

TRANSPORT WATER

Fire On An Icebreaker

Last Saturday the icebreaker "Vasilii Pronchishchev" left the docks of the Archangel port district in order to lead her next convoy through the ice. At 10:05 hours an emergency situation arose - a cylinder of the main diesel generator broke and the lubricating oil burst into flames. A fire broke out in the engine room.

A Ship-wide alarm was given. At that moment the leader of the engine room watch was V. Lyapin, the electrician was R. Mustafin and the engineer was A. Shpilevoi. When the rescue team broke through to them, it was too late. The three men had suffocated in the smoke. The team was able to put out the source of the fire.

The icebreaker is now being repaired at the "Krasnaya Kuznica" plant

"The actual cause of the accident still has to be uncovered," said the Deputy Minister of the Marine Fleet of the USSR, B. Yunitsyn. "We are waiting for a team of marine fleet experts from Leningrad and also for representatives of the Khar'kov plant which manufactured the engine. However, even now we can say that there are no complaints as to the way the rescue operation was organized or with regard to the conduct of the team during the fire."