

The following morning the Eastwind received a radio message that a Merchant Seaman on the Norwegian Tanker Borge was in serious condition with bleeding ulcers..

A rendezvous was made, and despite a vicious swell, a small boat with Ensign William B. Hewitt of Needham Hts, Mass. was lowered and eight oarsmen stroked for the Borge. In the boat was the Eastwind's doctor SASLt David R. Herr of New Providence, Pa.

After emergency medical treatment was rendered, the Borge headed for the nearest port, and the boat returned to the Eastwind. Forty-seven tense minutes passed before it could be hoisted aboard, however, due to the rough condition of the sea.

The Eastwind's skipper, Captain Joseph W. Naab Jr. of Freeport, Maine congratulated the men on a job well done. *"You have performed this operation with great skill and courage, and in the finest tradition of the sea"* he said.

The Eastwind then resumed her course for the Caribbean, where she was to pass within four and a half miles of the east coast of Cuba.

It was midnight, off Cuba, when an unidentified aircraft was picked up on the radar. Flying without lights of any kind, it made a low pass over the ship and awakened many crew members sleeping in the cool air topside.

*"Here comes Castro"* one of the men shouted. There was stillness for a moment as the presumed Cuban bomber thundered in for another low run at almost mast height. Then it flashed a recognition light and laughter sounded around the decks. It was only a US P2V Aircraft on routine patrol.

The Eastwind docked briefly at Rodman Naval Base in the Canal Zone to take on mail, supplies, and fresh water, and several crew members jokingly talked of going ashore to buy air conditioners.

*"That's one of the problems of an icebreaker"* explained Captain Naab. *"We're insulated for cold but we spend about a month in tropical weather getting there. It gets mighty hot."*

High spot of the three-week voyage across the Pacific was to occur when the ship crossed the Equator and those who had never been across before would get initiated.

Then a week in Christchurch, New Zealand, preparing for the big push to Antarctica, where the massive icebreaker was scheduled to smash a path for ships supplying scientific stations there.



In the sunny Pacific