



Last to Arrive, the Curtiss

Curtiss had sailed from San Diego December 27 with scores of scientists and hundreds of wintering-over SEALeas embarked. Her arrival in the Ross Sea was the dream of all men who had wintered over between *Deep Freeze I* and *II* as evidenced by the many calendars hanging at Little America and McMurdo Sound with January 21 circled in red—for that was her arrival date.

En route south, *Curtiss*' wardroom would have passed for a United Nations conference room. American scientists were elbowmates with German, Brazilian, Danish, Norwegian, Irish, Russian, Argentine, Australian and New Zealand nationals who would take part in the IGY science studies.

When *Curtiss* met *GLACIER* near Scott Island for what appeared to be a routine transfer at sea, the hundreds of military and civilian observers lining *Curtiss*' rails to take pictures got a photographic subject they hadn't counted on, Lt. Chuck Constanta, flying the same HU-2 squadron helicopter he'd used to ferry *GLACIER*'s cargo ashore at McMurdo and Little America in early November, now landed on *Curtiss*' forward flight deck. He took off and hovered. A ground swell raised *Curtiss*' bow, causing her flight deck to smack the hovering whirlybird from its bottom. The pilot lost control, his rotor hit a gun mount and the helicopter plunged into the sea. An alert boat crew rescued the pilot and co-pilot within minutes and by dinnertime both were smiling and healthy as they paced the decks.

RELIEVED from watch, three 2nd Division men aboard *Curtiss* head below. In background, *Eorbas* and the Sound.



WINNERS OF CURTISS CREW BEARD-GROWING CONTEST.



BUSY HELICOPTER COMES A CHOPPER IN ROSS SEA; PILOTS QUICKLY FISHED OUT OF IGY WATER BY CURTISS.