

### The Rossiya Speeds to the Rescue

The atomic ship Rossiya, coming out of the Kola Gulf, turned first to the right, towards the traditional Arctic lanes, and then left, and headed for the Greenland coast to rescue the personnel spending the winter on SP-28.

The station is located on a broken ice floe and is braced by fields of pack ice many years old. Specialists calculate that the distance from SP-28 to the edge of this ice mass is about a hundred nautical miles. Twenty-seven polar research workers may, in a very short time, find themselves in a critical situation. The ship is hurrying: if the station is carried out into open water, a genuine emergency will arise.

The Rossiya's crew learned of the voyage to the Greenland sea at the end of December, when the ship was operating in the western Arctic. Traditionally up till now the icebreaker Sibir' had specialized in North Pole drifting stations: its crew had disembarked and removed personnel from more than one station. Now it was the Rossiya's turn. At Dickson, after it had taken on board an MI-8 helicopter, the nuclear-powered ship stopped at Murmansk for a short time and at once rushed off again on its journey.

The Arctic and Antarctic Institute specialists headed by N. Kornilov, a well-known polar research scientist, promised a rough trip: heavy rolling. In the cabins, cupboard doors banged, dishes slid along shelves, and blinds moved apart by themselves...