Forever ingrained in my memory is the epic of 1987, when the nuclear-powered vessel "Sibir" rushed to the aid of winterers stranded on the scientific drifting station SP-29 [North Pole-29]. The ice floe was thawing rapidly and beginning to crumble. To the last hour there was no assurance that we would make it to the edge and evacuate people and costly equipment. We did! We then "screwed" the "Severnyi Polyus" onto its geographic position, dropped off the winterers at Dikson, took on new ones and opened up another station.

The fiftieth anniversary of the Murmansk Marine Steamship Line has come at a crucial moment in the life of our country. I can give the assurance that the Line has sufficient reserves to contribute its share to the cause of economic restructuring. We are not short of intelligent and conscientious people, and the North is a perfect place for testing and tempering human character.

Vodnyi transport
3 October 1989
Page 2 (abridged)

Computer on a Motorship

The All-Union Corporation "Sudoimport" has concluded a contract with the Austrian firm "Korneiburg" [spelling uncertain (Tr,)] for construction of 10 computerized class A-1 motor/vessels for the Northern Maritime Steamship Line. This series incorporates all of the most modern advances in international shipbuilding.