

Long tours of duty are characteristic of Arctic icebreakers, and tours on the large new vessel would be longer than usual. Hence the ship would provide a high level of accommodation, with single cabins for the crew members, a swimming-pool and a multi-purpose theatre. It would be large enough to carry a hovercraft and several snowmobiles for use ashore and on the ice. It would also have hangar, landing and flight-control facilities for three helicopters.

In the air, most of the recent research has been into the development of larger, faster planes capable of transoceanic and transcontinental flight. In Canada, however, there has been considerable interest in and research into short-takeoff-and-landing (STOL) aircraft — planes that can land and take off in less than 2,000 feet, operate at low speeds in terminal areas, are quiet and can approach a runway at an angle of six to nine degrees. STOL aircraft would be used primarily in carrying passengers between cities. A demonstration service between Ottawa and Montreal has come to a successful conclusion and research is continuing in this field.

