

the freighter contain drilling equipment, building materials, fuel, and huts for the first explorers of the new oil field discovered in the north and named after the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution. These cargoes have been expected by the geologists of the Varandei and Khoreiver expeditions and the Nar'yanmar derrick-assembling crew. Travelling along winter routes in the tundra, truck convoys will transport these cargoes to their destination.

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The Guides Of Arctic Convoys

The ice floe found for the new drifting station SP-30 suddenly became lost: the radio buoy, which had been dropped on it from an airplane a few days earlier became silent. Either it had been made inoperative by the minus-fifty-degree temperatures, or the drift had changed. In brief, it became impossible to locate that platform in the Arctic Ocean. The ice-breaker Ermak and the diesel-electric ship Vitus Bering with polar expedition personnel and cargoes on board were forced to make an urgent change of course. But which of the reserve ice floes was the most convenient for the scientists' work? In what direction should the ships head? These questions were soon answered by the pilots of polar aviation.

For several days, the Il-14 ice-scout circled above the ocean and the Mi-2 helicopter frequently took off from the deck of the Ermak. The