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## Viðfarin sum ein kongur umborð á Thor Assister

Eg verði viðfarin sum ein kongur her umborð á Thor Assister, av eini sera blídligari manning, sigur fraklendigurin Maxime Le Maillot, sum nú um dagarnar varð so heppin at fáa fart við føroyska frálandaskipinum, eftir at vera strandaður á oynni Tristan da Cunha í Suðuratlantshavi. Ovurfegin Tað er ein ovurfegin fraklendingur, sum í hesum døgum ferðast við frálandaskipinum Thor Assister hjá Thor í Hósvík av heimsins mest fjarskotnu oyggj í Suðuratlantshavi, Tristan da Cunha til Walwis Bay í Namibia. Maxime Le Maillot, sum starvast sum verkfrøðingur á eini støð hjá ST á oynni, ið ger mátingar av kjarnorkuvirksemi, dylur ikki fyri, at hann er heimsins hepnasti ferðamaður, nú hann fekk fart av oynni við einum av Thor skipunum, sum kom framvið Tristan da Cunha leygardagin. Skipið, sum kom eftir fraklendinginum úr Suðurafrika, fekk maskinskaða og mátti venda aftur til Cape Town og eingin fartur fór tí at vera í bræði. Men eydnan varð við honum, at føroyska skútan varð í nánd og tók hann umborð. Oljuportalurin heitti á franska ferðamannin umborð á Thor Assister at skriva nøkur orð um seg sjálvan, arbeiðið og lívið á hesi so sjáldsomu oyggj og móttøkuna umborð. Vit loyva okkum at seta tey á oljan.fo á enskum. Dear friends in The Faroes I am Maxime Le Maillot, the passenger taken on Tristan da Cunha by the tug Thor ASSISTER. The captain gave me your contact in order to give you some information of my great adventure. I am a french engineer working for the french company EnvirOconsult. I arrived on Tristan on the South African scientific vessel Agulhas, which is coming every year to Tristan at the beginning of September. On Tristan I was in charge of a high technology scientific station, which belongs to an organization of the United Nation. The Edinburgh of the Seven Seas is the only settlement on Tristan, on the flat North part of the island. This is home for approximately 260 persons. My

time on Tristan really flew; despite what the "outside world" imagine there is no time to get bored here especially if you like outdoor activities. There is always some cattle to take care of (cattle to be killed, sheep to be sheared), some extraordinary walks on the base which lay 600m above the settlement where you can see some albatrosses nesting. If the weather permits it, you can go fishing on a small dingui or swimming around. And if you are lucky enough you can enjoy an amazing trip to Nightingale island, which is around 40 miles at the south west of Tristan, home of hundreds of Northern Rockhopper penguins. The community is amazing, everybody knows each of other of course, and people are really friendly, taking care of each other and always willing to help. I reckon it is not much different of a small village in the Faroe Islands. I was planned to leave on the 4th of June on the fishing vessel MV- Edinburgh which should have arrived on the 30th of May from Cape Town. Unfortunately the ship had some engine problems and had to turn back to Cape Town while she was only 500 miles from Tristan. The vessel arrived only the 6th of June back in Cape Town and will sail again on the 7 days trip to Tristan when she has been repaired. This cause great perturbation for many people. One of consequences is that on Tristan, The island Store is rationing flour and milk, whilst stocks of tea have sold out. People haven't received mail since the last time the ship came, the 26th of March, almost 3 months ago. I was then "stuck" on Tristan and was desperately looking for a way to come back to Europe. Thanks to Andy Repetto, the Thor ASSISTER has been tracked while on her way from the Falkland Island to Walvis Bay in Namibia. And thanks to all the efforts from the Acting Administrator Kobus Potgieter, contact has been made with the shipping company of the tug, and it has been agreed that they would stop on Tristan to take me as a passenger. But problems were not over, since it is winter on Tristan and a bad weather would prevent the boats of going out of the harbour to bring me to the tug. On Saturday morning it was a little bit swelly but the team compose of Conrad Glass, Neil Swain and Leon Glass managed to bring me out of the harbour up to the tug on the powerful police RIB. Since then I am safely on board of the tug Thor ASSISTER and since I am the only passenger, I am treated like a "king" by the friendly crew. We are planned to arrive at Walvis Bay in Namibia on the 14th of June. I will then come back to Tristan da Cunha for a 3 weeks trip in September on the Agulhas vessel. I am already looking forward to come back and see my Tristan friends. Maxime skrivar at enda, at er onkur føroyingur, sum vil vita meira um oynna og lívið har, eru teir vælkomnir at seta seg í samband við seg. (Maxime LEMAILLOT < M.LEMAILLOT@enviroconsult.fr>) Don't hesitate to contact me for other information on different aspects of the life on Tristan or if things don't seem to clear (after spending 9 months on Tristan, some aspects of the Tristan life looks normal to me even if they are not!!) Regards, Maxime Hetta er aðru ferð seinastu fimm mánaðirnar, at Thor Assister hevur kunnað veitt hjálp til fólk, sum eru "strandað" á heimsins mest fjarskotnu bygdu oyggj, Tristan da Cunha. Fyrru ferðina var í februar, tá ein sjúkur breti fekk fart við Thor skipinum, sum var ávegis til Falklandsoyggjarnar úr Namibia.