



## McMURDO SOUND ANTARCTICA

The day before Christmas saw us in the shadow of Mount Erebus breaking channel into McMurdo Station. The panorama of McMurdo Sound with its vast ice fields, towering mountains, and blue sky was truly magnificent. It's hard to imagine that the environment could be so hostile and so beautiful at the same time.

We were not alone in our work as the NORTHWIND was alongside breaking the other side of the channel. The chore of breaking channel soon developed into the McMurdo Grand Prix with the honor of each icebreaker at stake. Other contests would later arise including a football game with GLACIER vs NORTHWIND vs McMurdo Penguins, and the McMurdo Open played on white greens with black golf balls.

On Christmas Eve we finally reached McMurdo station and turned around to begin the arduous task of beaking big hunks of ice into tiny hunks to keep the channel open. On Christmas Day, however, we would stop long enough to fuel NORTHWIND and take time to visit with old friends and enjoy the Christmas meal.

