

**BATEMAN**

# **NEW ZEALAND ENCYCLOPEDIA**



**The Encyclopedia of New Zealand  
General Knowledge**

# BATEMAN

# ENCYCLOPEDIA

*Editor-in-Chief*

Gordon McLauchlan

*Published by*



David Bateman Limited  
Auckland, New Zealand

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1984

First published in 1984 by David Bateman Ltd.,  
'Golden Heights', 30-34 View Road, Glenfield,  
Auckland, New Zealand

ISBN 0-908610-21-1

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Typeset in Franklin Gothic Medium and Baskerville  
by Jacobson Typesetters Ltd.  
Printed in Hong Kong by Everbest Printing Co. Ltd.

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## Acknowledgement

I would like to thank the editorial board for their support, criticism, and their excellent work in checking this encyclopedia. I would, however, make it quite clear that final responsibility for the selection of material and for any omissions or errors is mine. The size of a one-volume work means that a number of items my board felt should be included were not. I have discussed my criteria for such decisions in the Introduction.

*Gordon McLauchlan*



## Government House

### FOREWORD

This "New Zealand Encyclopedia" assembles a broad spectrum of information about New Zealand within a single volume. It will provide a useful and handy work both for those in the educational field and for the general public. In addition, I am sure it will provide a ready reference for overseas visitors and for those interested in visiting New Zealand.

I congratulate the Editor and those responsible for the checking of information for the effort they have made to ensure that this Encyclopedia is as accurate as possible.

Governor-General

WELLINGTON  
New Zealand  
August 1983

# Introduction

This encyclopedia has been designed and edited to make a popular but comprehensive and authoritative reference book available to people over a wide range of age and educational backgrounds. The aim has been a readable text unimpeded by abbreviations or esoteric language, set in highly legible type and laid out in a functional but attractive manner.

The information contained in the encyclopedia has come from a wide range of sources and has been checked for accuracy by a number of experts.

Entries are in alphabetical order using common rather than scientific names. The index at the back of the book lists broad categories of subjects for readers who may be pursuing particular interests or lines of study. A cross-reference system is signified by the use of SMALL CAPITALS in the body of the text. Where words are in these small capitals this denotes a separate alphabetical entry.

Although editorial energy has been directed primarily towards keeping the fact-count high within a succinct text, the overall presentation of the information makes this a companionable book for those wishing to expand their knowledge of New Zealand.

The pool of information and informed opinion about this country is infinite; so what to include in a book of this nature and what to leave out are balanced on a fulcrum of subjective editorial policy. The establishment of precise criteria is impossible so, although I have gratefully received expert advice, the ultimate responsibility for the contents of the book is mine.

The decisions have involved whether to include this or that shrub, this or that All Black, or more or less of these politicians, soldiers, artists or early missionaries. Their relative importance is not something that can be measured on any objective scale. I have, therefore, tried to assess their impact on the environment, the history and the imagination of New Zealand society. In the case of flora, for example, the prevalence of a plant is one factor, whether it is indigenous another, and whether it has had some practical or legendary presence yet another. Tutu, for instance, is a stock poison which has troubled generations of farmers, and the kauri is much more than just a tree.

All Blacks have been included in some instances because others in the family have also played for New Zealand, whereas otherwise they might not have reached the legendary status required. People have tended to rate inclusion where they have created the continuing influence of a permanent record such as books or art works, whereas some politicians who may have been far better known figures in their own times have been left out to continue their quiet slide into oblivion. In the case of performers or athletes, the basic criterion has been whether they have made it to the top internationally, but some few have been included because they have created their own legends at home.

Because this is a functional book, pictures have been chosen to illustrate the text and not for purely visual design reasons. There has been a preference for historical pictures because they are less likely to be known among modern readers and therefore they convey an extra dimension of knowledge. The colour section has also been designed to convey practical information rather than create visual effects.

Finally, I would like to thank (in alphabetical order) two people without whose diligence and sound advice I would not have finished this task – Wendy Canning and Brigid Pike.

*Gordon McLauchlan*

# How To Use The Encyclopedia

Here are two sample entries from the encyclopedia showing the various aids provided to help the reader make the best possible use of the information contained in the book.

**BROWN, Ross Handley** (1934- ) played 25 matches for the All Blacks from 1955 to 1962 as a five-eighth and centre. When he retired from rugby in 1968, he had played 207 first-class matches since he first represented Taranaki as an 18-year-old.

Ross Brown was the most recent All Black in a famous Taranaki rugby family. He was the son of **Handley Welbourne Brown** (1904-73) who represented NZ 20 times from 1924 to 1926 as a centre three-quarter, and the nephew of **Henry MacKay Brown** (1910-65) who played eight matches for NZ in 1935 and 1936.

Entries for people may mention other members of the family. Their names are printed bold in the text.

**RATA** trees of two main species, one known simply as rata or northern rata and the other as southern rata, are large and spectacular. They are members of the myrtle family (MYRTACEAE), and belong to the genus *Metrosideros* as does **POHUTUKAWA**.

Cross-reference to person or subject with separate entry.

Both the rata and the southern rata have profuse crops of brilliant red flowers about Christmas time. (See Colour Page 85).

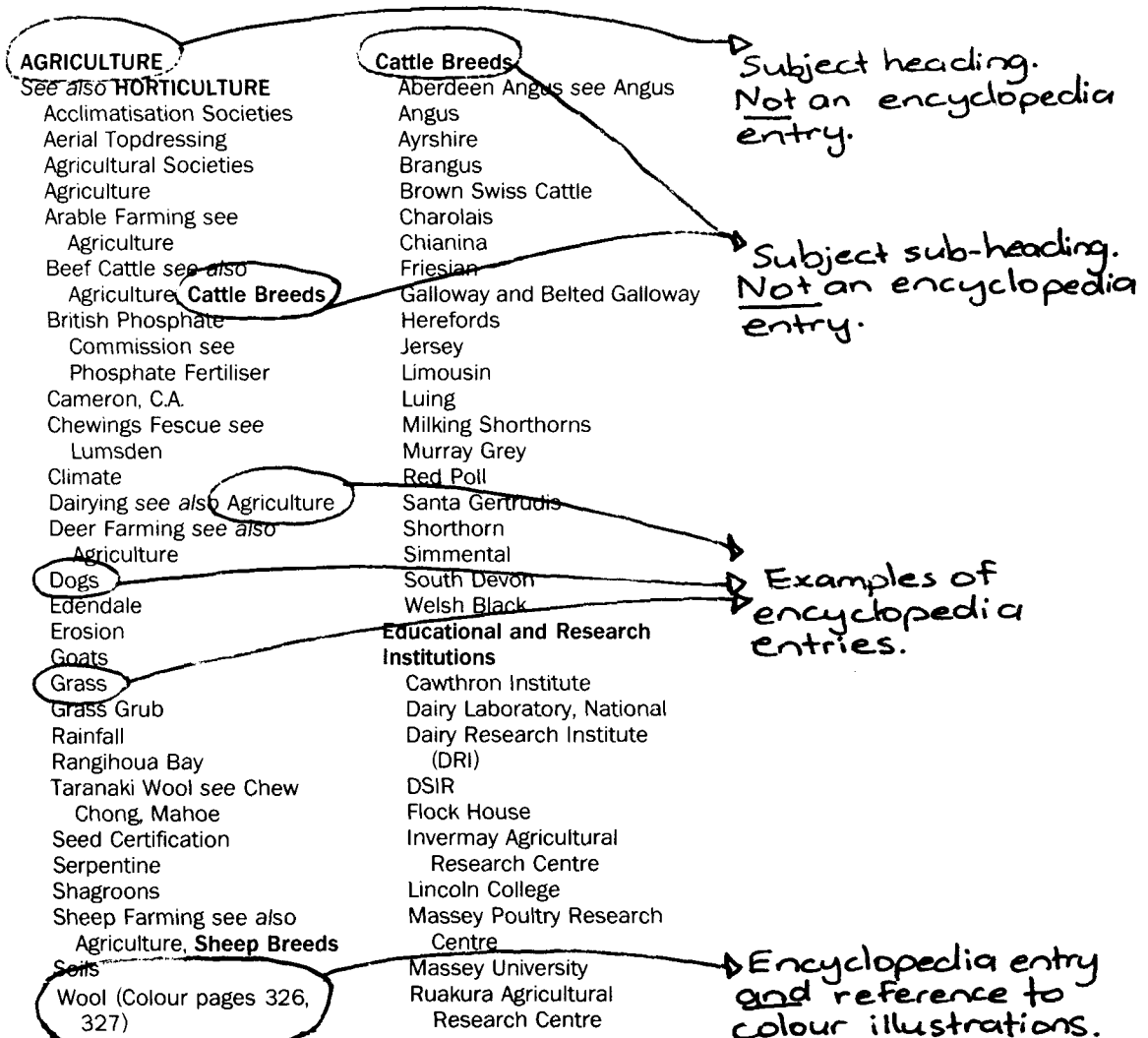
Cross-reference to colour illustration.

• Northern rata (*M. robusta*) begins life as an epiphyte, that is by germinating on a host tree but not living off it as a true parasite would. It sends down aerial roots, round and round the host tree to the ground, gradually enclosing the host tree; the roots fuse into a trunk with a hollow centre after the host tree has rotted away.

Used mainly in natural history entries to indicate various species or sub-species.

# How To Use The Encyclopedia

The subject index at the end of the encyclopedia lists a wide range of general subject topics which do not have their own entries in the encyclopedia, for instance the Arts, Constitution and Law, Politics and Politicians, Sport, and includes all the encyclopedia entries which relate to them. Many of the subject headings have sub-headings which are grouped at the end of the subject entry. A sample from the index is shown below.





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## Currency Conversion

Due to the often extreme fluctuations in world currency rates a simple conversion rate of \$2 to the old £1 has been used throughout this Encyclopedia. For an exact conversion the current rates of exchange can be checked with a bank and are published in most daily papers.

### *A Note from the Publisher*

*The publishers and editorial board welcome any views or information which will enhance future editions.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The publisher wishes to thank the following for permission to reproduce photographs, illustrations and maps in the encyclopedia. We have not been able to trace the source of several photographs and apologise to the owners of these for failure to acknowledge them.

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# A



Wilton and Horton

Auckland Harbour Bridge

**ABBOTSFORD**, in the borough of Green Island, eight km from Dunedin, was first subdivided for housing in 1953. On the evening of 8 August 1979 it was the scene of the largest landslide ever to occur in a built-up area in NZ. Seven ha of the hillside suburb slipped about 50 m down a slope. Although there was no loss of life, nor any serious injury, 69 houses were written off and many others damaged. It is believed that the name was originally 'Abbot's Ford', after a surveyor, Edward Immyns Abbot, who waded across the stream there in relatively deep water while other surveyors were looking for a more suitable place to cross. A later claim is that the railway station (on the Dunedin-Mosgiel line) was sited on a farm which had been called Abbotsford after the home of Sir Walter Scott.

Abbotsford was to be the name of a town in Hawke's Bay when it was planned on a property purchased from a farmer, F. S. Abbott. However, when a town did eventually grow on the site it became known as Waipawa. Further reading: *Report of the commission of inquiry into the Abbotsford disaster* Government Printer, 1980.

**ABEL TASMAN NATIONAL PARK** covers 19 200 ha of bush country along the shores of Tasman Bay in Nelson, including offshore islands and hundreds of bays and beaches along the broken coastline. The smallest of the country's ten national parks, it was opened in December 1942, the 300th anniversary of the visit to Tasman Bay of Dutch explorer, Abel

Janzoon TASMAN, the first European to visit NZ. Botanically the park is of special interest because its bush is a blend of the natural cover of both the North and South Islands, a rare if not unique phenomenon. (See National Parks.)

**ABERDEEN ANGUS** *see* Angus.

**ABORIGINES PROTECTION SOCIETY**, a humanitarian organisation in Britain in the 19th century, which helped condition policy towards native peoples within the British Empire, including NZ's Maoris.

**ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS, NEW ZEALAND**, was formed in 1889 from the Fine Arts Society of New Zealand, but was at first essentially the Wellington equivalent of the art societies formed in the major centres about that time. The government provided a site in Wellington in 1892 and the citizens of the city built a gallery which was opened in 1906 and remained a free municipal gallery until 1936 when the building and its contents were donated to the newly formed National Art Gallery. It still exists in association with the National Gallery and is the strongest in membership and assets of all the country's art societies.

**ACCIDENT COMPENSATION CORPORATION** controls a comprehensive, compulsory accident insurance for all New Zealanders. It was set up by the Accident Compensation Act 1972, with

effect from 1 April 1974, with the threefold aim of promoting safety from accident among all citizens, providing for the rehabilitation of the injured, and ensuring prompt, fair and reasonable compensation to every accident victim. The philosophy behind the scheme is that the community as a whole accepts responsibility for the accidents which inevitably afflict a proportion of its members. Therefore the scheme is funded by the following means: (1) levies on employers (including the Crown) and self-employed, paid through the Inland Revenue Department as agent for the corporation; (2) levies on motor-vehicle owners, paid at the time of registration through the Post Office, acting as agent; and (3) general taxation.

The benefits include earnings-related compensation at the rate of 80% of normal average earnings, subject to a maximum, with adjustments in special circumstances for partial incapacity or for loss of potential earnings; lump sums for permanent physical impairment; and funeral expenses and lump sum payments to dependants in the event of fatal accidents.

Originally the scheme was administered by a three-man commission but this was changed by the Accident Compensation Amendment Act 1980 which provided for a corporation consisting of not more than six members appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister of Labour, as well as the managing-director of the corporation and the general manager of the State Insurance Office.

The scheme was a world first and is regarded as an innovative piece of social welfare. It supersedes legal rights previously held by citizens to sue through the courts for damages in cases where negligence contributed to the cause of an accident.

**ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETIES** were set up round NZ in the 1860s and 1870s to promote the introduction of exotic animals for hunting, and plants for propagation to supplement existing vegetables, fruits, flowers and shrubs. A major reason for many of the introductions was nostalgia – a desire to be reminded of Britain, the homeland half the circumference of the world away, from which the settlers had emigrated.

The Maori rat, kiore (*Rattus exulans*), and the dog, kuri (*Canis familiaris*), brought into NZ by

Maori immigrants, were the only land mammals when the first Europeans arrived. The kuri soon afterwards became extinct, and the kiore is now seldom found on the mainland, but is plentiful on many off-shore islands. A wave of accidental introductions – other species of rat, mice, cats and dogs – occurred with the arrival of the whalers and sealers and there was an early organised introduction of domestic farm animals, but the explosion of interest in the 1860s was in game animals and familiar shrubs for hedges.

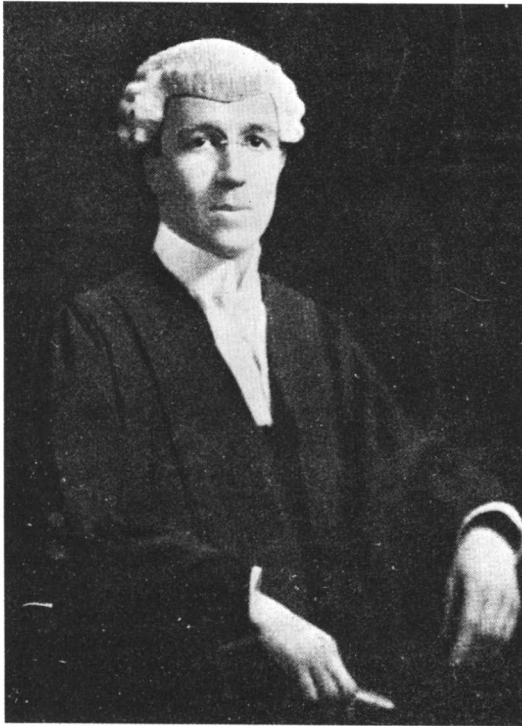
More than 130 known species of birds, 50 species of mammals and 40 of freshwater fish have been brought into NZ. Mammals have done best with about 30 species surviving, the same number of species of birds and ten of fish. The depredations of the rabbit in the 19th century and the alarming spread of plants like broom and gorse induced the government to control introductions to avoid further upsetting the ecological balance. More recently there have been rigid controls over the importation of live animals (or dead ones for that matter) because of the threat of exotic diseases, such as FOOT AND MOUTH, rinderpest or blue tongue, which would attack sheep or cattle and thus cripple the NZ pastoral economy. An attempt during the 1970s to introduce European sheep breeds under strict quarantine conditions to enhance the fecundity of the NZ flock ended with an outbreak of the disease, scrapie, and all the newcomers were slaughtered.

The role of the acclimatisation societies changed with the change of attitude towards introduced animals in the new century and they became more involved in the control and management of game species of freshwater fish and game birds. Their numbers and influence have declined since World War Two. Further reading: *Introduced mammals of New Zealand* K. A. Wodzicki, DSIR, 1950.

**ACHERON, HMSV**, commanded by Captain John Lort STOKES, an experienced Royal Navy hydrographer, spent four years, from 1848, surveying NZ's major harbours and much of the coastline. The *Acheron* was the first survey vessel to work in NZ waters since the time of Captain COOK. She was an early steamship design (the first steam-powered vessel to visit some ports), equipped with both sails and paddle-wheels.

Acheron Passage, Fiordland, and two Acheron Rivers, one in Marlborough and the other in central Canterbury, are named after the ship. Further reading: *The cruise of the Acheron* Sheila Natusch, Whitcoulls, 1978.

**ACHESON, Frank Oswald Victor** (1887-1948) was born in Southland, graduated LLM (Hons) from Victoria College, Wellington, in 1913 and, after practising law for several years, became a judge of the Native Land Court and the Native Appeal Court. He is remembered best for a novel about Maori life in pre-European times, *Plume of the Arawas*, published in 1930.



Judge F. O. V. Acheson

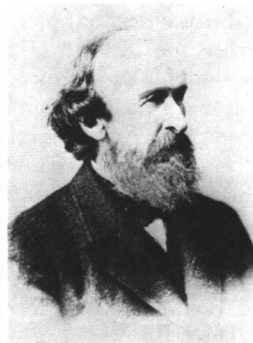
**ACHILLES, HMS/HMNZS** was one of a British naval force of three cruisers which fought the German pocket battleship, the *Admiral Graf Spee*, in the Battle of the River Plate, off Montevideo, Uruguay, on 13 December 1939. With the HMS *Exeter* and HMS *Ajax*, the *Achilles* drove the much bigger and more heavily armed German ship into Montevideo Harbour, where her commanding officer, Captain Hans Langsdorf, scuttled her on 17 December. *Achilles* lost

four men in the battle. At the time she was officially part of the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy. Most of her complement were New Zealanders and she carried the New Zealand Ensign into the battle. The vessel became part of the Royal New Zealand Navy when it was formed in September 1941 and saw action in the Pacific, losing 13 men in Japanese dive-bomber attacks off Guadalcanal in January 1943. The *Achilles* went back to the Royal Navy after World War Two. She was sold to the Indian navy and renamed INS *Delhi* before she finally went to the shipbreakers in 1978.

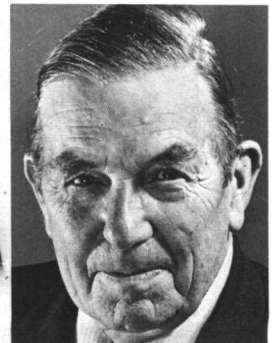
The captain of the *Achilles* at the Battle of the River Plate was Sir Edward Parry (1893-1972) who was later Commodore and Chief of Staff in NZ. Parry Channel, between Bream Head on the east coast of Northland, and the Hen and Chickens Islands, was named after Parry during the national exultation following the performance of the *Achilles* in the battle.

**ACLAND, John Barton Arundel** (1824-1904) was the first member of this famous family to settle in NZ. He was born at Killerton, Devonshire, the sixth son of Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, 10th Baronet of Killerton, and was educated at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford, where he took a BA(Hons) in mathematics and an MA. He studied law and later practised in London. With Charles George TRIPP, a close friend, he emigrated to Canterbury, arriving in 1855. He spent the first year as a cadet on a sheep run. Then he and Tripp took up their own land at Mt Peel in Canterbury, farming in partnership until 1862 when Acland became the sole owner of Mt Peel, which remains in the family today and is one of the country's most famous hill-

Auckland Institute and Museum



J. B. A. Acland



Sir Jack Acland

Auckland Institute and Museum



country sheep stations. Acland was a member of the Legislative Council for 34 years until his retirement in 1899. Throughout his life he was involved in educational and church administration.

Two of his sons, **Sir Hugh Thomas Dyke Acland**, a surgeon, and **Henry Dyke Acland**, a lawyer, had distinguished careers in Canterbury, and a grandson, **Sir Hugh John Dyke Acland** (known as Jack), was MP for Temuka (1942-46) and chairman of the New Zealand Wool Board (1960-72).

**ACLAND, Leopold George Dyke** (1876-1948) was born at Christchurch, the son of a runholder. He worked as a young man at Mt Peel Station, owned by a relative; bought Glentanner Station, near Mt Cook; served in the Boer War with distinction; and travelled through New Guinea and India before settling for a time in Japan where he managed a shipping office at Kobe. He then travelled to Moscow and St Petersburg on the trans-Siberian railway and returned to NZ via England. He owned in succession Braemar Station in the Mackenzie Country, North Clumbar at Hororata and Cecil Peak by Lake Wakatipu. He served as a major in World War One. He settled ultimately at Hororata. Acland was passionately interested in farming and his book, *The early Canterbury runs*, was first published in 1930. It was revised and enlarged in 1946 and again in 1951 and is one of NZ's most famous history resource books.

**ADAMS, Arthur Henry** (1872-1936) was born in Lawrence, Otago, the son of C. W. ADAMS. Arthur graduated BA from Otago University in 1894, joined the literary staff of the *Evening Post* in Wellington, contributing original prose and other work, and wrote the libretto of a Maori comic opera, *Tapu*, which was produced with success in both NZ and Australia. Adams worked for J. C. Williamson, the Australasian theatrical company, as dramatic secretary and wrote plays, pantomimes and verse. He was war correspondent for the *Sydney Morning Herald* and a group of NZ newspapers in China during the Boxer rebellion and later worked in England as a writer and freelance journalist before returning to NZ in 1905. The following year he went back to Australia and spent the remain-

der of his career there, mostly working on newspapers. He continued to write plays, novels and verse, work which was highly regarded then but is of little interest today.

**ADAMS, Charles William** (1840-1918) was born and educated in Tasmania, qualified as a surveyor and arrived in NZ in 1862. He became Chief Surveyor in Otago in 1885 and Chief Surveyor and Commissioner of Crown Lands in Marlborough in 1897. Adams was an accomplished astronomer, and collaborated with an observer in Sydney, by telegraph, to establish the true latitude of Wellington (with an error of only 17 feet (5.2 m)). He discovered an error in the position of a star as it was placed by the Nautical Almanac, and he surveyed the Sutherland Falls within eight years of their discovery putting their height at 1904 feet (580.3 m), accurate within one yard.

**ADAMS, William Acton Blakeway** (1843-1924) became one of the largest landholders in NZ during the second half of the 19th century. Having bought Tarndale Station in Marlborough in 1878, the year he entered Parliament as the member for Nelson, he later acquired Molesworth, Woodbank, Hopefield, Island Farm, Salop Downs and Motanau, and at one time was shearing 75 000 sheep. His Marlborough properties were later depleted by the rabbit scourge. Adams arrived in NZ in 1850 with his father, William, who was the first Superintendent of Marlborough Province.

**ADAMSON, Thomas** (1847-1913) was born at Wanganui, joined the militia aged 16, became an expert bush fighter and was awarded the NEW ZEALAND CROSS for gallantry in 1876 for an action at Ahikereru in May 1869. He was seriously wounded in the clash. He later farmed near Taihape.

**ADARE, Cape** is on the Pennell Coast in NZ's Ross Dependency, Antarctica. It was here that 17-year-old Alexander von Tunzelmann, nephew of a Central Otago pioneer, became the first New Zealander and possibly the first person ever to set foot on the Antarctic Continent, on 24 January 1895, as a member of an expedition aboard the ship, *Antarctic*. A combined NZ/US scientific base, Hallett Station,