

Nevertheless, the scientists completed the program successfully with the help of the pilots, said M. Sorokin, head of the expedition.

Vozdushnyi transport  
19 May 1990  
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#### On Drifting Ice

The Leningrad--Pevek--NP--31--NP--30 air bridge has been operating for about a month. This year the "North-42" high-latitude air expedition of the Arctic and Antarctic Scientific Research Institute, led by S. Kessel', chose Apapel'khino airport near Pevek as its base. All the necessary supplies were brought here on An-26 and An-12 aircraft, and a new shift of polar workers arrived for both drifting stations. NP-31, which has a good runway, has assumed the role of transshipment base. The An-2 and Il-14 aircraft of the Kolymo-Indigirka airline which are based here transport people and cargo to NP-30. Owing to constant shifting of the ice, the station has frequently lacked an ice runway and now has a very small airfield which can only accommodate An-2 aircraft.

The veteran of the ice routes, the Il-14, whose crew is led by Yu. Klepikov, an experienced flying instructor with 30 years of service in ice reconnaissance and flights to the North Pole, has assumed the role of fuel supplier for the An-2 aircraft. Aviation fuel is parachuted onto NP-30. These drops are planned and carried out by members of the "Pole" Parachute Expeditionary Operations of the State Hydrometeorological Committee of the USSR.