

Standing Committee on Antarctic Geographic Information (SC-AGI)

Progress Report on History of Aerial Photography in Antarctica Project

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At the XXIX SCAR meeting in Hobart a long term geographic information project was nominated to document the history of aerial photography in Antarctic. This was then accepted as a joint cooperative with ISPRS.

Research progress has been slow in the past 15 months and has principally been focused on the initial work of the earliest aviator Sir Hubert Wilkins from 1928 in the region of the Antarctic Peninsula and activities of the Norwegian whaler explorer Lars Christensen in the 1930s in east Antarctica. The collection from Wilkins held at the Byrd Polar Research centre has not yet been searched for prints whilst only the flight lines from the Norwegian photography has been located, but this research continues

However in that time advances have been made by the Australian Antarctic Division in adding some of their aerial photography collection. All flight lines including Highjump flight lines are now another layer in the [AADC](#) geographic information system. The British Antarctic Survey has also documented the flight lines of the early BAS photography whilst the United States Geological Survey has similarly undertaken a major project to make details of the aerial photography on line.

A fuller report will be prepared for XXX SCAR meeting in 2008 but the project is seen as ongoing as it covers a wide field with many nations involved.

John Manning
28th September 2007