

International Trans-Antarctic Expedition Reaches the South Pole

From a communication received at Goskomgidromet from the USA: "We expect the team to reach the South Pole between December 11 and 13." And today, V. Skachkov, chief consultant on external economic affairs for the International Trans-Antarctic Expedition brandishes a teletype tape and announces to me, beaming: "Here's how it came out. Read this: 'We have finally made it. Hooray!'"

For the first time since Amundsen and Scott, humans have reached the South Pole by dog sled. I look into the eyes of these six brave men as someone who himself has been in the Antarctic, and with a shudder imagine what they must be facing.

At the request of Pravda, Skachkov got in touch with the American station Amundsen-Scott, located at the South Pole, and yesterday the answers to our questions came in via outer space. What is immediately striking are Stiger's words: "I've never seen anything like it." After all, this was said by a man who had conquered 15,000 miles in the Arctic. Having reached the North Pole in 1986, he met J. Lou  tienne (France) there and immediately made an agreement with him for a trans-Antarctic trek.

Thirty excellent sled dogs carried them to the South Pole. The last few days they travelled 25 miles (per day) and climbed from 3000 to 10,000 feet. Only huskies could accomplish this.

We asked:

"Where are the other 10 dogs? You started out with 40..."