

## underwater cable repair

When the LT. ROBERT CRAIG was safely out of the icepack at its southern edge. SOUTHWIND and EDISTO turned their effort to the repair of an underwater communications cable severed near Thule.

The first step entailed escorting the special repair ship USS AEOLUS and an assisting vessel USS SENECA into the area. Then followed many slow and monotonous days while AEOLUS found and picked up loose ends. Serving as buoys, the other vessels held these until their mate could be recovered and a splice made.

There was little excitement. Occasionally a helicopter (bottom, right) made the short hop to Thule, and its return cargo was transferred from ship to ship (right and below) during close maneuvers.

