

## Death at Hut Point

By now TOMBLE was unloaded except for the 10,000 drums of fuel in her holds. This was being discharged as regularly as sleds could be unloaded and brought ashore.

In addition to the fuel arriving in drums, McMurdo Sound expected more bulk aviation gasoline from NISPLEN when she returned from Australia. Pumps and fuel lines which had been used earlier lay on the bay ice alongside the frozen-in YOGs.

Six men rounded Hut Point in a weasel at 9 a.m. on January 14 to retrieve this pumping gear. They followed a trail that had been used almost daily since the YOGs were frozen in. About 200 yards off Hut Point, in the shadow of Seaman Vince's Cross, a passenger saw water gush upward through a seal hole in the ice near the weasel.

"Get out," screamed the driver. But by then the weasel was already beginning its downward plunge.

One man got out before the weasel went through the ice. He escaped with wet feet. All others went down. By the time the weasel struck bottom five of the six had escaped and were being pulled to safety by the first ones out.

Ollie B. Bartley, CPO, of Slaughter, Kentucky, became the fifth casualty of Operation Deep Freeze II. His arm had become entangled in the weasel's radio wire and he drowned. His frozen body was recovered by underwater demolition men from the departing ANZES.

TWO NAVY YOGS FROZEN IN McMURDO ICE AT HUT POINT.



CHAPLAIN ZOLLER LEADS DRIVERS IN PRAYER.

UDT MEN RECOVER BODY OF OLLIE BARTLEY FROM SLUSHY BANKS OF HUT POINT WHERE WEASEL PLUNGED.

