



CANADA

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## ARCTIC SUPPLY MISSION BEGINS

With the departure from the harbour of Montreal on July 5 of the "C.D. Howe", special Arctic service ship of the Department of Transport, the regular summer operation to re-supply Canada's remotest northern stations and settlements began.

Nineteen Coast Guard vessels, seven of them specialized icebreakers, are taking part in this year's mission. Some are carrying cargo and others are escorting the eight chartered commercial ships bearing the dry cargo, fuel oil and gasoline needed at the Arctic weather stations and defence installations, as well as at isolated settlements of other kinds.

The Coast Guard ships include the icebreakers "John A. Macdonald", "d'Iberville", "Labrador", "N.B. McLean", "Montcalm", "Sir Humphrey Gilbert", and "Camsell". The last-mentioned vessel has been assigned to the job of escorting freighters in the Western Arctic. At places where no housing facilities exist, the stevedores who land cargo will live aboard the depot ships "Narwhal" and "Nanook".

Six northern supply ships will also take part; they are specially designed for this kind of Arctic job, drawing only a few feet of water. There will also be two smaller ships, of barge type, somewhat similar in design.

The light icebreaker and buoy vessel "Simon Fraser" will service navigational aids in the Hudson Bay area.

Three dry-cargo ships, a refrigerator vessel and three tankers make up the chartered list of commercial ships.

## EASTERN ARCTIC PATROL

Aboard "C.D. Howe" are the members of the Eastern Arctic Patrol, who consist of representatives of the Departments of National Health and Welfare and Northern Affairs as well as other government agencies responsible for the well-being of Canada's native Arctic population and for law and order in this vast region. The ship, well-equipped for medical and dental services, is calling at nearly 40 ports, landing supplies and serving as a base for medical examination of the Eskimos.

As in the past several summers, certain Coast Guard vessels will be acting as operational headquarters for government research teams carrying out projects in hydrography, oceanography, magnetic study and related sciences. The scientists and technicians so engaged will have laboratory facilities set up on several of the larger icebreakers. These ships, on completion of their supply-convoy escort duties, will proceed on one or another of the scientific undertakings aimed at broadening Canada's knowledge of its Arctic region. Much work of this sort was achieved during the past two summers, and many hundreds of miles of previously unexplored waters were charted.

(Over)