

JOHN TAIT

Edited transcript of a recording of John Tait, interviewed by Chris Eldon Lee, at his home at Wingerworth, Chesterfield, Derbyshire on 13th November 2001. Transcribed by Maggie Russell, (19th October) 2011.

Track 1 [0:00:03] Chris Eldon Lee: *This is John Tait, interviewed by Chris Eldon Lee at his home near Chesterfield in Derbyshire on the 13th of November 2001. John Tait.*

Track 1 [0:00:16] John Tait: We had this standing rule of a sort of three day communication point, if you didn't communicate within three days they didn't hit the panic buttons particularly but they flagged it up that you hadn't heard, if a week went by and you still hadn't heard then perhaps you would start to get concerned and the concern would grow with each passing missed radio sched. until such times as you decided to send search parties and what have you but the ethos of the Antarctic was such that chaps just sort of took off for a general area of destination. The Directorate of Surveys would say right this year we are going to survey 65° South 20° West or something like that, give you a grid reference, and you went into the grid reference and surveyed.

Track 1 [0:01:37] Chris Eldon Lee: *Normally I would just say lets just chat about the Antarctic but I'd rather just be a bit more specific.*

Track 1 [0:01:42] John Tait: yes indeed and I think that's right because chatting about the Antarctic, we haven't got enough hours, heh, heh.

Track 1 [0:01:50] Chris Eldon Lee: *Tell me what was happening in here as you were on that Zodiac?*

[Transcribers note: This relates to Marguerite Bay Reunion Cruise of 2000]

Track 1 [0:01:53] John Tait: I was very thrilled, first of all, that we were actually going to make a landing or attempt to make a landing on Detail Island because it wasn't really on the itinerary and then to be chosen by the expedition leader to go along to Detail Island together with John Smith who had been there as a winterer was very, very exciting for us. The trip through the ice probably looked a lot worse than it was. We had as you know three expedition staff on the Zodiac plus the two of us. In and out of the ice floes, there was never any real problem, they were very competent operators of the Zodiacs and it was just a question really of picking the route, and as I say probably looked a lot worse from the ship than it actually was, we were never in any great problem but as we got nearer and nearer to Detail, well, John and I were more and more excited and they allowed us to be the first ones to step onto the Island when we got to the island.

Track 1 [0:03:21] Chris Eldon Lee: *I thought I saw somebody in a red suit trying to kick a bit of ice away. Tell me about that.*

Track 1 [0:03:30] John Tait: That's par for the course basically, you lean over the side with either your pole, the oar or your feet and just boot the bits of ice to stop them going under the Zodiac and foul the propeller. The propeller is pretty well protected but it gives it a hell of a clout now and again so the idea was to keep the bergy bits from going under the Zodiac, keep it clear and that's what you saw. We also dropped one of the expedition staff off on an ice floe so that he could get a photograph of the Zodiac with us in it and again that was quite a common occurrence in our days, you could do that without too much danger.

Track 1 [0:04:23] Chris Eldon Lee: *So step onto the island for me.*

Track 1 [0:04:32] John Tait: We made the landing in a small bay which was separated from the base hut by a small hill so as we landed John Smith was the first to step on and then myself, the expedition staff had agreed that that should be the thing and they took photographs of us doing exactly the same

Track 2 [0:00:00] John Tait: and John and I scrambled, literally, through fairly deep snow up this hill onto the top and there before us was the base hut, exactly as I remember it, exactly as John remembers it, drums of diesel scattered about, boxes scattered about. Apart from the fact that part of the hut was drifted over it could have just been the base as we had remembered it some 30 odd years ago.

Track 2 [0:00:40] Chris Eldon Lee: *In a nutshell describe to me why you were there in the sixties?*

Track 2 [0:00:45] John Tait: I was there in the sixties as a result of a request by our Authority to go to Detail Island to check the itinerary of the base and to check whether or not it was still in good shape having been abandoned in 1958 some 7 years previously. We were surveying in the area, about 20 odd miles away from Detail Island and over the sea ice, we travelled to Detail, three of us, with three dog teams, the second day we were there the wind blew up and blew all the ice away so we were marooned effectively on a small island, in great comfort because we had a whole base to ourselves which was fully stocked, apart from coal, always a shortage of coal, but they air-dropped bags of coal to us and there we remained from September through to January.

Track 2 [0:01:52] Chris Eldon Lee: *Tell me about the guitar?*

Track 2 [0:01:54] John Tait: The guitar, there was on the base as I say lots of personal effects from the guys who had abandoned in 1958 quite suddenly, they were given an instruction, sledge out, over the sea ice to meet the ship virtually instantaneously. They didn't quite leave plates of porridge on the kitchen table but it wasn't far off that, there were still, unpacked bags and personal belongings lying about, one of which was a guitar, that had, over the years it had been abandoned, the strings had pulled the guitar bridge away from the sound box so it was broken and it didn't work but I played the guitar

so as one of the things we did or I did whilst marooned was to cut a guitar shape out of a piece of wood, fix the fret board to it which was quite sound, the strings were still okay, put the bridge in. I also knew a bit about basic electrics in those days and cannibalised the ear phones from the radio room that was still intact although the radios didn't work for the coils inside the ear phones and I fitted the coils into the guitar and it actually made an electric guitar noise. That was my great pride and joy and I was sorry I left it when we again received a very, quick instruction that the ship would be in to relieve us in the January. Within a couple of hours gather your stuff together and get ready to board, we did and I left the guitar behind. When we went back, thirty-five years later there in the lounge propped up in the arm chair that I had used was the guitar, quite amazing, it didn't work, it was the strings, a couple of the strings had broken but never the less there it was as a reminder of my time and I left it there, I figured it should be left there as part of the base.

Track 2 [0:04:52] Chris Eldon Lee: *That's lovely, thank you, good, tell me if you*

Track 3 [0:00:00] Chris Eldon Lee: *wouldn't mind, about when you came out of the hut and were going to leave.*

Track 3 [0:00:02] John Tait: yes, our visit was much foreshortened by the weather, again the weather was the prime reason we were marooned in the first place but we had made our way on the Zodiac through the pack ice with the ship always in site, snow and low cloud had blown in and we lost sight of the ship so the expedition leader decided we should cut short the visit which instead of being an hour or two turned out to be only ten, fifteen minutes which was a great shame but nevertheless it always pays to take the safe decision so we scrambled back up the hill and loaded into Zodiac and set off on a radio bearing, we were in radio touch with the ship and that was fine and they gave us a bearing, the expedition leader had got the compass and etcetera and then as we made our way through the pack ice the squall blew away and there was the ship some distance away but nevertheless right on line so everything was good and we went on the ship and had a good dinner.

Track 3 [0:01:30] Chris Eldon Lee: *You were late for dinner.*

Track 3 [0:01:31] John Tait: yes,

Track 3 [0:01:32] Chris Eldon Lee: *You also gave a press conference, I recall it. I'll ask you, I'll tell you about that later on.*

Track 3 [0:01:36] John Tait: all right.

Track 3 [0:01:40] John Tait: I wouldn't want to say too much about abandoning, well what are we talking about, 1968 are we when it was abandoned?

Track 3 [0:01:49] Chris Eldon Lee: *Tell me what you know, from what you have heard about the abandonment of Deception.*

Track 3 [0:01:55] John Tait: Okay, well Deception, the British base at Deception was in the lee of Mount Pond. Deception Island was volcanic, it had a certain amount of volcanic activity during the time I was there in 1963, hot fumarole springs and such like but in 68 Mount Pond decided to disgorge itself of whatever comes out there and it all slid down and did away with the British base or all but, which was a great shame because it was a very comfortable base. It also did away with the Chilean base which was six or seven miles around the coast. The British boys were able to get out of the base and make their way onto Cathedral Rocks which seems to be the safe place at the time but nobody was hurt I think, that was a good thing but the British base it finished it as a place to winter over which was a great shame because it was the crossroads basically of the Antarctica all the ships called in there personnel landed and exchanged ships and it was a staging post, a very comfortable base, a big base and sadly it's no more it's just a ruin.

Track 3 [0:03:37] Chris Eldon Lee: *Very attractive ruin, isn't it? Not attractive, very evocative really?*

Track 3 [0:03:41] John Tait: Indeed, yes, one or two things when we went back on the trip last year, one or two things were quite obvious, those of us who had wintered there prior to the eruption we were familiar with things like the graveyard, there was a graveyard there, with whalers' graves in it because it was on the site of an old whaling station, that of course had disappeared the graveyard no longer existed the stone monuments that were there had disappeared the ice and ash and what have you from the eruption had gone straight across there. The British base was famous for having a well and having fresh water which we in fact dug in 1963. It was worked out by the surveyors that fresh water would be 22 feet down below the floor of the base hut. That was the sea level and they figured that the water that we find there would be fresh as opposed to being salty and indeed they were right I cannot remember the exact depth but it was 22 foot, and 2 or 3 inches when water

Track 4 [0:00:00] John Tait: just seeped into the hole we were digging and it was fresh and then from then on Deception base was even more comfortable because it had its' own continual supply of fresh water which was pumped up from the well so you could have baths and endless hot water which was a great luxury, you didn't have to go out and cut snow blocks and tip them into the tank if you wanted a bath. A great luxury at Deception.

Track 4 [0:00:30] Chris Eldon Lee: *Were you about to tell me about the well and the volcano John?*

Track 4 [0:00:36] John Tait: As far as I could make out when we went there we looked the well, it had moved, so presumably there had been subsidence

there and whilst you could see the top of the well you couldn't see the bottom of it, it had all moved and filled in and collapsed.

Track 4 [0:00:55] Chris Eldon Lee: *Speaking generally about Antarctica and places if you hadn't got the luxury of a well, how did you get your drinking water?*

Track 4 [0:01:04] John Tait: You melted the snow.

Track 4 [0:01:16] John Tait: If you didn't have a well and Deception Island was the only base to my knowledge that had a working well the only source of fresh water that the base had was melted snow or ice. You had a big 500 gallon copper tank which it was the job of the gash hand, the kitchen assistant, the cooks assistant, to keep filled with blocks of snow, lumps of ice and that was melted through the Aga cooker system and that was your only source of water and so if you wanted a bath, and you didn't have very many baths, because you had to go and get your water to have the bath, you had to get your snow blocks, so it was something you didn't have too often. Probably a visitor to the base would guess that because whilst we weren't exactly filthy we all had our own peculiar scent I'm sure.

Track 4 [0:02:41] Chris Eldon Lee: *Lovely that, very delicate way, the Radio 4 way of saying it. [Laughter] Tell me about, this is going out on Christmas Day and of course Christmas Day was high summer in the Antarctic but there was a kind of, well first of all there are two celebrations, I presume you kept Christmas Day but there was also a second celebration.*

Track 4 [0:03:00] John Tait: Midwinter's Day.

Track 4 [0:03:02] Chris Eldon Lee: *Tell me about that.*

Track 4 [0:03:03] John Tait: Yes Christmas Day of course, we kept Christmas Day. It was always a busy time for the bases because it was high summer, invariably there would be a relief ship in the area if not actually at the base. If you were lucky enough to have the relief ship at the base on Christmas Day then you took Christmas Day on the ship with the fresh food etcetera that the ship would have. If there wasn't a ship on base then you kept Christmas Day. We didn't have turkey dinner of course, but we would probably open a tin of ham, we would get changed, some of us would have a shave, we would put on our suits and our ties and we would keep Christmas much as we had been used to in the UK. Of course we weren't able to distribute presents, sometimes if the ship was there early we would get the Christmas cards and that would be good but by in large it was a nice dinner as well as we could make it.

Track 4 [0:04:16] John Tait: A much more relevant celebration was that of Midwinter's Day which was very much the Antarctic deep winter, June 21st. All personnel would be on the base at that time, because of course at Christmas

time, if it was a field base, very often a lot of the field personnel would not be on base for Christmas Day and they would then be taking Christmas in their tents but Midwinter's Day, invariably all base personnel were there so that was a much more relevant celebration, people would open carefully hoarded bottles of wine and

Track 5 [0:00:00] John Tait: there would be an issue of beer, again a commodity which you might think, well why only a very limited amount of beer? Purely because of the space it took to ship it down, you could ship a lot of bottles of whisky in the same space as you could ship a dozen cans of beer so we had a lot of whisky and not much beer but we always had an issue of beer at Midwinter's Day. That was a great celebration, it would usually end up with a sing song, somebody would have a guitar and we would play whatever we could remember and everybody would just go to bed feeling very, very happy and we would get up in the morning feeling very, very delicate, having done justice to the alcoholic supplies which we had carefully hoarded over the previous months so that was a good day.

Track 5 [0:01:01] Chris Eldon Lee: *Was winter the long winter? Well tell me about the length of winter anyway the lack of sunshine and what effect that had on your psyche? which presumably I imagine resulted in the need for a big celebration?*

Track 5 [0:01:15] John Tait: Yes I think it was part of it, I was never conscious and I don't know whether anybody else was of being too affected by the, by the sun disappearing. Life on an Antarctic base could be very busy if you wished it to be, it could also be very much less busy if you wished it to be you were entirely your own master, you had certain tasks to perform, but beyond that there was nobody saying get up at eight o'clock in the morning and so on and so forth. But most of the people I wintered with were all of the busy kind so there was always plenty to do and so the midwinter time, when the sun had disappeared was very much a time of make and mend. On the sledging bases you would rebuild your dog sledge, make new harnesses for the dogs, make sure the base was in good repair. The other more static bases again a time for repairing, making mend, diesel overhauls, tractor overhauls, aeroplane overhauls at Deception of course they overwintered the two otter aircraft there and they were stripped down and rebuilt during the winter period so as far as I was concerned it wasn't too dramatic somebody would probably remark 'well that's the last we will see of the sun.'

Track 5 [0:02:58] Chris Eldon Lee: *for how long?*

Track 5 [0:02:59] John Tait: well, at Stonington which was the southernmost base we were at, no more really than probably 4 to 6 weeks and it never really got dark, the sun was never really too far over the horizon, there was always a twilight and of course there was always a twilight at night because the reflection of the snow, was never really pitch dark so it was never too dramatic as far as I was concerned, there may have been other people who

were more affected than me but it was never something that I was too concerned about, something that you expected.

Track 5 [0:03:45] Chris Eldon Lee: *I've been asking the others, it does not matter which base you use as your example, you don't have to say which base it is particularly but I was wondering there was something quirky, something unusual about one of the bases you spent time in the Antarctic?*

Track 5 [0:04:06] John Tait: Deception Island base was unusual in so far as it was very close to two other foreign bases, the Chileans at PAC Base which was 5 or 6 miles just down the coast and then the Argentinian base which was some 15 miles across the bay. The beauty of that was that you did get a connection visiting with the bases.

Track 5 [0:04:45] Chris Eldon Lee: *Is it the word invitation you are looking for? You did get invitations?*

Track 5 [0:04:48] John Tait: Yes there were invitations, particularly to National festivals, Independence Days, they like the British to be represented over there we didn't have

Track 6 [0:00:00] John Tait: anything similar, we didn't have anything, we didn't celebrate St. George's Day or the Queen's birthday or anything like that, we just had open house but the interesting point was in 1963 we were still at the process of deciding who owned the British Antarctic or the Antarctic Peninsula, the Argentinians laid claim to it, the Chileans laid claim to it, the British were there first, so we opted for possession is 9 points of the law type of thing, but particularly the Argentinians were very keen on promoting their ownership of the peninsula and all the islands so they used to present us with a protest, an official protest from the Argentinian Government. This would be delivered to the British base with all due ceremony, the Argentinian base was a naval base, personnel there were all Argentinian Navy personnel, the Chileans were air force personnel and the British were as ever, odds and sods. We would receive this protest note from the Argentinian Base Commander with due ceremony and that was always an excuse for a party so they would be delighted to deliver the protest note and then we would have a party. We knew they were coming, they would radio and say 'we were coming to deliver a protest note', 'fine, come across, we will see you on Wednesday', that was good and then we would have a party and they would stay overnight and then of course the converse was true that we would answer the protest note from London. This would be sent to the British Base by radio in code and it would be the Admiralty Code and on British Base we had this Admiralty Code book which was enormous tome with lead covers, with the instructions that it should under no circumstances fall into enemy hands because the whole integrity of the British Forces would be jeopardised if this code was ever to get into enemy hands and of course that was obviously a wartime instruction which didn't apply to us unless you could imagine us running down to the base with this damned book and chucking it

in the sea if we were ever going to be invaded but we used to have to laboriously decode this note that we had received from the UK Government, we had to use the code book, decode into normal English and then we would go and present this which would be a note that said that 'Her most Britannic Majesty deeply regrets etcetera, etcetera.... and duly protests the presence of the Argentinians and so on and so forth', then we would ring, we would go on the blower to them and say 'look we've got an answer to your protest note', 'oh good, good, bring it across and you'll come and stay for two or three days' and we would love to go to the Argentinian Base as they had fresh meat, they had a big fridge that they had dug into the ground and they had sides of beef in there which were frozen of course and they and so we delighted to go over there and have this fresh beef, that was good and again we would dress up in our suits and we would take our suits with us, our ties and be very official for about five minutes and then we would all relax and become very good friends.

Track 6 [0:04:10] Chris Eldon Lee: *I want to make quite clear to the listeners that it wasn't just a nice trip, there were sadness's in our trip too. Tell me about this tragedy at Stonington and explain the tragedy.*

Track 6 [0:04:24] John Tait: Yes, I think it goes without saying the Antarctic is a dangerous place and whilst it may have seemed that everyone had a jolly good time there was always an element of danger around the base and certainly out in the field, the particular incident that you were talking about.

[Transcribers note – *John Tait was not in the Antarctic when this incident occurred, he was there in 1963, 1964 and 1965*]

Two chaps from Stonington in 1966 went out on a sledging trip really, almost

Track 7 [0:00:00] John Tait: a dog training trip, a bit of a, a bit of a jolly really, they camped in a place where there was a lot of accumulation of snow, they probably wouldn't have known that as they were both new to the base. What happened obviously is a mystery and will ever remain so but when they were discovered they had clearly been caught out in some sort of blizzard. Instead of pitching their tent they had dug a hole in the snow which was a method of surviving a blizzard but not really a tried and true method, it wasn't something you would use if you had still got your tent. The rescue party found the site, they found one chap several yards away from the snow hole, all the dogs had been buried and were dead, the chap away from the snow hole was obviously dead, he had frozen and the other guy had remained in the snow hole but was stood in the entrance to it, again dead, frozen. One can only piece together what might have happened, two men in a snow hole, a dog team, very, very fierce weather. In the area where they were was well know for the katabatic wind which was the very strong winds which came down off the polar plateau, there would be a tremendous accumulation of snow, for one reason or another one guy decided to leave the safety of the snow hole, it may just have been he wanted to relieve himself or it may have

been some trouble on the dog team or whatever. For whatever reason he left the snow hole without the protection of a rope, presumably in the very, very bad visibility he lost his way, couldn't find his way back to the snow hole, his companion, presumably realised he had been gone for longer for than he should have been so he stood in the entrance of the snow hole to try to give him a guide presumably they were shouting or he was shouting and the mystery of it is why the chap in the snow hole remained standing in the doorway in the entrance to it and died there, that is a mystery. A couple of days later the rescue party found them and of course everything was dead and they were brought back to Stonington base and they were buried with ceremony and a big cairn erected over their graves. A mystery which all too often is the case in the Antarctic, you don't know what happened because there is nobody left to report back.

Track 7 [0:03:59] Chris Eldon Lee: *Thank you very much.*

Track 7 [0:04:01] John Tait: Okay.

Track 7 [0:04:02] Chris Eldon Lee: *In a nutshell, why do we not get to Stonington, what went wrong at that plan?*
[Transcribers Note MB2000 Trip]

Track 7 [0:04:11] John Tait: It was very simple, we find this out in retrospect

Track 7 [0:04:18] Chris Eldon Lee: *Oh right*

Track 7 [0:04:20] John Tait: You may have been aware that on the trip the sister ship of the *Orlova* had been caught in the ice North of where we were just a week or two before, she had had to be rescued by or pulled out of the ice, guided out of the ice by an ice breaker, now unbeknown to us who were on the *Orlova* the Captain had received an instruction that under no circumstances, repeat no circumstances would he

Track 8 [0:00:00] John Tait: was he allowed to take the ship into a situation where it *might* get stuck in the ice because apparently the costs that were involved in the ice breaker pulling out the other ship were very, very high and they were not costs which marine expeditions were prepared to pay or wanted to pay, I mean obviously they'd have had to but they wanted to avoid that at all costs so sadly the Stonington trip was clear water or nothing. We were all fairly convinced that the ship would have got in without too much trouble there was only thin pack ice and indeed you remember the radio message we had from the Debenham Islands which was just around the corner from Stonington, from the Argentinian base there, they were shouting that there was no ice and could we come in and they would be delighted to see us and so on but the Captain had got this instruction and of course it was very frustrating to us because we didn't know that at the time, we didn't know why he wasn't going to take any risk at tall, but that was his instruction

so there was nothing he could do about it and nothing we could do about it but it was a great frustration to us all to be so close and not to get in and even more frustrating we understand that since we got into Marguerite Bay other cruise ships have made the journey now and Stonington has been visited by a cruise ship so the holy grail, if you like, has been discovered.

Track 8 [0:01:50] Chris Eldon Lee: *Am I right in thinking, obviously I want to make sure my facts are right that we were the first tourist ship to get that far South, how do you describe that?*

Track 8 [0:02:01] John Tait: I think we were the farthest south a tourist ship had got on the Peninsula Route, they made a specific point of that by cruising down Marguerite Bay to a point furthest south so at that time the vessel we were on had got the furthest south position of a cruise ship, now since then there certainly has been one, at least one other cruise ship into Marguerite Bay that has visited Stonington so probably the furthest south record that we held is now held by somebody else.

Track 8 [0:02:57] Chris Eldon Lee: *Start from scratch, tell me about this?*

Track 8 [0:03:07] John Tait: Communication with folks back home didn't basically exist other than the annual mail drop whenever the relief ship came in they brought stacks of letters and if you had a mother like mine you got one a week, all numbered which was a continuation of what Auntie Lil's done and what grandma's done and all this sort of thing but you had no other communications it was very good but in addition to that the BBC ran a programme called Calling Antarctica, this was a weekly programme and the BBC would go and interview the parents and friends of Antarctic personnel, they'd probably do one or two people per programme, you were advised that it was your turn by BAS in Port Stanley they'd let you know, with two or three weeks notice to make sure a) that you were there and b) you were expecting your folks to be on the programme and that was great, it was a general programme with interest for everybody and then they would say ok guys it's time for the personal bit, tonight we've got John Tait and Jim Fellows so if you're there John here's your mother and so on and you used to get one of those a year you were on the programme

Track 9 [0:00:00] John Tait: and that was a good thing.

Track 9 [0:00:03] Chris Eldon Lee: *and was that broadcast from Port Stanley?*

Track 9 [0:00:05] John Tait: no, it was broadcast from the UK on the BBC world service, and very good reception usually. I don't know the ins and outs of it but presumably it would have been relayed and targeted to Antarctica, we didn't have satellites those days.

Track 9 [0:00:36] Chris Eldon Lee: *off you go*

Track 9 [0:00:40] John Tait: When one arrived on base you had your own specific job, the job you were hired to do. In my case on Deception Island I was engaged as the diesel electric mechanic but there were various other jobs on the base which had to be apportioned once the base personnel gathered together for the New Year and these were really given out by the base leader, things like...

[Transcribers note: phone ringing in background on tape]

Track 9 [0:01:15] Chris Eldon Lee: *I'm going to have to stop you because I can hearing the ... so lets have another go at this, the story.*

Track 9 [0:01:22] John Tait: okay, as I said you were engaged by British Antarctic Survey to do a specific job, there were surveyors, geologists, etcetera and I was taken on initially to do diesel electric mechanic. Of course there were other jobs on the bases that were given out by the base leader once all the base personnel had assembled for the year, if you had boats you had a boat man, there was always a dog man and that was the guy that was responsible for the veterinary side of dogs and carpenter, anybody who had a penchant for chopping bits of wood up could become the carpenter, well my first base was Deception Island and the first night we were gathered around the dining room table, the new base personnel and the old base personnel the base leader was dolling out these various tasks and we'd got a carpenter, one guy was very interested in that sort of thing, then he posed the question 'right who knows anything about dogs?' And nobody, we all sort of looked at one another and nobody answered and he sort of said 'well you know come on somebody must know something about dogs we've have a dog team out there that needs looking after', than again still nobody picked up on that so he was becoming a little frustrated and he said well 'anybody got any idea' so I ventured forth, 'my mother has a Maltese Terrier', he said 'right you're it, you're dog man', so I became dog man at deception and that was the start of a dog and man association that I really enjoyed all the time I was in the Antarctic, all because my mother had got a Maltese Terrier!

Track 9 [0:03:33] ENDS

Snippets:

- : Landing on Detail Island MB2000 veterans trip. Track 1 [0:01:53]
- : Marooned on Detail Island for the Antarctic summer Track 2 [0:00:45]
- : Electric Guitar. Track 2 [0:01:52]
- : Deception Base well. Track 3 [0:03:41]
- : Providing fresh water on base Track 4 [0:01:16]
- : Chilean and Argentinian protest note visits. Track 6 [0:00:00]
- : Stonington Tragedy, 1966. Track 7 [0:00:00]
- : BBC Calling Antarctica. Track 8 [0:03:07]
- : Choosing dog man for the year. Track 9 [0:01:22]