

## Expedition to North Pole

Canadian scientists are preparing for what promises to be the largest known expedition to the North Pole, costing about \$1.2 million, to study the Lomonosov Ridge, a mountain range on the floor of the Arctic Ocean.

Scientists believe the 3,000-metre-high range will help them uncover past mysteries and perhaps some of the future as well. One theory suggests the ridge was once part of the European continent. Results from about 14 experiments during the two-month venture may confirm the notion.

The experiments are also expected to "produce in the long term a knowledge base to guide Arctic development intelligently", says Ken Witham, director general of the earth physics branch of the federal Department of Energy.

A full team of about 50, including several U.S. scientists, will start going to the North Pole this month. A small airborne group has been looking for a large floe on which three camps will be set up to receive about 365,000 kilograms of equipment.

Scientists are especially excited about the project, called LOREX (short for the Lomonosov Ridge Experiment), because it will offer Canadians an opportunity to demonstrate their expertise.

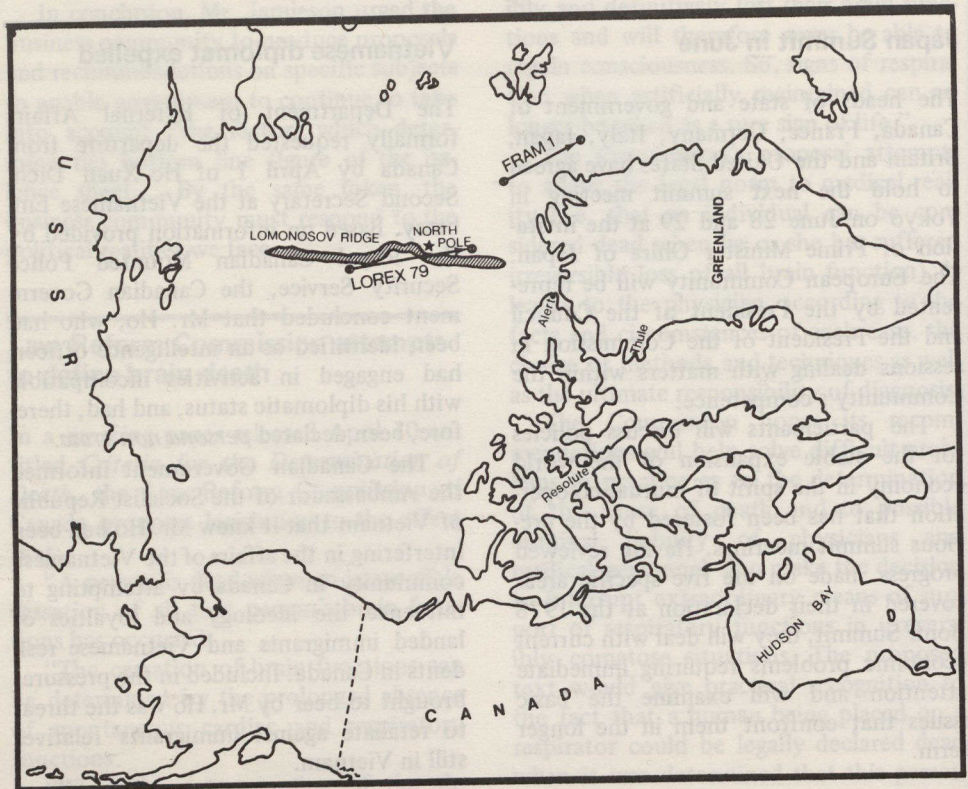
"Canadian scientists have been participating in international projects," Mr. Witham said. "But we need a major expedition in the Arctic to demonstrate Canadian planning, management and field operations."

The LOREX project is only a small part of a massive Arctic exploration program scheduled for this summer.

In February, the first of about 700 scientists and their support teams began moving into the barren lands for research on the polar continental shelf.

Ocean Camp, huddled around a lone Canadian flag raised by an expeditionary team, is surrounded by an unforgiving world of ice. There is no land, only a light covering of snow over sea ice up to 45 metres thick. Almost any life form is totally alien.

There are dangers — minus 40 degrees spring temperatures and 100 kilometre-an-hour winds which often scream across the frozen wasteland. The constantly shifting ice pack can split, creating yawning chasms, or pile up against itself to form



mountainous pressure ridges up to 30 metres high.

About 140 projects will be conducted on the islands off the continental mainland. They include a count of caribou and polar bears so that realistic hunting quotas can be set, studies in animal life and feeding habits, mineral resources,

ocean tides and climate.

The United States will establish a drifting ice station, called FRAM I, in the Eurasian Basin off the northeast coast of Greenland. FRAM's geophysical oceanographic programs will be similar to those carried out at LOREX, but on a smaller scale.

## Journal on Third World published in Toronto

A new journal of writings relating to the Third World is being published three times a year by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) in Toronto.

*Two Thirds*, subtitled "a journal of underdevelopment studies", intends to present interpretations of social reality from the perspective of the peoples of the developing world.

Its articles cross all disciplines, avoiding a preoccupation with only economic, political or cultural concerns. Authors submit material in their own languages. Translation into English for the journal is contributed on a voluntary basis by graduate students and professors from various parts of the world who study or teach at Toronto universities.

Articles relating to the debate over modes of production and dependency in Latin America — a debate to which English readers have had little access — ap-

peared in the first issue of the journal. The second issue presented economic analyses of resource accumulation and exploitation in the Third World and the third issue was devoted to the position of women in developing countries.

A feature of each issue is an interview with a major spokesman of the developing world. René Zabaleta Mercado, the Bolivian sociologist who is director of the Mexican Centre of the Latin American Faculty of Social Science, was the subject in the first issue. Translations of contemporary folk songs, stories and poetry from the popular cultures also appear.

*Two Thirds* offers annual subscriptions at \$7 in Canada and \$8 outside Canada. Persons wishing to subscribe should write to *Two Thirds*, Department of Sociology, O.I.S.E., 252 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Canada M5S 1V6. (From *Development Directions*, January/February 1979 issue.)