

view and was quickly fished out. But will he be the only one? However strange it may sound, I feel that personal danger is mainly connected with a dulling of the sense of fear. Naturally, we are aware that our secure ice abode could become a site of calamity at any moment. We have a plan for emergency evacuation of personnel. When you have 200 people 1200 kilometers from land in an emergency situation, it's time to sound the SOS".

Sorokin's high-latitude expedition is entitled the "Transarktika" (Trans-Arctic). It is in its second year of operation. At the beginning many people were doubtful of success, but now, in the opinion of its head, the viability of the technique has been proven.

Epilogue

I recorded this conversation in Mid-March. On April 5, we heard some bad news: a crack had developed in the ice island.

Sergei Malyshev, radio operator for the Soviet-British expedition on Srednii Island, who was maintaining round-the-clock radio contact with the "Priklyuchenie" (Adventure) club in Moscow made it possible to speak with Mikhail Sorokin. Here are his words: