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(Formerly)

D / 4 / 50 / II.	D / 4 / 50 / II.

Whaling Reports.

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CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER

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13 NOV 1957

601/15  
King Edward Point,  
South Georgia,  
16th September, 1957

106

From The Administrative Officer,  
South Georgia,  
To The Colonial Secretary,  
Port Stanley,

Whaling Statistics

I attach herewith comprehensive  
whaling statistics for South Georgia covering the  
period from 1919.

168-172

2. They are taken from the 1956  
edition of the "International Whaling Statistics"  
mentioned in my telegram 158 x 601 of 25rd July.

1194120 m

D/2/39.

*J.W. Matthews*

Administrative Officer,  
South Georgia.

167  
c/customs

H.B.S

Seen, thank you.

*Lfb*  
*6 of 6.*

167/1



SOUTH GEORGIA.

YEAR	SPECIES OF WHALES CAUGHT.						TOTAL OF WHALES	OIL PRODUCTION	EXPEDITIONS			NUMBER OF WHALES PER BOAT.
	BLUBB	TIN	HUMP BACK	SEI	SPERM	OTHERS			SHORE STATIONS	FLOATING FACTORIES	CATCHERS	
19-20	987	1673	79	71	8	14	2632	147,029	6	-	26	109
20-21	856	2645	103	36	31	13	3682	177,137	5	-	21	175
21-22	2570	710	9	103	3	-	3395	249,042	5	-	20	170
22-23	3569	1445	320	10	19	-	5363	347,553	5	1	23	235
23-24	1927	1578	130	191	49	-	3675	247,465	5	1	23	160
24-25	3512	2019	262	1	24	-	5818	406,476	5	1	24	242
25-26	1855	5709	236	13	12	-	7825	404,457	5	1	23	340
26-27	3689	1144	-	365	17	-	5215	417,292	5	1	23	227
27-28	2125	1557	-	95	60	-	3637	303,480	5	1	23	152
28-29	1560	3130	15	396	31	-	5132	348,629	5	1	23	223
29-30	482	3596	46	216	39	1	4186	247,963	3	-	27	155
30-31	1085	1416	66	144	24	1	2736	187,938	5	-	27	101
31-32	438	1735	6	16	10	-	2205	122,205	2	-	12	184
32-33	267	727	-	2	-	-	996	54,583	1	-	6	166
33-34	536	1728	92	-	7	-	2363	132,187	2	-	12	197
34-35	556	836	37	125	21	-	1575	108,141	2	-	10	158
35-36	1221	520	41	-	3	-	1785	143,185	2	-	10	179
36-37	121	1079	17	474	70	-	1758	81,629	2	-	12	147
37-38	97	1552	40	155	43	-	1887	90,266	2	-	12	157
38-39	232	1307	-	19	117	-	1675	111,490	2	-	11	152
39-40	88	937	-	88	85	1	1191	64,782	2	-	12	99
40-41	7	747	-	88	26	-	868	44,498	1	-	5	174
41-42	59	1,183	16	52	109	-	1425	77,819	2	-	12	119
42-43	125	776	-	73	24	-	998	50,960	1	-	6	166
43-44	28	632	4	197	101	-	962	50,801	1	-	7	137
44-45	128	987	60	76	45	-	1296	75,540	1	-	7	185
45-46	80	1456	238	82	57	-	1913	78,877	3	-	16	120
46-47	327	1670	28	391	133	1	2550	145,318	3	-	18	142
47-48	46	2142	24	609	128	-	2949	163,398	3	-	21	140
48-49	226	1922	18	562	213	-	2941	172,194	3	-	21	140
49-50	14	1993	26	1183	157	-	3379	147,421	3	-	21	161
50-51	82	1982	8	519	226	-	2817	151,492	3	-	21	134
51-52	6	2007	10	498	141	-	2662	144,375	3	-	21	127
52-53	4	1670	9	498	147	-	2328	120,003	3	-	21	111
53-54	13	2673	11	778	179	-	3654	184,836	3	-	21	174
54-55	13	2746	2	423	82	-	3266	180,766	3	-	21	156

2 Right Whale

1691

THE CATCH OF BLUE AND FIN WHALES DURING THE SEASONS 1953-54 AND 1954-55 IS DIVIDED OVER THE AREAS AS FOLLOWS:-

Area	Blue Whales				Fin Whales			
	1953-54		1954-55		1953-54		1954-55	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent.
Area II	542	20.3	470	21.8	7,751	31.4	4,963	19.4
Area III	1,569	58.8	685	31.8	11,459	46.4	13,607	53.1
Area IV	356	13.4	310	14.4	2,195	8.9	2,790	10.9
Area V	200	7.5	689	32.0	3,370	13.3	4,248	16.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,667</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>24,675</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>25,608</b>	<b>100.0</b>

RANGES OF YEARS AND SEASONS.		OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	TOTAL.	THE WHALING STATISTICS TOTAL FIGURES.
Total Animals	( 1938-39	51	240	453	332	218	343	38	1675	1675
	( 1946-47	136	468	458	580	410	456	42	2550	2550
	( 1947-48	272	440	662	657	433	378	107	2949	2949
	( 1948-49	204	359	532	668	658	436	104	2941	2941
	( 1949-50	106	344	823	951	500	512	120	3556	3379
	( 1950-51	245	346	472	432	405	707	210	2817	2817
	( 1951-52	59	550	547	488	651	222	113	2630	2662
	( 1952-53	148	441	301	539	346	425	70	2270	2328
	( 1953-54	268	508	604	868	762	453	115	3590	3654
	( 1954-55	607	716	506	443	399	510	-	3481	3266
Blue Whales.	( 1938-39	-	7	131	35	24	32	3	232	232
	( 1946-47	12	90	142	51	26	6	-	327	327
	( 1947-48	1	2	3	18	3	18	1	46	46
	( 1948-49	40	100	52	16	16	2	-	226	226
	( 1949-50	2	3	4	-	-	4	1	14	14
	( 1950-51	2	5	42	22	4	7	-	82	82
	( 1951-52	-	2	-	-	2	2	-	6	6
	( 1952-53	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	4	4
	( 1953-54	1	1	6	4	-	1	-	13	13
	( 1954-55	1	-	7	2	2	1	-	13	13
Fin Whales.	( 1938-39	51	232	318	292	189	211	14	1307	1307
	( 1946-47	122	368	298	505	189	168	20	1670	1670
	( 1947-48	265	433	631	550	112	112	39	2142	2142
	( 1948-49	151	244	468	616	223	197	23	1922	1922
	( 1949-50	90	328	791	602	93	51	22	1977	1999
	( 1950-51	234	333	421	405	156	365	68	1982	1982
	( 1951-52	58	542	527	436	314	84	16	1977	2007
	( 1952-53	144	422	293	387	194	150	5	1645	1670
	( 1953-54	266	505	577	677	443	143	6	2617	2673
	( 1954-55	599	709	476	403	240	242	-	2669	2746
Hump-backs	( 1938-39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	( 1946-47	1	5	10	9	3	-	-	28	28
	( 1947-48	-	1	12	8	2	1	-	24	24
	( 1948-49	1	6	4	5	1	1	-	18	18
	( 1949-50	-	3	13	5	4	1	-	26	26
	( 1950-51	2	3	2	-	-	1	-	8	8
	( 1951-52	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	10	10
	( 1952-53	1	4	1	-	-	3	-	9	9
	( 1953-54	-	-	2	6	1	2	-	11	11
	( 1954-55	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Sei Whales.	( 1938-39	-	-	-	-	-	13	6	19	19
	( 1946-47	-	-	1	12	186	193	-	392	392
	( 1947-48	-	-	-	57	302	188	62	609	609
	( 1948-49	-	-	-	18	310	174	60	562	562
	( 1949-50	-	-	-	305	393	398	87	1183	1183
	( 1950-51	-	-	-	2	222	205	90	519	519
	( 1951-52	1	2	-	37	307	103	46	496	498
	( 1952-53	-	-	-	137	147	185	26	495	498
	( 1953-54	-	-	1	177	294	213	86	771	778
	( 1954-55	1	-	1	29	153	232	-	446	423
Sperm Whales.	( 1938-39	-	1	4	5	5	87	15	117	117
	( 1946-47	1	5	7	3	6	89	22	133	133
	( 1947-48	6	4	16	24	14	59	5	128	128
	( 1948-49	12	9	8	13	88	62	21	213	213
	( 1949-50	14	10	15	39	10	58	10	156	157
	( 1950-51	7	5	7	3	23	129	52	226	226
	( 1951-52	-	4	11	14	28	33	51	141	141
	( 1952-53	3	15	6	15	5	87	16	147	147
	( 1953-54	1	2	18	16	24	94	23	178	179
	( 1954-55	6	5	22	9	4	35	-	81	82

SPECIES OF WHALES AND SEALIONS.		OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY.	THE WHALING TOTAL STATISTICS TOTAL FIGURES.		
<b>Total Animals</b> (1938-39) (1946-47)		ONE HUNDRED PERCENT.										
<b>Blue Whales.</b>	(1938-39)	-	8.9	28.9	10.5	11.0	9.3	7.9	-	13.9	13.9	
	(1946-47)	8.8	19.2	31.0	8.8	6.3	1.3	-	-	12.8	12.8	
	(1947-48)	0.4	0.5	0.5	2.7	0.7	4.8	0.9	-	1.6	1.6	
	(1948-49)	19.6	27.8	9.8	2.4	2.5	0.5	-	-	7.7	7.7	
	(1949-50)	1.9	0.9	0.5	-	-	0.8	0.8	-	0.4	0.4	
	(1950-51)	0.8	1.4	8.9	5.1	1.0	1.0	-	-	2.9	2.9	
	(1951-52)	-	0.4	-	-	0.3	0.9	-	-	0.2	0.2	
	(1952-53)	-	-	0.3	-	-	-	4.3	-	0.2	0.2	
	(1953-54)	0.4	0.2	1.0	0.5	-	0.2	-	-	0.4	0.4	
	(1954-55)	0.2	-	1.4	0.5	0.5	-	-	-	0.4	0.4	
<b>Fin Whales.</b>	(1938-39)	100.0	96.7	70.2	80.0	86.7	64.5	36.8	-	78.0	78.0	
	(1946-47)	89.7	78.6	65.1	87.1	46.1	36.9	47.6	-	65.5	65.5	
	(1947-48)	97.4	98.4	95.3	83.7	25.9	29.6	36.5	-	72.6	72.6	
	(1948-49)	74.0	68.0	88.0	92.2	34.9	45.2	22.1	-	65.4	65.4	
	(1949-50)	84.9	95.3	96.1	63.3	18.6	10.0	18.4	-	58.9	59.2	
	(1950-51)	95.5	96.3	89.2	93.7	32.5	51.6	32.4	-	70.4	70.4	
	(1951-52)	96.3	98.5	96.4	89.3	48.2	37.8	14.2	-	75.2	75.4	
	(1952-53)	97.3	95.7	37.4	71.8	56.1	35.3	35.7	-	71.1	71.7	
	(1953-54)	99.2	99.4	95.5	76.9	52.1	31.6	5.2	-	72.9	73.1	
	(1954-55)	98.7	99.0	94.1	94.0	60.2	47.5	-	-	83.9	84.4	
<b>Hump-backs</b>	(1938-39)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	(1946-47)	0.8	1.1	2.2	1.5	0.7	-	-	-	1.1	1.1	
	(1947-48)	-	0.2	1.8	1.2	0.5	0.3	-	-	0.8	0.8	
	(1948-49)	0.5	1.7	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.6	0.6	
	(1949-50)	-	0.9	1.6	0.5	0.8	0.2	-	-	0.8	0.8	
	(1950-51)	0.8	0.9	0.4	-	-	0.1	-	-	0.3	0.3	
	(1951-52)	-	-	1.6	0.2	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.4	
	(1952-53)	0.7	0.9	0.3	-	-	0.7	-	-	0.4	0.4	
	(1953-54)	-	-	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.4	-	-	0.3	0.3	
	(1954-55)	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	
<b>Sei Whales.</b>	(1938-39)	-	-	-	-	-	3.8	15.6	-	1.1	1.1	
	(1946-47)	-	-	0.2	2.1	45.4	42.3	-	-	15.4	15.4	
	(1947-48)	-	-	-	8.7	69.7	49.7	57.9	-	20.7	20.7	
	(1948-49)	-	-	-	2.7	48.6	39.9	57.7	-	19.1	19.1	
	(1949-50)	-	-	-	32.1	78.6	77.7	72.5	-	35.3	35.0	
	(1950-51)	-	-	-	0.5	54.8	29.0	42.8	-	18.4	18.4	
	(1951-52)	1.7	0.4	-	7.6	47.2	46.4	40.7	-	18.9	18.7	
	(1952-53)	-	-	-	25.4	42.5	43.5	37.1	-	21.8	21.4	
	(1953-54)	-	-	0.2	20.1	38.6	47.0	4.8	-	21.5	21.3	
	(1954-55)	0.1	-	0.2	6.5	38.3	45.5	-	-	13.1	12.9	
<b>Sperm Whales.</b>	(1938-39)	-	0.4	0.9	1.5	2.3	25.4	39.5	-	7.0	7.0	
	(1946-47)	0.7	1.1	1.5	0.5	1.5	19.5	52.4	-	5.2	5.2	
	(1947-48)	2.2	0.9	2.4	3.7	3.2	15.6	4.7	-	4.3	4.3	
	(1948-49)	5.9	2.5	1.5	2.0	13.8	14.2	20.2	-	7.2	7.2	
	(1949-50)	13.2	2.9	1.8	4.1	2.0	11.3	8.3	-	4.6	4.6	
	(1950-51)	2.9	1.4	1.5	0.7	5.7	18.3	24.8	-	6.0	6.0	
	(1951-52)	-	0.7	2.0	2.9	4.3	14.9	45.1	-	5.3	5.3	
	(1952-53)	2.0	3.4	2.0	2.8	1.4	20.5	22.9	-	6.5	6.3	
	(1953-54)	0.4	0.4	3.0	1.8	3.2	20.8	20.0	-	4.9	4.9	
	(1954-55)	1.0	0.7	4.3	2.0	1.0	6.8	-	-	2.5	2.5	

SOUTH GEORGIA. CATCH OF IMMATURE AND MATURE WHALES 1948/49 and 1946/47 - 1954/55.

	1945-46		1946-47		1947-48		1948-49		1949-50		1950-51		1951-52		1952-53		1953-54		1954-55	
	Number of Whales	Per cent	Number of Whales	Per cent	Number of Whales	Per cent	Number of Whales	Per cent	Number of Whales	Per cent	Number of Whales	Per cent	Number of Whales	Per cent	Number of Whales	Per cent	Number of Whales	Per cent	Number of Whales	Per cent
Imma- ture Whales	44	44.9	66	45.2	6	42.9	49	50.5	6	55.7	19	45.2	2	100.0	1	100.0	1	33.3	4	66.
Mature Whales	65	48.5	53	29.3	13	40.6	51	39.5	3	42.9	16	40.0	3	75.0	2	66.7	8	80.0	7	100.
Total	109	47.0	119	36.4	19	41.3	100	44.2	9	64.3	35	42.7	5	83.3	3	75.0	9	59.8	11	64.
Imma- ture Whales	54	55.1	80	54.8	8	57.1	48	49.5	1	14.3	23	54.8	-	-	-	-	2	66.7	2	50.
Mature Whales	69	51.5	128	70.7	19	59.4	72	60.5	4	57.1	24	60.0	1	25.0	1	33.3	2	20.0	-	-
Total	123	53.0	208	63.6	27	58.7	120	55.8	5	35.7	47	57.3	1	16.7	1	25.0	4	30.8	2	100.
Imma- ture Whales	188	30.7	139	19.9	300	27.3	314	31.4	353	37.3	259	30.4	319	34.6	307	38.9	660	52.5	584	47.6
Mature Whales	231	33.2	140	14.4	335	32.1	277	20.0	349	33.9	357	31.6	383	36.3	523	39.1	717	34.9	605	42.0
Total	419	32.1	279	16.7	635	29.7	591	30.8	702	35.5	616	31.1	702	35.5	830	39.0	1377	55.8	1189	44.5
Imma- ture Whales	424	69.3	559	80.4	799	72.7	686	68.6	594	62.7	593	69.6	604	65.4	482	61.4	597	47.5	643	52.4
Mature Whales	464	66.8	832	85.6	708	67.9	615	70.0	681	66.1	773	68.4	871	63.7	503	60.9	613	45.1	857	58.0
Total	888	67.9	1391	83.3	1507	70.3	1331	69.2	1275	64.5	1366	68.9	1275	64.5	985	61.0	1210	46.2	1480	55.5

173

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 27.11.57 Time: 1645 Received: 28.11.57 Time: 0930

No. 130 Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries pressing for report on the 1956/57 Whaling Season in South Georgia.

Reports usually completed by July. When may it be expected.

GTC:SJA

174

B.U.F. early please.

(Intld.) J.B.

28.11.57

Reply at 174



TELEGRAM

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched: 13.12.57      Time: 1510      Received:      Time: 174

173      No: 169. Your telegram No: 130.

Following for Willis from Denton-Thompson. begins.

See 175

Regret Whaling Report 1956/57 has gone astray.  
We are arranging for copies to be forwarded as soon as possible.

GOVERNOR'S DEPUTY.

GTC:MF

SECRET

175

From COLONIAL SECRETARY.

To ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, SOUTH GEORGIA.

Despatched : 13th December, 19 57. Time : 1600

Received : 19 Time :

No. 240. 1956/57 Whaling Report not received here. We believe Spivey was to complete on voyage home and forward. Grateful learn whether copy is available at South Georgia. If so please forward usual number first opportunity. If not regret we must ask you to prepare the report as soon as possible.

Reply at 176

See 174

P/L: MC

GTC underlined

Bel. 20/12/57  
14/12.

# TELEGRAM.

176

From ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AT HUSVIK

To COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Despatched: 16th December, 1957. Time: 1410

Received: 17th December, 1957. Time: 1000

175

JWM2. Your 240 Spivey took all papers for writing 1956/57 Whaling Report. I was about to ask you for copy because none here. Grateful you contact Spivey and ask him where it is. Possibly in office of fidbur London for typing.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
AT HUSVIK.

177

*A.C. Cooper*

*Miss Wells has no knowledge of above - A.C. told me to ask her  
20/12/57*

P/L: MC

178

H.C.S.

Plan telegraph Spivey through his Government  
and not him.

W.S.P.

18/12/57.

179.

Re. att. Mr. Spivey's P/F.

W.S.P.  
18/12

180.

H.C.S.

Mr. Spivey's P/F attached.

W.S.P. 19/12/57.



COPY.

SENT

Number

Office of Origin

Words

Handed in at

181 Date

24. 12. 57

To

HICOM HONIARA

DEPS. A/C

FOLLOWING FOR R. E. SPIVEY FROM COLONIAL SECRETARY

BEGINS 1956/57 WHALING REPORT NOT RECEIVED PLEASE

TELEGRAPH WHEREABOUTS ENDS.

GOVERNOR.

JB/MF

*Recd 24/12/57*  
*DEPS*

182

Whaling and Sealing.

Whaling and Sealing Inspection and Conservation.

99 in Vol I

In September 1956 the Colonial Office advised us that the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries had expressed concern at a statement made in the Administrative Officers South Georgia Annual Report on Whaling to the effect that he was unable to ensure that the Whaling Regulations were being observed. We replied that we would look into it.

In February of 1957, after discussing the matter on the spot in South Georgia the previous December, I reported to the S. of S. that I was satisfied that it was very improbable that the land based catchers operating from the shore stations could evade the Whaling Regulations to any important extent very largely because any serious contraventions would quickly become public knowledge amongst the whaling population at South Georgia and would very soon come to the ears of the A.O. 104 in Vol I

On the other hand we frankly admitted that it was very possible that whales measuring a little under the regulation size were sometimes measured and recorded as conforming with the regulations governing the minimum size of whales that could be taken. The Secretary of State was advised that with the facilities and staff at his disposal it was quite impossible for the A.O. to ensure that all whales coming in at widely separate shore factories at all times of the day and night conform with the regulations on size. I pointed out that he would require a sea going vessel (which would probably cost some £30,000 to £40,000 plus the current expenditure and crew) and that in any event his movements would very soon be known. I expressed the view that if the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries insisted on a 100% check then the International Whaling Commission would have to appoint a Whaling Inspector to live and work on each of the 3 individual Stations.

105 in Vol I. In reply Willis wrote to me personally saying that if we were satisfied that it was unlikely that there could be a bad leakage in the arrangements for whale conservation, so far as South Georgia was concerned, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were content to let things stand.

I have recorded this at some length because it ties up with a recent proposal by the A.O. which he may raise with you again, to the effect that there should be a biologist in South Georgia who would combine the duties of sealing and whaling inspection and also whaling and sealing conservation and research.

I am opposed to these arrangements because:-

- (1) I do not consider that one man can adequately and efficiently combine the duties of a whaling and sealing inspector. If we are going to ensure 100% check on whaling regulations then we must have a whaling inspector at each station. To my mind there is no other way of doing it.
- (2) In my view Bonner, during the whaling season, has at least for the present a full time job on his hands until the end of December with his duties as Sealing Inspector and Sealing Biologist particularly having regard to the work now to be done on the South Georgia Fur Seals.

(3) I am very

183

(3) I am very doubtful whether conservation work can really be done efficiently from South Georgia alone. In my view it is a major exercise which should be conducted by some such organisation as a Whaling Commission and which should embrace not only the shore factories but also the factory ships. I should have thought that the Whaling Commission should set up a research organisation based on South Georgia and operating over the whole of the southern whaling waters. By just having our own South Georgia biologist, I am frankly doubtful whether in fact he would achieve very much. To sum up anything ~~that~~ is going to be done, it must be done, in my view, by the whole industry and on a major scale.

*if*

I have told the A.O., in a demi-official letter, that these were the general lines along which we were thinking at that time although I had confined my objections to the principle that I did not think one man could satisfactorily carry out all these duties.

I might say that the A.O.'s proposals were submitted before he had either seen the sealers at work or the whalers at work and consequently they were very much a shot in the dark based on inadequate knowledge.

You may, however, wish to discuss the whole of this problem with the Administrative Officer on the spot.

NOTES:

184

A.O. has telegraphed about  
40 on 5/16/46. Convention lengths of whales.  
Cos. are complying with convention

H. C. S.

Whaling and Sealing Inspection.

182 I discussed this matter with the A.O. and Bommer and we reached the same conclusions as you did in your memorandum on the subject. A proper whaling inspection would mean that a man would have to be on duty night and day throughout the whaling season and this would require at least two men to be on duty at each whaling station. So long as the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries are content to let things stand as at present we should take no action.

The A.O. mentioned to me that he had telegraphed about the length of whales that are allowed to be caught under the International Conventions. I understand that the lengths are longer than those specified in our own regulations, and although the companies are complying with the Convention they are not required to do so by our rules.

I gather that under-sized whales are occasionally caught but the shooting of them is not a widespread practice and would be due to a mistake on the part of the gunner rather than to a deliberate flouting of the regulations.

30th December, 1957  
EPA/PT

185  
40 in 2/16/46  
RA  
186  
on file  
EPA  
2/1/58



TELEGRAM.

117.

From ..... HONIARA.

187

To ..... GOVERNOR.

Despatched : 3rd January, 19 58 Time : 1055

Received : 3rd January, 19 58 Time : 1400

172. Following from R. E. Spivey. All Whaling reports and Statistics for 1956/57 left at Secretariat, Stanley. ends.

188.

Mr. Monism

HICOM.

If this is so a thorough search should be made. Mr. Moore should I think be contacted.

189  $\frac{Q}{4/58}$

P/L:PH

PH

all P.C. files have been searched and no trace has been found of the missing Report. *Wm 27/1/58*

190  
*Wes. informed*

- *Ret. on his return from Sls - about 10/2/58* *(29.1.58)*

TELEGRAM.

From Administrative Officer.

To Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : 26th February, 1958. Time : 1906  
 Received : 27th February, 1958. Time : 0900

59/609. Whaling Reports. Spivey took Annual Whaling Reports Instructions file and recent years' reports to assist write 1956/57 Report. Latest report I can find here is 1942/43. Is report in same form still required or has form of it been changed. If so grateful loan your copy say 1955/56 Report by "Shackleton" if she has still not left Stanley. I undertake to ensure safe return.

89-95 in  
D/4/50

See D/10/47/A/II

Reports by Companies on approved form (b) of Infractions of International Whaling Convention, 1946 do not appear to have been sent to Secer in accordance with your D/10/47/A of 22nd November, 1952 for 1956/57 from here direct as in previous Vol. I years. Same applies for Form (A). Did Secretary International Whaling Convention receive them or are they required too. 2 copies Form (A) and 6 copies Form (B) received under your complimentary slip of 13th January, 1958. Secretary of International Whaling Convention is very parsimonious of these forms. Your telegram 48/1954 refers. He needs 1 copy. You and I each need copy to ensure correct collection reference my telegram 28/602. Companies like keep copy. Please obtain 50 copies for future use.

32 in D/10/47/A  
Vol. I

86 in D/10/47/A  
Vol. I

180 in  
D/10/47/A  
Vol. II

P/L:BJA

192.

Original in D/10/47/A/II

A.C.S.

This requires urgent action.

(Intld.) A.G.D.T.

27.2.58

Reply at 193.

DECODE.

193

TELEGRAM.

*From* Colonial Secretary.

*To* Administrative Officer.

---

*Despatched* . 28th February, 19 58 *Time* : 1545.

*Received* : 19 *Time* :

191 NO. 50. Your 59/609. Whaling reports. Form has  
not been changed.

Secretary.

P/L:FH

Original filed in D/4/50/II.  
Copy filed in D/10/47/A/II.

174.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 5. 3. 58. Time: 1645. Received: 6.3.58. Time: 0900.

174. NO. 20. Your telegram of 1957.

Report on 1956/57 Whaling Season South Georgia. When may it be expected.

Secretary of State.

GTC:FH

Reply at 198.



DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

222.

From Administrative Officer,

To Colonial Secretary,

---

Despatched : 13th March, 1958 Time : 2103.

Received : 14th March, 1958 Time : 0900.

76/609. Grateful information how many copies my Annual Whaling Report do you require.

Administrative.

Reply at. 196.

P/L:FH

FALKLAND ISLANDS

SENT

196

W. &amp; S. LTD.

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed In at	Date
				14. 3. 58.
To ADMINISTRATOR, SOUTH GEORGIA.				DRP A/C

195 NO. 66 Your 76/600 stop Whaling Report stop Five copies for  
Secretary of State one for Secretariat.

Secretary.

Time JB/PH

DECODE.

197

TELEGRAM.

From Colonial Secretary,

To Administrative Officer.

---

Despatched : 15th March, 1958 Time : 1025.

Received : 19 Time :

NO. 68. Following from Denton Thompson for Matthew. S. of S. is pressing hard for 1956/1957 Whaling Report. How are you progressing with it. Matter is now very important as we are expecting criticism of South Georgia inspection and will probably have to appoint inspectors to each of the stations next year.

Secretary.

Reply at 199.

P/L:FH  
Underlined in G.T.C.

Copy filed in D/10/67/u

1 10  
DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched: 15. 3. 58. Time: 1030. Received:.....Time:.....

194. NO. 42. Your telegram No. 20. Whaling Report South Georgia.

Original 1956/1957 report has gone astray and has had to be rewritten by present Administrative Officer. It should be completed by first mail opportunity from South Georgia to Stanley which will be early April.

GOVERNOR.

P/L:FH

See 208.

Bul. 197-128  
22/3/58  
on  
7/3/58



DECODE.

199.

TELEGRAM.

371. From Administrative Officer,  
To Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : 18th March, 19 58 Time : 2100.  
Received : 19th March, 19 58 Time : 0915.

197 83/609. Your telegram No. 68. Annual Whaling Report 1956/57. Reconstituted report will be ready in few days. It will lack certain biological data which has been available since June 1957 because all Whaling Companies send copies of "Daily Whaling Return" to that committee. I have reconstructed Husvik information with kind co-operation of Ringdal and Butler. All Husvik papers are in Norway.

Remainder of your telegram, if we have to do this then I feel strongly that it should be done thoroughly for 1 year and have 2 Inspectors each Station and see if there is any noticeable difference there would be grounds for reversion to 1 for all South Georgia e.g. Bonner.

} extract  
to file  
2/10/58

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

P/L:FH

Underlined in G.T.C.

Bel 2/4  
A  
25/3/58  
mail?

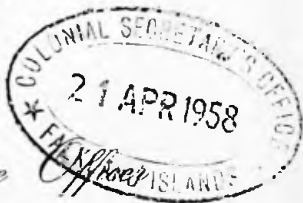
Colonial Secretary

199A

With the Compliments

of the

Administrative



South Georgia

15.3.58.

X

MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE,  
KING EDWARD COVE,  
SOUTH GEORGIA.

No.

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

25<sup>th</sup> March

19 58

Dear Acting Colonial Secretary

I am sending herewith copies of a report on the 1956/57 whaling season which I have concocted from such information as I still have here. All my whaling reports and any instructions about reports that there may have been since then are no longer here, Mr Spivey having taken them for writing the missing report. If these papers come to light I would be very grateful if you would return them to South Georgia as soon as possible.

Yours

J. H. Matthews

↗

201  
But every- this is  
for the way main.

Q  
24/4/58.

601/19  
King Edward Point,  
South Georgia.  
21st March, 1958.

Sir,

2e s

I have the honour to submit a report on the 1956/57 whaling season at South Georgia as instructed by you.

2. The season opened on the 1st October, 1956, and closed on the 31st March as in the previous 2 years. The same three Companies were granted licences. They were :-

The South Georgia Co: Ltd: Leith Harbour  
Manager, Mr L. Bjelland.  
Tønsbergs Hvalfangeri, S.A. Husvik,  
Manager, Mr F. Ringdal.  
Compania Argentina De Pesca, S.A. Grytviken,  
Manager Mr K.S. Pierce Butler.

Each had 7 catchers working throughout the season as in other years since 1947/48. Pesca had 5 converted corvette whale catchers chartered from a Japanese firm in place of their obsolete vessels. With the help of these Pesca was able to beat the other stations in catch, oil output and meat and bone meal production for the first time for many years.

3. The prices ruling at the end of March, 1957, for whale products were approximately as follows :-

Whale oil no: 1	.....	£90	a metric ton.
" " "	2	.....	£82 a " "
" " "	3	.....	£61 a " "
" " "	4	.....	£50 a " "
Sperm oil	.....	£63	a " "
Meat and bone meals	.....	£59	a " "

The total value of the production is estimated at £2,946,461, of which £2,055,728, represents oil and £890,733 represents meat and bone meals.

4. Husvik experimented very successfully with the use of anti-biotics to delay putrefaction of whale carcasses. It was put into

2.

carcasses immediately after they were brought alongside the catchers taking them. The results were :-

- (a) Less losses during towing because fresher carcasses are less liable to disintegrate and, in particular, loose their tails by which they are towed.
  - (b) Following from (a), reduced towing time.
  - (c) Greater quantity of higher grade oil and meat meal.
- Pesca installed a new meat meal plant (De Laval desludgers) with the result that their meat meal production was increased from an average of 9.6 tons to 12.5 tons per bonus whale. The South Georgia Company tried out a new type of meal dryer (Atritor) which was not successful and a new type of gluewater evaporator with very good results.

5. Oil production during the last 5 years has been as follows :-

1952/53	120003 barrels
1953/54	184836 "
1954/55	180766 "
1955/56	172363 "
1956/57	147524 "

6. Other relevant statistics are as follows :-

(a) Total production figures

Company	whales	Oil produced (in barrels)	Av: barrels per bonus whales	Meat & bone meal production
South Georgia Co:	958	47709	102.49	58957
Comp: Arg: De Pesca	1095	51330	100.4	64132
Tonsberg Hvalfangeri	1015	48485	102.01	49850
	3068	147524		172939 +

+ = bags of 100 kilos or 17293 metric tons.

(b) Monthly catch and production figures

Month	Blue	Fin	Sperm	Sei	total	oil produced (in barrels)
October	2	342	-	-	344	14451
November	-	356	17	-	373	23248
December	2	447	12	4	462	25648
January	1	438	20	101	560	29244
February	1	336	19	269	624	28026
March	1	94	16	594	705	26907
Total	7	2013	84	964	3068	147524

7. Statistics of South Georgia whaling in very considerable detail appear in the 1957 "Whaling Statistics" covering the period 1919 to 1955. The publishers are Grondahl and Son, Oslo.

8. Copies of the statistics furnished by each company are attached.

I have the honour to be,  
 Sir,  
 your obedient servant,

*J. Matthew*  
 Administrative Officer,  
 South Georgia.

To The Honourable,  
 The Colonial Secretary,  
 Port Stanley,  
 Falkland Islands.



# FALKLAND ISLANDS

WHALING SEASON, 1956/57

South Georgia.

FACTORY HUSVIK HARBOUR

COMPANY TONBERGS HVALFANGERI A. S.

WHALES.	BLUE.	FIN.	H'BACK.	SPERM.	<del>OTHER</del> SEI	TOTAL.
September	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	132	-	-	132
November	-	-	92	1	-	93
December	-	2	140	5	-	147
January	-	1	130	13	41	185
February	-	-	123	5	82	210
March	-	-	42	9	197	248
April	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	659	-	33	320	1015

OIL PRODUCTION (Shewn in number of barrels).

QUALITIES.	BLUBBER OIL.		PRESS OIL.				SPERM OIL.	SPERM.	TOTAL.
	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.			
September	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4760
October	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6650
November	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7848
December	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9873
January	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8899
February	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9455
March	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
April	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48485

BALEEN

TONS

GUANO 49850

BAGS (100 kilos)

WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER.

NAME OF CATCHER.	BLUE.	FIN.	H'BACK.	SPERM.	<del>OTHER</del> SEI	TOTAL.
Busen 1	1	90	-	7	37	135
" 3	-	115	-	7	47	169
" 4	1	136	-	4	75	216
" 5	-	118	-	3	58	179
" 6	1	91	-	5	50	146
" 7	-	100	-	7	52	159
" 10	-	8	-	-	1	9
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-

Estimated value of OIL £66240

BALEEN £

GUANO £ 249250

(102.017 barrels per bonus whale)

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

Manager.

It is important that this form should be properly filled in and returned to the Whaling Officer at the end of the season.

# FALKLAND ISLANDS

WHALING SEASON, 1956/57

South Georgia.

FACTORY GRYTVIKEN SHORE STATION

COMPANY COMPANIA ARGENTINA DE PESCA, S.A.

WHALES.	BLUE.	FIN.	H'BACK.	SPERM.	<del>OTHER</del> SEI	TOTAL.
September	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	120	-	-	120
November	-	-	144	12	-	156
December	-	-	159	4	-	163
January	-	-	168	3	29	200
February	-	-	97	8	109	214
March	-	-	32	5	204	242
April	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	720		32	342	1095

### OIL PRODUCTION (Shewn in number of barrels).

QUALITIES.	BLUBBER OIL.		PRESS OIL.				SPERM OIL.	SPERM.	TOTAL.
	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.			
September	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	3622	-	-	880	402	172	-	-	5076
November	5377	-	-	1389	1035	437	420	-	8658
December	5090	-	-	767	3072	29	392	-	9350
January	5134	-	-	1501	2291	770	120	-	9816
February	5437	-	-	1959	1710	116	360	-	9582
March	2884	-	-	5228	334	115	287	-	8848
April	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	27544			11724	8844	1639	1579		51330
BALEEN 3.684			TONS		GUANO 64132			BAGS	

### WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER.

NAME OF CATCHER.	BLUE.	FIN.	H'BACK.	SPERM.	<del>OTHER</del> SEI	TOTAL.
Otori Maru 6	1	122		11	40	173
" " 7		123		1	58	183
"b " 10		140		10	100	250
" " 11		109		4	29	142
" " 12		112		2	56	170
C.A. Larsen		114		3	57	174
Foca (Buoy Boat)				1	2	3
TOTAL	1	720		32	342	1095

Estimated value of OIL £702786

BALEEN £ 442

GUANO £322080

(Average 100.4 barrels per bonus whale)

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

K. S. PIERCE BUTLER.

Manager.

It is important that this form should be properly filled in and returned to the Whaling Officer at the end of the season.

# FALKLAND ISLANDS

WHALING SEASON, 1956/57

South Georgia.

FACTORY LEITH HARBOUR

COMPANY South Georgia Co:Ltd:

WHALES.	BLUE.	FIN.	H'BACK.	SPERM.	<del>OTHER</del> SEI	TOTAL.
September	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	2	90	-	-	-	92
November	-	120	-	4	-	124
December	-	148	-	3	1	152
January	-	140	-	4	31	175
February	1	116	-	6	77	200
March	-	20	-	2	193	215
April	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	634	-	19	302	958

OIL PRODUCTION (Shewn in number of barrels).

QUALITIES.	BLUBBER OIL.		PRESS OIL.				SPERM OIL.	SPERM.	TOTAL.
	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.			
September	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	4010	-	570	35	135	-	4615
November	-	-	5730	-	1980	95	165	-	7940
December	-	-	5350	-	2810	125	185	-	8450
January	-	-	6150	-	3100	120	295	-	9555
February	-	-	6025	-	3085	140	80	-	9545
March	-	-	6393	-	1015	116	-	-	7604
April	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	33658	-	12560	631	860	-	47709

BALEEN nil TONS

GUANO 31069  
69195

BAGS of 45 kilos  
" " 65 "

WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER.

NAME OF CATCHER.	BLUE.	FIN.	H'BACK.	SPERM.	<del>OTHER</del> SEI	TOTAL.
Southern Jester	-	105	-	8	51	164
" Guider	-	93	-	-	63	156
" Joker	-	117	-	3	52	172
" Gambler	-	105	-	2	52	159
" Foster	-	110	-	3	33	146
" Solvra	3	89	-	3	48	153
" Sorsra (Buoy Bt)	-	5	-	3	3	8
TOTAL	3	634	-	19	302	958

Estimated value of OIL £688702

BALEEN £ nil

GUANO £319403

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

Solubles £74715  
Sperm Teeth £35  
Meat extract £2847.

Manager.

It is important that this form should be properly filled in and returned to the Whaling Officer at the end of the season.

F. I. ref: D/4/50/II

C. O. ref:

SAVING TELEGRAM.

*From:* The Officer Administering the Government of the Falkland Islands.

*To:* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*Date:* 25th April, 1958.

No. 12. SAVING. DEPENDENCIES

198 My telegram No. 42 of 15th March, 1958. Report on the 1956/57 whaling season at South Georgia.

202 Five copies are forwarded herewith.

GOVERNOR.

209

Rec. for 57/58 Report

19/4/58

bu. 28/3/58

JB/MC

DECODE.

210.

TELEGRAM.

No. 43.

From ..... Wells, London, .....

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

---

Despatched : 13th August, 1958 Time : 1731.

Received : 14th August, 1958 Time : 0900.

RB87/58. Following from Matthew begins:-

1957/58 Whaling Report and Appendices despatched to you.  
Do you wish gunners individual Whale Reports sent you or  
shall I deposit at NAT INST Oceanography? Ends.

WELLS.

P/L: FH

Reply at 211

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

211

FALKLAND ISLANDS

SENT

W. & S. LTD.

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
				18.8.58.
To				
CROWN LONDON.				Dep a/c

210

For Wells your RB87/58 please ask Matthew deposit gunners reports Nat Inst Oceanography.

SECRETARY.

Time  
JR/EH

Rec. 30 (mail)  
4/9 (mine)  
No mgmt  
m 5/9/58



212



St: Swithun's Gate,  
Kingsgate Road,  
Winchester,  
Hants.  
9th August, 1958.

Dear Sir

213  
insexuplicate

I am sending herewith the annual Whaling Report for 1957-58. I wrote it on the way home in the Southern Opal but have had delays in getting Pesca biological information corrected. Pesca have not sent more than 2 forms of statistical information signed by the Manager. However since all the information is contained in my report and appendices I dont think that matters.

221  
No (see 222-4) |

I would however be grateful if you would be good enough to complete the statistics in Appendix E. You will recall that my file with all (!) my reports for 15 years is or was unaccountably missing, according to Bob Spivey, in Port Stanley I understand.

There is a figure missing from para 6. Had I known that I could not get it here I would have omitted the reference ! However I will send it to you from South Georgia on my return if you have not already obtained it from Ian Nesbitt.

To S. Trees, Esq:  
Port Stanley.

Yours sincerely,

John W. Matthews

King Edward's Point,  
South Georgia,  
Falkland Islands Dependency.

25th April, 1958.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit a report on the 1957/58 whaling season at South Georgia.

(2) Companies Operating

The following Companies applied for and were granted licences for the season, which began on the 1st October and closed on the 31st March:-

- (a) South Georgia Company Ltd., Leith Harbour, Manager Mr. H.C. Jensen, until his sudden death on the 2nd March, then Mr. S. Akseth.
  - (b) Compania Argentina de Pesca, S.A., Grytviken, Manager Mr. K.S. Pierce Butler.
- Tonsbergs Hvalfangeri did not apply for licences. The reason is understood to be that the Company had obtained a series of charters for its tanker "Teie" soon after the Suez crisis, on terms so favourable that a profit not inferior to that of a season's whaling from Husvik was obtained without the attendant risks involved in the latter.

(3) Catchers

The South Georgia Company was granted licences for thirteen catchers of which only nine operated from Leith Harbour during the Pelagic Season. Pesaa had twelve catchers operating throughout the season. Notable innovations at South Georgia were the five new Diesel catchers that Pesca had on charter. These have a maximum speed of about 16.5 knots and a range very far in excess of that of steam catchers. They were built in Holland, are registered in Panama, and belong to Mr. Alfredo Ryan's Compania Rosina de Panama. It is said on the best authority in South Georgia that Mr. Ryan has chartered these catchers to Pesca for the equivalent of £50,000 each a season for five years, after which they are to be returned to the owning Company "in the condition in which they were received".

(4) Asdic

Those of the South Georgia Company's "Ice" catchers, which were operating from Leith Harbour when not with their Floating Factories, had Asdic fitted. Asdic may be fitted to the five Ryan owned motor catchers this winter. Considerable controversy has arisen in South Georgia on this subject. On the one hand, if a whale is contacted by Asdic in reasonable weather it can be followed and shot. On the other, the sensitive ear of the whale hears the Asdic transmission, and there is nothing like Asdic for scattering a concentration of whales, according to Gunners with experience of it. Since there is thought to be practically no population of resident catchable whales around South Georgia any longer, the objection is not so serious as it sounds. Nevertheless, expert advice on the general use of Asdic by the twenty-one catchers normally licenced to operate from South Georgia Land Stations each season would, I submit,



be worth obtaining. If responsible scientific advisers are prepared to give an assurance that the general use of Asdic in the form presently available commercially is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the number of whales passing South Georgia on the annual migrations, it would be reassuring both to the industry and to the Government for the revenue that is derived from it. Gunners seem to be of the opinion generally that whales returning to South Georgia waters from neighbouring areas where Floating Factories are working with Asdic fitted catchers, appear to be wary and easily scared.

(5) "Pool" bonus system

For the first time at South Georgia a pool bonus system has been in operation for Gunners and catcher crews. Pesca operated it. The system is that all catcher bonus earned is shared instead of earned by each catcher Gunner and crew separately. Under this system, no-one loses financially by towing someone else's whale, so it has been possible for the faster catchers to remain on the whaling grounds longer than if they had had to do much of the towing of their own whales. Also Gunners who have found concentrations of whales have not been unwilling to call up other Gunners before beginning to shoot, instead of after as is common under individual bonus system. Mr. Butler, who introduced the system, claims that it has increased his Company's production by about 15,000 barrels of oil, and saved between 2,000 and 3,000 tons of fuel oil. However, Pesca has only beaten Leith on production results, not on total catch of whales per catcher-day, so the system has not entirely vindicated itself yet.

(6) Radar

All catchers now have Radar, which increases their safety at sea off South Georgia's very inadequately charted coast. (I understand from Commander Chaplin, whose name appears on the present charts of South Georgia, that no hydrographic work beyond a few days' sketching has been done on the whole length of the rock-strewn south-west coast of the island since the Russian expedition of 1819 (Bellingshausen)). Radar also contributes to decreasing Post-Mortem time, which, in these days when whales are frequently caught at a distance of 200 miles from the island, is important. Pesca's average post-mortem time for the season was 32 hours<sup>8 minutes</sup> per whale. At Leith, where Post-Mortem time in December was frequently over 70 hours, and where seven Sperm were kept unworked for no less than 280 hours each, the season's average was approximately 36.5 hours.

(7) Antibiotics

The Husvik experiment in the use of antibiotics for retarding the putrefaction in whale carcasses was repeated this year with good results by both stations.

(8) Shore Stations

Ashore, two main changes worth recording have occurred since 1956/57. At Leith, a meat extract plant for making use of the Blood Liquor has been installed, and is expected to begin working next season. At the present time,

Meat Extract is worth about £800 a ton. It looks and tastes like Bovril. The Pesca blubber cookery was re-built, and that station can now handle up to 25 Fin or 30 sei whales a day for several days.

(9) World Market Prices

At the end of March, world market prices for the principal whale products were as follows:-

Whale Oil No. 1	.....	£78	per metric ton
" " " 2	.....	£68/70	" " "
" " " 3	.....	£53	" " "
" " " 4	.....	£48	" " "
Sperm Oil	.....	£81	" " "
Meat & Bone Meal	.....	£54	" " "

(10) Weather

During October, the weather amounted to an almost continuous series of gales, so the catch that month was poor. However, the weather eventually improved, and the quantity of whales increased until in December excellent results were being achieved. The catch generally is said to have been further than ever from the island this year. Precise information will only be available when the National Institute of Oceanography has plotted and published the information available in the appendices to this report.

(11) Blue Whales

A comparison of catch figures for the last 40 years shows that the Blue Whale which once figured substantially is now a negligible quantity in the results. I submit that His Excellency may wish to bring this to the attention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, if this has not been done in recent years, with a view to enquiries as to what steps the International Whaling Convention is taking to give further protection to the Blue Whale. The only thing that I can suggest is that if the Blue Whale were to be given complete protection under our Whaling Ordinance, it would have the effect of creating a small sanctuary of about 160,000 square miles for it round South Georgia. At the present time, none but South Georgia based catchers catch within 220 miles or so of South Georgia. This, of course, would have a negligible effect on the South Georgia whaling industry. Another argument in its favour is that it would be a gesture, and it would be much more than a gesture, in the right direction by the British. An argument against it would be that it would not prevent a pelagic expedition taking Blue Whales around South Georgia outside territorial waters, but since there are extremely few, that argument is <sup>at</sup> more than hypothetical at the present time.

(12) Other Protected Whales.

In order to estimate numbers of Right Whales, I have asked a good many Gunners how many they estimate would be taken if permission were to be granted for the unrestricted taking of Right Whales for one season. They seem to agree fairly generally that a first season would yield a total catch of rather less than 100, which guess gives at least some indication of numbers. Humpbacks, which were so common, are said to be much scarcer than Right Whales.

(13) The total value of the season's production is estimated at £3,293,517, of which £2,152,953 represents oil, and £1,140,564 represents other products.

(14) Conclusion

The results are regarded generally as satisfactory, and Tonsbergs Hvalfangeri has indicated its intention to fish again next season from Husvik. Tables, together with copies of statistics furnished by the Companies are attached. They comprise as usual:-

- (a) Manager's report of types of whales taken by months, together with production results and individual catcher results.
- (b) Daily Whaling Report.
- (c) Gunners individual whale reports.

The term Bonus Whale (or Calculated Whale) is commonly used for comparative purposes in place of "Standard Whale" or Blue Whale Unit. The latter is based on type of whale, the former on a certain footage of type of whale as follows:-

1 Bonus Whale is	75 ft. of Blue Whale
	110 " " Fin Whale
	110 " " Sperm Whale
	200 " " Sei Whale
	120 " " Humpback Whale
	etc.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*J. H. Matthew*

Administrative Officer,  
South Georgia.

To: The Honourable,  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Port Stanley,  
Falkland Islands.

APPENDIX A

TABLE OF CATCH BY MONTHS

	BLUE	FIN	SPERM	SEI	TOTAL
October 1957	-	192	15	-	207
November "	1	457	17	-	475
December "	2	886	20	-	908
January 1958	-	394	13	28	435
February "	2	221	79	390	692
March "	1	64	80	494	639
Total	6	2,214	224	912	3,356
Feb.	11,778	22,210	101.91	29,309	122.94
March	18,415	10,117	203.97	18,902	118.95
Total	30,193	32,327	305.88	48,211	241.89

APPENDIX B

OIL PRODUCTION ANALYSIS

REAL PRODUCTION FIGURES 1971/72 SEASON

SOUTH GEORGIA CO.				COMPANIA ARGENTINA DE PESCA		
Month	Bonus Whales	Barrels of Oil	Average Barrels per B/W	Bonus Whales	Barrels of Oil	Average Barrels per B/W
Oct.	65.64	5,575	84.93	93.21	4,154	44.56
Nov.	138.40	13,250	95.73	112.97	12,113	107.22
Dec.	272.75	25,310	92.79	271.37	28,881	106.42
Jan.	97.71	11,595	118.66	150.46	16,036	106.57
Feb.	99.64	11,270	113.10	161.93	19,909	122.94
March	86.76	10,430	122.17	108.97	12,962	118.95
Total	760.90	77,430	101.76	898.91	94,055	104.63

APPENDIX C

TOTAL PRODUCTION FIGURES, 1957/58 SEASON

Company	Total Whales	Oil produced (in barrels)	Av. barrels oil per <u>bonus</u> whale	Meat & Bone meal (in metric tons)
South Georgia Co.	1,515	77,430	101.76	8,931
C. Argentina de Pesca	1,841	94,055	104.6	11,352.6
Totals	3,356	161,485	-	20,283.6

Summary of production figures for various seasons:

Season	Total Whales	Oil produced (barrels)	Meat & Bone meal (metric tons)
1952-53	2,111	107,000	12,000
1953-54	2,111	107,000	12,000
1954-55	2,111	107,000	12,000
1955-56	2,111	107,000	12,000
1956-57	2,111	107,000	12,000
1957-58	3,356	161,485	20,283.6



APPENDIX D

Division by sex of whales taken 1957-58

	Species. Total catch.		Males.	Females.	% of females to total catch	Number found pregnant	VI as a % of IV
	I	II					
Blue	6	6	3	3	50 %	nil	
S.G. Co	I027		444	583		I56	
Fin Pesca	II87		508	679		II6	
Total	22I4		952	I262	57%	272	2I.5 %
S.G. Co	379		I47	234		III	
Sei Pesca	533		237	296		77	
Total	9I2		382	530	58.I %	I88	35.4 %
S.G. Co	I04		I04				
Sperm Pesca	I20		I20				
Total	224		224	nil			

A PPENDIX E

Comparison of the last five seasons' production

Season	Total Whales	Oil produced ( in barrels )	Meat & Bone meals produced ( in metric tons)
I953-54	3654	I84836	16661.6
I954-55	3266	I80766	17073.4
I955-56	3001	I72363	12431.4
I956-57	3068	I47524	I7293.9
I957-58	3356	I6I485	20283.6

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Administrative Officer, South Georgia

To Colonial Secretary

Despatched: 4th October 1958 Time: 1800

Received: 6th October 1958 Time: 09.15

No. 221/609. 1957/58 whaling report para 6 please insert  
Pescas average post mortem time thirty two hours eight minutes.  
For information I have now received back my file of reports up  
to that for season 1955/56.

P/L: IM

Copies amended.  
JH.

Reply at 223



GOVERNMENT

FALKLAND ISLANDS

SENT

223

W. A. S. LTD.

Number

Office of Origin

Words

Handed In at

Date

6. 10. 58.

To

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER SOUTH GEORGIA

(Dep a/c)

222 No. 241. Your 221/609 last sentence stop from whom was Whaling Reports file received

SECRETARY.

Time

13/11

Repl 106 224

DECODE.

224 3

TELEGRAM.

From ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, SOUTH GEORGIA

To COLONIAL SECRETARY

Despatched : 7th October, 19 58. Time : 18.20

Received : 8th October, 19 58. Time : 09.30

223

224/609. Your tele. 241. Mrs. Spivey London.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

(Intld) A. G. D. T

P/L:IM

B. U. F.

(Intld) JB

8. X. 58.

V.E.

The P.O.'s report on the 1957/1958 South Georgia whaling season is at J213. I have drafted (at h.c.) a brief covering Sawingson to the S.G.S. for your consideration. (If you approve it then it would help a lot at the moment if Mrs Tracy would fax it). Then I will ask. to P.O.

D.G.P.

13/10/58.

F. I. ref: D/4/59/II

226

C. O. ref:

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From: The Officer Administering the Government of the Falkland Islands.

To: The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 14th October, 1958

No. 34 SAVING. DEPENDENCIES.

South Georgia Whaling Report 1957/58 Season

-----  
213 I enclose for your information five copies of the report of the Administrative Officer, South Georgia, on the 1957/1958 whaling season.

2. You will recall that the South Georgia Company and the Compania Argentina de Pesca were granted additional catcher licences for 1957/1958, because the third company (Tonsberg) decided not to operate that season. They intend to whale again this coming season and the usual number of catcher licences have been granted to each of the three companies this year.

5. With regard to the use of asdic, I am of course aware that there are two schools of thought and conflicting opinions on the matter (as indeed there are in the case of most innovations and new developments) and I have only agreed to issue licences to asdic fitted catchers on the understanding that the use of asdic may have to be banned in the future if it can be shown clearly that its use is detrimental to the South Georgia industry.

4. I should be interested to see any comments that the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries may have on the subject of Blue Whales. I should doubt whether the creation of a relatively small sanctuary, which could only be safeguarded up to the three mile limit in the case of catchers other than those of South Georgia, would have very much effect. It may, however, be a point worth consideration by expert opinion.

GOVERNOR.

KIV 225

Reply at 229.

AGDT/PT

927

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, SOUTH GEORGIA.

To COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Despatched: 15th October, 1958. Time: 2115

Received: 16th October, 1958. Time: 0915

2 in 3/1/45

237/613. I have only now seen your telegram 56/1950 in which you state that one copy my Whaling Report sent to International Whaling Commission. If this is still so, do you wish me to rewrite 1957/58 report ommiting some references which are not really for international consumption.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

Reply at  
see 223.

P/L: IM

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

228.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

SENT

W.A.S. LTD.

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
				16. 10. 58.
To ADMINISTRATIVE HOUSE GEORGIA			(Dep a/c)	

227 No. 252 Your telegram 257/613 stop whaling Report stop we dont  
 send copies to the International Whaling Commission and Colonial Office  
 only pass a copy as far as the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries  
 stop your report comma which is a good one comma is going to London  
 today

NOON TAKE

Time AMTE/IN

*No mail*  
*14/10/58*  
*on*  
*But 226 7/3/59*  
*10/11/58 5/2 (mic)*

229

FST.54/57/02  
Yr.Ref.D/4/50/II

ng

e Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Officer Administering the Government of THE FALKLAND ISLANDS  
(DEPENDENCIES)

20 March, 1959.

9 Saving



Your savingram No.34 Dependencies of 14th October 1958.

South Georgia Whaling Report 1957/58 Season.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has considered the Administrator's full and interesting report on the 1957/58 season and has the following comments to offer on paragraph 11 of the report which dealt with Blue Whales:-

"We have discussed the Administrative officer's suggestion with Dr. Laws of the National Institute of Oceanography. The important point is that, as whales pass South Georgia on their migratory route, any which catchers from South Georgia refrain from taking would be liable to be caught by the pelagic whaling fleets further south. From the conservation angle such a measure would not only be pointless but would be so clearly pointless that its value as a "gesture" would be lost. Moreover, the whaling stations would no doubt object, with some justification, to having a useless restriction imposed upon them; a blue whale is worth over £2,000 and, even although the number now taken is small, their total value is not inconsiderable.

In the circumstances, and the more so because of the present unsettled position in the field of whaling conservation, we feel that there would be little to be gained from introducing the kind of measure proposed by the Administrative Officer."

copy  
15.4.59

231  
copy sent AO  
-P.M.

SECEP.

230  
copy to AO under a c.s. file

Pa

613  
King Edward Point,  
South Georgia.  
10th May, 1959.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith the annual whaling report for South Georgia for the 1958-59 season written by Commander Hughes, R.N. (retd.). His report was completed on 1st April, the day on which he had to leave on board the "Southern Opal" for Europe before he had had time to compare the final results of the three whaling stations.

2. Probably the most interesting thing in the report is that for the first time since Southern whaling began (other than old time Right Whaling) there is little difference between the estimated value of the oil production and of the total value of the other products. They are only estimates of course, but they are not far out. The production of meat extract and frozen meat for the first time this year here and research into suitable gelatines for marketing to the film and other industries are all new lines of development.

3. Post mortem time has dropped from an average of over 30 hours last season to under 20 hours this season. What catching there was, was nearer the Island. The average oil production per bonus whale has fallen from 104.6 barrels last year to 92.5 barrels this year. Smaller thinner whales were caught, which may indeed be a sign of too much whaling in the Antarctic. But there is a general feeling here that the poor season is at least partly attributable to the edge of the pack ice having remained further South than usual and that whales have been away down there feeding instead of nearer here.

239

4. I would draw attention to appendix "C". The percentage of pregnant to unpregnant females caught has gone up from 21% to 30% for Fins and from 35% to 40% for Seis by comparison with 1957/58. This seems to be a very high figure from a conservancy point of view.

5. The recording of this increase in pregnancy rate is the only substantial positive achievement of the Whaling Inspectors. It would be interesting to know how these figures compare with pelagic expedition results,



bearing in mind the different latitudes and positions in which they have operated.

6. The incidence of "Short" whales has increased from 59 out of a total catch of 3356 last year to 52 out of 2504 this year : in other words from 1.46 % to 2.0 % . This increase means that where there might have been a kink in a steel measuring tape on border line cases on dark and stormy nights in the past, the kinks have been straightened by the Inspectors. In fact the season has proved conclusively what was thought to be the case, namely that Inspectors are superfluous at South Georgia for reporting and preventing infractions of the law and the Convention other than the very small one mentioned above. The sooner that their services can be dispensed with the better,

7. The biological and other information previously available only from the Daily Whaling Returns is now included in the Whaling Inspectors' Log Books. Therefore the Companies' returns have been revised after consultation with Dr Laws of the National Institute of Oceanography with the result that :-

- (a) No information previously included in this report and appendices is excluded
- (b) Some information previously not given is included in the Companies' returns.
- (c) Obsolete spaces for recording "Blubber" and "Press" oil "Sperm oil" and "Sperm" separately and Humpbacks have been dropped and space specifically for Sei has been included.

8. The Gunner's' individual whale reports have been sent direct to the National Institute of Oceanography, Wormley, as last year.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

*J.W. Mathew*

Administrative Officer,  
South Georgia.

To The Honourable,  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Port Stanley,  
Falkland Islands.

attached to  
7/303/58

South Georgia,  
Falkland Islands Dependency.  
1st April, 1959.

which assists them greatly in the whaling industry. The coast is still very inadequately charted, and there has been an unusual amount of fog this season.

Sir,

5. Antibiotics. This was supplied to and used by all catchers. Its use has given good results, especially where West Morten was the most important at Husvik for example.

I have the honour to submit a report on the 1958/59 whaling season at South Georgia.

1. Companies operating.

The following 3 Companies applied for and were granted licences for the season, which began on 1st October, 1958 and ended on 31st March, 1959. :-

- (1) South Georgia Co: Ltd:, Leith Harbour, Manager Mr S. Akseth.
- (2) Compania Argentina De Pesca, S.A. Grytviken, Manager Mr F. Ringdal.
- (3) Tønsbergs Hvalfangeri, Husvik, Manager Mr N. Olsen.

Each Company operated 7 Catchers, including a towing boat.

2. Weather. The weather was the worst that anyone can remember. Up to February there were continuous high winds, frequently reaching gale force, and an unusual amount of fog.

3. Asdic. Controversy on the advantages or otherwise of using Asdic remains acute. South Georgia Co: used it until departure of "Southern Harvester" on 17th December with their Asdic catchers. Pesca had it fitted to their motor catchers last winter and used it this season, but only to a limited extent, as defects occurred which could not be made good until arrival of a German expert to assist in maintenance. Moreover the Gunners had not been trained in its use. Tønsberg Hval catchers have not been fitted and they argue that the use of Asdic by the other 2 Companies is responsible for scaring and scattering the whales and consequently bad results.

After discussing it with many of the Gunners, I am of the opinion that it would benefit South Georgia whaling generally if Asdic was done away with altogether, but the individual catcher fitted with Asdic gets better results than one without.

4. Pool bonus system. This has been operated by South Georgia Co: and Pesca Companies throughout the season, but Tønsberg, after trying it for a short period in the middle of the season, gave it up at the request of the catcher crews.

5. Radar. All catchers have radar, which assists them greatly in navigation, especially as the coast is still very inadequately charted, and there has been an unusual amount of fog this season.

6. Antibiotic. This now supplied to and used by all catchers. Its use has given good results, especially where Post Mortem time is important, as at Husvik for frozen meat.

7. Shore Stations.

- (1) Leith. The meat extract plant for making use of blood liquor was working this season with good results. About 50 lbs of Ambergris were recovered.
- (2) Pesca erected 2 new 2000 ton storage tanks and a large new guano storage shed and an Asdic and electrical workshop.
- (3) Tønsberg Hval erected a large Deep Freeze plant and cold storage for 2,500 tons of whale meat. This was completed by the middle of January, earlier than anticipated owing to the shortage of whales, and over 1000 tons is now stored awaiting a ship with refrigerating plant to deliver it to Pet Foods Ltd: in U.K. (Calpean Star was to have done this). A glue water evaporating plant, which dries the residue from the cooking boilers after the oil has been separated, was erected.

Successful experiments were carried out by Tønsberg Hval with a gas-filled harpoon, which does not break up inside the whale, and could be produced in quantity more cheaply than the present type.

8. Market Prices are not known in South Georgia at the time of writing except that grade 1 oil has recently been sold at £72.10. a ton. The South Georgia Co: has a contract for meat extract at £80 per ton.

9. Value of the season's production is estimated at £2,204,428 of which £1,199,595 represents oil and £1,004,833 represents other whale products.

10. Inspectors were introduced for the first time this season at each of the 3 shore stations,

11. Conclusion The season was a very poor one. Catches were mostly made to the North and East of the island, and whales were nearer than last season. Two sweeps were made by one catcher from each station to Southward of the island in search of whales, but none were seen.

The Blue Whale seems to have completely disappeared from these waters, only one "Short" being caught. The Fin whale is scarcer, and very few were seen after the first week in January. There was again an increase in the number of Right Whales seen and on 25th January one came right into Husvik Harbour.

12. Copies of statistics furnished by the Companies are attached.

To The Honourable,  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Port Stanley,  
Falkland Islands.

Signed H.M. HUGHES,  
Senior Whaling Inspector.

MONTH	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
OCTOBER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NOVEMBER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DECEMBER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JANUARY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEBRUARY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MARCH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TABLE OF STATISTICS OF WHALING IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

APPENDIX "A"

		BLÅE		FIN		SEI		SPERM		TOTAL	AVERAGE PER STATION	
OCTOBER	L	0		124		0		0		124	342	114
	H	0	0	82	342	0	0	0	0	82		
	G	0		136		0		0		136		
NOVEMBER	L.	0		96		0		5		101	288	96
	H	0	0	84	283	0	0	0	5	84		
	G	0		103		0		0		103		
DECEMBER	L	0		95		0		20		115	378	126
	H	0	0	102	329	0	0	8	49	110		
	G	0		132		0		21		153		
JANUARY	L	0		51		25		13		89	256	85
	H	0	0	40	159	20	59	17	38	77		
	G	0		68		14		8		90		
FEBRUARY	L	0		29		121		7		157	538	179
	H	0	1	34	118	121	344	47	75	202		
	G	1		55		102		21		179		
MARCH	L	0		15		193		20		228	702	234
	H	0	0	3	45	191	609	21	48	215		
	G	0		27		225		7		259		
TOTAL	L	0		410		339		65		814	2504	835
	H	0	1	345	1276	332	1012	93	215	770		
	G	1		521		341		57		920		

NOTE

"L" = LEITH  
 "H" = HUSVIK  
 "G" = GRYTVIKEN

TABLE OF CATCHES BY MONTHS AND BY STATIONS : 1958/59

APPENDIX "B"

	.ACTUAL WHALES		STANDARD WHALES		PRODUCTION		PRODUCTION PER ST: WHALE		
OCTOBER	L	124		62.00		6915		111.6	
	H	82	342	41.00	171.00	3838	18,652	93.6	109.1
	G	136		68.00		7899		116.2	
NOVEMBER	L	<del>104</del>		50.50		5890		116.6	
	H	84	288	42.00	144.00	3959	15,266	94.3	106.0
	G	103		51.50		5417		105.2	
DECEMBER	L	115		57.50		5920		103.0	
	H	110	378	55.00	189.00	5821	20,245	105.8	107.2
	G	153		76.50		8504		111.2	
JANUARY	L	89		36.17		3515		97.2	
	H	77	256	31.83	108.33	3719	11,663	116.8	107.7.
	G	90		40.33		4429		109.9	
FEBRUARY	L	<del>157</del>		38.17		5135		134.5	
	H	202	538	60.67	153.83	5878	16,787	96.9	109.1
	G	179		55.00		5771		105.0	
MARCH	L	228		49.67		6830		137.5	
	H	215	702	43.83.	149.00	5788	20,028	132.0	134.4
	G	259		55.50		7410		133.5	
TOTAL	L	814		294.00		34,205		116.4	
	H	770	2504	274.33	915.167	29,003	102,638	105.7	112.1
	G	920		356.83		39,430		110.5	

NOTE  
 "L" = LEITH  
 "H" = HUSVIK  
 "G" = GRYTVIKEN

APPENDIX "C"

SPECIES	CATCH		MALES		FEMALES		% FEMALES	FEMALES PREGNANT		% PREGNANT FEMALES	
	L	H	L	H	L	H		L	H		
BLUE	L							indeterminate			
	H	1		1			0				
	G	1		1							
FIN	L	410	180		230			76			
	H	345	1276	170	571	173	705	55.25	42	214	30.36
	G	521		219		302			96		
SEL	L	<del>229</del>		142		197			88		
	H	332	1012	134	406	198	606	59.90	88	263	43.40
	G	341		130		211			87		
SPERM	L	65		65				indeterminate			
	H	93	215	93	215		0				
	G	57		57							

NOTE :-  
 "L" = LEITH  
 "H" = HUSVIK  
 "G" = GRYTVIKEN.

TABLE OF SEX AND PREGNANCY RATIOS IN SEASON'S CATCH

APPENDIX "D"

SEASON	TOTAL WHALES	OIL PRODUCTION (no: of barrels)
1954-55	3266	180,766
1955-56	3001	172,363
1956-57	3068	147,524
1957-58	3356	161,485
1958-59	2504	102,638

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE CATCH AND PRODUCTION : \*1954-59

239



FALKLAND ISLANDS

WHALING SEASON. 1958/59..... South Georgia, South Shetland  
 AREA & Graham Land, South Orkneys.  
 FACTORY. Grytviken Shore Station COMPANY. COMPAÑIA ARGENTINA DE.....  
 PESCA S/A

WHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
BLUE					1		1
FIN	136	103	132	76	47	27	521
SEI				15	101	225	341
SPERM			21	8	21	7	57
OTHER							
TOTAL	136	103	153	99	170	259	920

PRODUCTION (TO NEAREST UNIT)

DESCR	UNIT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL	EST. VALUE (IN £)
WHALE OIL	BARRELS	7899	5347	7089	3848	4968	7069	36220	436351
SPERM OIL	BARRELS			1250	463	1063	434	3210	38672
MEAT	TONS								
MEAT MEAL	TONS	644	510	778	437	720	1023	4112	208880
BONE MEAL	TONS	316	237	354	160	266	341	1674	85050
SOLUBLES	TONS								
MEAT EXTRACT	TONS								
FINNERS	TONS								
SPERM TEETH	LBS.								

total £ 768953

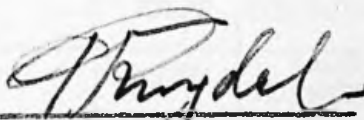
241

WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER

NAME OF CATCHER	BLUE	FIN	SEI	SPERM	OTHER	TOTAL
"R.1"		133	81	4	-	218
"R.2"		94	57	10	-	161
"R.3"		113	80	16	-	209
"R.4"	1	91	67	14	-	173
"R.5"		79	43	5	-	127
"C.A.Larsen"		10	12	8	-	30
"Foca"		1	1	-	-	2
<b>T O T A L</b>	1	521	341	57	-	920

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

Date April 1st, 1959

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Manager.

242

F A L K L A N D I S L A N D S

WHALING SEASON.....1958/59.....

South Georgia, South Shetland  
AREA & Graham Land, South Orkneys.

FACTORY.....LEITH HARBOUR LANDSTATION.....

COMPANY.....CHR. SALVESEN & CO.....

WHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
BLUE							
FIN	124	96	95	43	37	15	410
SEI				23	123	193	339
SPERM		5	20	13	7	20	65
OTHER							
TOTAL	124	101	115	79	167	228	814

PRODUCTION (TO NEAREST UNIT)

DESCR	UNIT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL	EST. VALUE (IN £)
WHALE OIL	BARRELS	6915	5675	5080	2845	4795	6035	31345	358.381
SPERM OIL	BARRELS		215	840	670	340	795	2860	26.180
MEAT	TONS								
MEAT MEAL	TONS	733	675	686	431	815	969	4309	297.321
BONE MEAL	TONS	224	172	179	131	169	219	1094	21.880
SOLUBLES	TONS	672	337	489	272	103	295	2168	34.688
MEAT EXTRACT	TONS	7	27	22	20	38	49	163	130.400
FINNERS	TONS								
SPERM TEETH	LBS.						625		105

AMBER GREASE LBS.

53

424

TOTAL £ 869,379.

P.T.O.

F A L K L A N D I S L A N D S

WHALING SEASON.....1958/59.....

South Georgia, South Shetland  
AREA & Graham Land, South Orkneys.

FACTORY.....LEITH HARBOUR LANDSTATION.....

COMPANY.....CHR. SALVESEN & CO.....

WHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
BLUE							
FIN	124	96	95	43	37	15	410
SEI				23	123	193	339
SPERM		5	20	13	7	20	65
OTHER							
TOTAL	124	101	115	79	167	228	814

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MEAT	TONS								
MEAT MEAL	TONS	733	675	686	431	815	969	4309	297.321
BONE MEAL	TONS	224	172	179	131	169	219	1094	21.880
SOLUBLES	TONS	672	337	489	272	103	295	2168	34.688
MEAT EXTRACT	TONS	7	27	22	20	38	49	163	130.400
FINNERS	TONS								
SPERM TEETH	LBS.						625		105

AMBER GREASE LBS.

53

424

TOTAL £ 869,379.

P.T.O.

243

WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER

NAME OF CATCHER	BLUE	PIN	SEI	SPERM	OTHER	TOTAL
"SO. JESTER"		68	62	9		139
"SO. DUIDER"		80	61	10		151
"SO. JOKER"		72	46	12		130
"SO. GAMBLER"		67	58	10		135
"SO. FOSTER"		68	56	16		140
<del>SEE</del> "SOLVRA"		54	43	8		105
T O T A L		410	339	65		814

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

Date 23rd APRIL 1959

R. J. ...  
Manager/WORKSMaster  
WINTER 1959

244

PALKLAND ISLANDS

WHALING SEASON...1958/59.....

South Georgia, South Shetland  
AREA & Graham Land, South Orkneys.

FACTORY...Landstation.....  
Husvik Harbour

COMPANY...A/S Tønsbergs Hvalfangeri,  
Tønsberg, Norway.

WHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
BLUE							0
FIN	82	84	102	50	24	3	345
SEI				23	118	191	332
SPERM			8	17	47	21	93
OTHER							0
TOTAL	82	84	110	90	190	215	770

PRODUCTION (TO NEAREST UNIT)

DESCR	UNIT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL	EST. VALUE (IN £)
WHALE OIL	BARRELS	3838	3959	5446	2979	3894	4706	24822	305931
SPERM OIL	BARRELS			375	740	1984	1082	4181	34080
FROZEN MEAT	M/TONS				204	470	387	1061	79622
MEAT MEAL	M/TONS	4633	5705	7431	3976	6369	7037	35151	146463
BONE MEAL	TONS								
SOLUBLES	TONS								
MEAT EXTRACT	TONS								
FINNERS	TONS								
SPERM TEETH	LBS.								

TOTAL £566,096

P.T.O.

205

WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER

NAME OF CATCHER	BLUE	FIN	SEI	SPERM	OTHER	TOTAL
"Busen 1"		22	35	6		63
"Busen 3"		53	54	3		110
"Busen 4"		60	36	19		115
"Busen 5"		77	80	33		190
"Busen 6"		60	69	12		141
"Busen 7"		66	57	20		143
"Busen 10" B.B.		7				7
Replaeed 20/1/59 with						
"Busen 2" B.B.			1			1
<b>T O T A L</b>		<b>345</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>93</b>		<b>770</b>

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

TØNSBERGS HVALFANGERI

Date 1st April, 1959.

*M. S. Ellsen*

Manager.



Fail from 232.

Y.H. 246  
232 for information

D  
17/8  
1959.

247

Read with notes  
10/9/59.

Y.H.  
232-245.

17/8  
D

On information.

2. A.O. has brought out most of the  
Salvage points in his 232 - these could  
be used for the covering of T to S/S -  
except that we will have to tone down  
his para. 6 of 233 on Whaling Inspectors.  
His findings are probably right but we  
are obliged to employ them by International  
Agreement.

D  
17/8  
1959.

249.

Act. C.S.

1. I think perhaps we can  
let them go "as are" with the  
briefest of covering savings just  
forwarding for information. Let Min  
of Ag and Fish do the thinking.

2. Thank to A.O. personally

250  
Attach as at para 1 of (249) R 15/8/59

17/8



251

MS  
Drafts of *den.*

18.8.59.

F. I. ref: D/4/50/11

C. O. ref:

SAVING TELEGRAM.

*From:* The Officer Administering the Government of the Falkland Islands.

*To:* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*Date:* 19th August, 1959.

*No.* 28. SAVING. DEPENDENCIES.

South Georgia Whaling Report 1958/59 Season.

I enclose for information five copies of the report on the 1958/59 whaling season at South Georgia.

OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT.



## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY

125  
252 B

TEL. WORMLEY 370, 371 &amp; 372

RLY. STATION: WITLEY

WORMLEY, NR. GODALMING,  
SURREY.

13th November, 1959

OUR REF.

YOUR REF.

H.P. Hall, Esq.,  
Colonial Office,  
The Church House,  
Great Smith Street,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

*Rec in  
F.I.D. Whaling  
W. Hall  
This was sent - Whaling - F.I.D.*

*54/57/02*

Dear Hall,

In our telephone conversation this morning I mentioned an enquiry from the MAF about para. 5 of the recent report on the whaling season of 1958-59 at South Georgia. This raised the question of a comparison between pregnancy ratios at South Georgia and in pelagic catches. It occurs to me now that the question of local pregnancy ratios is worth a little more comment, apart from comparison with pelagic catches, so perhaps it is appropriate to write to you, and I will send a copy of this letter to the MAF.

I do not think we can attach very much significance at the present stage to the apparent increase in the pregnancy ratio noted in para. 4, though it is a point that is certainly worth watching.

(a) If the inspectors took a hand in recording pregnancies they may, for all we know, have done the work more thoroughly and for this reason found more foetuses. Thus we cannot be sure that the increased ratio is real.

(b) If it is a real increase it is not necessarily significant. Exceptional conditions in this season may have led to an unusual distribution of pregnant and non pregnant whales. Thus we could not be sure that there was a real increase in the ratio in the local population as a whole.

(c) I do not think we can at present make a valid comparison with the ratio of pregnancies at S. Georgia and the pelagic catches. We find a higher percentage pregnant in the pelagic catches, but this is based on adult females which must be distinguished from the immature. The ratio will of course appear to be lower if it is the percentage pregnant among all females.

(d) Any such ratios are liable to fluctuate from season to season, and we therefore look for trends over several seasons. If the pregnancy ratio, calculated in the same way, is up again next season, then it would be more suggestive.

(e) The S. Georgia whalers probably sample the population rather differently

AFRIC

16 NOV 1959

REGISTRY

15 5 4 6  
20

from the pelagic whales, and we should not expect the composition of the catches as a rule to be quite the same. It would be difficult also to make any calculated allowance for the different operational conditions. All the same the existence of a difference in the composition of the catches may be inevitable.

It is true that one prefers the burden of taxation of the stock to fall rather on the resting than on the pregnant whales. On the other hand we have some reason to think that population of whales may increase the frequency of pregnancy, possibly as an indirect reaction to reduction through being hunted.

Apart from this I do not think there is anything in the report which I need specially comment on, though such reports contain items of information which we very much like to have in our records.

Yours sincerely,

Manuel Borchgrevink

Saving

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To the Officer Administering the Government of FALKLAND ISLANDS  
(DEPENDENCIES)

Date 21 DEC 1959

No. 20 Saving



252

Your savingram No. 28 Dependencies of 19th August.

South Georgia Whaling Report 1958/59 Season.

255

I enclose copies of letters from the National Institute of Oceanography and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in which they comment on the above report.

256

SECEP.

254

Enc. Shd. copy this to A.O.S.G.

Q

29.12.59.

254A

Ref. 254.

Copies of 253-257 sent to A.O., S.G.

FH.

4/1/60.

COPY

233

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
FISHERIES AND FOOD.

FGB 1476B  
FST 54/57/102

10 Whitehall Place  
London, S.W.1.

20th November 1959

Dear Whitefield,

You sent us on 26th October copies of the report of the Administrative Officer and Senior Whaling Inspector, South Georgia, on the whaling operations in the Falkland Islands Dependencies in the 1958/59 season.

Mackintosh of the N.I.O. has already commented in his letter of 13th November to Hall, on the pregnancy ratios in the South Georgia and pelagic catches. This point has been raised by the Administrative Officer in para. 5 of his report. He may also have expected some repercussions from the last part of para. 6 but we feel in the circumstances that it would be wiser to refrain from comment.

We are grateful, however, for the opportunity of seeing the reports.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) H.E. Cox

H.E. COX

G.H. Whitefield Esq.,  
Colonial Office,  
Great Smith Street  
London S.W.1.



## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Wormley, Nr. Godalming,  
Surrey,

13th November 1959

H.P. Hall Esq.,  
Colonial Office  
The Church House  
Great Smith Street,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

Dear Hall,

In our telephone conversation this morning I mentioned an enquiry from the MAFF about para. 5 of the recent report on the whaling season of 1958-59 at South Georgia. This raised the question of a comparison between pregnancy ratios at South Georgia and in pelagic catches. It occurs to me now that the question of local pregnancy ratios is worth a little more comment, apart from comparison with pelagic catches, so perhaps it is appropriate to write to you, and I will send a copy of this letter to the MAFF.

I do not think we can attach very much significance at the present stage to the apparent increase in the pregnancy ratio noted in para. 4, though it is a point that is certainly worth watching.

(a) If the inspectors took a hand in recording pregnancies they may, for all we know, have done the work more thoroughly and for this reason found more fetuses. Thus we cannot be sure that the increased ratio is real.

(b) If it is a real increase it is not necessarily significant. Exceptional conditions in this season may have led to an unusual distribution of pregnant and non pregnant whales. Thus we could not be sure that there was a real increase in the ratio in the local population as a whole.

(c) I do not think we can at present make a valid comparison with the ratio of pregnancies at S. Georgia and the pelagic catches. We find a higher percentage pregnant in the pelagic catches, but this is based on adult females which must be distinguished from the immature. The ratio will of course appear to be lower if it is the percentage pregnant among all females

(d) Any such ratios are liable to fluctuate from season to season, and we therefore look for trends over several seasons. If the pregnancy ratio, calculated in the same way, is up again next season, then it would be more suggestive.

(e) The S. Georgia whalers probably sample the population rather differently from the pelagic whalers, and we should not expect the composition of the catches as a rule to be quite the same. It would be difficult also to make any calculated allowances for the different operational conditions. All the same the existence of a difference in the composition of the catcher may be instructive.

It



257

It is true that one prefers the burden of taxation of the stock to fall rather on the resting than on the pregnant whales. On the other hand we have some reason to think that populations of whales may increase the frequencies of pregnancy, possibly as an indirect reaction to reduction through being hunted.

Apart from this I do not think there is anything in the report which I need specially comment on, though such reports contain items of information which we very much like to have in our records.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) W.A. Mackintosh

Mail from 252A

*[Handwritten initials]*

A



King Edward Point,  
South Georgia.

12th April 1960.

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary,  
Port Stanley,  
Falkland Islands.

Sir,

Whaling Report, Season 1959/60  
-----

I have the honour to submit Whaling Report for the season 1959/60 together with Company reports, Whaling Inspectors' and Senior Whaling Inspector's reports.

It is regretted that my report is not as detailed as I would wish but it had to be compiled in between shipping and customs duties at Leith Harbour. I have confined the report to the commercial aspects of the industry and the future prospects. The biological data is incorporated in the Whaling Inspectors' reports and could be copied for the departments concerned.

As the "John Biscoe" is expected to call here on the 15th May I thought it best to get the company reports out on that mail rather than wait until June, and trust that this meets with your approval.

The final figures for oil production are as follows:-

Husvik	26150	-	£307836	
Grytviken	40500	-	£459969	
Leith	<u>31023</u>	-	<u>£371228</u>	
Barrels	<u>97673</u>		<u>£1139033</u>	Value

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

Administrative Officer,  
South Georgia.

WHALING REPORT SEASON 1959/60

11th April 1960

This season is the first since 1945/46 when the oil production has been below the 100,000 mark. In that year it was 78,882 and the whales taken were in very poor condition resulting in the average production per whale being very low. Also, in that year, Tonsberg did not begin operating until 7th December. The South Georgia Company operated with a reduced number of catchers and closed down for a month. Compania Argentina de Pesca did not begin operating until 16th October.

This season's production figure 97,673 can be attributed to the usual bad weather experienced round the coast of South Georgia plus periods of up to 14 days when no whaling was possible. However, I do not think the bad weather is the complete answer when searching for the reason for this extremely poor season, and I would rather judge it on individual company results.

Tonsberg had an exceptionally bad season, due to the already mentioned bad weather plus the fact that of the 6 gunners, only 3 were considered to be good gunners. Another cause was the engines of the catchers, as the vessels were often undergoing mechanical repairs. Then, having spent some time in port, the gunners must justify themselves and stayed out in weather in which fishing was impossible and in spite of every indication that the weather would continue bad for some days. When the weather did improve and other stations were catching, the Tonsberg catchers had to come in for bunkers and stores and so missed some of the few possible fishing days.

It is apparent that the large refrigerating plant at Husvik for the supply of frozen meat to Petfoods, is not the success that was at first envisaged. The plant itself is good but the venture is not. For example, it appears that the South Georgia Company could afford to buy the Tonsberg meat in South Georgia for the same price as paid by Petfoods after delivery in England. (From that price Tonsberg would have to deduct cost of handling, freights, etc.) The South Georgia Co. would then put the meat through their extract and meal plants and after delivery to England make a profit of £12 per ton. It is doubtful if Tonsberg make very much more.

In so far as oil production is concerned, South Georgia Company have had a poor year but financial results are quite fair when one takes into account the 326 tons of meat extract valued at £261,040. In previous years, before the meat extract plant was in operation, an equivalent final profit on oil production would have required approximately 53,000 barrels, quite a good season's result. The Company were unfortunate in having their leading gunner, Karre Lie, break his leg towards the end of October and a new and untried gunner had to take his place.

Pesca undoubtedly have the best island gunners and the manager was quite satisfied with the 40,500 barrels of oil their catch produced. Not a good season, maybe, but taken together with the seal oil production of 12,000 barrels, quite satisfactory. This company have already started on the construction of a meat extract plant and hope to have it operating next season.

Apart from the weather and the points already mentioned, another disadvantage this season has been the fact that up until February whales were a long way off the island, catchers operating up to 300 miles away. The whales were of good quality when caught but due to the long tow they deteriorated by the time they reached the stations. This particularly affected Tonsberg when good quality meat was essential for freezing. In the latter part of the season Sei whales were being caught from 40 to 80 miles off the island. These whales yielded good oil production and surprisingly good meat.

Asdic was again a subject of considerable discussion. Pesca tried to obtain permission to use the Scarer part of their sets. This part of the equipment would not locate a whale, but when one was sighted and the Scarer used on him, he would run straight and so be easier to catch. The question was raised concerning Factory ships with their Asdic fitted catchers operating 200 to 300 miles off South Georgia and fishing in what could be termed island waters. The South Georgia catchers were fishing amongst these Factory catchers and had Helicopters flying over them spotting for the Factories. This, I think, is a subject on which the last has not been heard, and I would refer to my letter on the subject. I would hazard a guess that pressure will be brought to bear on the Government to lift the ban on Asdic. I think it will be a difficult situation with questions on territorial waters figuring largely in the matter.

On the trend in whaling generally as it affects South Georgia. In the years when oil barrel production was the yardstick by which the prosperity of the industry was judged, meat extract, meals etc., were not a consideration. Now, however, the picture is changed and taking the South Georgia Company's figures for an example, the value of the oil this season is £371,228 and of by-products £517,344.

The impression given by the whaling company managers, gunners, etc., is that the industry is on the wane. Both in island and Pelagic fishing results have been generally poor in so far as the number of whales caught is concerned. They view the future with grave concern and whilst, as in all fishing, there is an element of luck, and next season may well be a good one, it would certainly appear that whales are harder to get, and what is equally important, more expensive to catch. Equipment, personnel, etc., all costs more, whilst whale oil prices have not increased proportionately.

This may be a definite stage in the history of whaling so far as South Georgia is concerned. A slight reduction in the Company Tax on whale oil could be an important factor in decisions that will undoubtedly have to be made in many board rooms, should next season be as hard as this.



Administrative Officer,  
South Georgia.

Leith Harbour,  
South Georgia,  
1/4/60.

263

Captain Coleman,  
Administrative Officer,  
King Edward Point,  
South Georgia.

Sir,

I enclose a copy of my season report also a list of specimens collected for the Oceanography Institute and the Natural History Museum.

I am,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

*L. Manser*  
Whaling Inspector.



Report on whaling season 1/10/59 to 31/3/60.

Fin Whale.

From observations of the Fin whale it was found that of 84 females taken in October only 26 were pregnant, of 38 in November only 11 were pregnant, of 47 in December only 19 were pregnant, of 53 in January only 6 were pregnant, of 13 in February only 3, were pregnant, and of 0 taken in March only 0 were pregnant, this shows a very small percentage of pregnancy for the amount of females taken. Of the barren females for October 15 were under 65 feet, for November 15, for December 13, for January 29, for February 6, and for March 0, proving that the Fin is not mature until it reaches a length of 65 feet.

Although the breeding season is from April to July, and the period between pregnancy is two years we have had cases here which prove that the breeding habits of the Fin is very elastic. Firstly, on the 3rd. October a 73 foot female was on the plan and it was found to contain a 15 foot male foetus, which must have been conceived somewhere about January of this year. Secondly, on the 20th. December a 74 foot female was on the plan and from outward appearances it would seem to be a milk whale, but after the speckk had been removed and deep cuts made in and around the breasts very little milk was found, but the flesh round the breasts was white. When the calf bag was opened it was found to contain a 4 foot foetus, which proves the whale can be pregnant while still lactating.

On the 20th. December a Fin whale plan number 228, length 72 feet was killed. When the back bone was taken to the bone loft a Colonial office dart No. 11023 was found about 15 feet from the tail. The flesh round the dart being badly decayed formed a large wound.

On the 31st. December a 74 foot female Fin was hauled on the plan I noticed a swelling about 4 feet long on either side and about 9 feet from the tail, the tail had been badly damaged but the skin had grown over the damage. When the speckk was taken off, the flesh round the swelling was nearly white, very fatty and sinewy, some of the sinews being three inches in diameter. It was found impossible to cut the flesh away from the swelling, so it was sent to the bone loft, where I followed and had one of the bone sawmen cut the effected part into small pieces. It was found that there were two bones, one overlapping the other, and each tapered from approx. 2 feet to about 6 to 9 inches, in between the bones were a l<sub>e</sub>

of brown fibre and small pieces of bone about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The sawman stated he had never before found so hard a bone in the back, it was even harder than the head.

There was no sign of a harpoon wound so with the tail being damaged, the wound must have been caused by other means, but it seems amazing that the animal could have lived with a broken back.

---

#### Blue Whale.

Only 3 Blue whales have been caught this season, but past seasons have proved that the Blue whale is becoming very rare in the area of South Georgia.

---

#### Sei Whale.

Of the 163 females taken only 55 were pregnant. No whales under 48 feet pregnant, although only 9 females were under 48 feet it would seem that the Sei is not mature until it reaches that length. Of the 29 females taken in January only 13 were pregnant, of the 87 taken in February only 32 were pregnant, and of 47 taken in March only 10 were pregnant.

Although the Sei whale is not very large and there is not a large amount of oil produced from them, they play a big part at the land stations during the last three months of the season when the Blue and Fin whales have moved south to the ice. They are usually caught much closer to the island and therefore the whale has not deteriorated very much and a good grade of oil is obtained.

---

#### Stomach Contents.

Very few of the Baleen whales taken at Leith have had a full or medium full stomach.

It is recognised that the whales caught for the first two months of the season, the stomach contents is very sparse, and the subsequent four months the amount of Krill in the stomach is much greater, but so far there has not been any difference. A large amount of Krill has been sighted in all months by the catchers. The stomach contents of the Sperm was also very sparse, but in all cases it could have been caused by the length of time from killing to hauling on the plan.

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#### Post Mortem.

The average post mortem for the Fin has been about 35 hours,

and the Sei about 22 hours.

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#### Antibiotic.

Two types of antibiotic have been used Acronize and Biostat which in the first part of the season was injected into the stomach, but it was found that injecting the antibiotic in the area behind the stomach better results were gained. One Fin whale had a P.M. of over 48 hours, but when hauled on the plan the meat was found to be in good condition.

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#### Length of Whales.

Blue. Only 3 Blue whales have been taken this season, the largest being 88 feet.

Fin. 370 Fin whales were taken this season, of these 121 were 70 feet or more. The largest female was 80 feet, the largest male 73 feet.

Sperm. 38 Sperm whales were taken all being males, the largest was 54 feet.

Sei. 310 Sei whales were taken, of these 168 were 50 feet or more. The largest female was 56 feet, the largest male 53 feet.

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#### Position of Whales.

For the first two months of the season the whales were caught in the N.E. area of the island, a few in the NW., but in December to the East and South, in January to the SW. and NW., February the NW., and March NE. and SE.

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#### Weather.

The weather has been very bad this season, and 67 days were non-fishing days on account of gales and fog.

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*R. Manse*  
*Whaling Inspector*

Species and number of whales taken each month.

<u>October.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
Fin.	26	84	<u>Total 110.</u>

Females with Foetus 26.  
Size of Foetus ranged between 1'0" to 15'0".

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
Blue.	0	2	<u>Total 2.</u>

Females with Foetus 1.  
Size of Foetus 1'6".

Sperm 1 Male.

<u>November.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
Fin.	33	38	<u>Total 71.</u>

Females with Foetus 11.  
Size of Foetus ranged between 1'6" to 5'0".

Sperm 1 Male.

<u>December.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
Fin.	25	47	<u>Total 72.</u>

Females with Foetus 19.  
Size of Foetus ranged between 2'6" to 9'0".

Sperm 3 Males.

<u>January.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
Fin.	44	53	<u>Total 97.</u>

Females with Foetus 6.  
Size of Foetus ranged between 2'0" to 13'0".

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
Sei.	24	29	<u>Total 53.</u>

Females with Foetus 13.  
Size of Foetus ranged between 3'0" to 10'0".

Sperm 21 Males.

February.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
Fin.	7	13	<u>Total 20.</u>

Females with Foetus 3.

Size of Foetus ranged between 7'0" to 11'0".

Sei.	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
	91	87	<u>Total. 178</u>

Females with Foetus 32.

Size of Foetus ranged between 4'0" to 12'0".

Sperm 6 Males.March.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
Blue	0	1	<u>Total 1</u>

Female with Foetus Nil. Short whale.

Sei.	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
	32	47	<u>Total 79.</u>

Females with Foetus 10.

Size of Foetus ranged between 6'0" to 13'0".

Sperm 6 Males.

*L. Munser*  
*Whaling Inspector*

Details of Sperm whales taken Season 1959 - 60.

- 16/10/59. Length. 48 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 38.  
 Few scars on head or body.  
 Contents of stomach. Heads, Arms, Tentacles, Beaks, Eyes and other small parts of the squid. ( Specimens taken.)
- 13/11/59. Length. 52 feet. Blubber 0'7". No. of teeth 42.  
 Few scars on body.  
 Contents of stomach. Heads, Arms, Pens, Beaks, also other small parts of the squid. ( Specimens taken.)
- 27/12/59. Length. 52 feet. Blubber 0'7". No. of teeth 40.  
 No scars on head or body.  
 Contents of stomach. Nothing but a few small beaks and brown liquid.
- 28/12/59. Length. 47 feet. Blubber 0'7". No. of teeth 36.  
 No scars on head or body.  
 Contents of stomach. Completely full of beaks and worms.
- 29/12/59. Length. 46 feet. Blubber 0'7½". No. of teeth 38.  
 Few scars on head or body.  
 Contents of stomach. Heads, Arms, Tentacles, Beaks, Eyes and other small parts of the squid.
- 6/1/60. Length. 49 feet. Blubber 0'7". No. of teeth 42.  
 No scars on head or body.  
 Contents of stomach. A few beaks, Eyes, and worms.  
 ( Specimens taken.)
- FROM the 8/1/60 to 12/1/60 Nine Sperm taken but no record on account of illness.
- 28/1/60. Length 54 feet. Blubber 0'7". No. of teeth 46.  
 Few scars on head or body.  
 Contents of stomach. A few beaks and worms.
- 29/1/60 Length. 46 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 38.  
 No scars on head or body.  
 Contents of stomach. A few beaks and worms.
- 29/1/60 Length. 44 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 38.  
 Few scars on head or body.  
 Contents of stomach. A few beaks and worms and other small parts of the squid.

29/1/60. Length. 44 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 40.

Few scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. Full of beaks and worms.

29/1/60. Length. 46 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 36.

No scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. Full of beaks and worms.

29/1/60. Length. 45 feet. Blubber 0'6½". No. of teeth. 36.

Few scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. Beaks, Worms and small parts of the squid.

29/1/60. Length. 47 feet. Blubber 0'6½". No. of teeth 40.

Few scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. A few beaks and worms.

29/1/60. Length. 46 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 38.

No scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. A few beaks and worms.

29/1/60. Length. 45 feet. Blubber 0'5½". No. of teeth 36.

Few scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. A few beaks and worms.

29/1/60. Length. 48 feet. Blubber 0'6½". No. of teeth. 40.

Few scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. Beaks, Eyes, Worms, Arms and other small parts, also one large crown complete with arms and two small crowns complete with arms. ( Specimens taken ).

3/2/60. Length. 45 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 48.

No scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. Small beaks and worms.

3/2/60. Length 44 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 52.

No scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. Three small crowns complete with arms, also other small parts of the squid. ( Specimens taken ).

8/2/60 Length. 48 feet. Blubber 0'7". No. of teeth 48 in lower jaw, and 8 small in upper jaw.

Few scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. A few beaks and worms.

8/2/60 Length 49 feet. Blubber 0'7". No. of teeth 46.

Deep scars on head.

Contents of stomach. A few beaks and worms.



8/2/60 Length 49 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. Of teeth 44.

Few scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. A few beaks and worms.

24/2/60 Length 53 feet. Blubber, back 0'5", behind lower jaw 0'11".

No. of teeth 48 very large.

Many scars on head.

Contents of stomach. Nil.

13/3/60 Length 49 feet. Blubber 0'7". No. of teeth 47.

Many deep scars on head.

Contents of stomach. Many heads complete with arms and tentacles

Two complete squids( medium size). Bodies, beaks and worms.

Specimens taken.

13/3/60 Length 51 feet. Blubber 0'8". No. of teeth 40.

Few scars on head.

Contents of stomach. Heads, Arms, Beaks and other small parts of the squid.

25/3/60 Length 44 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 47.

No scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. Heads, Bodies, arms and Beaks.

25/3/60 Length 41 feet. Blubber 0'6". No. of teeth 30 Jaw broken.

No scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. Heads, Arms, Beaks and other small parts of theSquid.

25/3/60 Length 41 feet. Blubber 0'5". No. of teeth 48.

Few scars on head.

Contents of stomach. A few beaks and small parts of the Squid.

26/3/60 Length 50 feet. Blubber 0'7". No. of teeth 47.

Few scars on head or body.

Contents of stomach. Heads , Arms, Beaks and Worms.

*J. M. Murre*

*Whaling Inspector*

Grytviken.

Season 1959/60.

1/10/59 to 31/59.

Administrative Officer,  
King Edward Point,  
South Georgia.

Sir,  
Further to the Senior Whaling Inspector's report for the half season. In the above station, the catch has been below average. The main cause has been the adverse weather conditions. At one stage, a period of fourteen days elapsed without a single whale being caught by any of the three whaling stations. The above station is fortunate in the fact that their catch of seal oil will help to supplement, what is to date, a very poor season. Five of the catchers here are fitted with Asdic. An order was issued before the season began, forbidding the use of Asdic during the season, and that sets were to be rendered inoperative. This was carried out by removing the High Voltage panel. In this way the sets could not be used either for detecting or frightening the whale, and also allowed for a 'warming up' routine to be carried out, so as to prevent damage to the equipment by condensation, due to lack of use.

<sup>ose</sup> Production to date is 19,331 barrels of whale oil.  
810.4 Tons of bone meal.  
2053.8 " " Meat "

This is the result of a catch of 335 whales. Of these, 325 were Fin whales, of which 215 were females, 68 being pregnant. 59 of the foetus were male, the largest measuring 18'. Only 5 blue whales have so far been taken, (2 female 3 male). Sperm whales have also been scarce with only 2 being caught, and the stomach contents of both whales was practically nil. December seems early for Sei whales but 2 were brought in, 1 male 1 female.

In general the females have been much larger than the males. No short whales have been recorded so far. The catchers have been operating at distances of 250 miles and over from the island. From positions plotted on the charts provided, the whales appeared over the last three months, from N.E. to E, and down to the S.W.

Early in the season the towing boat 'Narvhal' damaged her shell plating, when she ran on to a rock, and has been in dock undergoing repairs. The 'Foca' was hurriedly pressed into service, and has been doing very good work, in spite of her age. The company's transport, the M.V. 'Calpean Star' has been alongside since her arrival at start of season, and has been loading bone meal, and meat meal, when production will allow.

Tragedy marred the season, just before Christmas, when the Chief Officer on R5, was crushed by a whale, whilst taking it alongside. He died shortly after, and was brought back to the station. In spite of the absence of a priest, the church service and the burial service, was all that could be desired, and conducted with all reverence. It was amazing, on an island where the only flowers to be seen are in a greenhouse, how many floral tributes there were. The arrival of R.N.S. Shackleton made a break. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Denton-Thomson arrived on her, and an opportunity to meet him, was afforded during an informal evening, arranged by the Administrative Officer, King Edward

Point.

*D. Thomson Inspector.*

Grytviken.

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End of season report 1959/60, ending 31/5/60.

The second half of the season was much better, than the period from October 1st until December 31st, 1959. Weather were much improved, and except for a few days at the end of March, the catches were not held up by weather conditions. More whales were taken, the majority of which were Sei whales. A high percentage of the female of this species were pregnant. Only one Blue was taken, a female measuring eighty feet. Sperm whales were more in evidence, thirty one, as against two in the first half of the season. The stomach contents of the first two sperm, were almost nil. The last catch of sperm whales yielded some interesting specimens of squid and octopus from the stomachs, in various stages of digestion.

A number of these were collected for the National Institute of Oceanography. This did not in any way interfere with the job of inspection and measuring of whales.

Three short whales were logged in the last three months and nine whales were lost, in flag and during towing in rough weather. No milk-filled whales were observed throughout the season. The requisite forms for interactions have been completed, and delivered to the Administrative Officer, King Edward Point, with copies also to the Manager, Compania Argentina de Pesca.

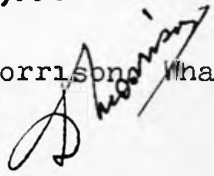
The buoy boat 'Foca' which took 'Narval's' place at the early part of the season sailed, in company with 'Narval' (recently unocked after extensive repairs) on the 28th. March for Buenos Aires.

No. of whales- 923. (An increase of three on last season.)

No. of barrels of whale oil. 40032.

No. of bags of meat and bone meal. 61,696 (15,538 bone meal, 46,158 meat meal)

D. Morrison Whaling Inspector.



Summary of the season, 1959/60.

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9  
The season here at Husvik Harbour, have been most dissapointing to all, from the whalings point of view. Everyone were very optimistic, that a good season were ahead, as the condition of ice, and plancton around the island, were plentyfull. A few whales had also been seen before the season started. The continious bad weather which we have had during the season, is partly to be blamed for the poor result. Some trouble developed with some of the catchers during the season, such as boiler, condenser, and engine, and they had to come in for repairs. A rather serious thing happen to the "Busen 3" steaming through the Bird-sound, they went on the rocks. The catcher managed to get down to Strømnes, but just in time. When the catcher were docked, great damage to the hull were discovered. A temporary plate were welded on, but the catcher lost 7 days fishing. Together with the days lost, due to bad weather, it all adds up to weeks. The "Busen 3" had 2 Gunners, half season each. Refer to my list for each individual Gunners result. The whales this season have been rather far out. The catcher have had to steam anything up to 250 miles and more, before they have seen any whales. The towing of the whales back to the station, have been a most difficult task, as they have had 2 or 3 different gales of wind, before reaching harbour. The catches during the season, have mainly been made in the following directions, N. and N.E. of G. Saunders, and S.W. of Willis Is. The whales for the first half of the season, consisted only finwhales, but for a couple of spermwhales, and a couple of seiwhales. The finwhales were of a very poor quality, but for a few good specimen. The whales for the second half of the season, have been mostly Seiwhales, but for a few finwhales, and a few sperm. The seiwhales have been rather of a good quality, and I refer to my list for a more detailed information, about production. The antibiotica have been a very valuable stuff to use, in keeping the meat fresh. We had whales here during the season which were 50 hrs. old, from the time of killing, but the meat were in a perfect good condition. On the other hand where the stuff had not been used, the meat of those whales could not be used, even after only 19 hrs.

During the season when the men were not engaged with whales, some improvement have been made to the station.

A canal have been made to divert the floodwater.

8 new tubular masts for the wireless-station.

4 new 2berths room completed for the crew.

Busen 8" were hauled up on the slipway, and the boiler taken out.

After the boiler was out, the catcher got sunk, inside the Tønsberg Point.

During the season I have collected a few items for the

National Institute of oceanography, and the men here have been very cooperative in helping me getting those things. I wish to mention 2

men in particular. I st. Plan forman Jerpen, and Bonesaw Forman,

Karl Lundberg. Enclosing a list over the items collected.

The last few days of the season, since the arrival of the Teie,

the loading have been going on 24Hrs. a day. As this station is to

be closed down, order from the company is, to take home all stuff of

value, which they can not dispose of down here, to any of the other

2 whaling stations.

*R. Wetterstad*  
Whaling Inspector,

Husvik Harbour,

South Georgia.

Season 1959 - 60.

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Days without any Whales,

Oct. 3 - 4 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 11 - 12 - 13 - 15 - 16 - 19 - 20 - 22 - 30.

"

Total 14 days.

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Nov. 2 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 10 - 12 - 13 - 14 - 15 - 19 - 20 - 25 -

"

26 - 27 - 28 - 29 - 30.

Total 19 days.

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Dec. 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 13 - 15 - 21 - 23 - 24 - 25 - 31.

"

Total 15 days.

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Jan. 1 - 2 - 11 - 12 - 14 - 22 - 23 - 27 - 28.

Total 9 days.

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Feb. 1 - 3 - 5 - 14 - 15 - 19 - 26.

Total 7 days.

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Mar. 6 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 12 - 14 - 17 - 21 - 22 - 23 - 27 - 28 - 29 -

" ( 30 - 31 ) ?

Total 13 days.

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Total 77 days.

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*A. Wetterstad*

Whaling Inspector,  
Husvik Harbour,  
South Georgia.

South Georgia, Season 1959/60.

I	Earplug	from a 75 ft. female fin,	killed	10/10/59.	Apr. Pos. 52 S. 34 W.
2	"	" " 72 "	" " " "	18/10/59.	" " 51 S. 33 W.
I	"	" " 77 "	" " " "	19/10/59.	" " 51 S. 33 W.
I	"	" " 62 "	male " "	21/10/59.	" " 52 S. 34 W.
I	"	" " 63 "	" " " "	21/10/59.	" " 52 S. 34 W.
I	"	" " 72 "	female " "	25/10/59.	" " 51 S. 35 W.
I	"	" " 75 "	" " " "	25/10/59.	" " 51 S. 35 W.
I	"	" " 71 "	" " " "	3/11/59.	" " 51 S. 33 W.
I	"	" " 64 "	" " " "	23/11/59.	" " 52 S. 40 W.
I	"	" " 70 "	male " "	30/12/59.	" " 52 S. 40 W.
I	"	" " 66 "	" " " "	5/1/60.	" " 56 S. 35 W.
I	"	" " 78 "	female " "	7/1/60.	" " 56 S. 40 W.
I	"	" " 67 "	male " "	8/1/60.	" " 56 S. 42 W.
I	"	" " 68 "	female " "	10/1/60.	" " 56 S. 41 W.
I	"	" " 60 "	male " "	10/1/60.	" " 56 S. 40 W.
I	"	" " 67 "	female " "	10/1/60.	" " 56 S. 40 W.
I	"	" " 78 "	" " " "	13/1/60.	" " 56 S. 40 W.
I	"	" " 72 "	" " " "	13/1/60.	" " 56 S. 40 W.
I	"	" " 54 "	" " " "	13/1/60.	" " 56 S. 40 W.
I/2	brain	" " 72 "	" " " "	22/11/59.	" " 52 S. 35 W.
I	"	" " 69 "	male " "	17/1/59.	" " 56 S. 40 W.



Collected by R. Wetterstad, Whaling Inspector, Husvik Harbour.

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South Georgia, season 1959/60.

No. 1	male spermwhale	52 ft.	killed	16/II/59.	apr. pos.	54 S.	39 W.
" 2	"	48 "	"	27/II/59.	" "	54 S.	39 W.
" 3	"	52 "	"	7/I/60.	" "	58 S.	34 W.
" 4	"	51 "	"	7/I/60.	" "	58 S.	34 W.
" 5	"	50 "	"	7/I/60.	" "	58 S.	34 W.

The contents from each different whales stomachs, is put in different bags, and marked with a metal disc, from no. 1 and upwards.

Referring to this list in the order the bags is marked.

The odd thing which was found in the spermwhale marked no. 1 is kept in a glass jar.

The big cannister contains the brain of the 69 ft. male finwhale,  
The small cannister contains the brain of the 72 ft. female finwhale.

Season 1959/60.

Average Post Mortem.

Average pr. Week.		Total Average.
Week ended	Total hrs.	Total hrs.
3/10	15 Hrs. 52 min.	
10/10	20 " 29 "	17 Hrs. 15 min.
17/10	18 " 22 "	17 " 35 "
24/10	35 " 00 "	27 " 36 "
31/10	41 " 47 "	37 " 35 "
7/11	38 " 43 "	37 " 45 "
14/11	34 " 06 "	37 " 27 "
21/11	31 " 47 "	38 " 35 "
28/11	40 " 45 "	37 " 29 "
12/12	33 " 38 "	37 " 05 "
19/12	29 " 59 "	36 " 31 "
26/12	30 " 31 "	36 " 17 "
2/1	35 " 47 "	36 " 13 "
9/1	21 " 51 "	35 " 46 "
16/1	35 " 16 "	35 " 43 "
23/1	35 " 59 "	35 " 44 "
30/1	28 " 38 "	35 " 11 "
6/2	27 " 10 "	34 " 16 "
13/2	25 " 54 "	33 " 15 "
20/2	20 " 15 "	32 " 02 "
27/2	19 " 25 "	31 " 03 "

Whaling Inspector.

*R. Wetterstad*

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South Georgia,  
Falkland Island Dependency.

1st April, 1960.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the following report on the 1959/60 Whaling Season at South Georgia :-

1. Companies Operating. The following three companies applied for and were granted licences for the season, which began on the 1st October, 1959, and ended on the 31st March, 1960.

- (1) The South Georgia Co.Ltd., Leith Harbour - Manager Sverre Akseth.
- (2) Compania Argentina de Pesca, S.A. Grytviken - Manager Fritz Ringdal.
- (3) Tønsberg Hvalfangeri, A/S, Husvik Harbour - Manager Nils Olson.

2. Weather. The weather has been the worst in memory; this has certainly hindered fishing and the poor results obtained can be mainly attributed to the elements. There have been continuous high winds, frequently reaching gale force and for 77 days, up to the 16th December, 1959, Husvik had 43 days without whales. During this period a whole fortnight elapsed without a whale being taken on any of the three stations. This state of affairs is unprecedented in the history of whaling in South Georgia.

3. Operational Field. For the period 1st October to the end of November, 1959, whalecatchers from the three stations operated mainly to the North of the Island, ranging from 140 to 200 miles and sometimes up to 250 miles. During December the catchers transferred to South of the Island ranging from 160 to 200 miles from the stations. From 1st January catchers reverted to North East to North West for the Sei whale fishing, distances ranging from 40 to 100 miles.

4. Asdic. On instructions from the Falkland Islands Government, Asdic in South Georgia was declared illegal, and the Whaling Inspector at Grytviken, on the authority of the Administrator, immobilised the Asdic sets in the Grytviken catchers (The South Georgia Co.Ltd., and Tønsberg Hvalfangeri catchers are not fitted with Asdic). The Grytviken sets were rendered inactive both from a detection and from a 'frightening' point of view. It was so arranged that a 'warming up' routine could be carried out in order that no damage to the equipment could result from condensation.

5. Radar. All whalecatchers are fitted with Radar.

6. Shore Stations.

(1) Leith Harbour. Improvements have been made to the roads by laying concrete surfaces. Canals have been constructed to deal with flood water. A smart new hen house has been built! Major repairs have been carried out to the dam; this huge project took over three months to complete with excellent results. The sailing of the transport 'SOUTHERN OPAL' early in January was postponed as there was insufficient whale oil to uplift from the factories to justify the trip. She subsequently sailed for the ice on 2nd February and returned to Stromness on the 8th February (discharging Whale Oil at Stromness). She sailed on her second trip to the Factories on the 27th February, returning on the 24th March. Transport vessel 'SOUTHERN GARDEN' arrived on the 8th December and lay for the remainder of the season at Leith Harbour

.../discharging...

discharging Fueloil and loading Station production of Meat and Bone Meal. On the 20th December, 1959, whale dart No.11023 was found in a fin whale by a Bonesawman.

(2) Stromness. Floating Docks were in continuous demand during the month of January and the following catchers were docked for repairs :

W/C THORGARD - (Thorshammer Expedition) - Damage to propeller.  
 W/C SOUTHERN BROOM-(So.Venturer Expedition) - Damage to Asdic Dome.  
 W/C SEKSEREN - (Thorshammer Expedition) - Damage to Asdic Dome.  
 W/C SOUTHERN WHEELER-(So.Harvester Expedition) - Damage to bow.  
 W/C SOUTHERN ARCHER -(So.Venturer Expedition) - Damage to bow.  
 W/C SOUTHERN BRIAR - (So.Harvester Expedition) - Damage to Asdic Dome.  
 W/C SOUTHERN RIDER - (So.Harvester Expedition) - Damage to Hull and Propeller, grounded down ice whilst chasing humpback whales and was towed to Stromness by W/C SOUTHERN GEM.  
 W/C BUSEN 3 (Tønsberg Hvalfangeri) -Damage to hull after grounding in Bird Sound.

(3) Grytviken. This station is fortunate in that their catch of seal oil has been a very useful supplement to a poor whaling season. Catches have been mostly Fin and Sei Whales. Sixty eight foeti were taken, the largest measuring eighteen feet (female). Stomach contents have varied from half full to almost nothing, though quantities of krill were sighted by the catchers. Very little squid was recovered from the stomachs of sperm whales, but on the 25th February a particularly large and almost perfect specimen was recovered from a 47 feet sperm, and preserved in Formalin. This specimen will be despatched to the National Institute of Oceanography. Only six Blue Whales were taken, three female and three male.

A marker dart, No.13134 was recovered from a male fin whale, (64 Ft.long) on the 2nd October, 1959, in Lat. 52°10' South, Long. 35°01' West. It had entered the whale high on the back, in front of the dorsal fin. The flesh round the wound was slightly putrified, but only in the area of the wound.

Early in the season the Buoy Boat NARVAL struck ice, and was in dock at Grytviken for several weeks. The FOCA took her place and did valuable work in spite of her age.

Work has been in progress building a new bakery in concrete, with living quarters above. An asdic workshop has been completed and is being used for radio repairs for the time being. A 34 ton boiler has been installed; this was towed from Husvik by the sealer ALBATROSS. The CALPEAN STAR made one trip to Husvik in February/March, loading a stock of frozen meat. The rest of the production of meat was carried to Grytviken by W/C BUSEN 2 during March.

(4) Husvik Harbour. Following the very poor season, the station will in all probability, close down. Extra crew accommodation has been built near the galley. Canals have been constructed to take flood water and wireless masts have been painted red and white as identification marks for helicopters and other aircraft. Repairs to whalecatchers, generally, were frequent.

## 7. Inspectors.

(1) For the second season Inspectors were appointed, one to each of the three stations, with a Senior Inspector in charge.

(2) It would have been a great advantage had the Inspectors been officially briefed in London, and given a short course, at Government expense, before taking up their appointments. It is suggested that two or three days should be spent visiting the/

/National Institute of Oceanography at Wornley; The Natural History Museum, South Kensington, (Whale Department); and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. A Lidson Officer from the latter Department might be appointed to coordinate these visits and to give advice and assistance to the newly appointed Inspectors. He could arrange short talks on land based and pelagic whaling; on the anatomy of the whale; and give some instruction and guidance on the International Whaling Convention. Pamphlets on whaling subjects could be supplied, together with a pocket handbook, such as Norman and Fraser's Giant Fishes, Whales and Dolphins.

(3) In this way Whaling Inspectors would feel at the start, that the importance of their duties was appreciated. The knowledge gained from a short course of instruction would enable them to continue their discussions with advantage, during the voyage South and afterwards, and generally help them in their work.

(4) I am of the opinion that Whaling Inspectors, who have not previously done so, should make at least one trip in a catcher, to gain knowledge of the work and problems of the Gunner. The experience which I gained from two such trips, in very bad weather, was invaluable.

(5) Charts, showing the positions of whales taken, have been kept by each Inspector, together with a Master chart, for each month, and forwarded to the Administrative Officer.

(6) A letter of appreciation has been received from Dr.R.M. Laws, B.S.c., of the National Institute of Oceanography, for the voluntary work carried out by Inspectors in collecting squid and beaks from sperm whales, and ear plugs from fin whales, together with other material. In this connection I am very grateful to the Managers, their staffs and Plan Foremen, for their valuable help and cheerful cooperation.

(7) I suggest that consideration should be given to the appointment of Royal Navy Officers of the rank of Lieutenant Commander (Executive), as Junior Whaling Inspectors, and I strongly recommend that the post of Senior Whale Fishery Inspector should continue to be held by a Post Captain, Royal Navy.

(8) The Admiralty Naval Employment Officer is :-

Commander J.G.T.D. ATKINSON, Royal Navy,  
Queen Anne's Mansions,  
St. James' Park,  
London, S.W.1.

(9) Copy of statistics furnished by the Companies are attached.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*Casper S. B. Swinley*

Senior Whale Fishery Inspector.

U.f.s. Administrative Officer,  
South Georgia.

The Honourable,  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Port Stanley, Falkland Islands.

## F A L K L A N D I S L A N D S

WHALING SEASON...1959/60.....

South Georgia, South Shetland  
AREA & Graham Land, South Orkneys.

FACTORY Grytviken Shore Station

COMPANY Compañia Argentina de Pesca  
S/AWHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
BLUE	3	1	1	-	-	1	6
FIN	142	81	101	100	34	5	463
SEI	-	-	2	61	205	153	421
SPERM	1	-	1	8	23	-	33
OTHER							
TOTAL	146	82	105	169	262	159	923

PRODUCTION (TO NEAREST UNIT)

DESCR	UNIT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL	EST. VALUE (IN £)
WHALE OIL	BARRELS	7176	5313	5864	6832	8101	5384	38670	439985
SPERM OIL	BARRELS	47		44	389	1208	142	1830	18984
MEAT	TONS								
MEAT MEAL	TONS	730	615	622	738	1154	754	4613	234340
BONE MEAL	TONS	287	247	225	268	344	174	1545	26162
SOLUBLES	TONS								
MEAT EXTRACT	TONS								
FINNERS	TONS				3			3	600
SPERM TEETH	LBS.								

Bonus Whales: 402,7232

P.T.O.

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WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER

NAME OF CATCHER	BLUE	FIN	SEI	SPERM	OTHER	TOTAL
"R-1"	2	99	83	3		187
"R-2"	1	89	72	4		166
"R-3"	2	99	102	15		218
"R-4"	1	73	57	7		138
"R-5"		77	70			147
"C.A.LARSEN"		26	37	4		67
"Narval" (1/10-9/10/59)						
"Foca" (10/10/59-31/3/60)						
TOTAL	6	463	421	33		923

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

Date 3rd April 1960

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Manager.



FALKLAND ISLANDS

WHALING SEASON..1959/60.....

South Georgia, South Shetland  
AREA & Graham Land, South Orkneys.

FACTORY..Landstation.....  
Husvik Harbour.

COMPANY A/S. Tønsbergs. Hvalfangeri.,  
Tønsberg, Norway.

WHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
BLUE							
FIN	86	59	70	64	29	2	310
SEI			2	68	156	103	329
SPERM		1	1	9	3	3	17
OTHER							
TOTAL	86	60	73	141	188	108	656

PRODUCTION (TO NEAREST UNIT)

DESCR	UNIT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL	EST. VALUE (IN £)
WHALE OIL	BARRELS	3862	3293	4085	5757	5120	3113	25230	300300
SPERM OIL	BARRELS		73	45	403	242	157	920	7536
Frozen MEAT M	TONS	208	88	227	329	600	387	1839	137925
MEAT MEAL	bags TONS ea. 100kg.	4721	3826	4074	6432	7197	4035	30285	126188
BONE MEAL	TONS								
SOLUBLES	TONS								
MEAT EXTRACT	TONS								
FINNERS	TONS								
SPERM TEETH	LBS.								



FALKLAND ISLANDS

WHALING SEASON...1959/60.....

South Georgia, South Shetland  
AREA & Graham Land, South Orkneys.

FACTORY... Land Station Leith Harbour

COMPANY... Chr. Salvesen & Co., Leith, Scotland.

WHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
BLUE	2					1	3
FIN	104	77	72	97	20	-	370
SEI				30	200	80	310
SPEERM	1	1	3	21	6	6	38
OTHER							
TOTAL	107	78	75	148	226	87	721

PRODUCTION (TO NEAREST UNIT)

DESCR	UNIT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL	EST. VALUE (IN £)
WHALE OIL	BARRELS	5712	4047	4281	6354	6562	2440	29396	352800
SPEERM OIL	BARRELS	48	68	147	788	338	238	1627	18428
MEAT	TONS								
MEAT MEAL	TONS	725	579	581	885	1204	436	4410	220500
BONE MEAL	TONS	181	135	102	212	231	94	955	19100
SOLUBLES	TONS	199	286	77	299	169	14	1044	16704
MEAT EXTRACT	TONS	45	53	38	67	91	32.3	326.3	261040
FINNERS	TONS								
SPEERM TEETH	LBS.							397	60

Total Bonus Whales for Season - 319.925

Average pr. Bonus Whale 96.970

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WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER

NAME OF CATCHER	BLUE	FIN	SEI	SPERM	OTHER	TOTAL
"MS. GUTTER"		73	97	9		139
"MS. POSTER"	1	71	47	6		125
"MS. JIMMER"		57	55	2		114
"MS. GAMBLER"		67	54	2		123
"MS. JOKER"	1	46	52	10		109
"MS. MATRU"	1	34		1		36
"SOLVRA"		13	38	5		56
"BOHRRAU"		9	7	3		19
TOTAL	3	370	310	38		721

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

Date 1st April, 1960

*Seena Pasik*  
Manager.

*file from 258.*

*Similar SK/B.  
257H*

F. I. ref: D/L/50/IE

C. O. ref:

SAVING TELEGRAM.

*From:* The Officer Administering the Government of the Falkland Islands.

*To:* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

*Date:* 3rd May, 1960.

No. 21.      SAVING.      DEPENDENCIES

South Georgia Whaling Report 1959/60 Season.

259

I enclose for information four copies of the report on the 1959/60 whaling season at South Georgia.

OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT

PA 2  
1. 1. 60



King Edward Point,  
South Georgia.

31st March 1961.

Sir,

WHALING REPORT SEASON 1960/61.

I have the honour to submit in quintuplicate my report on the Whaling operations carried out in the Dependency of South Georgia during the season 1960/61.

Headings are enumerated as follows:-

1. Introduction
2. Companies operating
3. Catchers
4. Gunners
5. Weather
6. Asdic
7. Factory ships
8. Catch
9. Catching areas
10. Meat Extract
11. Frozen Meat
12. Bone and Meat Meal
13. Hydrographic Survey
14. Whaling Inspectors
15. Statistics.

2. Companies Operating.

The following companies applied for and were granted licences for the season which began on the 1st October 1960 and closed on the 31st March 1961. The South Georgia Co.Ltd., Leith Harbour, Manager S. Akseth until his untimely end, due to an accident on the 24th December 1960, when W.Johansen was appointed Manager.

The Albion Star Co.(South Georgia) Ltd., Manager F. Ringdal. This company operated the station at Grytviken, formerly Compania Argentina de Pesca, and the station at Husvik, formerly owned by Tonsberg Hvalfangeri.

3. Catchers.

The South Georgia Co. operated with ten Asdic catchers from 1st October until the 10th December 1960 and from that date onwards with eight catchers, the other two joining the Floating Factories "Harvester" and "Venturer" for operations in the Antarctic.

The Albion Star Co. operated the entire season with eight catchers, five of which were fitted with Asdic.

With only two stations proposing to carry out whaling operations in the season 1961/62, i.e. Leith and Grytviken, it is proposed that the quota of catchers be divided as ten to each station.

4. Gunners.

The South Georgia Co. re-engaged only three of last season's Island Gunners, the remaining seven were former 'Ice Gunners' from the Pelagic Fleets.

The Albion Star Co. had four of last season's Gunners and three new ones, one of which replaced the famous Otto Larsen who has now retired.

5. Weather.

Frequently in reports of this nature the weather has been described as the 'Worst in living memory', but it must by now be recognised that, in fact, the weather round South Georgia is usually bad, and that it is an accepted condition of the catching operations here. Bearing the foregoing in mind, the weather for the first half of the season could be called bad and the remainder of the season fair. In assessing the



severity of the weather as reported by the Gunners, it is important to bear in mind that in latter years, due to the increased distance off-shore at which whales are found, (up to 350 miles), they are bound to experience more prolonged weather whilst proceeding to and from the grounds. When catchers were made closer to the Island it was possible to reach the safety of harbour at the approach of bad weather, but with such long distances to cover they may be forced to heave-to in one gale, and not have time to get back to the Island for fuel and supplies before the approach of the next.

#### 6. Asdic.

This season Asdic was used, but from reports made by the Gunners and Managers it was not a vitally deciding factor in catch results. There were several reasons for this.

a. The difficulty of finding trained Whaling/Asdic Operators. This seems to be an occupation which, unlike others in the whaling industry, is mostly recruited from British personnel, (at South Georgia at least), and for that reason the South Georgia Company have more experienced operators than the Albion Star Company, where the few operators they have are all Norwegian.

Whilst operators were plentiful in the years immediately following the last war, the present day reduction in Navies has resulted in a diminished supply of trained operators. Conditions in the Navy are now more attractive and on completion of Service, opportunities exist for these men in Radio and Electronic firms. In the Whaling industry it is usual that men may be called upon to do work outside their normal trade, and Asdic Operators are engaged as AB/Asdic Ops. and can be called upon to work on deck. It seems that the whaling

Companies will have to make their conditions and status more attractive if they wish to recruit men for this job.

b. There were few occasions this season when whales were running singly and of a type which Gunners call 'crazy whales' due to their erratic courses and evasive action. It is on this type of whale that Asdic can be used so successfully, in that it makes the whales run in a straight line and therefore much easier to kill. This season whales were sighted mostly in schools and the use of Asdic would have dispersed them. Weather with heavy seas or swell also reduces the use of Asdic.

It would seem, therefore, that whilst in theory the use of Asdic might be harmful, conditions prevailing limit its theoretical potential harmfulness.

I would recommend that Companies again be allowed to use Asdic in the season 1961/62.

#### 7. Factory Ships.

It was reported again this season that in December/January at least three Factory Ships were known to be operating in what might be termed Island grounds. Two operated about 400 miles North West of the Island and the other about 400 East of the Island and sometimes Island catchers were reported as being among Factory catchers. It could in fact be said that these Factory Ships straddled the migration routes which feed the Island Grounds.

#### 8. Catch.

October/November. Whales were generally scarce, although there was a fair catch of Fin<sup>in</sup> October. November was a poor month mainly due to bad weather, and whales were reported as being scarce, but this may have been due to restricted searching due to the weather. The catch was slightly higher than medium in condition and output.

December. Stocks of whales around the Island were reported as good, the catch was mainly Fin, a small percentage of Sperm and some abnormally early Sei whales which of recent years are not usually expected until February. The month's catch was above medium in condition and output.

January. Whale stocks still reported as being good. Catch of Sei was good especially for such an early catch. Catch of Fin was fair and there were also some Sperm. The early Sei were reported as being of good size and fat.

February/March. These were two very good months, with plenty of whales around the Island. Good catches of Sei, particularly in February and good catches of Fin in both months. This was again considered unusual as with the normal appearance of Sei in February the Fin tend to disappear.

The season's catch can be considered fairly good for both Companies.

## 9. Catching Areas.

October/November. Main catching areas during these two months at a distance of between 200 and 300 miles North East to North to North West of the Island. Fin whales were mainly running in a South Easterly to Southerly direction. Sperm were found to the East of the Island mostly running between North East and North West.

Dec.Jan.Feb.March. During these four months the main catch was at a distance of about 90 to 130 miles West to South West of the Island. The main run of whales was in a Northerly direction.

It has been reported by all Gunners that this year there was an abundance of Krill in Island waters and at times the sea appeared to be coloured by the whale food over a distance of many miles.

10. Meat Extract.

Albion Star Co. completed the erection of their pilot meat extract plant at Grytviken by early January. The quantity produced was not great but the Manager was very satisfied with the quality and with the installation of the final extractor next season should see this plant in full production.

The South Georgia Co.'s meat extract plant seems to be very efficient and good production was obtained.

Salvesens reported in October 1960 that meat extract is finding a good market at around £1,000 per ton, but sales will have to be expanded continually to absorb the increasing production. This is understandable when it is considered that Production by Salvesens alone amounted to 879 tons last season.

11. Frozen Meat.

Albion Star Company's operation of Husvik station in addition to Grytviken was not a success. The main reason for operating Husvik was to produce frozen meat for the very large refrigeration plant erected by Tonsberg Hvalfangeri. From the start of the season trouble was experienced with the refrigerator machinery which had been laid up by Tonsberg Hval. at the end of last season in a very indifferent manner. Eventually it was found necessary to bring out a Makers' representative from England and after about two months' work the machinery was put in order.

Another difficulty was that catching was taking place such a long way off the Island that after the long tow, very few of the whales were suitable for frozen meat.

It now appears that Albion Star Co. will concentrate all their efforts on Grytviken next season and are laying foundations to erect a freezer at Grytviken. It is not yet known whether this will be the existing Husvik plant dismantled and brought round for re-erection at Grytviken, or whether new machinery will be purchased.

12. Bone and Meat Meal.

This season Albion Star Co. are only producing mixed bone and meat meal, which in former years was called 'Guano'. Their decision was probably influenced by the reduction in the price of meat meal owing to the enormous production of Peruvian fish meal.

The South Georgia Co. are still producing separate bone and meat meals.

13. Hydrographic Survey.

HMS "Owen" under Commander Hall DSC., carried out detailed survey of the North West approach to the Island covering the area Willis Island group, Stewart Strait, Bird Island and Bird Sound and the coast and harbours from Elshul to Undine. This survey should be of great value to Whalers and Sealers and in fact, to any vessel approaching South Georgia. It will have a particular value to the Whalers in that it will clear up the question of the danger or otherwise of making a passage through Bird Sound. This passage can be of great value to the Whalers apart from reducing towing time.

It would also allow passages to be made around the North West corner of the Island by reason of the lee offered by Bird Island, thus avoiding the very heavy seas which can be experienced in Stewart Strait.

It is a pleasure to record that whaling stations have taken a keen interest and are most appreciative of this survey. I was personally much impressed by the enthusiasm and hard work that the entire party put into this survey and especially the small team who spent two months under canvas at Elsehul and Bird Island. It is the sincere hope of both the whaling Managers and the Government that the Hydrographer may be able to continue this important work by next surveying the South East end of the island.

#### 14. Whaling Inspectors.

Whaling Inspectors were stationed at Leith, Husvik and Grytviken. All three Inspectors carried out their duties conscientiously and earned the respect of the Whalers due to their keenness and ability.

I would record my appreciation to the Selection Board in that these men were ideally suited for the job and of a temperament which raised no personal problems or issues with the whaling staff of the stations to which they were appointed. This year a Senior Whaling Inspector was not appointed and from experience it is beyond doubt an unnecessary appointment.

STATISTICS.15. Company catch report.

	<u>Blue.</u>	<u>Fin.</u>	<u>Sei.</u>	<u>Sperm.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
South Georgia Company Ltd.	1	678	298	49	1026
Albion Star (South Georgia) Ltd.	3	681	479	85	1248
	<u>4</u>	<u>1359</u>	<u>777</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>2274</u>

SEX RATIO OF CATCH.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Females Pregnant.</u>
Blue	1	3	-
Fin	655	704	159
Sei	364	413	237
Sperm	134	-	-
	<u>1154</u>	<u>1120</u>	<u>396</u>

INFRACTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL WHALING CONVENTION.

South Georgia Co. Ltd.	10	Undersized
Albion Star (South Georgia) Ltd.	17	"
	2	Milk filled

Companies' reports are attached.

TOTAL OIL PRODUCTION.

	Barrels.
South Georgia Co. Ltd.	51,780
Albion Star (South Georgia)	<u>58,016</u>
Total	<u>109,796</u> Barrels

Previous and present seasons figures as follows:-

	<u>Whales.</u>	<u>Barrels of Oil.</u>
1955 - 1956	3,001	172,363
1956 - 1957	3,068	147,524
1957 - 1958	3,356	161,485
1958 - 1959	2,504	102,638
1959 - 1960	2,300	97,673
1960 - 1961	2,274	109,796



Total estimated value (As given by Companies) £1,883,871 of which £1,188,100 represents Oil and £695,771 Meal and By-products.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. L. ...', written over a horizontal line.

Administrative Officer.

The Honourable,  
The Colonial Secretary,  
Stanley,  
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

## FALKLAND ISLANDS

WHALING SEASON.. 1960/61.....

South Georgia, South Sandwich  
Islands & Graham Land, South OrkneyFACTORY.. Leith Harbour,  
South Georgia.

COMPANY.. THE SOUTH GEORGIA CO. LTD..

WHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
BLUE				1			1
FIN	140	77	136	74	126	125	678
SET	1		12	136	87	62	298
SPEERM		15	15	6	4	9	49
OTHER							
TOTAL	141	92	163	217	217	196	1026

PRODUCTION (TO NEAREST UNIT)

DESCR	UNIT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL	EST. VALUE (IN £)
WHALE OIL	BARRELS	7021	4555	7737	8678	9764	12025	49780	571362
SPEERM OIL	BARRELS		568	410	488		537	2000	24975
MEAT	TONS								
MEAT MEAL	TONS	913	581	975	1113	1185	1197	5964	274344
BONE MEAL	TONS	213	136	201	283	244	341	1418	35750
SCRUBBLE	TONS	252	228	341	466	321	580	2188	32820
MILK EXTRACT	TONS	63	57	53	89	93	95	450	180000
WIGGERS	TONS								
SPEERM TEETH	LBS.			333	333		172	505	67

WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER

NAME OF CATCHER	BLU	FIN	SEL	SPEWM	OTHER	TOTAL
SO. ACTOR		128	75	7		210
SO. RANGER		109	55	7		171
So. SOLDIER/SO BKRA		118	25	2		145
SO. WHEELER		103	53	4		160
SO. SAILOR	1	64	26	10		101
SO. WILCOX/SO. GUIDER		77	61	4		142
SO. GUIDER/SO. WILCOX		1	2	2		5
SO. JESTER			1			1
SO. LAUREL		56		7		63
SO. ROVER		22		6		28
TOTAL	1	678	298	49		1026

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

Date 1st April 1961.

W. Johansen  
Manager

FALKLAND ISLANDS

WHALING SEASON 1960/61  
 Landstation, Grytviken,  
 South Georgia.  
 AREA South Georgia, South Shetlands,  
 & Forbes Land, South Orkneys.  
 COMPANY Albion Star (South Georgia)  
 Ltd.

WHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
MINKE		1	1	1			3
FIN	156	47	134	80	114	150	681
BAL			33	148	203	95	479
SPERM		20	22	10	13	20	85
OTHER							
TOTAL	156	68	190	239	330	265	1248

PRODUCTION (TO NEAREST UNIT)

DESCR	UNIT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL	EST. VALUE (IN £)
WHALE OIL	BARRELS	6530	3623	8194	8753	11847	14748	53695	547.689
SUERM OIL	BARRELS		1001	794	808	655	1063	4321	44.074
Mixed MEAT Frozen	TONS	39	-	118	258	276	35	726	50.820
Mixed MEAT	TONS	821	503	926	1208	1403	1562	6423	122.037
BONE MEAT	TONS								364.620
SOLUBLE	TONS								
MILK EXTRACT	TONS								
FINNERS	TONS								
SUERM TUBS	LBS								



...for information...  
The total number of whales killed by the two  
companies is slightly less than for the three  
last years and the amount of blubber will be  
greater.  
...can be licensed again next season.

... (SIGNED) ...  
... A. J. ...

17th April 1961

22 DEFIDENCIES

South Georgia Whaling Report 1960/61 Season

290

I enclose for information four copies of the report on the 1960/61 whaling season at South Georgia.

2. With regard to paragraph 3, Catchers, it has been agreed that for the 1961/62 season a total of 16 catchers will be licensed, 8 for the South Georgia Company Limited, and 8 for Albion Star.

3. I would also draw your attention to the Administrative Officer's remarks under paragraph 13, Hydrographic Survey, and paragraph 14, Whaling Inspectors. The excellent work of H.M.S. Owen in these waters was greatly appreciated by the whaling stations, and has fulfilled a long felt need. I hope it may be possible for one of H.M. survey ships to return to South Georgia to continue this most valuable work.

4. The Whaling Inspectors were the best that have been recruited for a long time, and these are the type of men we like to get.

GOVERNOR

295  
Y. E. for information.

The total number of whales killed by the two Companies is slightly less than by the three last year but the amount of whale oil is greater.

Asdic can be licensed again next season.

(Intld) RHDM  
17.4.61.

PA  
19.4.61



King Edward Point,  
SOUTH GEORGIA.

5th April, 1962.



Sir,

WHALING REPORT SEASON 1961/62.

I have the honour to submit in quintuplicate my report on the Whaling operations carried out in the Dependency of South Georgia during the season 1961/62.

Headings are enumerated as follows :-

- 2. Companies
- 3. Catchers
- 4. Gunners
- 5. Weather
- 6. Asdic
- 7. Factory ships
- 8. Catch
- 9. Catching areas
- 10. Production
- 11. Antibiotics
- 12. Statistics.

2. Companies operating.

Only one company applied for and was granted a licence for the season which began on the 1st October 1961 and closed on the 31st March 1962. The company concerned was Albion Star (South Georgia) Limited, Manager F. Ringdal. This company operated the land station located at Grytviken.

The South Georgia Company Limited, of Leith Harbour only operated as an oil storage base for Salvesens pelagic fleet. Stromness was used for ship repairs and also for oil storage.

The Albion Star (South Georgia) Ltd. Husvik station was not used for whaling this season.



3. Catchers.

Albion Star (South Georgia) Ltd., operated with eight catchers for the entire season. These were the motor catchers "R1", "R2", "R3", "R4", "R5", and the steam catchers "R6", "R7" and "C.A.Larsen".

4. Gunners.

- Albion Star Gunners for the season :-
- "R1". Otto Larsen
  - "R2". Harald Bordal
  - "R3". Asbjorn Marthinsen
  - "R4". Anker Jorgensen
  - "R5". Einar Jacobsen
  - "R6". Alf E. Andersen
  - "R7". Karl F. Mathisen
  - "C.A.Larsen". Ivar H. Abrahamsen.

5. Weather.

Recognising that the weather round South Georgia is usually bad and is an accepted condition of catching operations, the following is a monthly report.

October.	Very bad.
November.	Fair.
December.	Good.
January.	Bad.
February.	Fair.
March.	Bad.

6. Asdic.

His Excellency granted permission for the use of asdic this season. Only five of the catchers, "R1", "R2", "R3", "R4" and "R5", were fitted with this equipment. "R4" was without asdic for about two months. A whale line fouled his asdic dome when the dome was at a partly submerged position. Of the remaining catchers it could be said that "R2" and "R3" had the most competent operators.

7. Factory Ships.

It was again reported in December, January and part of February that Factory Ships were known to be operating in what might be termed Island grounds, i.e. up to 400 miles off the Island. Frequently in December and January Island catchers sighted and worked close to Factory catchers.

8. Catch.

October/November. Stocks of whales were generally reported as good. This was particularly so in October when many whales were sighted but could not be chased due to bad weather. On catching days catches were heavy. November had a more even distribution of catch due to better weather.

December. Although the weather was good this month whales were not plentiful around the Island.

January. Fairly even distribution of catch apart from about six non-catching days in the middle of the month.

February. An even distribution of catch throughout the month.

March. This month started with good weather and catch, but very poor weather for the last ten days resulted in only a single Sei whale being caught.

From the start of the season up to mid-December the catch was 478 Fin, 16 Sperm, no Blue, no Sei. The first Sei appeared shortly after the middle of December. From then until the end of the season Sei were caught in varying numbers, with good catches in late January and throughout February the peak catch being in early March. Fins were scarce from December onwards except for one good catch between the 3rd and 10th February.

9. Catching areas.

The main catching areas during October, November and December were North East to North West at about 175 miles from the Island. During January and February the catching area was mainly West with occasional catches to the South West at an average distance of 200 miles. During March the area was about 200 miles West of the Island although several good catches were made in the vicinity of the Shag Rocks.

There was one unusual incident in connection with the catch of Fin whales. On the 5th November, 1961, catchers "R1", "R2", "R3", "R5" and "R6" were proceeding coastwise from Grytviken to the North West end of the Island. Off the Bay of Isles "R1" sighted Fin whales close inshore and gave chase, followed by the other catchers. "R1" caught two whales and the other catchers sighted whales inside Antarctic Bay. This bay is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles wide and about 5 miles deep. Into this bay steamed catchers "R1", "R2", "R3", "R5" and "R6" and in about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours they caught 18 Fin whales. At times the Gunners were harpooning whales that were actually in the Kelp, resulting in some very quick astern movements to avoid getting among rocks. I believe this is the first occasion in the history of South Georgia Whaling where Fin whales were caught so close inshore.

10. Production.

The Sei catch amounted to approximately 40% of the total Baleen catch thereby reducing oil production. Of the oil produced it is estimated that 77.3% will qualify as Grade 1 Oil, 14% as Grade 2 Oil and 8.7% as Grade 3 Oil. Generally both Fin and Sei whales were leaner than last year.

The figures for Bone Meal 1480 Tons and Meat Meal 5688 Tons show an exceptionally high production for these By-products, I understand this is due to factory improvements carried out during the last winter.

The company only produced a trial sample of Meat Extract, and there appears to be some doubt as to the quality of this product.

Frozen Meat was not produced this season, The company dismantled the 3000 Ton Freezing Plant and Store at Husvik and transported it to Grytviken, where it has since been partly re-erected. There still remain two of the 1000 Ton capacity storage rooms to re-erect.

11. Antibiotics.

As from December, 1961, Albion Star (South Georgia) Limited, stopped using antibiotics on whales. They agree that bacterial activity is very important. They also agree that whales injected with antibiotic have a lower bacterial count than those not injected, but, stress that as well as bacterial there is also physical and chemical changes occurring in the whale carcass which also lead to spoilage.

By the use of antibiotics it is estimated that meat preservation is prolonged 5 hours longer in a 20 hour Post Mortem whale and that oil shows a slight improvement in quality from 25 hours Post Mortem to 40 hours Post Mortem. The average Post Mortem time this season was 34 hours 26 minutes due to the distance of catching area from the Island and the weather experienced in towing. They feel, therefore, the problem is rather one of distance and towing which cannot be overcome solely by the use of antibiotics. Furthermore they consider the use of antibiotics as a doubtful precaution without guaranteed results, taking into consideration distance, weather and towing, too expensive for the results achieved. Had all the whales caught this season been injected with antibiotic, and it is estimated it costs £9 per whale for each injection, then their operating cost would have been increased by £10,647.

STATISTICS.12. Company Catch Report.

	<u>Blue.</u>	<u>Fin.</u>	<u>Sei.</u>	<u>Sperm.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Albion Star (South Georgia) Ltd.	nil	656	442	85	1183

SEX RATIO OF CATCH.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Females Pregnant.</u>	<u>Foetuses Found.</u>
Blue	-	-	-	-
Fin	303	353	66	53
Sei	225	217	101	98
Sperm	85	-	-	-
	<u>613</u>	<u>570</u>	<u>167</u>	<u>151</u>

INFRACTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL WHALING CONVENTION.

Albion Star (South Georgia) Ltd.

Number of undersized whales taken	9 Fin
Number of Milk filled or lactating whales taken	2 Sei
	<u>TOTAL</u> <u>11</u>

TOTAL OIL PRODUCTION.

Albion Star (South Georgia) Ltd. 49,815 barrels.

PREVIOUS AND PRESENT SEASONS FIGURES ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

	<u>No. of Companies Operating.</u>	<u>Whales.</u>	<u>Barrels of Oil.</u>
1955 - 1956	3	3001	172,363
1956 - 1957	2	3068	147,524
1957 - 1958	3	3356	161,485
1958 - 1959	3	2504	102,638
1959 - 1960	3	2300	97,673
1960 - 1961	2	2274	109,796
1961 - 1962	1	1183	49,815

Total estimated value of catch (As given by Albion Star(South Georgia) Ltd.) £833,455, of which £412,065 represents Oil, £421,288 Bone and Meat Meal and £102 Sperm Teeth.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Administrative Officer.

The Honourable,  
The Colonial Secretary,  
STANLEY.  
Falkland Islands.

## F A L K L A N D I S L A N D S

WHALING SEASON..... 1961/62.

South Georgia, South Shetland  
AREA & Graham Land, South Orkneys.

FACTORY: Grytviken Land Station

COMPANY: ALBION STAR (SOUTH GEORGIA)  
LTD.WHALES CAUGHT

WHALE	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL
BLUE							
FIN	182	190	172	35	64	13	656
SEI			13	133	147	149	442
SPEW	5	10	1	16	18	35	85
OTHER							
TOTAL	187	200	186	184	229	197	1.183

PRODUCTION (TO NEAREST UNIT)

DESCR	UNIT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	TOTAL	EST. VALUE (IN £)
WHALE OIL	BARRELS	7058	9240	10029	5055	7783	6194	45359	385.552
SPEW OIL	BARRELS	223	342	160	912	1019	1800	4456	26513
MEAT	TONS								
MEAT MEAL	TONS	888	1067	1115	754	1043	821	5688	375.408
BONE MEAL	TONS	261	309	298	165	238	209	1480	45.880
SOLUBLES	TONS								
MEAT EXTRACT	TONS								
PINNERS	TONS								
SPEW TEST	LBS.						511	511	102

304

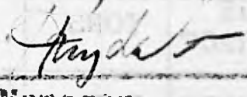
WHALES CAUGHT PER CATCHER

NAME OF CATCHER	BLUE	FIN	SBI	SPEPM	OTHER	TOTAL
"R-1"		127	79	6		212
"R-2"		116	70	20		206
"R-3"		145	112	13		270
"R-4"		122	73	12		207
"R-5"		93	72	20		185
"R-6"		43	34	10		87
"R-7"		6	2			8
"C.A.Larsen"		4		4		8
TOTAL		656	442	85		1183

I solemnly declare that the foregoing particulars are to the best of my knowledge accurate.

ALBION STAR (SOUTH GEORGIA) LTD.

Date 31st March, 1962.

  
Manager.



276 et seq for information.

The previous report is from 290.

The totals for South Georgia for whales and oil look very depressing. It is interesting to note for what it is worth that the total value of products for Albin Star seems to be higher for all the drop in the value of whale oil than last year. Please compare 303 with 292.

Meat has gone out altogether but the meat meal product as in quantity is 3 times the value and bone meal is a new item. This is referred to as 300.

294 is the forwarding memo of the last reports

or

7/5/62.

306

HCS

Is any export duty charged on Bone & meat meal?

2. We shd. send copy of report to SPS by next mail.

JBA . 7.5.62

307

~~6d~~ 6d per 100 lb or per percent for all ~~oil~~ whale products other than oil, hides & skins (has 143 of Vol II)

Copy out 2 & resubmit please

or 7/5/62

Done  
see  
p. 308

D/4/50/II

308

F. I. ref:

C. O. ref:

SAVING TELEGRAM.

*From:* The Officer Administering the Government of the Falkland Islands.

*To:* The Secretary of State for the Colonies.  
7th May, 1962.

*Date:* 64

COLONY

*No.* SAVING.

South Georgia Whaling Report 1961/62 Season.

296 I enclose for information five copies of the report on the 1961/62 whaling season at South Georgia.

GOVERNOR

FH

KIV - 307.

309.

NOV 1962

J.E.

507 for information

for

10/5/62 -

MAINTENANCE DIVISION

~~10.5.62~~

10.5.62  
for

f.a.

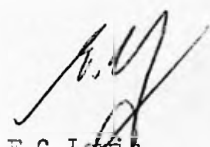
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vol

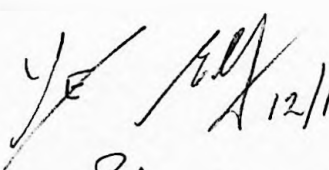
III

Mr Morrison

1. I intend writing a despatch within the next two weeks on South Georgia and in it I will make recommendations about the now abandoned whaling stations, etc.
2. It would be a great help for me to know the following:-
  - (a) The dates on which each whaling station finally ceased operations.
  - (b) Statistics for a period (say 20 years) before they closed showing the amount of whale oil and seal oil exported.

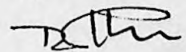
  
E G Lewis

31 December 1973

  
Pl see attached for whaling figures.

The flagged page in D/2/57/II gives sealing statistics from 1943-1959 but I regret that later figures cannot be traced.

As far as can be ascertained sealing ceased in 1964.



10.1.74

COMPANY	SEASON	WHALES	WHALE OIL (BARRELS)	SPERM OIL (BARRELS)	MEAT MEAL (TONS)	BONE MEAL, (TONS)	SOLUBLES (TONS)	MEAT EXTRACT (TONS)	SPERM TEETH (LBS)	AMBER GRASS (TONS)
South Georgia Company Ltd.	1957/58	1515	77430							
C/Argentina de Pesca.	" "	1841	94055							
C/Argentina de Pesca.	1958/59	920	36220	3210	4112	1674				
CHR. Salvesen & Co., Ltd.	1958/59	814	31345	2860	4309	1094	2168	163	625	53 FROZEN MEAT 1061 tons
Tonsberg	" "	770	24822	4181	35151					
C/Argentina de Pesca	1959/60	923	38670	1830	4613	1545				FINNERS 3 tons FROZEN MEAT 1839 tons
Tonsberg	" "	656	25230	920	30285					
CHR. Salvassen & Co. Ltd.	" "	721	29396	1627	4410	955	1044	3263	397	<del>MEAT EXTRACT</del> <del>XXXXXX</del>
South Georgia Company Ltd.	1960/61	1026	49780	2000	5964	1418	2188	450	505	
Albion Star.	" "	1248	53695	4321	6423					FROZEN MEAT 726 tons
Albion Star	1961/62	1183	45359	4456	5688	1480			511	
International Fishery Co. Ltd.	1963/64	391	19608	1565	734	737		23	0.2	FROZEN MEAT 2896 tons
Nippon Suisan Kaisha Co., Ltd.		630	19126	1584	634	57			220	FROZEN MEAT 3654 ton SALTED MEAT 55 ton FINNERS 10 ton
Nippon Suisan Kaisha Co., Ltd.,	1965	239	9229	735	534	386		51	12	FROZEN MEAT 1658 ton SALTED MEAT 24 ton

The South Georgia Co. Ltd., was a subsidiary company of the CHR. Salvesen Co. Ltd., ceased ops. in 1963

The Albion Star & South Georgia Companies ceased operations in 1963, and,

The Nippon Suisan Kaisha and International Fishery Companies in 1965.

The Tonsberg and Compania Argentina de Pesca Companies ceased ops in 1960.

DEPENDENCY OF SOUTH GEORGIA - PUBLIC FINANCE ~~SECRET~~

Revenue for 1962/63 amounted to £149,002 of which £100,000 was received from Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom as a grant. In addition the Dependencies Reserve Fund, <sup>investment</sup> which amounted to £11,090 <sup>see table</sup> was transferred to ~~South Georgia Revenue.~~

Expenditure in 1962/63 was £251,025 which includes special expenditure of £187,633. The largest single item of expenditure was incurred on the "New Discovery House" £179,763.

The general revenue balance at 30th June, 1963, was £8,326.

352  
210  
147-10  
£ 1719-10

352  
206  
148  
867-06