



ARCTIC CIRCLE



On July 18th, the NORTHWIND crossed the Arctic Circle at 66°32' N, 10°12' E. So came time for all lowly Blue Noses to bow down and obey our great leaders, the Polar Bears, by the order of the most Royal Court of Boreas Rex, Emperor of the Realm of Eternal Whiteness. Lord & Master of the Polar Bears and Walrus', Father of the Midnight Sun and Protector of the Northern Lights.



At 6 o'clock in the morning of July 19, 1965, festivities began. We were awakened by the clanging of pots and pans and police whistles. We were told to don the uniform of the day which for the crew was shirts and dungarees worn backwards with our T-shirts and unmentionables worn over them and our baseball caps on backwards. We thought we looked pretty funny until we saw what the officers were wearing: long-johns, cook's caps, thermal boots and life jackets. The chiefs' uniforms were the same as the officers except they had to wear white hats upside down. Next, our noses were painted blue along with our faces, then the fun really began. We were marched off to breakfast on our hands and knees and ate with only a knife. About 9 o'clock the Polar Bears found out that we were no match for them and backed us into the forward head. It looked as if the Blue Noses were going to annihilate the Polar Bears until they secured our water. Soon after, we broke out and captured many of the important Polar Bears who were soaking wet from our antics in the "prison." Egg fights and small skirmishes broke out around the ship, but luckily no one was hurt. At 1300 the Polar Bears began their revenge. First there was the Court from which Boreas Rex, the King, his wife and their baby reign throughout the afternoon. The two spoonfuls of hot chili weren't so bad and kissing the Queen's foot we managed, but kissing the baby's belly, really! After that we expected anything and got just about everything. We screamed for mercy but none came.



"YECH!"



Now that we are officially members of the Realm of the Arctic Circle, all we can think of is "wait till next year."