

ARCTIC

En Route to the Pole

A nuclear powered icebreaker which is carrying tourists from seven countries on the first international cruise to the North Pole is maintaining a course toward the northernmost point on the planet.

After three days of sailing, not far off the coast of the Taimyr Peninsula the nuclear powered vessel encountered a convoy of ships being guided eastward by the nuclear powered icebreaker "Sovetskii Soyuz". The leaders of the cruise took advantage of this opportunity to demonstrate the operation of a giant icebreaker as part of a convoy.

"I've done a lot of travelling, but I've never seen anything like it," said 87-year-old K. Streiff, a business man from Switzerland and the oldest participant in the cruise. "It is simply fantastic!"

It is not only the arctic landscapes that pique the guests' interest. They eagerly attend lessons in Russian. The birthdays of those taking part in the cruise are celebrated in style. Each passenger, via the satellite communication system, can communicate with his home and share his impressions with relatives and friends.

Up to now the weather has been smiling on the tourists. The nuclear powered vessel is overcoming the ice fields without great difficulty, but its biggest challenge lies ahead - on the approaches to the North Pole.

Vodnyi transport

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Page 1 (full text)