

 SECRETARIAT

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(Formerly)

SUBJECT :1
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OVERSEAS RESEARCH COUNCIL.

CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER



FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

C. O. Ref: RES 246/07

SAVINGRAM

CIRCULAR 952/59

31st August, 1959.

OVERSEAS RESEARCH COUNCIL

An announcement was made at the Montreal Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference last year that an Overseas Research Council would be set up to aid Commonwealth countries in scientific research. The statement went on to say that the United Kingdom Research Councils - Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Medical Research Council and Agricultural Research Council - were willing to provide advice and assistance on research matters falling within their respective fields to any Commonwealth countries desiring such assistance, whenever this could be done within the funds available. The Overseas Research Council would provide for the co-ordination of this assistance and would advise on the formulation of United Kingdom policy in this field.

2. I now enclose a copy of a statement by the Lord President giving effect to this announcement. As will be seen, the Overseas Research Council will report to a Committee of the Privy Council consisting of Ministers with overseas responsibilities in this field.
3. The Council will be responsible for co-ordinating the activities of all United Kingdom Government agencies concerned with overseas research and it has been decided, with my agreement, that it will take over the functions of the Colonial Research Council.
4. No other administrative changes are involved in these decisions beyond the transfer, at an earlier stage, of the Tropical Products Institute from my responsibility to that of the Lord President of the Council (my circular note of the 17th February, 1959).
5. My Research Advisory Councils and Committees, other than the Colonial Research and Colonial Products Councils will remain in being and the question of their relationship with the new Overseas Research Council will be considered at a later date. Communications on research matters should continue to be addressed to me; and reference would of course be made to the new Council where this was considered to be necessary.

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The Officer Administering
the Government of
the Falkland Islands.

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6. This circular has been addressed to the Governors-General of the Federation of Nigeria and The West Indies; all Governors; High Commissioners; Administrators; Resident Commissioners; the British Commissioner and Consul, Tonga; the British Resident, Zanzibar and the United Kingdom Commissioner, Singapore (for transmission to the Government of the State of Singapore).

SE C E R .

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LORD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT (29 JULY 1959)

Her Majesty's Government have now given effect to the announcement made at the Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference in Montreal last year, that an Overseas Research Council is to be established. I am glad to say that Dr. R. S. Aitken, Vice-Chancellor of Birmingham University, has accepted the chairmanship. I am circulating the names of the members, together with the terms of reference, in the official report.

As previously explained, the United Kingdom Research Council - Departments of Scientific and Industrial Research, Medical Research Council and Agricultural Research Council - are willing to provide advice and assistance on research matters falling within their respective fields to any Commonwealth country desiring such assistance, wherever this can be done within the funds available. The Overseas Research Council will provide for the co-ordination of this assistance, and for the formulation of general U.K. policy in this field. The Council will provide a central point to which Commonwealth Governments and research institutions can refer for advice and information, and will advise generally on United Kingdom co-operation in scientific research overseas.

There are no geographical restrictions in the Council's terms of reference. Matters concerning scientific development in Colonial territories, in Commonwealth countries, and in countries outside the Commonwealth, can equally be referred to it. Moreover, in promoting such development, the Council can look to possible collaboration between this country and other Commonwealth countries, countries outside the Commonwealth, such as the U.S.A., and international agencies (such as those of the United Nations and other charitable foundations).

2. The following is the statement circulated with the official report:-

Membership of Overseas Research Council

Dr. R. S. Aitken, (Chairman)

Sir Jock Campbell	Sir Harry Melville, K.C.B., F.R.S.
Sir Charles Dodds, M.V.O., F.R.S.,	Mr. G.D.W. Nye, C.M.G., O.B.E.,
Sir Harold Himsworth, K.C.B., F.R.S.,	Sir Arnold Plant
Sir Joseph Hutchinson, C.M.G.,	Sir William Slater, K.B.E., F.R.S.,
Dr. R. Lewthwaite, C.M.G., O.B.E.,	Dr. H.G. Thornton, F.R.S.,
Professor J. McMichael, F.R.S.,	Sir Solly Zuckerman, C.B., F.R.S.

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Terms of Reference

"To advise the Privy Council Committee on Overseas Research:-

- (1) on the formulation of U.K. policy in respect
(a) of scientific research undertaken in or for overseas territories both within and outside the Commonwealth, (b) of methods of making the results of research available in these territories, and (c) of assistance to the scientific services of those territories:
- (2) on the co-ordination of the activities of United Kingdom Government organisations in the development of science in the civil sphere in overseas territories: and
- (3) on co-operation within the Commonwealth, with other countries and with international agencies in promoting such development."

An Order in Council was made yesterday, establishing the Committee of the Privy Council, referred to in the terms of reference. The Committee consists of the Lord President of the Council, and the Secretaries of State for Commonwealth Relations, the Colonies and Foreign Affairs.



FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

C. O. Ref: RES 336/03

SAVINGRAM

CIRCULAR 348/60

6th April, 1960

THE OVERSEAS RESEARCH COUNCIL

My circular savingram No. 952/59 of the 31st August, 1959.

I have been requested by the Overseas Research Council, whose terms of reference were stated in the enclosure to my circular savingram under reference, to provide certain detailed information in regard to the scientific research now in progress in the overseas territories. A certain amount of this information is already available in the Colonial Office especially in respect of research for which assistance is provided from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, but the information at my disposal is incomplete in regard to the other research now in progress, including research carried out by non-Government organisations. To enable me to meet the Overseas Research Council's request I should be grateful if you would furnish me with the information required in duplicate and tabulate it under headings set out in the attached form.

2. Although, as I have stated, some information on research schemes assisted by Colonial Development and Welfare funds is already available, I should be much obliged if you would include research conducted under those schemes in your reply. In regard to research carried out by non-Government organisations, it may not be possible to obtain all the details required, but the information that can be obtained should be recorded. I should be grateful if the Governors-General of the Federation of Nigeria and of The West Indies; the Governors of Hong Kong, Malta and Sierra Leone, and the Administrator of the East Africa High Commission would request the principals of the University or University College concerned to furnish the required information in respect of the research carried out by their institutions.

3. I should also be grateful if you would let me have any published or unpublished material which may be available and which has not already been sent to me, describing in general terms the research effort, or part of the research effort in the territory under your administration.

4. This circular savingram has been addressed to the Governors-General of the Federation of Nigeria and The West Indies; all Governors;

/High Commissioners;

Reply at " .

The Officer Administering
the Government of
the Falkland Islands.

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High Commissioners; Administrators; Resident Commissioners; the British Commissioner and Consul, Tonga, and the British Resident, Zanzibar. A copy has also been sent under cover of a separate communication to the United Kingdom Commissioner, Singapore (for transmission to the Government of the State of Singapore).

SE C E R .

Enclosure to Circular. Savingsgram No. 348/60 of 6th April, 1960

Name of Department, Organisation or Project including, where appropriate, the title of the research unit.	Brief description of type of research undertaken	Current Annual estimate of cost	Source of funds showing separately the amounts from each source	Numbers of staff employed indicating medically qualified staff thus - (M)			
				Scientific Staff		Supporting staff. (Technically qualified only)	
				Overseas staff	Local staff	Overseas staff	Local staff
South Georgia							

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SF

1-5 Have you anything for inclusion?
If so please submit detail.

DL
4.5.60

HCS

9.

I attach at bc. 3 copies of the
information required in respect of
F.R.S. (1 for your file).

DL
7/5/60

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JL

Draft ST to @ of @ @/c.

Banner's Biology/Reeling Inspector
work at South Georgia doesn't qualify
for inclusion as a Scientific Research
project?

DL
12.5.60

F. I. ref: 1971

C. O. ref: RES 336/03

SAVING TELEGRAM.

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

To: The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 12th May, 1960.

No. 93. SAVING.

COLONY

5 Your Circular Savingram 348/60 of the 6th April, 1960.

The Overseas Research Council.

12-15 I enclose two copies of particulars of research projects carried out in the Dependencies.

OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT.

DRM/LH

1. Name of Department Organisation or Project including, where appropriate, the title of the research unit.	2. Brief description of type of research undertaken	3 Current Annual estimate of cost	4 source of funds showing separately the amounts from each source	5 Numbers of staff employed indicating medically qualified staff thus (M)	6 Scientific staff	7 Supporting staff. (Technically qualified only).	8- Overseas S. Local S. Overseas S. Local S.
Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey	Meteorology. A. At 6 Antarctic stations. Routine surface observations conforming to W.M.O. practice used for day to day area and aviation forecasting at Stanley and by Foreign Governments. Long term statistical analysis. Upper wind findings by visual methods as conditions permit. B. Micro-meteorology - Investigation of temperature and heat exchange in the first 10 metres of the atmosphere (Base B, Deception Is). C. Falkland Islands Meteorological service forecasting, collation of observations from FIDS Bases, statistical analysis and presentation of observations from FIDS Bases and South Georgia D. Base F - Argentine Islands. Upper air soundings for temperature and humidity against pressure by radio sonde methods. Upper winds measured visually as conditions permit. Base Z - Halley Bay, as Base F but regular measurement of upper winds by radar E. Stanley radio sonde programme as Base Z	£ 10,500 600 22,000 35,300 26,500	£ FIDS FIDS 400 Air Ministry 500 F.I. Govt. 21,100 FIDS FIDS 2,650 FIDS 2,650 A.M. 21,200 M.C.A.	 11 1 11 F 5 Z 4 3	 Performed by scientific staff allocated to other projects.	 4 2 2 1 1	
Air Ministry							
South Georgia Administration.	F. South Georgia Meteorological Station provides data and forecasts for whaling fleets operating in South Georgia area; integral part of F.I.D. Meteorological Service.	3,200	Internal revenue				
Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey	G. Measurements of solar and terrestrial energy and the balance between the two. Stanley, Halley Bay and Argentine Islands. <u>Ionospheric sounding.</u> Measurement of height of ionised layers of the ionosphere. Base A, Port Lockroy. Base Z, Halley Bay. <u>Geophysics.</u> A. Seismology. Automatic recording of earth tremors. 1. Stanley. 2. Base F, Argentine Islands. B. Magnetometry. Automatic recording and subsequent analysis of the intensity of the terrestrial magnetic field in three dimensions. Base F, Argentine Islands and Base Z Halley Bay C. Ozone. Investigation into the distribution and density of the ozone layer at high levels and its consequent effect on incoming radiation. Base F, Argentine Islands and Base Z, Halley Bay) D. Auroral physics. Base Z - Halley Bay Visual observations of aurora are noted at all Bases.	500 3,200 4,000 1,300	FIDS FIDS FIDS FIDS	 4 4 plus 2 (U.K.) 1 plus 1 (U.K.)			

1. Name of Department Organisation or Project including, where appropriate, the title of the research unit.	2. Brief description of type of research undertaken	3. Current Annual estimate of cost	4. Source of funds showing separately the amounts from each source	5. Numbers of staff employed indicating medically qualified staff thus (M)	6. Scientific Staff	7. Supporting staff. (Technically qualified only).	8. Overseas S.	9. Local S.
Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey.	<u>M. Magnetometer Survey, Base D, Hope Bay.</u> Field investigation of the magnetic anomalies due to the earth's surface rocks. It is hoped that a method will be evolved from this study by which rock structures under-lying ice cap may be determined.	£ 2,000	£ FIDS					
	<u>Topographical Survey.</u> Triangulation to provide ground control for the aerial survey carried out by the Falkland Islands and Dependencies Aerial Survey Expedition of 1955 - 1957 is being carried out from Bases D and F. A unit is also in position ready to be flown into Adelaide Island for reconnaissance survey. Programmes are initiated by, and mapping carried out at, the D.O.S. Tolworth.	15,000	FIDS	6		6 plus 1 (U.K.)		
	<u>Geology.</u> Detailed studies are being made at Hope Bay, Admiralty Bay and Marguerite Bay and reconnaissance of Adelaide Island is planned (see Survey above). Programmes are directed by a Research Fellow of the Department of Geology, Birmingham University.	16,000	FIDS	5 plus 3 (U.K.)		5		
	<u>Medical Research.</u> In addition to the normal duties of the Medical Officer, all doctors are invited to carry out individual research programmes on various aspects of physiology in cold climates under the guidance of the M.R.C.	5,000	FIDS	4 (M)				
	<u>Physiology.</u> Programme of research into the effect of cold and diet on field and static personnel coupled with micro-climatology. The Physiologist is working at Hope Bay under the guidance of the M.R.C.	800	FIDS	1		1		
	<u>Glaciology.</u> Investigation of accumulation, ablation, structure and movement of glaciers and glacial deposits. At Hope Bay, Admiralty Bay and Argentine Islands.	1,000	FIDS	1		3		
	<u>Ornithology.</u> Routine bird ringing is carried out at certain stations under the auspices of the B.T.O.	100	FIDS					
	<u>Sea Ice Investigations.</u> Routine observations are made from all Bases and the distribution and type of sea ice is mapped. These observations are supplemented by those from FIDS ships and aircraft. They are collated in the S.P.R.I. Cambridge by a research student. The effect of ice on ship navigation is also being studied.	1800	FIDS	1 (U.K.)		1 (U.K.)		
	<u>Dog. Physiology.</u> Some work is carried out on the work output and diet of sledge dogs and their general metabolism.	100	FIDS					

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
Name of Department Organization or Project including, where appropriate, the title of the research unit.	Brief description of type of research undertaken	Current Annual estimate of cost	Source of funds showing separately the amounts from each source	Numbers of staff employed indicating medically qualified staff thus (U)			
				Scientific Staff		Supporting staff. (Technically qualified only).	
				Overseas S.	Local S.	Overseas S.	Local S.

South Georgia
Administration

Biology

The South Georgia Administration employs a full time biologist whose duty it is to advise Government on all matters connected with sealing and to carry out biological research and investigation on the elephant and fur seal population of South Georgia.

£
3,300

£
Internal revenue

1

NOTES:

1. The total cost of F.I.D.S. (see Column 4) is largely met from the United Kingdom Exchequer (approximately £600,000 annually). After local administrative costs have been met the balance of Revenue derived from the South Georgia Whaling Industry is applied to F.I.D.S. (Approximately £100,000 annually). The figures shown in Column 4 are exclusive of overheads such as food, clothing, transport, buildings, ships, aircraft and administration.
2. In column 5 the correlation (U.K.) indicates the average number of Scientists working up results in the United Kingdom. Against Geology and Sea Ice Investigation the figures include 1 permanent Research Fellow and 1 Research Student respectively.
3. The supporting staff entered in Column 8 are generally without a University Degree, or if they have one, are working on projects only indirectly connected with their Degree subjects.

Base A, Port Lockroy	-	64° 50' S.,	63° 31' W.
Base B, Deception Island	-	62° 59' S.	60° 34' W.
Base D, Hope Bay	-	63° 24' S.	56° 59' W.
Base E, Stonington Island	-	68° 11' S.	67° 00' W.
Base F, Argentine Islands	-	65° 15' S.	64° 16' W.
Base G, Admiralty Bay	-	62° 05' S.	58° 25' W.
Base H, Signy Island	-	60° 43' S.	45° 36' W.
Base Y, Marguerite Bay	-	67° 49' S.	67° 17' W.
Base Z, Halley Bay	-	75° 31' S.	26° 36' W.