

the first escort



Early in the summer the ice conditions leading to Thule from the South were harshest. It was at this time when EDISTO and SOUTH-WIND escorted the freighter LT. ROBERT CRAIG North.

The expected best route had been determined by the breakers in the few days before with the aid of ice reconnaissance aircraft. For days the CRAIG followed close behind and in the wake of the second ice-breaker (left). The lead ship generally stayed a mile or so ahead searching for the straightest route North.

At Thule, finally, the freighter unloaded her huge cargo. (Below)

