



Pictorial view of the USS ATKA, (AGB-3) March 15, 1960.

duties to the Coast Guard. This consolidation was designed to eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort and result in a more efficient and more closely coordinated utilization of available facilities. Up to that time the Navy had been operating five icebreakers, including Atka, and the Coast Guard had four, including one on the Great Lakes, Mackinaw.

One by one the Navy icebreakers were transferred to Coast Guard control, and late in 1966 the USS Atka (AGB-3) became the USCGC Atka (WAGB-280) in ceremonies held in Boston, Massachusetts. Shortly after taking her over, her new Coast Guard crew sailed the ship from Boston to her new home port of Baltimore, Maryland, where she underwent an extensive modernization and so, after more than twenty years, three name changes, and a career of distinguished service under both the flag of Russia and the pennant of the U.S. Navy, the cutter Southwind returned to her Coast Guard home.

Since her return to the Coast Guard, Southwind has been utilized to resupply

military installations in Greenland, and to conduct extensive scientific research in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. Her recent assignment to the Great Lakes is in support of a three year, 6.5 million dollar, Winter Shipping Season Extension Demonstration Program which was authorized by Congress in The Rivers And Harbors Act of 1970. The program is a comprehensive study of the feasibility of substantially increasing the length of the shipping season of the Great Lakes.



The USCG SOUTHWIND as she looked during Arctic East 1973.