



Penguin gets rare treat from two crew members.

Prepared for anything, one of Eastwind's officers enjoys festivities.



The New Year 1961

The 220 officers and men on the Eastwind toasted the New Year in with cold beer on ice; Antarctica style.

Captain Naab drove the ship up on the ice until she was firmly wedged in. A ladder was lowered, and cases of beer and cheering men were soon scattered around on the seven foot thick ice pack.

From ten in the evening until midnight, the Eastwind's officers and men whooped it up. And it wasn't long before the USS Edisto, another Operation Deepfreeze icebreaker assisting the Eastwind, pulled up alongside to join the party.

Attracted by the excitement, scores of penguins joined in the fun. Waddling around on the ice and squaking raucously, they added just the touch to a "way-out" New Year's in McMurdo Sound.

At the stroke of midnight, the ships whistle blew, eight bells were struck by the youngest man on the ship, and lusty strains of Auld Lang Syne were sung. The traditional New Year's midnight watch log entry was written in verse by the officer of the deck.

Then, back to the task of clearing the ice-clogged channel so that the USNS Towle could unload her valuable cargo close in to McMurdo.