

24th SCUFN MEETING
Beijing, China, 12-16 September 2011

L. GÉLI's PROPOSALS AFTER SAINT-EXUPÉRY AND HIS CHARACTERS

1. In 1997, Dr. Louis Géli, IFREMER, France, submitted 7 name proposals to SCUFN in the Southern Ocean, after the famous French writer Antoine de Saint-Exupéry and several characters of his book "Le Petit Prince". See [Dr. Géli's letter of 28 July 1997](#) (courtesy translation by the IHB). Dr. Géli made the following proposals:

- [Saint-Exupéry Fracture Zone](#)
- [Le Petit Prince Fracture Zone](#)
- [Le Géographe Fracture Zone](#)
- [L'Astronome Fracture Zone](#)
- [La Rose Fracture Zone](#)
- [Le Renard Fracture Zone](#)
- [Le Petit Prince Seamount](#)

2. These proposals were considered by the 13th SCUFN meeting in 1999. Only the above last proposal was accepted by the Sub-Committee, but as Saint-Exupéry Guyot. The reason given in the report is recalled below.

"SCUFN believes that precedence should be given to the real historical person, i.e. SAINT-ÉXUPÉRY, and that therefore the major feature, the above seamount (guyot), should be named after SAINT-ÉXUPÉRY."

None of the proposed F.Z. was accepted and the outcome in the report was as follows:

"The Group considers that there is insufficient evidence for the above six fracture zones, and that more bathymetric and other geophysical evidence is needed. To be put in the **reserve section** of the GEBCO Gazetteer.

It was also noted that "ANTIPODES Fracture Zone" (50°00'S - 176°00'W to 70°00'S - 125°00'W; see IOC-IHO/GEBCO SCUFN-XII/3, item 5.3) passes through this area and most likely coincides with one of the features identified by Dr. GÉLI and his colleagues."

3. As part of Action SCUFN22/45 on the Reserve Section, the Secretary wrote to Dr Géli in March 2010. See [SCUFN letter to Dr. Géli of 15 March 2010](#). Dr. Géli replied on the phone that he had no more bathymetric data available and that the information he provided in 1997 gave, in his view, sufficient bathymetric evidence of the F.Z. He further provided the 1997 bathymetric data in digital form, as follows:

1. [General bathymetry for the area](#)
2. [Bathymetry for La Rose F.Z. and Le Renard F.Z.](#)
3. [Bathymetry for Saint-Exupéry F.Z. and Le Petit Prince F.Z.](#)
4. [Bathymetry for L'Astronome F.Z.](#)
5. [Bathymetry for Le Géographe F.Z.](#)

4. In the light of the above, SCUFN is invited to re-consider Dr. Géli's proposals for naming the 6 F.Z.