



land, on November 24th. The rendezvous was effected and **Westwind** and **Burton Island** proceeding jointly wound a long and devious course through the outer pack. With the assistance of daily ice reconnaissance flights the path of least resistance was followed, however, it was not an easy task and it took us six days to wend our way to Beaufort Island.

Approximately thirty miles from Winter Quarters Bay and McMurdo Station we ran into our thickest ice. From here on, it took us four days of hard work to arrive off Hut Point. Straining, side by side, we made very slow progress through the six to eight foot solid winter ice. However, early on the morning of December 2nd we broke into Winter Quarters Bay and established a record for the earliest arrival at McMurdo.

Although we had arrived in McMurdo, our work was not done yet, and another eleven days were spent in breaking up the ice in the channel. Finally, on the 13th of December our work was completed and we settled back and awaited for the arrival of the first supply ship.

After twenty-four days of back-breaking work we had successfully completed one of our tasks. The hard work and sleepless nights will not be forgotten, but we did the job well and established a record that will not be surpassed for many years.



(Top) **Westwind's** heavy bow rides up high on the ice and crushes through to gain a few more yards. (Bottom) **Westwind** and **Burton Island** moored in the ice off Hut Point. The long walk to McMurdo added interest to liberty parties.

