

Reflections on 'Alpat'

"ALPAT 72"

And the Cutter JARVIS put to sea,
Her purpose good and true,
To save the lives of fishermen,
Men she never knew.

She's from the isle of Oahu,
A place where palm trees grow,
But now her bow is plunging,
Through freezing Alaskan cold.

Captain Wooley's men are strong and hearty,
They have proven every test,
But now we face the roughest challenge of all,
Our survival in this polar quest.

The lands are rocky and barren,
And the winds are fierce and cruel,
And only wealth or allegiance,
Can claim the presence for these crews.

For a million dollars profit rings,
For the King Crab of these seas,
And fortune hunters ferry to horde,
Nature's gifts of treasure teased.

So, we'll sail on through this salty haze,
To search, and protect our nation's place,
To save one life with thousands spent,
Has made this journey worth it's sense.

For God and country we will ride,
The gales of oceans for free-men's pride.

Randall Hasty