigned posts, financed from Royal Society and British Antarctic Survey funds, will be appointed in time to join the expedition.
- (ii) It is the intention that some members of this team, should be part of the South Georgia Reconnaissance Expedition, to ensure comparability of methods etc.
- (iii) It is hoped that 1 or 2 Danish workers will participate supported entirely from Danish funds.
- (iv) In view of the scope of the Bipolar Project, it is desirable that as many aspects as possible are fully investigated during the Reconnaissance Expedition. However, a modified programme could be undertaken with a minimum of four persons.

Results.

The specimens and field data, including that on microclimates, will be brought back to Birmingham for analysis and preparation for publication under the supervision of Drs. Greene and Lewis. Living material will be transplanted to Minterbourne, some of it being made available to Professor Böcher for cytotaxonomic studies. The analysis of soil samples will be undertaken by Dr. Køie.

Logistics.

The present application is for travel costs and subsistence as itemised below. An application is being made to the Royal Society for costs of additional equipment not at present available in the Bottony Department. Clothing and personal gear will be the responsibility of individual members since specialised equipment will be available at the station.

Costs.

Travel	Birmingham - Copenhagen (boat and train)	
	6 return fares @ £25 each	£150
	Copenhagen - Godhavn (air)	
	6 return fores @ \$130 each	£780•
	Subsistence during transit	
	6 persons for 6 days @ £2 per person per da	.y £72
Greenlan		
	Subsistence at Station	
	6 persons for 30 days @ £1 per person per d	ay £180
Total Co	st of travel and subsistence (i.e. £197	per £1182
		person)

Oife to see and return please la 23/12

Je beng welcome.

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would how be a problem.

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Deen Anhyou.

I chis comes of it would be possibly better id communications sirect to the reserving oranged to center for my traffic regarding results, inserts etc.

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581/67

R. 1042Z.

14/7/67

FROM TO INFO LONDON HQ COLONIAL SECRETARY STANLEY OFFICE



AS/107/2/1 BIPOLAR BOTANICAL EXPEDITION SOUTH GEORGIA
1967/68. COLMAN AGREES THAT PARTY OF SIX SHOULD MESS
IN SHACKLETON HOUSE. GRATEFUL YOU ASK PRESENT OIC S.GEORGIA
TO INDICATE WHAT EXTRA FOOD REQUIRED TO MESS SIX PEOPLE FOR
FIVE MONTHS. AN ORDER WILL THEN BE PLACED BY SURVEY TO COVER
REQUIREMENT. COST TO BE CHARGED TO SURVEY. OIC S.GEORGIA SHOULD
ALSO BE WARNED THAT DISCOVERY HOUSE WIL BE REQUIRED BY EXPEDITION AS
A LABORATORY AND STORE AND THAT LIGHTING, HEATING AND WATER SUPPLY
WOULD BE REQUIRED FROM NOVEMBER ONWARDS.

WOS/ACB

FFFF



FALKLAND ISLANDS

SENT

P1677 P4416 8/64

Number Office of Origin

Words

Handed in at

Date

STANLEY

15.7.67

To

ETAT ADMINOFF ZBH

SGA/c

in London.

No 125 Following received from BAS Headquarters and repeated to you for information and necessary action begins AS/107/3/1 ETPOLAR Botanical Expedition South Courte 1967/68 stop Colimn agrees that party of six should ness in Shaddeton House stop Grateful you ask present OIC South Georgia to indicate what extra food required to ness six people for five months stop An order will then be placed by survey to cover requirement stop Cost to be charged to survey stop OIC South Georgia should also be werned that Discovery House will be required by expedition as a laboratory and store and that lighting heating and water supply would be required from November amonths ends Do you require any additional financial provision to carry out work on Discovery House

Secretary

Reply ar 3.7



TELEGRAM.

From	Administ	rative	Offic	er,	South	Georgia
T.	Colonial	Secret	arv	Star	nlew	

Despatched:

18th July,

19 67

Time: 1800

Received:

18th July.

19 67 Time: 1615

Your telegram No 125. Water supply and No 141 heating system have both been disconnected Discovery House. These will be reconnected between now and No additional funds should be necessary November. for Discovery House. Regarding food supplies do B.A.S. not have a standard food issue per man for the bases which they could supply with their party to be used in conjunction with Shackleton House stores. Failing this recommend that Indent 70/67 provisions for Shackleton House 1967/68 be increased by twenty percent and Indent 69/67 by ten percent. Will party also live in Shackleton House

of BAS x above. Com you aduse

P/L : ER

BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY

#8

MEMORANDUM.

Please	quote in reply	24th July, 19 67.
110		The Hon. Colonial Secretary,
-	0.I/c., B.A.S. Office,	The Secretariat,
	Stanley, Falkland Islands.	Stenley.

Subject:-

Bipolar Botanical Expedition - South Georgia

With reference to underlined section of signal on page 3.

We do, but I would think that for general planning of meals, etc., it would be better to issue the visitors with food comparable to South Georgia stocks as opposed to a possibly different range of items issued by B.A.S.

I attach a B.A.S. food indent for your comparison.

But South Southing Stighty E.C.J. Clapp, 0.1/c.,

British Anterctic Survey, Stanley.

diffrant was be welcome . I'm Somethode at British Anterctic Survey, Stanley.

Sheeklitm House would welcome something just a little deformed now to gain & an exchange of smeaking thouse would be businessed the businessed that businessed from home any strong faling I menus occasionally was shee businessed to busy the team to pup will better is a survey.

Was suggest the team to pup will better issue.

Account of the second of the survey of the

MEMORANDUM of a meeting held at 30 Gillingham, London 3.W.1. on Wednesday 5th July, 1967 to discuss arrangements for the Bipolar Botanical Project expedition to visit South Georgia.

PRESENT:

Sir Vivian Fuchs Captain D. Coleman Dr. S.W. Greens Mr. W.O. Sloman

Sir Vivian Fuchs thanked Captain Coleman for coming and explained the scientific aims of the Bipolar Project, emphasizing the necessity for the same team of investigators to work at conjugate points in the Arctic and Antarctic. Dr. Greene is going to take a party of six (which will include his wife) to Greenland this summer, and he is seeking facilities to make comparative studies at South Georgia next season. The expedition will number either five or six and will again include Mrs. Greene. In addition Edwards, a Survey botanist, will spend part of the summer at South Georgia. The party will arrive in the JOHN BISCOE on about 20th November, intending to stay until the last ship out in about mid-April 1968.

MESSING, CANTEEN SUPPLIES AND ACCOMMODATION.

- Captain Coleman agreed to provide accommodation and 2. messing facilities in Shackleton House, but suggested that Dr. and Mrs. Greene should occupy a bungalow, taking their main meals in Shackleton House.
- It was agreed that the extra food required will be provided by the Survey in consultation with the OIC South Georgia, and that a message will be sent to him via the Colonial Secretary, Falkland Islands informing him that six people will require to be fed for five months, and asking him to indicate what extra food supplies will be required. An order will then be placed with the Crown Agents and charged to the Survey's account.
- Captain Coleman undertook to provide bedding for the whole party.
- Sir Vivian said that each member of the expedition would have to be responsible for their own personal "canteen stores" and Captain Coleman pointed out that there is no "Slop Chest" at South Georgia. Such items as washing powder, soap, toothpaste etc. would have to be included in personal baggage.

MOVEMENT

Captain Coleman asked whether the party would wish to move to other areas of the island, and if so, how much local assistance would be required? Dr. Greene indicated that they would like to visit West Bay, Gull Lake and Maiviken, but emphasized that the party would be equipped with field rations and camping gear and he did not anticipate that they would be a burden on the Administration. Captain Coleman said that in the absence of a whaling community it was now almost impossible to provide boating facilities, but he was happy for scientists to work on the island provided that adequate safety precautions were observed.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

7. Dr. Greene said that he would be grateful for laboratory facilities and estimated the party's needs as:

One good dry store approximately 15 ft. square. One good wet laboratory with running water and electric power.

One or two smaller laboratories.

Captain Coleman said that the old Discovery House could be made available. Lighting and heating could be provided by November but he suggested that the OIC should be warned of this requirement. Dr. Greene welcomed these facilities and said that the power requirements for scientific purposes would be less than 5.kw. In cold periods some additional power for heating might be necessary.

8. Dr. Greene enquired about the small dark-room and laboratory used by Nigel Bonner and Captain Coleman confirmed that this is still available. He said that Shackleton House also has a dark-room but pointed out that this was provided for the permanent occupants and should not, therefore, be monopolized by the expedition.

COMMUNICATIONS

9. It was agreed that official or scientific messages should be passed through the Administration to the BAS Stanley Office and thence to London by telex. All private messages would be sent through the normal telegraph system.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

- 10. Captain Coleman agreed that medical attention would be provided free of charge when available.
- 11. Finally Captain Coleman said that he welcomed the proposed expedition and would be happy to support it in every way within the limits of his resources. Dr. Greene expressed his gratitude for this cooperation and undertook not to encourage members of the South Georgia Administration to join in any of his party's activities unless Captain Coleman had previously agreed to such participation.

6th July 1967. ESH.

Distribution:

Captain Coleman Dr. Greene Stanley Office Colonial Secretary (2) File

FALKLAND ISLANDS

SENT

P2538 P4776/32/401381 500 11/66 R. Ward 843

Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
Stanley			2.8.67
CROUN ACADON SW1			SGA/c
		Stanley	Stanley

Mo 169 Flease increase all items indent 70/57 by twenty percent and indent 69/67 by ten percent stop Both indents refer to South Georgia provisions

Secretary



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Copies to I/69/67 I/70/67

FALKLAND ISLANDS

SENT

P2538 P4776/32/401381 500 H1/66 R. Ward 843

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
	SPANLLY			3.8.67
BAS I	ondon HQ			HOA/c

Your signal lith July Bipolar Botanical Expedition stop Have increased South Georgia provisions indent so that party can be victualled from our stocks and cost recovered when known

Colonial Secretary

FALKLAND ISLANDS

SENT

P2538 P4776/32/401381 500 11/66 R. Ward 843

Number Office of Origin Words Handed in at Date
3.8.67

То

MEAT ADMINOFF ZEH

SGA/o

No 128 Yourtel 141 have requested Grown to increase Indents 69 and 70 of 1967 as suggested stop Please ensure cost meals recovered from expedition stop Party will live at Shackleton Fouse

Secretary



TELEGRAM.

From	Administrative Officer,	, South	Geo	rgia	
To	Colonial Secretary, Sta	nley			
Despatched :	14th September	., 19	67	Time:	1200
Received:	14th September	. 19	67	Time:	11.00

Botomine?

No 159 Handyman is now commencing work in Discovery House ready for Biological Expedition and finds he needs assistance. Have let Tony age 15 give him hand and will be grateful if you will agree to my paying him at boy labourer rates whilst so helping

Adminoff

P/L : ER Intld. H.L.B.

Rely al it

FALKLAND ISLANDS



P2538 P4776/32/401381 500 11/66 R. Ward 843

Number Office of Origin Words Handed in at Date

STANTEY

25.9.67

To

ETAT ADMINORY ZEN

SGA/c

141

No 1/2 Yourtel 159 payment of assistance to handyman approved

et 2010 suggested stop Please telegraph estimated amount

required so that claim may be made from BAS

Secretary

Roply of 15.

ER

ED 30.9.67

TELEGRAM.

From Administrative Officer, South Georgia

To Colonial Secretary, Stanley

Despatched: 19th September,

19 67 Time: 1830

Received:

19th September,

19 67 Time :

No 162 Your telegram 141 estimated amount required fifteen pounds. Is rate payable two shillings sixpence halfpenny grateful you confirm

Adminoff

· Dec 16

P/L: AA
Intld H.L.B.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

FALKLAND ISLAND

16

SENT

P2538 P4776/32/401381 500 11 66 R Ward S43

Num	ber	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
		Stanley			23.9.67
	at ADMINO	FF SOUTHGEORGIA			SGa/c

15

No. 143 Yourtel 162 Current rate is two shillings fivepence halfpenny

Secretary

TELEGRAM.

Administrative Officer. South Georgia

 To_{-} Colonial Secretary, Stanley

Despatched: 3rd November.

1967

Time: 1230

Received: 3rd November.

1967

Time: 1130

No 181 My telegram 159 Discovery House is now ready. This proved to be a much larger job than first estimated. All domestic water piping had either to be replaced or cleaned. Assistance to handyman therefore greater than estimated 174 hours worked a total of £21 7s. 9d. grateful for authority to make payment of this amount. He is now assisting with the repairs to drains damaged by storm can he be paid for this also. Total cost of this should be in region eight to ten pounds definitely not more

Adminoff

S/c H. riphy - Your _ lagrer

P/L : AA

FALKLAND ISLANDS

P2538 P4776/32/401381 500 11/66 R. Ward 843

SENT

Office of Origin Handed in at Date Number Words STANLEY 4.11.67 To ETAT ADMINOR ZON SGA/c

No 158 Yourtel 181 I agree

Secretary



