

During this trip around the world, all the members of the expedition received souvenirs from Sovetskaya Rossiya, namely 1988 wall calendars. Next we exchanged autographs on the calendars and the commander notarized them to the effect that this really happened above the North Pole.

Then a festive dinner was served. It was highlighted by an unusual dish invented by our engineer, Boris Tarasov. It is called Khachapuri - meaning summer - at the pole. It has an inexpressible taste, it possesses the flavor of fresh dill and other herbs - all that one dreams about when surrounded by ice...

The last day of the experiment dawned. After the scientists once more located their clouds - true, their number had diminished somewhat and they had moved toward the pole - the aircraft set course for Khatanga. Your correspondent occupied the seat of the radiotelegraph operator and transmitted another radiogram to the newspaper.

Having done all the chores, I climbed under the "roof" of the Tsiklon, where I witnessed the appearance of aurora borealis, with which I began this report. The fantastic picture made me forget that I was separated from the icy air by just a thin transparent hemisphere - a glass bubble.

It was at this moment that something unexpected happened. Although the stratospheric clouds above us had disappeared, the scientists had not shut off their apparatus. And, as it turned out, they had done the right thing. Upon entering the zone of northern lights, the lidar suddenly began to pick up unidentified objects in the atmosphere. They were situated at altitudes from ten to twelve to