

ANTARCTIC

Supplies for the 34th Antarctic Expedition

The flotilla of ships of the 34-th Antarctic Expedition has reached the high southern latitudes. The new settlers disembarked at Soviet scientific bases of the White Continent and cargo required for their stay was unloaded. The modern "Vitus Bering", a multi-purpose, reinforced diesel-electric ice-breaking class ship had completed its second prolonged Antarctic voyage.

Our ship, constructed by the Kherson shipbuilders for operations under experimental polar conditions, acquitted itself well during the previous season in the extreme South. Now the crew, headed by the same captain, S. Sakhnov, continued this excellent tradition. The crew now had to ensure that a program of seasonal geological and geophysical investigations in the Western and Eastern sectors of the Antarctic were successfully carried out.

In Arkhangel'sk and Leningrad the vessels had taken on thousands of tons of equipment, supplies, provisions and barrels of fuel, containers of scientific equipment, tracked vehicles, three aircraft of various types and the same number of Mi-8 helicopters. Specialists of the "Sevmorgeologiya" Scientific and Industrial Society for the Antarctic landing also participated in the expedition.

Having completed the transoceanic voyage they entered the Weddell Sea. On the coast, near the 71-st parallel close to Nursel Bay, the Druzhnaya-3 geological field base has been operating on the Kuorisen shelf glacier for three years. Long before