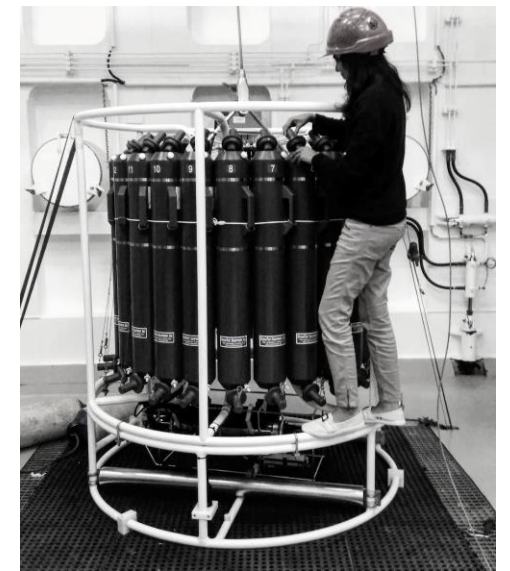




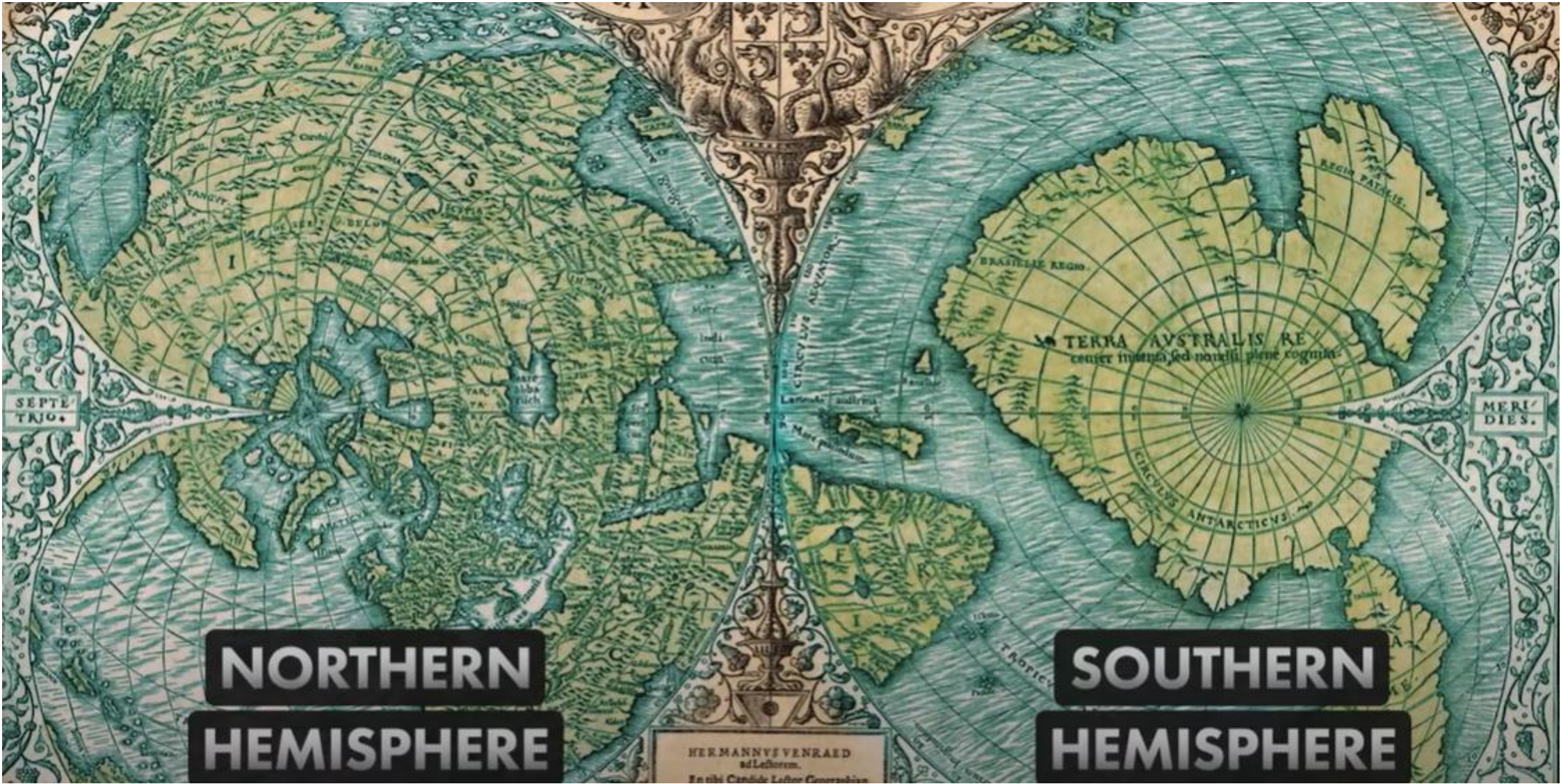
Antarctic treaty

Dr Sheveenah Sunnasseh Taukoo

Nansen-Tutu Centre, UCT



Terra Australis Incognita - 1530

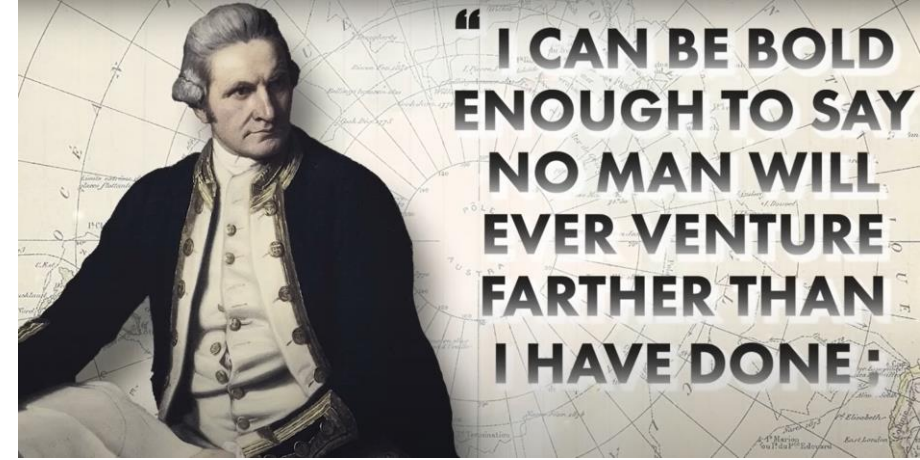


**NORTHERN
HEMISPHERE**

**SOUTHERN
HEMISPHERE**

HERMANNUS VENRAED
ad Lectorem.
En tibi Cantide Lecter Concedebat

1773 - Captain James Cook



Conquering Antarctica

24 January 1895 - the Antarctic



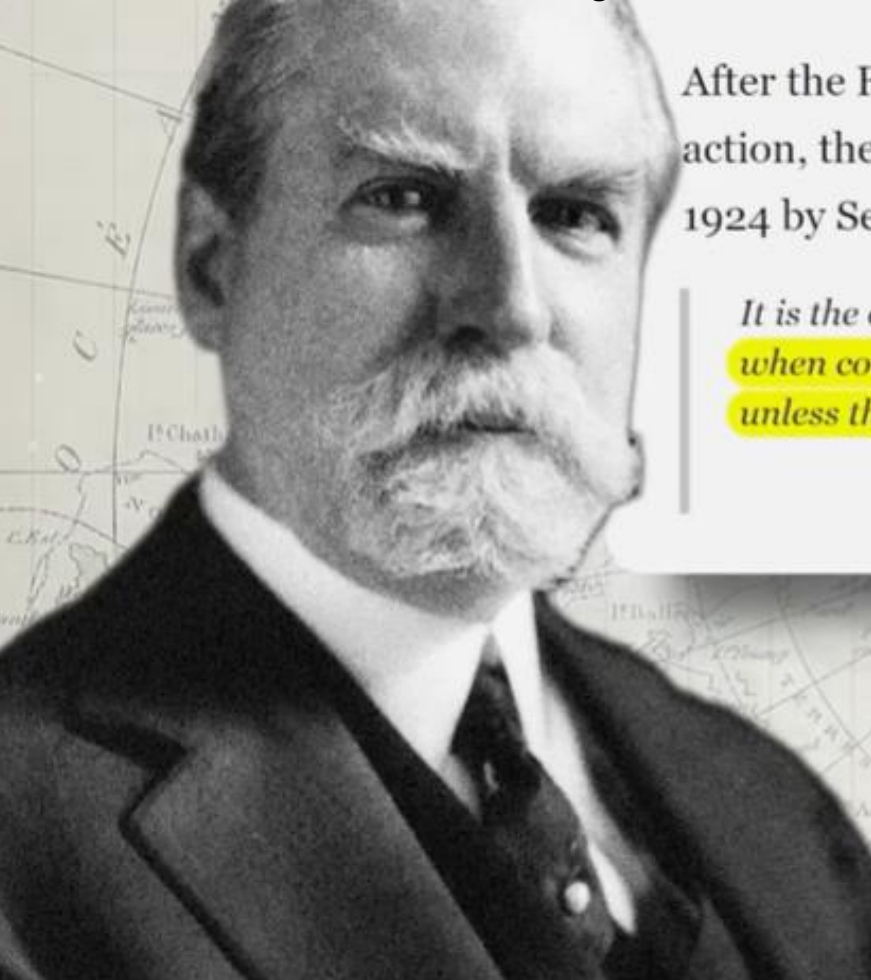
Antarctica in 1938



Territorial Claims

•France:

- **Claim:** Adélie Land (claimed in 1924).
- Crozet Islands, Kerguelen Islands, Amsterdam Island (1950s)

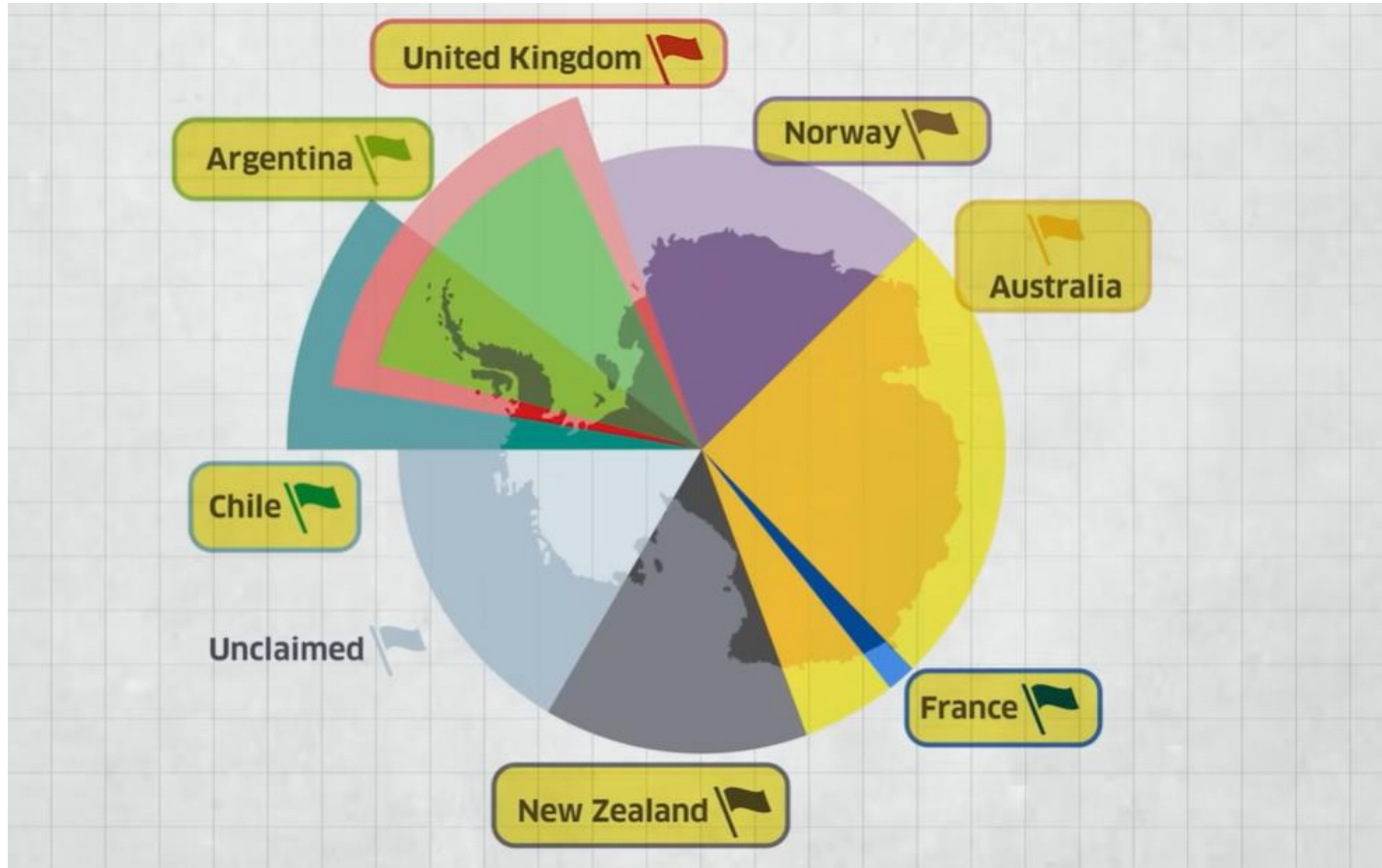


After the French claim of Adélie Land caused Americans to demand retaliatory action, the United States' official position on the sovereignty issue was announced in 1924 by Secretary of State Charles Evans Hughes:

It is the opinion of this Department that the discovery of lands unknown to civilization, even when coupled with a formal taking of possession, does not support a valid claim of sovereignty, unless the discovery is followed by an actual settlement of the discovered country.

CHARLES EVANS HUGHES

7 countries



Territorial Claims

- **United Kingdom:**

- **Claim:** British Antarctic Territory (established in 1908).
- South Georgia, South Sandwich Islands (1982 Falklands War with Argentina)

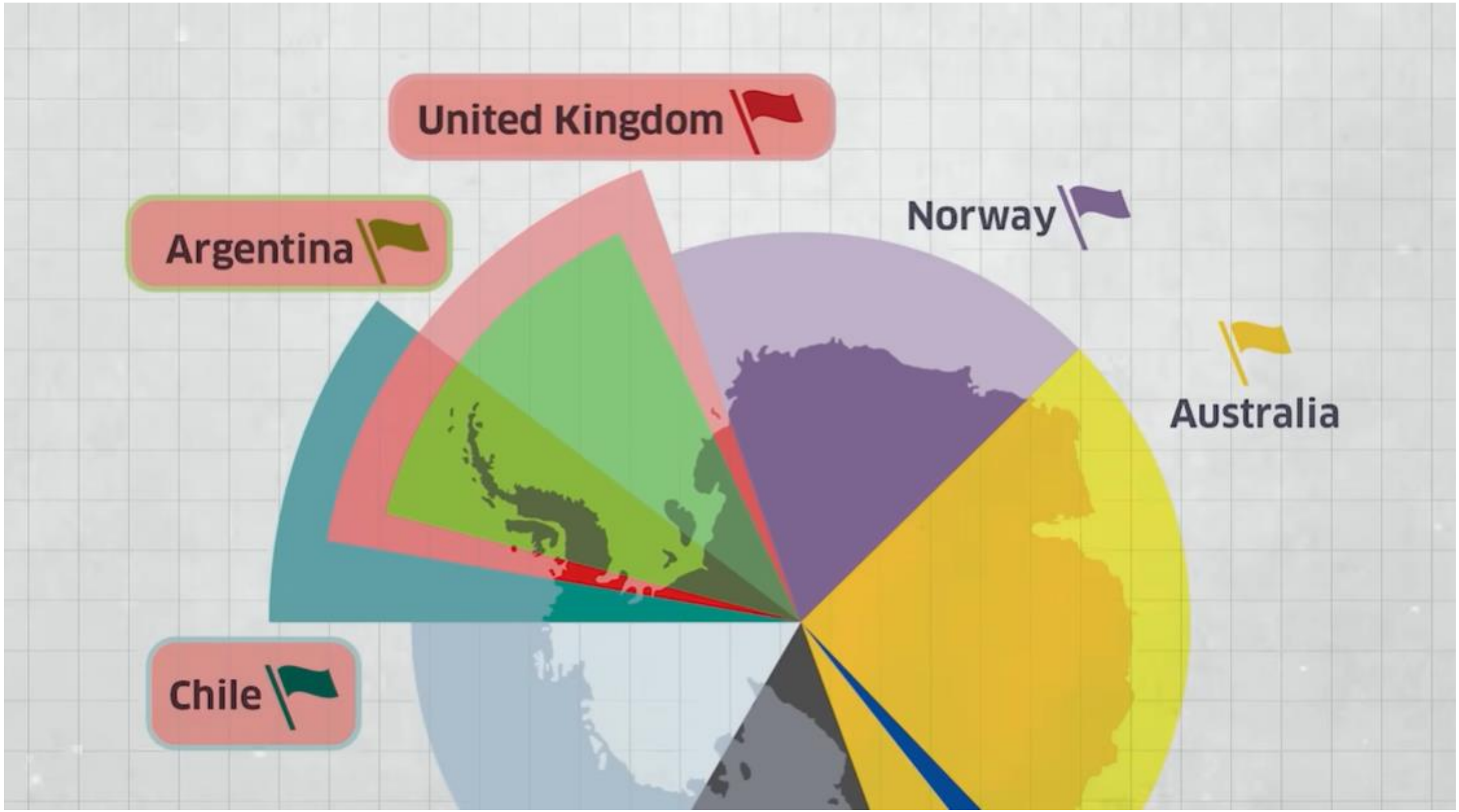


Territorial Claims

- **South Africa's Subantarctic Interests:**

- **Prince Edward Islands:** Controlled since 1948, used for scientific research and conservation.





United Kingdom



Argentina



Norway



Australia



Chile



3. The Soviets have engaged in widespread exploration beginning in late 1955. Current Soviet activities in the area are on a larger scale than those of any other country except the U.S. The USSR may have the basis for a colorable claim by reason of a naval expedition under Admiral von Bellingshausen in 1819–21. The Soviets made very clear, in a memorandum dated June 10, 1950 (Annex D⁸), that they could *not* recognize as legal any decision on the regime for the Antarctic taken without their participation.

4. The U.S. Antarctic policy adopted last June contemplated diplomatic conversations with Free World claimants followed by (1) a U.S. claim to the unclaimed sectors; (2) further U.S. claims, as mutually agreed upon with other claimant countries, to certain other areas in which the U.S. has rights from discovery or exploration; and (3) reservation of U.S. rights in the unclaimed sector of Antarctica. The U.S. would refrain from announcing claims or reservations: (1) until after review by the National Security Council of the areas to be claimed; unless U.S. strategic considerations are no longer a major factor, and (2) until after review by the USSR or other developments made the taking of immediate steps necessary or desirable.

5. Antarctica may be said to have assumed some strategic importance in the light



OFFICE OF THE
HISTORIAN

FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1954-1960, UNITED
NATIONS AND GENERAL INTERNATIONAL MATTERS, VOLUME II

268. Memorandum of Discussion at the 357th Meeting
of the National Security Council, Washington, March 6,
1958¹

Washington, March 6, 1958

(Here follows a paragraph listing the participants at the meeting.)

¹ U.S. Policy on Antarctica (NSC Action No. 1238, NSC 5715/1, SRHE 11-3-58; NSC 5800; Memo for NSC from Executive Secretary, same subject, dated March 5, 1958)

General Cutler briefed the Council in considerable detail on the contents of the proposed new policy on Antarctica (NSC 5800), pointing out at the outset, on a map, the different national claims to portions of Antarctica. He set forth the views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, which were in opposition to the proposed new policy because they wished to exclude the USSR from any voice in the administration of Antarctica and because they wished the United States, as soon as possible, to claim both the unclaimed sector of Antarctica and areas (2) in sectors claimed by other nations in which we had rights and interests. (A copy of General Cutler's briefing note is filed in the minutes of the meeting, and another copy is attached to this memorandum.)

Geopolitical Climate [pre Antarctic treaty]

World War II (1939-1945)

- **Increased Geopolitical Tensions**

- Major rivals: **United States vs. Nazi Germany, United Kingdom vs. Japan.**

Cold War (1947-1991)

- **Intensified Superpower Rivalries**

- Major rivals: **United States vs. Soviet Union.**

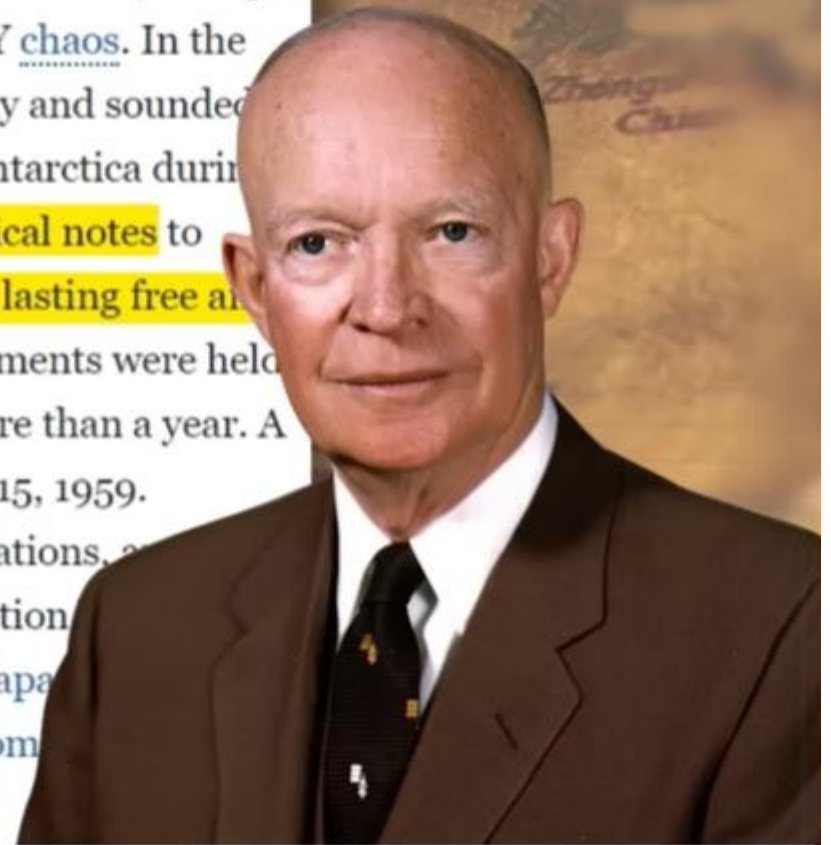
- **Antarctic Strategic Interest**

- **Prevention of Military Conflict**

The Antarctic Treaty

1958

of IGY the threat arose that the moratorium too would end, letting
worked out Antarctic structure collapse into its pre-IGY chaos. In the
fall of 1957 the U.S. Department of State reviewed its Antarctic policy and sounded
out agreements with the 11 other governments that were active in Antarctica during
IGY. On May 2, 1958, U.S. Pres. Dwight D. Eisenhower issued identical notes to
these governments proposing that a treaty be concluded to ensure a lasting free and
peaceful status for the continent. Preparatory talks by the 12 governments were held
in Washington, D.C., beginning in June 1958 and continuing for more than a year. A
final conference on Antarctica convened in Washington on October 15, 1959.
Agreement on the final draft was reached within six weeks of negotiations, and the
Antarctic Treaty was signed on December 1, 1959. With final ratification by
the 12 governments (Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand,
Norway, South Africa, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the
United States), the treaty was enacted on June 23, 1961.



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

The Antarctic Treaty (1959)

Negotiation and Signing: 1959: The Antarctic Treaty was negotiated in Washington, D.C., and signed by 12 countries including the U.S., U.K., Soviet Union, and others.

Entered into force in 1961, marking a new era of cooperative governance.





CONFERENCE ON
ANTARCTICA

CONFERENCIA DE LA
ANTARTIDA

CONFERENCE DE
L'ANTARCTIQUE

КОНФЕРЕНЦИЯ ПО
АНТАРКТИКЕ

WASHINGTON, D. C. - OCTOBER 15, 1959

December 1, 1959

THE ANTARCTIC TREATY

- THE ANTARCTIC TREATY
- TRAITE SUR L'ANTARCTIQUE
- ДОГОВОР ОБ АНТАРКТИКЕ
- TRATADO ANTARTICO

The Governments of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, the French Republic, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, the Union of South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America,

Recognizing that it is in the interest of all mankind that Antarctica shall continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord;

FOR NEW ZEALAND:
POUR LA NOUVELLE-ZELANDE:
ЗА НОВУЮ ЗЕЛАНДИЮ:
POR NUEVA ZELANDIA:

FOR NORWAY
POUR LA NORVEGE:
ЗА НОРВЕГИЮ:
POR NORUEGA:

FOR THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA:
POUR L'UNION SUD-AFRICAINNE:
ЗА ЮЖНО-АФРИКАНСКИЙ СОЮЗ:
OR LA UNION DEL AFRICA DEL SUR:

Antarctic Treaty

•Protections:

- Scientific Research:** Guarantees freedom for scientific investigation and mandates the sharing of research results with all treaty parties.
- Environmental Conservation:** Ensures protection of Antarctic ecosystems from human impact.

•Bans:

- Military Activity:** Prohibits military operations, including the establishment of military bases and testing of weapons.
- Territorial Claims:** Suspends all new claims of sovereignty and freezes existing claims to avoid territorial disputes.

•Allows:

- International Cooperation:** Encourages collaborative scientific research and mutual support among signatory nations.

South African scientific research station

- 1959:** South Africa was an original signatory, valuing the strategic and scientific importance of Antarctica.

- SANAE Base**
(SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION):

- Established:** 1959

- SANAE II Base:**

- Established:** 1965

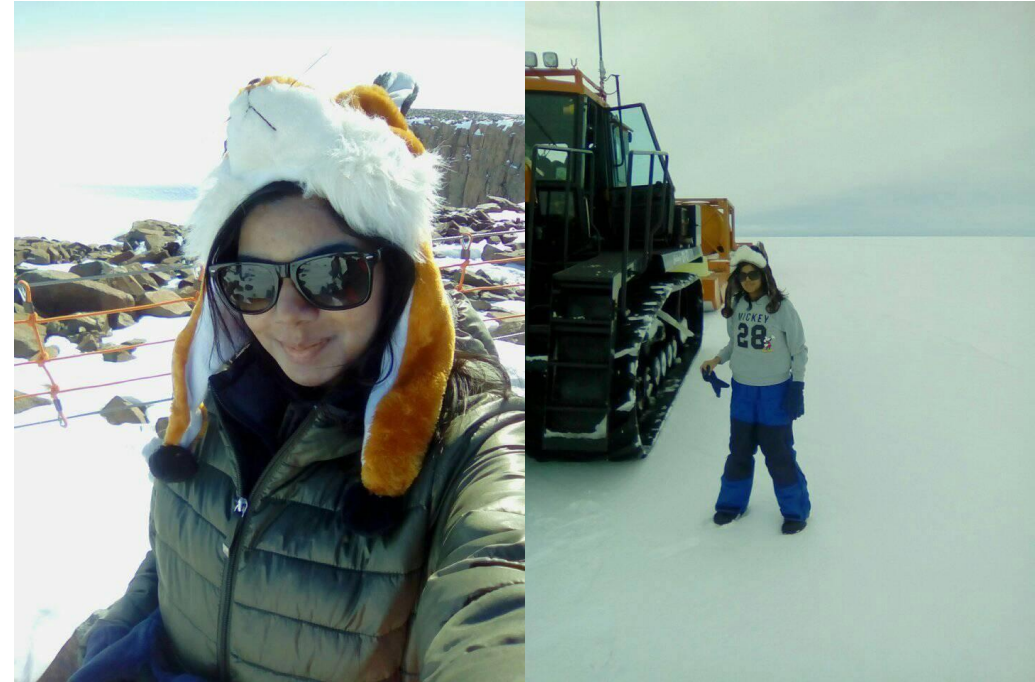
- SANAE III Base:**

- Established:** 1979

- SANAE IV Base:**

- Established:** 1997

- Status:** Currently operational and serves as South Africa's main Antarctic research base.



- India:
- Joined the Antarctic Treaty: 1983
- First Scientific Base: Dakshin Gangotri Station, established in 1983



T H I S W E E K

Don't phone us . . .

COMPLAINTS that high telephone charges handicap British industry have a hollow ring after a new survey of charges by Logica, a firm of consultants in London, for the French Telephone and Telecommunications Users' Association. The survey showed that by far the highest telephone charges in the developed world are in Japan—hardly a country noted for industrial decline.

Logica calculated how much companies in various countries pay for a typical "basket" of telephone and telecommunications services (including local, long-distance and international calls). The Japanese have to pay \$462 a month for the services Logica selected—34 per cent more than a British business has to pay. Italy, Switzerland and Germany are about 15 per cent cheaper than Britain and France is cheaper again. Here are Logica's figures:

Country	Business calls/ month (\$)	Private calls/month (\$)
Japan	462	46
Britain	342	33
Italy	289	27
Switzerland	288	30
Germany	284	34
France	264	26
US	241	22
Belgium	224	27
Spain	187	20
Sweden	140	17
Netherlands	134	18

Cancer quiz

THE American Cancer Society last week launched by far the biggest ever survey into the causes of cancer. More than a million Americans will take part in the study, which will try to show how such factors as lifestyle and environment affect the incidence of the disease.

When the \$12 million study gets under way, 85 000 volunteers will question the participants about their use of coffee.

Indians quietly invade Antarctica

AN EXPEDITION of Indian scientists landed last month on the shores of Antarctica. The expedition, which left India without fanfare and was kept quiet almost until the team landed in Antarctica, was organised six months ago: preparations began in July 1981, a few days after the establishment of the Depart-

Anil Agarwal, New Delhi

ment of Ocean Development directly under the charge of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The department hired a Norwegian ship, Polarsirkel, after deciding not to use a ship belonging to either of the super-powers. Some technical discussions were also held with the Polar Research Institute of Norway.

The expedition, purely scientific in its objectives, carried out studies on organic and inorganic resources in the Indian Ocean and Antarctica; geological studies of the Antarctic mainland, measurements of geomagnetic phenomena, experiments in glaciology and meteorology. The scientists collected samples of ice debris, examined water formation in the region that affects the Indian Ocean, and studied low and high frequency radio propagation.

Data collected from the Antarctic convergence are particularly relevant to India as the meteorological processes in the region play a big part in forming the monsoon. A spokesman announcing the expedition's landing claimed that these studies "will add to our knowledge of

factors relating to the Indian Ocean and the monsoons, on which the economy of the country is critically dependent. It will enable the evaluation of several aspects of life in the ice-bound areas, which are similar to the areas on our northern frontiers."

The expedition left behind solar-powered equipment to collect weather data. Future expeditions are expected to set up a permanent scientific station in Antarctica.

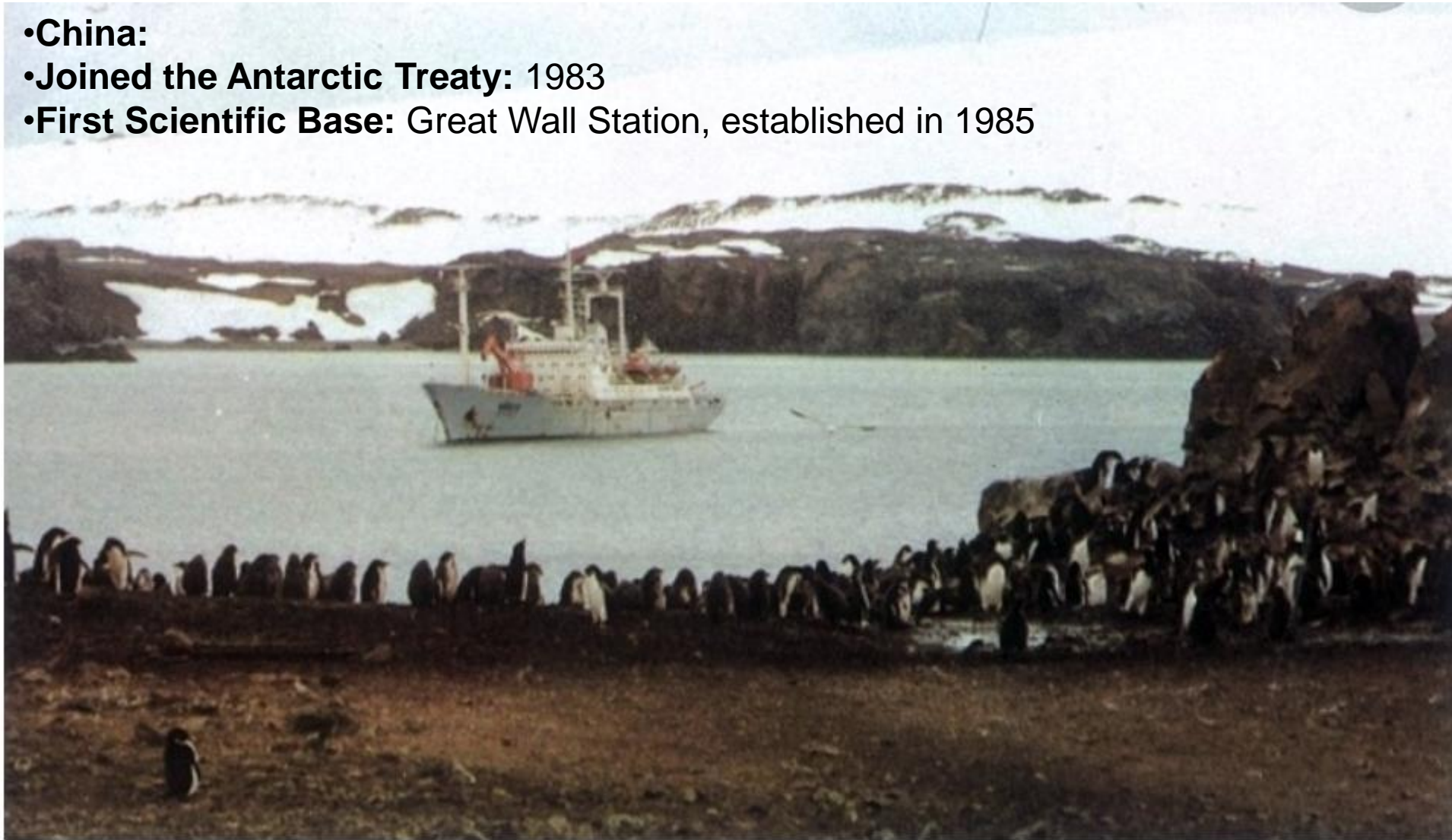
The expedition is a part of the larger Indian programme of ocean development which includes efforts in mining the sea bed. Indian scientists at the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) have already been able to collect metallic nodules from about 5000 metres under the sea.

India can not apply to become a signatory to the Antarctic Treaty. Membership to this exclusive club is open only to countries with a proven record of scientific interest in Antarctica. No developing countries are members.

An Indian spokesman in the United Nations strongly criticised the treaty when it was drawn up in the 1950s. He called it a closed club that would be detrimental to the interests of the developing countries. The spokesman argued that Antarctica be regarded as a common heritage of mankind. India's entry could now help to break this "closed club" attitude of the Antarctic Treaty signatories. □

- Brazil:
- Joined the Antarctic Treaty: 1975
- First Scientific Base: Comandante Ferraz Station, established in 1984

- China:
- Joined the Antarctic Treaty: 1983
- First Scientific Base: Great Wall Station, established in 1985



China began its Antarctic investigation in 1984, but at that time, the ship it used, "Xiang Yang Hong 10", had no ice-breaking or resisting capabilities. (Web Image)

Associated Protocols

1964: Conservation of Fauna and Flora

- Protection:** Bans harmful collection of wildlife, protects ecosystems from exploitation.

•**1972: Conservation of Antarctic Seals**

- Regulation:** Limits seal hunting, sets quotas to ensure sustainable populations.

•**1980: CCAMLR (Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources)**

- Management:** Regulates fishing, aims to conserve marine life in the Southern Ocean.

The Madrid Protocol (1991)

•Purpose and Provisions:

- Environmental Protection:** Declares Antarctica a natural reserve dedicated to peace and science.
- Ban on Mineral Resources:** Prohibits commercial mining and mineral exploitation, allowing only scientific research.

•Long-Term Protection:

- Duration:** went into force 1998

Architecture on The Big Ice



What happens next?

•Antarctic Treaty:

- **Review Mechanism:**
 - Can be reviewed or modified through consensus by Consultative Parties.

•Madrid Protocol:

- **Review Process:**
 - **First 50 Years (1998-2048):** Can only be amended with unanimous agreement of all Consultative Parties.
 - **Post-2048:** Any Consultative Party can call for a review conference. Amendments require a majority of all Parties
 - **Prohibition on Mineral Resources:**
 - The ban cannot be removed unless a new binding legal regime on mineral resource activities is established through consensus.

What can improve or disrupt the Antarctic treaty?

Current geopolitical climate

•Allies

•Australia and New Zealand

•Argentina and Chile

•United Kingdom and Norway

•Japan and South Korea

•BRICS Countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, and the United Arab Emirates)

•NATO

•South Africa and Norway

Good Potential Outcomes

- **Global Climate Initiatives:**

- **Climate change and Sustainable Practices:**
 - .
- **Innovative Solutions:**

- **Increased International Collaboration:**

- **Positive Diplomacy:**
- **Shared Research:**

Current geopolitical climate

- **South China Sea Disputes**

- **Countries:** China, Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei, Taiwan.

- **Russia-Ukraine War**

- **Countries:** Russia, Ukraine, NATO.

- **U.S.-China Rivalry**

- **Countries:** United States, China.

- **Arctic Resource Conflicts**

- **Countries:** Russia, U.S., Canada, Norway, Denmark.

- **Middle East Tensions**

- **Countries:** Iran, Saudi Arabia, Israel, U.S.

- **Indian Ocean Chokepoints**

- **Countries:** India, China, U.S., Australia, Pakistan, Iran, Saudi Arabia.



Worst Case Scenario Outcomes

- **Geopolitical Rivalries:**

- **Territorial Disputes:**

- **Countries Involved:** Russia, Argentina, Chile.

- **Military Competition:**

- **Countries Involved:** Russia, China, the United States.

Worst Case Scenario Outcomes

- **Resource Exploitation Conflicts:**

- **Mineral Resource Push:**

- **Countries Involved:** Australia, China, South Africa.

- **Overfishing Disputes:**

- **Countries Involved:** Norway, Japan, South Korea, China.