

Well, the situation at the coast of Chukotka toward the end of February is not simple. Navigation specialists admit that the ice is stronger than the "Yermak", let alone the "Khlebnikov" whose power is about half that of the "Yermak".

Three departments are implicated in this situation: the Ministry of Sea Navigation, the Department of Farm Industries, and the Ministry of Power Engineering of the USSR. Different methods of unloading are being studied, there is a suggestion to direct the convoy to Magadan or some other convenient port.

Now we have to wait and see whether the three departments can reach a compromise which will meet-not-only their needs, but also those of the nation.

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Ice And Cold Are Of Great Help

The arctic cold and ice may become helpers of seamen at high latitudes. More than ten years of experience by the ship crews of Northern Sea Navigation is a proof to that effect.

Today, led by an icebreaker, the diesel powered Pavel Korchagin approached the very edge of a land floe near the geologists' base at Varandei. The ice moorage and the ice roads leading to it from the shore are so strong that they easily permit the passage of tractors and automobiles. The holds of