

NANA-8. MOSS-COOK

(INTERNATIONAL)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"RE-DISCOVERY" OF AUSTRALIA:

SKIPPER OF THE "MAYFLOWER II"

TO RE-ENACT CAPT. COOK'S TRIP

BY NORMAN MOSS

NORTH AMERICAN NEWSPAPER ALLIANCE

LONDON, JAN. 31.--THE MAN WHO SAILED A REPLICA OF THE "MAYFLOWER" ACROSS THE ATLANTIC SEVEN YEARS AGO IS PLANNING ANOTHER, LONGER ADVENTURE UNDER SAIL.

THIS ONE TOO WILL BE A HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT.

COMMANDER ALAN VILLIERS PLANS TO DUPLICATE CAPTAIN JAMES COOK'S HISTORIC VOYAGE OF EXPLORATION FROM BRITAIN ACROSS THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC TO DISCOVER AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

THE VOYAGE WILL LAST ABOUT A YEAR. FOLLOWING CAPTAIN COOK'S ROUTE -- "EVEN THAT BAD BIT OF OCEAN BELOW CAPE HORN, WHERE HE WENT THE WRONG WAY," COMMANDER VILLIERS SAYS -- IT WILL TAKE IN THE MAIN AREAS THAT HE PUT ON THE MAP: THE WEST COAST OF CANADA; HAWAII; TONGA; NEW CALEDONIA; SOME OTHER SOUTH SEA ISLANDS, AND THE PRINCIPAL CITIES OF NEW ZEALAND AND EASTERN AUSTRALIA.

AS HE DID WITH THE "MAYFLOWER," COMMANDER VILLIERS PLANS TO BUILD A REPLICA OF CAPTAIN COOK'S SHIP, THE "ENDEAVOUR."

HE HAS A NUCLEUS OF VOLUNTEERS EAGER TO SAIL WITH HIM. SOME OF THESE SAILED WITH HIM ON THE "MAYFLOWER II," TO COMMEMORATE THE FIRST MAYFLOWER'S VOYAGE 350 YEARS EARLIER. A GROUP OF AUSTRALIANS HAVE FORMED A TRUST TO FINANCE THIS PROJECT.

THE BICENTENARY OF CAPTAIN COOK'S JOURNEY IS IN 1968, BUT COMMANDER VILLIERS PLANS TO SAIL IN 1967 AT THE LATEST.

--KEEL DUE THIS YEAR--

HE HOPES THE KEEL OF THE "ENDEAVOUR II" WILL BE LAID LATER THIS YEAR AT A SHIPYARD IN WHITBY, THE NORTHERN ENGLISH SEAPORT WHERE THE ORIGINAL "ENDEAVOUR" WAS BUILT. CONSTRUCTION WILL FOLLOW THE PLANS FOR THE ORIGINAL "ENDEAVOUR," WHICH HE FOUND IN A NAUTICAL MUSEUM.

COMMANDER VILLIERS, WHO WAS BORN IN AUSTRALIA AND FIRST WENT TO SEA IN SAILING SHIPS IN 1949, SAYS, "I WANT THIS PROJECT TO BE AN INSPIRATION TO YOUNG PEOPLE. VERY SOON NOW, THERE WILL BE NO ONE LEFT WHO IS TRAINED IN SQUARE-RIG SAILING.

(MORE)

