

C.S.O.

NAT/SEA/5 # 13

1 6 0 7

1 6 0 7

CONFIDENTIAL

(Formerly)

SUBJECT :

APPLICATION FOR A SEALING LICENSE BY S.L. RUELLAND, Jr.

CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER AND YEAR.

0958/A.

For seal.

1607.
Georgia, 23rd November 1953.

Sir,

We, the undersigned, Sigurd Larsen Bjelland, Nils E. Olsen, Hans Christian Jensen wish to form a company with a capital of about £ 250.000 to operate a sealing business in the Falkland Islands and Dependencies exclusive of South Georgia.

2. The sealing operation would be conducted from a floating factory with motorboats and the object of these operations would be to utilize the entire seal carcass.

3. Operations would be conducted in strict conformity with the Sealing Regulations from time to time in the said Colony and Dependencies and the areas in which fishing shall take place shall be divided into zones as may be required by Government.

4. The licence is therefore required to cover all types of seals, excepting the Fur Seals permitting a maximum for the first year of operation to total 50.000 seals of which not more than 10.000 shall be Elephant Seals and of which again not more than 1000 shall be taken in the Falkland Islands, nor shall more than 10.000 Sea Lions be taken in the Falkland Islands.

5. The Company if formed and the License granted prays for relief from taxation for the first two years of operation.

We remain,

Yours faithfully,

His Excellency,
Sir Miles Clifford,
Port Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

*S. Larsen Bjelland
Hans Chr. Jensen
Nils E. Olsen.*

B.V.F.

*Bo. with specimen of
sealing licence and draft
lettering licence.
1/12*

P.T.O.

H.C.3.

Pl. see 60a in 90/36

368

in 0497/III

29.

2.12.

2/2.

Yes.

①

I would like, if I may, to discuss the form which the licence should take as there are various complications and queries which occur to me.

Yes.

a) Separate licences for Colony + Dependencies will be required - for accounting purposes & for nothing else.

Yes.

b) Will a sealing officer be required? & if so, presumably his cost must be shared between the two administrations.

Yes.

c) If the Company takes and seals in the Colony and exports, not from S.G., there must be some adjustment based on ? total number of seals killed?

Yes.

d) Special provision must be put into the licence that the whole carcass be utilized.

e) The sea elephant season in F.I. & S. Georgia differ appreciably. What will they be in the rest of the Dependencies? Presumably the same as South Georgia. And will the lion seal season be the same for Colony & Dependencies?

They are not likely to be found in equalable numbers outside the S. Orkneys - season is the same as S.G. Hair Seal (Weddell & Central) Dec - Feb.

No Weddell Seal in S.G.

2) A specimen Colony licence is (368) 0497/111 & a S.G. one at (60) 90/36. S.G. appear to give annual concessions but we gave one for 15 years to SASC - presumably in view of their land station. What concession will this Company have?

License renew able annually.

3) They must make a private deal with the Company a transferable licence for the full quota and a similar quota to the sealing company which must

They have been so told; I will discuss with Mr. Young

include any seals taken under Lic. Licence.

- 4) Y.H. info also with to be referred to 329 (392)
I have seen matters affect my view.
& (396) on 0497/12.

Company has
and taxation on
oil.

It is a new
venture for them
and a quite
different and needs
better approval.

Immateral but
we can discuss
with them.

- 5) From what taxation do they want relief and
should this be granted as though it
is a new company it is scarcely
a new venture? — unless sealing in
dependencies other than S.G. can be
regarded as a new venture. With the
Company be operated locally in the
dependencies?

Immateral.

They could be
fishing in territorial
waters.

- 6) Reverting to para 1 (c) above — if they
take Colony Seal & export the oil from
S.G. the Colony cannot then get any ^{tax} proportion.
And being a semi pelagic venture they
will probably not discharge oil at
S. Georgia — in which case they are
not liable to export tax at all.

We have the
oil.

Can we then put an export tax on
seals? No — because the seals will
probably be 'ried out' in territorial water
& the oil will then be exported.

No.

We will ^{may} then have to tax the ^{actual} killing
of seals either through the licence fee or
by separate legislation. We can calculate
how ~~much~~ many barrels per seal we
could expect on an average but how
can we relate the tax to the subsequent
selling price of the oil?

- 7) And presumably some seals might even
be taken on the high seas & not be
subject to tax.

Most
unlikely.

I think this a little involved;

- (a) Separate licences will be required.
- (b) A Sealing officer ~~will~~ be required to ensure that Regulations are complied with.
- (c) The Sealing officer's records will give a fair indication of the oil/meat derived from (i) Colony (ii) Dependencies; it will be quite simple to work out a formula of :-
Seal: barrel.
- (d) They have agreed to "total utilisation" and this should, of course, be embodied; incidentally - X on 393 in OA97/III notwithstanding - the meat, if properly treated, is a valuable by-product and a major factor in fur seal 'profitability'.

2. I regard this as a new venture inasmuch as that it is approaching the problem from a quite different angle and, in my opinion, the only practicable one; bringing seals over considerable distances to a ~~subantarctic~~ factory land station is uneconomical and must always be so.

3. From the political and economic point of view it is to an advantage to encourage the rational exploitation of seals and I must, at this stage, leave it to you and S/F (and Treasurer) to work out the details. With "professionals", such as the applicants, the scheme stands every chance of success: with amateurs, none. I do not share

5
The view expressed in para 4 of 392 in 0497.

no 3
-xii

Incidentally I remain of the opinion that there is money to be made from a shoe whelking factory in The Falklands to which this project may well lead in due course: I have dangled this 'fly' over the applicants - let us do nothing to discourage them.

C.T.

① — ⑤.

6

There will be no difficulty in issuing the licences (if we agree) ~~as~~ but a fee will have to be decided on. ~~For my future~~ As an aide memoire I note that Weddell seals are not on the S.G. licence.

2) Sealing Office

As they ^{will} operate in the season, presumably based on S. Georgia, we will have to engage one from U.K. & share the cost proportionately.

3) Tax Concessions

If they get two years remission then the tax problem can be sorted out at leisure but Ex Co. decisions are required and I feel it may be difficult to convince members of the necessity for remissions as regards Falkland Island sealing.

4) As regards tax on oil

I presume that there will be no difficulty in sorting out Colony - Dependencies proportions if we know the number of seals taken.

However I am not happy that we can tax Seal oil & products under our existing customs order even if though the seals ~~are~~ are taken on land or in territorial waters.

Assuming the seals are killed and the carcasses taken on board then the 'tryping out' process will occur ~~both~~ ⁱⁿ territorial waters but will without doubt continue outside - as the vessel moves to a new place.

I think we can only take legal advice on this.

Can you please consider and discuss.

@
4/12

YH

①-⑥

I have discussed with C.T.

a) Sealing Officer

As the operations will be based on fourth Georgia and last only during the season, I think it will be wise to get someone from here as well as difficult to get the right type. We must therefore recruit in U.K. It occurred to me that this might fit in with some G.O.S. investigations and wonder whether they might be interested in recruiting some 'semi-scientist'.

I think the field has now been covered by Lewis & Mansfield: I would hesitate to bring more 'scientists' in.

C.T. and I feel that there is no need to split cost of salary between Dependence & Colony as the bulk of his work will be in Dependence.

b) Tax Concessions

Neither C.T. or I are very happy about this. As regards the Colony it can be argued that sealing is an established industry and in Dependence they are to some extent competing with an established firm in that they will be putting more oil on the market.

This is not quite the point - it is a quite different approach: more expensive for them some subsidy for them.

We feel there would be a better case for considering remissions after the first years operations.

c) Export Tax

We are very doubtful if we can tax them under our existing laws for oil won by processing outside territorial waters and I am referring it to Sir Webb.

They will not be processing outside territorial waters.

d) I note that beddell seals are not on S.G. licence but assume this should

No - S.G. have licence for Slegland only. Applies to all seals except fur-seals.

8.

not apply elsewhere in the Dependencies.

8

- 2) ~~The next step~~ Before any further action is taken. I presume we must await

Add to W.L.

a) G's discussion with Da Young

A. discussion.

b) Ex Co. decision on remissions

MC 7/27

5/12

DECODE.TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched : 12. 12. 53 Time : 1015 Received : Time :

in 0494/III

CONFIDENTIAL. No. 242. My Confidential telegram No. 129.
South Atlantic Sealing Company. Grateful you pass to Chairman.
Colonial Development Corporation Begins:-

I have received an application for exclusive sealing right
in Colony and Dependencies (other than South Georgia) by
acceptable applicants operating from factory vessel. I am
doubtful if they would be interested in Albemarle plant but will
enquire if you wish. Ends.

GOVERNOR.

T.C.
GG

Reply at 13

1607

14th December, 53.

CONFIDENTIAL

Sir,

I am directed to state that the grant of an exclusive sealing licence in the Colony and Dependencies (other than South Georgia) to a company operating from a factory vessel is under consideration.

The seals will be taken on land and will be processed into oil and by-products on the factory vessel.

2. The processing will mainly take place in territorial waters but it is visualised that some may take place outside, and as it is unlikely that the oil and by-products will be landed before being marketed in Europe, the question of export tax under the Customs Ordinance (Cap. 16) arises.

3. A Government sealing officer will be posted to the vessel to check the quantity of seals and the results of the processing and I am to enquire whether export tax can properly be levied on oil and by-products won

(i) in territorial waters and

(ii) outside territorial waters.

4. Assuming that 3 (i) can and 3 (ii) cannot be taxed, I am to enquire whether a solution to the problem would be to make a condition in the licence to the effect that the seals must be processed in territorial waters. It would then be reasonable to "deem" all oil etc. taxable even though this condition of the licence would not be strictly enforced.

5. In parenthesis I am to mention that the rights of the Falkland Islands Company in Laponia are not being overlooked.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) C. Campbell

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Reply at H2.

Sir Henry Webb, Kt.,
c/o The Crown Agents for the Colonies,
4, Millbank, Westminster,
LONDON, S.W.1.

BU 38/12/53

4

11
A.

46

Draft to S/S ofc. opposite.
On receipt of favourable reply I should
send draft licences to Byellman? *Yes please.*
21/12

B.

*Issue please - This will doubtless draw a correspondence
the 21 Jan Bortram, Bryn Roberts,
Xii have et al.*

*Office
21/12*

11 - A + B. 17

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

12

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE.

Despatched: 22. 12. 53. Time: 13.55. Received: Time:

No. 260. Sealing. Manager and Assistant Manager Leith Harbour and Manager Husvik wish from Company with capital of about £250,000 to conduct sealing business in Falkland Islands and Dependencies (other than South Georgia where Pesca has monopoly).

2. They would operate from floating factory and guarantee utilisation entire seal carcase.

3. Unless you see objection I propose grant them exclusive rights in areas mentioned (Falkland Islands Company are prepared sublet rights in Lafonia). Provisional maximum would be 10,000 Elephants not more than 1,000 from Colony and 40,000 hair seal (not more than 10,000 from Colony). No fur seal may be taken.

4. Am satisfied that this represents only economic method exploiting seals is by Company of this nature i.e. operation by professionals from floating factory and am hopeful it may lead to whaling venture in waters near Colony operated from shore station.

GOVERNOR.

G.T.C. VP

See 22.30

See 4/154

COPY

Original filed in 0497/III

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

13

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 23.12.53 Time: 1700 Received: 24.12.53 Time: 1400

9

No 180. Following from Lord Reith. South Atlantic
Sealing Company. Your telegram No 242.

Most grateful for your efforts interest applicant
purchase Albemarle base. We gladly supplement your
efforts if put in contact with them.

SECRETARY OF STATE

BUF
(Intld)J.B.

Reply at 17.

4/11
J.H.

14

(13)

I think it would be best if we gave C.C. Bjelland's name & they could correspond direct & also give him full details of plant available & prices.

2) At the same time I suggest that I write to Bjelland ~~telling him that~~ by Biscoe mail telling him that he will be hearing from C.C. & saying that Book would be agreeable to leasing the land, if necessary.

Little point in this

3) I would also tell Bjelland (if we have had no reply to 12) that we are awaiting S/S covering approval before ~~approving~~ finally granting him the licences & we will telegraph confirmation etc. In the meantime he should correspond with Mr Young who we understand, is prepared to cooperate over California.

I can at the same time send him draft licences.

30/12

(18)

The point is that applicants are only likely to be interested in plant available - not the Albion rules, best itself; however it will still be best for C.C. to correspond direct with Bjelland. Otherwise as proposed.

I wonder what is left at Albionville? I think Boyd has been doing some salvaging; there is no candidate?

MC 30
XII

45.

(14)

At cover is a draft to Byelland from me
and a draft F.I. licence based on Lilbury.

2) I am however ~~is~~ experiencing difficulties
in drafting a Dependence licence

(60)^A on 90/36 is a current specimen but
it differs substantially from the F.I. one as
regards fitting of females, length minimum lengths etc.,
nor does it mention any special length restrictions
on seals other than Elephants.

May I see discuss?

4/1

the 4
1-24.

No. 1607

MEMORANDUM.

It is requested
that, in any refer-
ence to this memo-
randum the above
number and the
date may be quoted.

CONFIDENTIAL

4th January, 19 54.

To: All Members of Executive Council,
STANLEY.

From: The Colonial Secretary,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

SUBJECT :- SEALING LICENCES.

As it is considered that the only economic method of exploiting seals is by an organisation run by professionals and operating from a floating factory ship it is proposed to grant exclusive sealing rights in the Colony (except Lafonia and adjacent islands) and Dependencies (other than South Georgia where the Pesca Company hold exclusive rights) to an organisation of this description.

The Company is being formed by a syndicate composed of the Manager and Assistant Manager, Leith Harbour, and the Manager, Husvik, who are all Norwegian subjects.

The advisability of giving this Company relief from income and export tax for the first two years of operation will be discussed at the forthcoming meeting.

Clampfield
COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DECODE.TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched: 4.1.54 Time: 1400 Received: Time:

13.

CONFIDENTIAL. No 5. Your telegram No 180/53. Grateful you pass to Lord Reith begins. For your Confidential information applicants are syndicate headed by S.L.Bjelland, Manager, Leith Harbour, South Georgia. Suggest you contact direct as you have full details available plant and prices. Am also informing person named. Must emphasize applications not yet finally approved. Ends.

GOVERNOR

7th January, 1953

I have been discussing today with members of my Executive Council Bjeland's Sealing venture and the Camp representatives have expressed some little apprehension that it may result in labour being attracted from the farms by the high wages prevailing in South Georgia. It had not occurred to me, and still seems quite unlikely, that the Sealing project would in fact expect to recruit any labour here at all but I would be obliged if you could discuss this with Bjeland and Olsen in order that I may set their minds at rest.

As you know labour in the Falklands is extremely hard to come by and the situation today is a good deal worse than when you were here.

See 29

Lieut.Col.K.Pierce-Butler,
Administrative Officer,
SOUTH GEORGIA.

*Ans. on Bjeland
Sealing file.
Su*

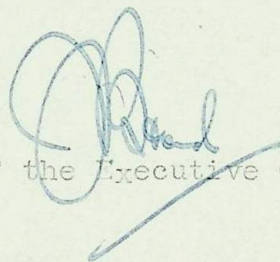
Extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Executive Council
held on the 7th January, 1954.

11. New Sealing Company.

His Excellency advised Council that an application had been made to him by certain persons in South Georgia who wished to form a new Company to seal in the Colony and Dependencies. It would be managed by Norwegian professionals from South Georgia who would conduct their operations from a small factory ship and utilise the entire carcase.

Council advised that the venture should be exempt from Company's tax for the first two years of operation but not export tax. The Honourable the Colonial Secretary promised to advise Council of the legal rights, if any, conferred on the licences to enter private land other than Lafonia.

His Excellency concurred and ordered accordingly.



Clerk of the Executive Council.

K14 p. 18

CS.

Johnston has a hunch
 that Bjelland & Co (who were
 understood to be acting on behalf
 of their principals) are hedging
 about the licence and that if
 they get it will flog it off
 to someone else. Can draft
 licence.
~~Lease~~ should \therefore include a
 clause requiring them to
 "operate", as in case of
 Whaling lease.

MC 19
 1-521

CS

Bjorkland's sealing venture.

I discussed again with Chairman who confirmed that he welcomes this project and wishes only to establish principle of land ownership - he does not expect the Company to make money out of the project. He also agreed with my view that there is money to be made out of whaling here which I have always intended. The sealing venture may lead the way to this.

MC 15
7.54

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

22.

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 25.1.54

Time: 1915

Received: 26.1.54 Time: 0845

12

No 21. Your telegram No 260. Sealing. My adviser requests further information regarding proposal. I shall be grateful to learn whether factory ship intends operations at sea (i.e. crabeater on pack ice) or whether intent is to anchor inshore at various points and work surrounding beaches. Any other background information would also be useful.

SECRETARY OF STATE:

Reply at 46

26th January, 1954.

Dear Mr. Bjelland,

With reference to your letter of the 23rd of November, 1953, requesting permission to operate a sealing business in the Falkland Islands and Dependencies I am writing to advise you that although final approval has not yet been given to your application, it is hoped that this will be arranged in the near future, when I will advise you by telegram through Mr. Butler.

There are however one or two points I would like to mention in connection with your proposals:-

(a) Falkland Islands Company sealing rights in Lafonia.

The Falkland Islands Company by nature of their original Crown Grant have exclusive sealing rights in Lafonia and the adjacent islands. His Excellency has however discussed the matter with Mr. Young the Chairman of the Company who is at present on a short visit to the Colony and he was given to understand that Mr. Young would be willing to allow you to work his licence for a nominal consideration. I suggest therefore that you correspond direct with Mr. Young on this question. His address is 120, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1.

(b) Plant owned by South Atlantic Sealing Company at Albemarle.

There is a quantity of plant owned by this defunct company which is available for disposal and in which you may be interested. The Colonial Development Corporation, who sponsored this project, will be sending details direct to you.

Mr. S.L. Bjelland,
SOUTH GEORGIA.

/(c)

Reply at 54

(c) Licences.

25-28.

I am enclosing drafts of the type of licences which will be issued to you (The Falkland Islands Company's Lafonia licence is almost identical to the Colony one) and would be glad to learn if you have any comments to make on them. They are not in final form and are only to serve as a guide. Your operations in the Dependencies will be rather in the nature of new venture in that sealing has not been carried out there for a number of years. We will have to consult our scientific advisers on what restrictions, if any, should be placed on the method of killing the various types of seals to be found there.

(d) Sealing Officer.

It will be necessary for your factory vessel to carry a Sealing Officer appointed and paid by Government.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) C. Campbell

SEALING LIONCES

1. The licence shall be in force from 195 . day of

2. An Annual Licence fee of _____ shall be paid on the _____ day of _____ in each year, after the date hereof.

3. The licence shall be valid in the Falkland Islands (except Lafonia and adjacent islands, including the Sea Lion Islands) for sea lions, sea elephants and sea leopards only.

4. Not more than 10,000 sea lions and not more than 1,000 sea elephants shall be killed in any one season and from this total not more than 6,000 sea lions shall be killed on Arch Islands in any one season. Provided that such numbers may be reviewed annually by the Governor. Provided also that this total shall include any sea lions and sea elephants killed in the Falkland Islands under any other licence transferred to or worked by your Company.

5. Sea lions shall be killed only between 1st May and 30th September in each year.

6. No male sea lion less than 72 inches in length shall be killed.

7. At least 10% of the adult male sea lions shall be left alive at each rookery.

8. Sea elephants shall only be killed between 1st November and 15th January in each year.

9. No male sea elephant or less than 4 years of age and corresponding to a minimum length of 120 inches shall be killed.

10. Where more than 50 adult male sea elephants are found 10% shall be left alive and where less than 50 adult male sea elephants are found 25% shall be left alive.

11. No female sea lion or sea elephant shall be killed.

12. Sea leopards may be killed without restriction.

13. Seals shall not be driven long distances and shall be killed in a humane manner.

14. The whole carcass of every seal killed shall be utilised for the extraction of oil, liver oil, the production of guano, meat meal and/or other marketable products.

15. Full returns shall be made monthly, annually and when required showing the number of seals killed; the localities from which taken, the amount of oil and other products (separately) obtained and such other reasonable information as may be required.

16. All operations shall be subject to the supervision of a Sealing Officer appointed by the Governor who shall be fully maintained (except for salary) at the cost of the licensee on board any vessel or vessels employed by the licensee.

17. This licence is not transferable and may be revised periodically by the Governor.

18. In the case of a breach of any one of the conditions of this licence, or any of the provisions of the Seal Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1924, the Governor may, by notice in writing, summarily revoke this licence, and thereupon all rights conferred hereby or enjoyed hereunder shall cease as from the date mentioned in such notes.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES.SEALING LICENCE.

A licence under the Seal Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1921, as subsequently amended is hereby granted to
to take seals mentioned in and subject to the following terms and conditions.

1. This licence shall be in force from
day of 195 .
2. An annual licence fee of shall be
paid on the day of in each year,
after the date hereof.
3. The licence shall be valid in the Falkland Islands Dependencies (other than South Georgia- for all types of seal (other than fur seal)).
4. Not more than 50,000 seals shall be killed in any one season of which not more than 10,000 shall be Elephant seals. This total shall include all seals killed on licence in the Falkland Islands during the same season. Provided that such numbers may be reviewed annually by the Governor.
5. Seals shall be killed only between 1st March and 30th November in each year.
6. The licensee shall render an accurate account annually and when otherwise required of all seals taken and report and locate on the chart where such seals were found in large numbers or rookeries or where others were observed. This account to include the number of seals killed, the amount of oil and other products (separately) obtained and such other reasonable information as may be required.
7. The killing or capturing of the pup or young seal is prohibited.
8. The killing and capturing of the female seal must be avoided as far as possible.
9. The licence will be restricted to the Sealing season and must be renewed annually.
10. Seals shall not be driven long distances and shall be killed in a humane manner.
11. The whole carcase of every seal killed shall be utilised for the extraction of oil, liver oil, the production of guano, meat meal and/or other marketable products.
12. All operations shall be subject to the supervision of a Sealing Officer appointed by the Governor who shall be fully maintained (except for salary) at the cost of the licensee on board any vessel or vessels employed by the licensee.
13. This licence is not transferable and may be revised periodically by the Governor.

- 14 -

14. In the case of a breach of any one of the conditions of this licence, or any of the provisions of the Seal Fishery (Consolidation) Ordinance, 1921, the Governor may, by notice in writing, summarily revoke this licence, and thereupon all rights conferred hereby or enjoyed hereunder shall cease as from the date mentioned in such notes.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

29

From The Colonial Secretary.

To The Administrative Officer, South Georgia.

Despatched : January, 26th 19 54 Time :

Received : 19 .. Time :

CONFIDENTIAL.

18 No. 18. His Excellency's letter of 7th January. Bjelland sealing venture.

Secretary State wishes learn whether factory ship intends undertake operations at sea (i.e. crabeater on pack ice) or whether intent is to anchor inshore at various points and work surrounding beaches. Please ascertain from person named and also advise him I am writing in Biscoe mail.

23

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Reper on 34

G.T.C. -CG.
LJH.

DECODE.No. 24.TELEGRAM SENT.*Copy filed in 0958/A FOR SEAL.*~~22~~
30

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched : 26. 1. 54

Time : 17.45.

Received : 27. 1. 54 Time : 10.00.

12 No. 22. Your telegram No. 260. Sealing.

Although this proposal excludes exploitation of fur seal it might be useful if steps could be taken to obtain an up to date study of biology of species— *i.e. of Fur Seal.*

2. Mansfield who is at present at work under D.I.D.S. on Weddell Seals will be available from March onwards and would be keenly interested in studying.

3. He considers it would involve at least two Summers with two Winters spent in making observations and collecting materials. A further 2 years of laboratory work would also be required. *This means taking him on for about 4 years.*

4. I would be grateful to receive your comments on proposal.

5. A copy of a paper on the subject is being sent under separate cover.

*Reply at 40.**See 46*G.T.C.
LH.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

By Bryan Roberts, I suspect; See 11.

Y.F.

(30)

31

I regret that I am not competent to advise on the necessity for further study of seal biology nor on Mansfield's merits.

2) We do however require a competent sealing officer who will take an interest in the job, & Mansfield would certainly fill the bill.

3) As regards the cost aspect - we must pay the sealing officer but he is fully maintained on board the factory vessel.

I assume that we must pay his passage out and back each season (which at Salvesen's rates is £200 each way) unless the factory ship takes the oil direct to U.K.

This ~~is~~ it may not necessarily do and ~~then~~ Byeland may prefer to ship it by some other vessel.

There it must have gone up very substantially?
When?

12
4) However if we are to get a competent sealing
Officer we must expect to pay him all
the year round - particularly as the dependence
Sealing season is March to November & the F-1-
elephant season is November to mid January.

Yes.

5) If the factory vessel takes a shorter time
to get in to quota Mansfield, if selected, could
work up material at S.G. in the off season
~~or even~~ and help out A.O. with, perhaps, some
lost Customs Officer work.

6) On consideration therefore I think we will be
well off with Mansfield, though we cannot
give him any starting date at the moment.

29/1

S/F.

For views please.

the 29
1-54.

Y.E.

33.

Pages 30 to 32.

My views are that Mansfield would not take on the post as Sealing Officer. I feel that S.of S's advisers are thinking of Bjelland's factory ship as a Discovery II with Mansfield as Biologist on board.

I suggest that if Mansfield is asked to take on as Sealing Officer he is told that the enterprise is a commercial venture out to take their quota of sea-lions, elephants and leopards in the shortest possible time and in all probability there will be little time to put him ashore at the fur seal rookeries.

~~F.H.E.~~
2/2.

OP.

Much better in this. You have
another to go for the file.

W.C. $\frac{3}{ii}$

1601
DECODE.

No. 10.

TELEGRAM.

34

From The Administrative Officer, South Georgia.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : February, 1st 19 54 Time 18.00.

Received : February, 2nd 19 54 Time 09.00.

CONFIDENTIAL.

29 No. 29. Your telegram No. 18. Sealing project. Following for Governor begins:-

X/ Project is in its infancy and we consider governing factor would be

(a) availability of seals whether on pack ice or beaches,

(b) accessibility to pack ice or beaches.

However our idea is that factory would mainly work beaches. We confirm labour would not be recruited from Falkland Islands.

BJELLAND.

File returned

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

G.T.C.

No.

LJH.

See see above. The file is with
SF regarding information about Mearnsfield.
I do not however look as if they
will get started very in the immediate future.
On

35'

4/5

(33) & (34)

In the view of x/ of (34), I suggest we can
await the paper in ~~the~~ para 5 of (30) before replying
to (30) in detail. We should however warn them
by telegram that project is in its infancy?


 5/2

It is, as yet, an embryo and I
think we could send an S/T on this matter drawing at
the same time that we think that 4 years is a
bit much to take on Mansfield for - pointing out the
difficulties he is likely to encounter. I assume also
that the biology of the Far Seal has been very thoroughly
worked over in the Pribilofs.

luc 7/11

Yes

(35)

draft of. at cover.

Q₂

Issue please; when not engaged with the seals he could give
the 7th some time to an own Rookery —
Jasur, New Island, Volunteers and
(probably) Beaudoune.

36

RSC

Can you please let me know as early as possible what rights of entry into private land are automatically granted to the holder of a sealing licence.

The matter came up over the H.C. - S.A.S.C. dispute & my impression is that there is a right of entry wherever this has been written into the Crown Grant.

If this is so can you please tell me what ~~areas~~ ^{farms} are excluded in addition to Hafomia & ~~whether~~ what, if any, seal reserves are also excluded. You may need some form files.

14

Hon. Col. Sec.,

The right to kill and take seals is reserved, by section 21(h) of the Land Ordinance 1903 now section 28(2)(e) of the Land Ordinance 1949, to the Government or any person licensed by the Government. If this right is not expressly included in or excluded from the Grant, the provisions of section 21(h) of 1903 or section 28(2)(e) of 1949 is deemed to have been included.

2. The Government has reserved, to themselves or some other authorised person (by the Crown Grants from 1911) the right to enter upon the land to kill and take seal.

3. I would, however, mention that numerous small compulsory purchase Grants were granted before 1903, but their exact positions were not defined.

38
4. The following lands other than Lafonia are excluded:

F.I.Co. land North of Choissuel Sound,

Roy Cove.

Pebble Island (part)

5. The seal reserves are as follows:-

The territorial waters of the Colony.

Elephant Jason Island.

Bird Island.

Volunteer Rocks.

Beauchene Island.

H.B.

Registrar

16. i. 54

overleaf.

RSC

What is the authority for K/

2) Which parts are included in Y/ & what is your opinion?

16V

Hon. Col. Sec.,

1. Section 21 of the Land Ord. 1903 (1915 Vol. p. 353)

and section 28 (2) of the Land Ord 1949 (Vol I p. 331).

2. ^{Practically} All grants are included as approximately 160 acres of each section was compulsory purchase, while the remainder of each section was bought on the instalment system.

3. The Government or some person authorized by them may enter upon the land to hunt and kill seal, unless the landlord can prove that the land is a compulsory purchase area.

H.B.

Registrar

19. i. 54

4/5

Reverse arose out of a question raised by Mr Cameron in Ex Co - briefly the position is:

No right of entry

Right of entry

Yes

MC 27
1

Lafonia, Roy Cove & Pebble Island

All other farms ~~then~~ excluding certain 160 acre pieces in each section marked on the coloured map. In other words, virtual right of entry. I should inform Ex Co. members?

27th

It is requested that, in any reference to this memorandum the above number and the date may be quoted.

29th January, 1954.

CONFIDENTIAL

To: All Members of Executive Council.

From: The Colonial Secretary.

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

SUBJECT:- Sealing Operations in the Colony.

I am directed to refer to the Executive Council Minute No. 11 of Meeting No. 1 of 1954, on the subject of sealing operations in the Colony and to set out the legal position regarding the right of entry into private land for sealing purposes.

2. Government or any person duly authorised by Government may enter on private land for the purpose of hunting taking and killing seals.

3. The only areas excluded from the above, apart from Gazetted seal reserves, are lands purchased prior to 1903 and these comprise:-

- (a) Lafonia and adjacent islands.
- (b) Certain Falkland Islands Company land North of Choiseul Sound.
- (c) Roy Cove.
- (d) Part of Pebble Island.
- (e) Compulsory purchase Grants made prior to 1903.

The compulsory purchase Grants comprise areas of approximately 160 acres sited in each Section of the Colony - such Sections being shown and numbered on the coloured map of the Colony.

4. For practical purposes therefore it could be said that there is a right of entry on to all land for sealing purposes other than those listed in (a), (b), (c) & (d).

5. The authority is contained in Section 21 of the Land Ordinance 1903 and Section 28 (2) of the Land Ordinance, 1949.

C. Campbell
COLONIAL SECRETARY.

R. I. ref: 1607

C. O. ref:

40 ~~31~~

SAVING TELEGRAM.

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

To: The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 8th February, 1954.

No. 31. SAVING. COLONY.

30 Your telegram No. 22 of 26th January, 1954. Sealing.

The project is still in the air and I very much doubt whether Company could start operating before 1955 at the earliest.

2. With regard to the employment of Mansfield, I would welcome further information on the necessity for a four year appointment in view of the detailed biological investigations of the Fur Seal which must have already been carried out - especially in the Pribilofs.

3. I should perhaps also emphasise that this sealing venture is a strictly commercial enterprise with the sole object of taking a quota of hair seals in the shortest possible time and no special consideration for scientific digressions could be expected.

4. A Government Sealing Officer would, however, be appointed to travel on the factory vessel and to ensure that the conditions of

See 46 & 48

licence/

~~38~~ 41

licence were observed and Mansfield, if interested in this post for one or two seasons, would appear to be a most suitable candidate.

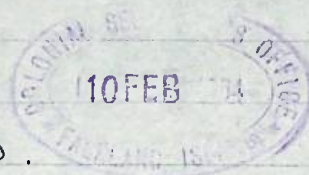
GOVERNOR.

Confidential.

BYWAYS.

GRAVEL PATH.

BERKHAMSTED.



14 January 1954.

Colonial Secretary

Falkland Islands.

10. Sir -

Your No. 1607 of 14.12.1953.

1. I am of opinion that under the Customs Order (Vol. II. p. 143) export duty can be levied upon seal oil and seal products produced within territorial waters, but
My opinion, too | not upon oil and products produced outside territorial waters.

2. To provide that oil and other products obtained from seals taken in the Colony or its Dependencies shall not escape payment of duty by reason of the processing taking place when the factory ship is outside territorial waters the agreement with the Company should contain a clause to the following effect -

"It is hereby agreed that the said (Company) shall pay to Export Duty at the rate in force from time to time during the currency of the Agreement upon all seal oil and seal products other than oil which shall be obtained or produced from seals taken under the said licence (or the licence granted in pursuance

of this Agreement) whether such Seal oil or Seal products other than oil shall or shall not have been actually produced within the Colony or any of its Dependencies or the territorial waters thereof."

3. I note that the Customs Order expressly provides for the levying of export duty on "Whale oil produced within the Colony or its territorial waters or within any of the Dependencies or their territorial waters", but there is no similar express provision regarding Seal oil and Whale and Seal products other than oil. This distinction may have been due to some manufacturing technicality of which I am ignorant, or to the fact that factory ships for dealing with Seals were not then contemplated, but, ex abundanti cautela, might it not be well to enact an amending Order, to the following effect —

Customs —

Section 6. Order made etc. etc.

1. This Order may be cited as the Customs (Amendment) Order, 1954.

2. Clause 3 of the Customs Order is amended by the revocation of the provisions therein contained relating to Whale Oil and Seal Oil and Whale and Seal products other than oil and the substitution thereof of the following —

"On Whale Oil and Seal Oil —

The Duty shall be assessed Such average market price.

A

On all Whale and Seal products other than oil, sixpence per one hundred lb. weight or part thereof.

These duties will be levied on all whale oil and seal oil and on all whale and seal products other than oil produced within the Colony or its territorial waters or within any of the Dependencies or the territorial waters thereof."

The Order must be confirmed by the Legislative Council - see Customs Ordinance, section 6(2).

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Henry Webb.

Y^{rs}

(10) Pse see (42)

B

I suggest it would be advisable to make the amending order also enter into an agreement as suggested by Sir Webb.

2) We still cannot stamp them for seals taken on pack ice outside territorial waters and for that reason we will require a very reliable sealing officer.

3) With regard to (22) we have rather a meagre reply at (34) & I was proposing to the Assistant British mail to see if more details are forthcoming.

No do we wish to do so

Yes. MC 25/ii

20/2

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

45

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 26.2.54 Time: 1015 Received: 26.2.54 Time: 1400

22

30

No 54. My telegram No 21 and my telegram No 22.

Grateful early reply.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

Reply at 46

A.C.S.

Reply to tel. N.o 22 sent at 40 & despatched

Feb. 9th by Megrez N.

S.M.
26/2.

(Checkman getting answers)

45

Pre see (22)

also (30) & (40)

of at work

27/2

para 3 of (44) B
Maff reply

Issue inc. 27/11

KIV 44

GTC
SM

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched: 1.3.54 Time: 1530 Received: Time:

22 No 71. Your telegram No 21. Sealing. Company promoters state project is in infancy but they intend to work beaches mainly unless seals are available and accessible on pack ice in any quantities. Further information awaits mail
x | from South Georgia.

30
40 2. Your telegram No 22 was answered by my Savingram No 31/54 Colony.

GOVERNOR

See 49.

Extract from the Minutes of a Meeting of Executive Council
held on the 23rd February, 1954.

2. ARISING OUT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES.

(ii) His Excellency stated that he had received an assurance from the promoters of the Company that they did not intend to employ Falkland Islands labour.

Clerk of the Executive Council.

Bu. 10/3 (to Mr. Spivay)

Mr. Spivay discussed with Mr. Tracy

Q
15/3

Q
5/3

Bu. 14 to Bureau

Q
2/3

Bu. 17 14/5

No mail
Sent 17/4/54

des.

Bu. 12 K.I.D.

X on 46 - nothing in Biscuit mine, re.

Q
24/4

ACS N.P.A.N. but we are missing a telegram (or copy) about Mansfield referring to (40). Has it passed on to the Air Seal file?

Q
26/4

des. H.C.S.

Telegram now filed. It had been at FIDS office in P/46.FIDS

Q
26/4

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

48

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 16.4.54.

Time: 1920 Received: 17.10.54. Time: 1030

40

No. 79. Fur Seal. Your despatch

8/2 1607.

It is possible for work envisaged to be completed in 3 years. I am advised fur seal in Pribilofs are northern fur seal different specie and that life histories are not necessarily similar.

*The post Government Sealing Officer as set out would not interest Mansfield who is primarily a scientist.

Mansfield is at present enquiring appointment in North America.*

x-x Extracted Jo P/46. FIDS

GTC: CSO.

N PAN.
28/11/54

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

49

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 6.5.54 Time: 1600 Received: 7.5.54 Time: 0845

46

No 91. Your telegram No 71. Sealing.

I shall be grateful to learn when I may expect
to receive further information promised in your telegram
under reference.

SECRETARY OF STATE

Reply at 50

DECODE.

50

TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched: 8.5.54

Time: 1100

Received:

Time:

49

No 129. Your telegram No 91. Sealing. I do not
now expect to be able supply further information before
June.

GOVERNOR

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

51

From The Colonial Secretary.

To The Admin. Officer, South Georgia.

Despatched : 8th May, 19 54 Time : 1045

Received : 19 .. Time :

34

CONFIDENTIAL. No 107. Your telegram No 29.
Sealing, Before deciding whether licence may
be granted Secretary of State would like more back
ground information regarding Company's intentions
and proposed method of operation. Please ask
Bjelland if he could expand more fully by Biscoe
mail.

2. Please let me know your confidential
views on whether this project likely to materialize
and if they will be able raise necessary capital.

SECRETARY

B413/5 up

See 52

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

52

From The Admin. Officer, South Georgia.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched : 11th May, 19 54 Time : 1200

Received : 11th May, 19 54 Time : 1500

51
CONFIDENTIAL. No 102. Your Confidential No 107.

Sealing. I am almost certain that this sealing venture will not materialise. Believe I am correct in saying Bjelland thought he would interest Salvesen but gather they would not hear of it in fact were annoyed at suggestion moreover the terms of Dependencies licence warn them off mainly because their activities would be confined mostly to winter months which would mean that an ice breaker or similar ship would be required I think Bjelland will write and ask you to hold matter over but he has not yet decided.

ADMIN. OFFICER.

YH
① + ②③
P2e see ⑤②. Capt. Johnston told me that they were having difficulty in raising the capital "thought ~~the~~ the proposals would be dropped.
2) If we had our factory friend at Decapthai he would probably like to do some sealing as

S. Larsen Bjelland
Leith Harbour
South Georgia.

- " -



54
Leith Harbour,
SOUTH GEORGIA, 24th April 54

23
Sir,

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter dated 26th January (F.I. ref: 1607) contents of which duly noted.

As you may probaly know, I am staying at Leith Harbour this winter but, Worksmaster Jensen and Manager Olsen Husvik Harbour will work on the project while at home this Summer.

I hope to be able to forward final results of their endeavours after their return to South Georgia in October/November.

There is one point, however, in the draft of proposed Licence, I would like to mention.

Paragraph 5 reads:

See 25
SEA LIONS SHALL BE KILLED ONLY BETWEEN 1st
MAY AND 30TH SEPTEMBER IN EACH YEAR.

In whatever way we should be able to operate the proposed Licence, it would have to be between September and May.

Yours sincerely,

S. Larsen Bjelland

The Hon.
COLONIAL SECRETARY,
PORT STANLEY.

Ph
23/6

1306

1607

NED 55/212/01

✓ 55

Saving

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies

To the Officer Administering the Government of FALKLAND ISLANDS

Date 17 August, 1954.

No. 111 Saving



Your telegram No. 129 of the 8th May.

Sealing.

I should be grateful to learn whether you are now in a position to supply the further information promised in your telegram No. 71.

46

SECR.

Reply at 56

BVP

A.B.S

46 + 50 promised this after A.B.

June mail; but nothing on subject was received from A.O. by 18/6/54 correspondence.

W.H. 20/9

F. I. ref: 1607.

C. O. ref: MED 55/212/01.

56.

SAVING TELEGRAM.

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

To: The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 22nd September, 1954.

No. 152.
No.

SAVING.

COLONY

CONFIDENTIAL.

55 Your Savingram No. 111 of 17th August, 1954. Sealing.

I regret that I have still been unable to obtain farther details. I am informed that two of the partners have been working on plans for the project during their winter leave in Norway and that it is unlikely that they will be able to reach a firm decision until they have returned to South Georgia and consulted the third partner.

2. The Administrative Officer, South Georgia, is of the opinion that nothing will materialize since Salvesen, from whom the partners expected to raise money, is not interested in the venture.

GOVERNOR.

H.S.

W. J. A. & the moment pt.

23/9

By 2 minutes

W. J.

By 24/11

By 24/11

By 15/12/1

57

P/A
from
with

+ current extract
recs of met-
falvesen.

A
10/11

9/1

A.

58.

EXTRACT FROM RECORD OF MEETING HELD AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE
WITH CAPTAIN SALVESEN on 12. 12. 54.

(Original filed in 1272 - Interviews with H.E. the
Governor)

(Subject to Captain Salvesen's approval)

.....
3. Bjelland's Sealing Project. Captain Salvesen
stated that Mr. Bjelland and associates had no wish to
pursue their application for a sealing licence nor in fact
had their enquiries ever been any more than tentative.

His Excellency stated that he had deliberately
not raised the question during his recent visit to South
Georgia since he did not intend to take any initiative
in the matter. So far as he was concerned it could die.
.....

B.

H.E.

would you like (56) followed up
now or prefer to wait Capt. S.'s
confirmation of above, pl?

\$
30/12

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary

To The Admin. Officer, South Georgia

Despatched : 18th December, 19 54 Time : 1100

Received : 19 .. Time :

CONFIDENTIAL. No 221. Decode yourself. You are no doubt aware that Colony's relations with Captain Salvesen have in the past been somewhat strained. The trouble arose in 1948 when he thought we had let him down over a local sealing project though the files tell a different story. Since then there has been undercurrent of hostility in all correspondence.

2. Recent visit here was however great success, all old hatchets have been buried and friendly relations have been re-established.

3. You will in due course receive record of discussions and principal decisions directly affecting you are

- (a) We promised in future to deal direct with Head Office and not with or through Leith Manager on matters of major policy e.g. appointment of dentist.
- (b) We agreed to take no initiative in matter of Bjelland's sealing licence which can be left to die.
- (c) Salvesen promised to review scale of charges for services to Government but held out no hope of reduction as scale applies equally to Government and other outside interests.

SECRETARY

GTC
CC/SM

Yes.

Re.

see

58 B.

20/12

*AS be nice follow
now - be p.p. drafts
31/12*

*See 60.
d
34*

F. I. ref: 1607.
C. O. ref:

60

SAVING TELEGRAM.

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

To: The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

3rd January, 1955.

Date:

No. No. 7. COLONY.
SAVING.

56 My Savingram No. 152 of 22nd September, 1954. Sealing.

I have now ascertained that Bjelland and associates have
no wish to pursue their application.

GOVERNOR.

Re: 8.11

Note for 1967. Buller's Seal

S/S or R/S

- 1) Whether ~~from~~ all or any females should be banded.
- 2) Ele leopard vs restriction.
- 3) Any restriction on
 - a) minimum lengths
 - b) percentage to be left on beaches
- 4) Any seasonal variation.
- 5) Taking of Live Camo Book. Elephants
- 6) Any restriction on number other than Elephants.
- 7) Any restriction on areas where Bases depend on dog food.

~~See note~~ S/S