

ANTARCTIC

From the Banks Of The Neva River To The Distant Antarctic

A second group of participants in the 34th Soviet Antarctic expedition sailed from the Neva River towards the distant sixth continent. In September, one month earlier, an IL-18D plane flew from Leningrad to the Antarctic Molodyozhnaya station. In the Antarctic it will perform important research work as a flying laboratory. On board the IL-18D scientists will conduct a variety of air gravimetric, meteorological, and other types of studies.

Now there is another scheduled flight on this long-distance route. This particular flight is an IL-76TD with 85 Arctic researchers from the 34th Soviet Antarctic expedition on board. "It's interesting to observe", said Yury Zusman, Deputy Head of the Soviet Antarctic expedition; "that the volume of traffic on this route linking Leningrad and the Molodyezhnaya Antarctic Station is growing year by year. Air transport makes it possible to cut travel time drastically and to make use of the most favorable period of the Antarctic summer for efficient work, construction, and research. This year, for instance, over 350 Antarctic researchers have travelled this route in one direction alone. In addition, many of those who have completed their work with the 33rd Soviet Antarctic expedition have returned home by air.

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