

B. Maxwell, a physician, Mr. R. Weber and Mr. K. Holloway, engineers, and Mr. L. Dexter, an Anglican clergyman.

The Soviet aviators who supported the expedition were invested with Orders of Honour. The members of the Expedition's base group received medals awarded "For Labour Prowess".

In addressing those present, Mr. Ryzhkov spoke as follows:

"Today, we have the opportunity, to render what is due to the participants in the Soviet-Canadian polar expedition. They have built a unique bridge of friendship, joining the two shores of the Arctic Ocean - the Soviet Union and Canada - and extending their bridge over the North Pole.

"The history of the exploration and opening up of the Arctic contains not a few brilliant pages preserving memories of the courage and strength of the human spirit and nobility of purpose. These pages hold memories of people who have devoted themselves to probing the Arctic and have, in a number of instances, given their lives to this pursuit. Never until now, however, have skiers crossed the top of the world. Again, never until now did a group comprising representatives of different social systems, advance to conquer the Pole. Citizens of Canada and the Soviet Union, an engineer and a worker, a clergyman and a physician, and an artist and a scientist, formed a single collective body and, under conditions of the most extreme severity, acted in concert and together risked their lives in the name of a common goal.