

## Re: Could SS1 be exported?

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> *Since the island is occasionally swept clear by major storms it is hard*

>*to see it as a needed protected enviroment.*

Sea birds nest there in large numbers (I would guess a few thousand). The environmentalist fear is that every rocket launch roasts a few hundred birds and their baby chicks. There clearly are ways to address this. The launch pad could be near the edge of the island and designed such that flame was diverted off the island. The area right around the pad could be fenced in and have enough dogs that birds did not nest inside the fence there. Etc. It is not clear how much of this kind of thing Beal did.

There are birds in Florida and NASA still launches. Do they do anything to keep birds from nesting too close to the launch pads? How close is really too close?

>*As a rocket base I have tried to find better on a map of the  
>caribbean. The only other choice I personally found is Montserrat  
>Island, where I think the locals would like the econimic boost  
>a space port would bring.*

They have the same British there that we do here. We went there a couple weeks ago. It is not a very big island and everone has moved to the Northern part of it since the rest is covered with Pyroclasic flows and/or ash. If you were in the Northern part you would be near people (the whole inhabited part might be 3 by 4 miles). If you were in the rest you have the problem of the volcano. Also, East of Mrat is Antigua. So I don't think it is nearly as good as Sombrero. Sombrero is like 40 miles from any humans and nothing East till Africa.

I think Beal's failure does not mean that someone else could not launch from Sombrero. So if you are trying to make a new launch pad, don't cross Anguilla off your list.