

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No.

459/16.

NAT/WHA/1#13

1113

Governor's Office.



From		SUBJECT.
Secretary of State for the Colonies.		PORT OF ENTRY AT NEW ISLAND.  Letter from Messrs Salvesen & Co. concerning
No.	Date.	
115	13th October, 1916.	

Colonial Secretary's Record No.
Registered Number of last Despatch.  298/16
No. next Despatch

MINUTES.

*Desp to Sec of State N° 194 of 9<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1915*

Copy.

S.M.

ENCLOSURE TO DESPATCH

No. 115 OF 13/10/16

CHR. SALVESEN & CO.

29 Bernard Street,  
Leith 3rd October 1916.



Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo - 46204/1916.

We note that the Port of Entry at New Island was re-opened in June of last year; but, as you are aware, this was just exactly 2 months too late in order to be of any service whatsoever, as all the foreign vessels engaged in the South Shetlands whaling trade, finish at the end of March or the beginning of April.

The fact that the Governor forced the foreign vessels to call at Port Stanley on their way to the South Shetlands at the beginning of the season last year, deprived the New Island repairing depôt of all benefits which might have accrued from these vessels calling there.

We beg to express our surprise that it should be necessary for the foreign whaling fleet to call at Port Stanley in order that their licences may be duly completed and issued. In our case, the licences are completed and issued from the Crown Agents months before our whaling factory steamer proceeds to the South from this country. According to the Ordinance of the Falkland Islands, holders of licences are bound to have their applications in by the 1st April for the ensuing whaling season, unless they wish to imperil the continuation thereof.

We have given instructions that the slip and repairing shop at New Island remain intact, and we would  
feel

feel very grateful to you if the Governor of the Falkland Islands might be instructed to endeavour to make such arrangements as would enable the foreign element in the South Shetlands fishing trade, to make use of the facilities at New Island, when whaling operations are being started there.

We have, etc.,

(Signed) Chr: Salvesen & Company.

The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office,  
London. S.W.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 194.

Government House, Stanley.

9th December, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 115 of the 13th October, 1916, enclosing for my consideration a copy of a letter from Messrs Salvesen and Co. on the subject of the Port of Entry at New Island.

2. In view of the re-establishment of New Island as a Port of Entry in June, 1915, reported by my despatch No. 157 of the 3rd August, 1916, it does not appear to me that any action is called for on Messrs Salvesen and Company's letter of the 3rd October, 1916.

3. I desire however to say, with reference to Messrs Salvesen's remark respecting the issue locally last year of the licences for the South Shetlands Whaling Vessels, that the issue locally was due to exceptional circumstances, and that the licences for the season 1916-17 for the South Shetlands Whaling Vessels were this year sent with other whaling licences to the Crown Agents for issue in due course.

4. It appears to me that Messrs Salvesen and Co. would wish you to understand that through the action of the Governor in deeming it necessary on account of war conditions to close New Island as a Port of Entry

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

&c., &c., &c.

Entry in 1914, that they have suffered loss by reason of some of the South Shetlands Whaling Vessels not calling at New Island, and making use of the Company's repairing depot there.

5. In connection with this representation I beg to state that it is unlikely that any vessel arriving in this Colony from the United Kingdom, or elsewhere, to enter upon the operations of the whaling season, would in ordinary course arrive in such a condition as to require the vessel to proceed to New Island, either direct or from Port Stanley, to make use of the benefits of the repairing depot of Messrs Salvesen and Company at New Island. All necessary repairs would in ordinary course be effected before the return of the vessels to the Colony for the Whaling season. The Magistrate of South Shetlands, who was with the whaling vessels in South Shetlands throughout the whole of last season, informs me that the Masters of the vessels were fully aware that they were at liberty to make use of New Island as a Port of Entry on their return from South Shetlands, but that he gathered from the Masters that there was a general dis-inclination among them to have any dealings with Messrs Salvesen and Co. if they could help it. The terms, he understood, of Messrs Salvesen and Co. are less favourable than can be obtained elsewhere. For instance at Monte Video, where the whalers prefer to lay up for the winter months under anchorage far more safe than anything offering at New Island. I am informed too that the slip of Messrs Salvesen and Co. at New Island is not sufficiently large to accommodate the larger whale catchers.

G. Imperial interests take precedence of any individual interests. The Governor of this Colony considered it necessary in the Imperial Interest to take certain steps on the outbreak of war in 1914, and I fail to see that Messrs Salvesen and Co. have any reasonable ground for complaint against his action in the matter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

*Douglas Young*  
Governor.