

Daily Sledging Log

The

"S.S.S.P." of

East Base, Palmer Land
Antarctica

U.S. Antarctic Service

Jim Roms

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Sledge - log.

Nov. 6 - 1940.

Dist. 16.4

Temp. to night: 29° F.

Barrometer: 29.34

Camped 16½ miles out from Base x
Surface was excellent and both men and
dog. did fine job x At 11 PM. happened
to see a seal straight in my track as
I was skimming ahead of the 5 teams, so
we decided make camp. x An open hole
was close by through the ice, and as
we are many miles away from any
sign of leads and ice bergs, this
hole seal must have kept this hole
open the whole winter x We got away
from Base at 3.25 PM. after a
20 - long with the personal left x Dick
and I skied ahead of the teams talking
for 1½ miles, or until we could see
Red Rock Ridge x A final Good Bye
with wishes we were on our way
and he waved until disappearance
behind a huge ice-berg x A mother-
seal with a small puppy towed over
and with huge open eyes looked at
us as we passed by so as wondering
what strange caravan that could
be going by x The speed was good and
at times I had to step any of to prevent
the lead-dog of first team stopping

on the heels of my skis & In $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours
we had sledged 8 miles which must
be considered good with our heavy
loads up to 1100 lbs per team. & Passing
through some low reefs we came
over a penguin rookery, the first I
saw was sperm & There must have
been 100 of them standing there in pairs
male and female & Here and there
a straggler was running among them and
as he passed these paired, they invited
for a fight if he should happen to be
fresh with their female & As soon
as we stopped the teams, one straggler
came walking towards us and not slow
he came close in front of my camera &
Stopped here for one hour and Ekland
had some 12 of them placed (dead) in a
box - buried in the snow and marked
with a small trail flag & for Bergant to
pick up later as per radio-schedule &
It's now 12⁴⁵ PM and all boys have had
their morning meal - ready to turn in &
Told them all to sleep in until 9³⁰ AM
as all hands are in bad need of much
rest &

Temp. min = 26° F.

Nov. 7th

Dist. 35.5

Temp. 32°

Bar. 29.33

Got started at 11 AM since I let all hands
have a good rest the first day & Radio-
schedule at 7 this morn. Found weather with
poor visibility at 9 AM and stayed so whole
day & In evening sun broke through for
a short time & Had made 8 miles by 3 PM
and since going was so heavy decided to
rest the dogs and get going at 5 P.M. - X
Made hoich in that time, and for food
before turning in tonight had biscuits
and ketchup & Sticks ahead for more than
I need and got bad blisters on both
heels & are better tonight & Passed Terra
Firma Island & Bay - Ice was lumpy
with old pack ice frozen in and now
drifts full of snow in cracks & Dogs
and men all worked well and Milton
knows are doing a fine job. in supporting
us & We are all tired tonight and
the fellows have disappeared to the
only comfortable spot here is on the
cave, the sleeping bag -

Temp. min = +19° F. = Bar. 8 AM = 29.27

Sight on Terra Firma = 325, Red Pt. = 8, Black Thumb = 28

Cape Berteaux = 173.

17
1951
Nov. 8.

Temp. 32 F.

Dist. 488

Bar. 28.6^m

All hands were up for action at 8 AM.
Good radio-contact & glad to see Murray Lynn
from Etah and so he will be competent when
they leave us & I skied ahead for two hours
before train caught up with me and was
then at Cape Gottaux & Layed course straight
and found huge pressure ice with turned
over icebergs frozen in place & went through
on skis but found surface too rough for dogs &
Marked track for track near steep cliff &
Crossed a 3 ft. wide lead at Cape Manning
westerly & Ekhu's trail sled was almost submer-
ged in water as thin slush ice broke loose &
Sledged to what I thought was corner of bay-
ice and passed over a number of more bad
leads coming right underneath steep barrier, look-
ing for place to ascend the smooth shelf
forming in front of the high mts. & were
discouraged and unsuccessful with many
broken up ice in all directions & huge ice-
bergs in the making already broken off
forming some places 30 ft. crevasses & De-
cided therefore to trace our track to
a low place we had passed a mile previ-
ous for better luck & went over pressure
ridges and some narrow leads and

sure enough, I was on the other side in
a 45° slope & steep, but otherwise we
could manage & left the train 1/2 mi
away and now want them to come after
me & unhooking trailers sleds it took 22
dogs to get to top with all effort from
four men & in two hours we were
with all our heavy loads 800 ft up &
Lucky over not having more delay in getting
on shelf & as soon as we were up it started
snowing heavily so we in the thick air could
barely make out the mountain & moved on for
another 1/2 mile and made camp & the dogs
are all in; but they did a fine job in pulling
up so many times that steep slope &
Now camped underneath the high mt. &
Hope for better visibility in morn. & all
hands had turned in before 8 PM. & they
are all doing a good job & working hard &
Min temp = 28° F.

Nov. 9th

65.8 Dist.

Temp. 32

Bar. 29.16

Camped to night close to mountain at beginning of the most heavily crevassed area on Wordie Shelf Ice. Left our camp at Cape Barbeau this morn. with sun occasionally breaking thru & we climbed slowly for a mile until terrain becomes wavy & passed some huge crevasses close (open holes) later down a 1/2 mile long hill, seemingly being at almost sea-level again & mostly milky visibility and dangerous to ski ahead & climbing gradually until stopped at 2 PM. by crevassed area ahead where we stopped for hooch for two hours and gave the dogs some rest & when resting, the sun broke thru and illuminated the whole landscape with crevasses ahead & skied over and poked the ski pole through one & got a shock by seeing the huge hole underneath disappearing into black darkness & this one was snowbridged and undoubtedly a dog-team would have broken through & could now see the surface well, so decided go ahead again & over rolling plains with high 3 to 4 hundred ft. mounds with split open crevasses on either side of us & seemed like this was the only way to get through this mass of holes & dogs had now lots of pep again and steep were some of the hills they pulled the heavy loads up & we were getting

nearer to mountain nearest crevasses which now seems a familiar sight from my 3 flights over this area & a steep hill now took most strength out of the 55 dogs so another 1/2 m. over a smooth plateau found us a good camp site overlooking the mass of crevasses ahead & from Chart our distance should be only 23 miles to Wordie Cache & Hot Saulteau and biscuits was evening meal & our latest addition to our party proved today to be exactly what had been predicted previously & he is neither mentally nor physically fit for a journey of this kind & particularly so as each person gets so close in on the other fellow & he has held us up now twice by being late getting going in morn. and night before last explained that we had to camp right away as he could not go any farther & this 3rd day out I gave him order to get up at the same time as Eklund and Mussy at 7 AM, and start breakfast at the time when they were working radio & at 7³⁰ AM. having taken down our tent and loaded all our gear on sleds walking to cooktent and learn that primus had not even been lit nor breakfast started & Dyer in next tent just getting up starting a row that he was here as surveyor and navigator and not cook & I told him he has to do cooking from now on as he has no other duties & still more argument & no use & made oatmeal and hot lemonade for bottles and called the fellows for food and also told

Dyer that we do not need him as cook & Dead wood
passenger to carry & Have written message to
Dick at base explaining he is unfit, and reserved my
decision until supporting party returns after with
us for 7 days & I knew I was somewhat loose
by sympathizing with him in his sorrow not getting
out on the trail; but ~~had~~ never had expected to
find myself in such predicament with such a
disregard wanting disrespect for the other human
beings in this whole world & However, I shall
give him another chance &

2.1 m. 67.9 m

Nov. 16th A view outside tent opening at once
convinced me that it was unsuited for
traveling & could not see more than a few
ft. ahead & Had breakfast 10 AM. & and spent
the day plotting, writing msg. etc & at 5 P.M.
it started clearing for a while and could
then get a good view of crevasse ahead & Had
hooch and packed sleds. & as soon as that was
done it (the fog) closed in again so thick that
it was impossible to even see a sledge length &
waited around until 7 P.M. and got a slight

Bearing on Cape Bertaux = 327
" " Mt. Edgell = 208

view of the mt. we were headed for as chief
ahead & suddenly I saw a huge hole in
front of me so unexpected that it really
shook me as the surface was smooth and
seemingly level; but the haze prevented
from seeing objects or shadows on surface &
Found a snowbridge running 45° on an
course 195 true and with rope & 2 men
holding I went across safe & Dogteams all
followed over in order & Now came down
underneath mt. 600 ft. where the worst mass
of crevasse started and with that poor
visibility & decided to camp & Skied with
Knut over to some rock formations 1/4 mi
back on the mt. side where I got some
valuable information on rock collection
which will help me later when we get
south to the sedimentary mts which I
saw on our flight around Ala. I. Land &
Had a good ski-run back to Camp.

Temp. 32°

Bar. 29.22

Nov. 11th
78 m.

Temp. +9°
Bar. 29.56

This morn. found sun up bright and with excel. visib. x Was first called over to radio as Dick spoke to me direct and had that until 8:45 AM. x 1/2 cup oatmeal and 1/2 cup black coffee was all x Took tent down and then started ahead scouting for passage thru x Skied over long hills and worked my way to higher elevation where I got a good view over the situation x Over the strips between crevas. I found safe passages and after some searching I always located snow bridges connecting x Must have been 2 m. ahead with safe route for teams to travel and course for nunatak at upper part of Shelf Ice x At some places it was dangerous with large wide pits as deep as 200 ft. and most crevas. here was 10 to 30 ft. wide x the whole hillside seemed splitting open in cracks and stretching some places as far as 2 miles x Skied back and found all teams on a steep hill and they had a tough time ascending x With some help I got them started again

and at 2:30 PM. we had made only 3.1 m. x Not such a hot dist x But we were always going up hill x Stopped and made some hooch x scouting again and later found crevas. to be further apart x later came on a plateau fairly smooth when travelling was good although skies were sticking badly x Doop took a hard turn when we camped at 8 PM. x Close at the Nunatak and we feel lucky tonight to have less than 10 m. to cache x It was rapidly getting colder down to 90 Far. and Bar. rose x Our elev. is approx 900 ft. x Hope to make cache before noon tomorrow and have Hilton and Knowles return x they have helped us considerably and done a good job x they are off course says to get started on their own trip south along the Weddell coast and they should be able to get into the unknown x Cold to turn in to the bag tonight and my fingers are stiff cold x particularly the hand holding flash light x Carl is sound asleep already x
+4 - Bar. 29

Nov. 12

88 m.

We all had a tough day with lots of hard work x Steep hills and crevasses took hard on both men and dogs x Got going at 8⁴⁵ this morn., skied ahead the long depression valley we started an last night and in which we made our camp x Surface was excellent that early in morn. before the sun gets warmth and it x Later in the day around noon it usually starts to get sticky x Rub some dry paraffin and it helps for an other hour. x Climbed long rolling hills and was a mile ahead before teams finally left camp site and located early a number of crev. ahead on the steepest slopes x Found passages but it took twice the dist. Skiing x These crev. were the largest I have ever seen, some more than 50ft across with walls straight down to min of 200ft, as far as I could see x We were zig-zagging for 1/2 m. in either direction where I found snowbridges that would carry the teams over x After I had crossed one of these snowbridges safely, a team (Knowl's) had four dogs falling through x Four of us got them on the surface again x They

Temp. +12

Bar. 27.60

were a bit shaken up after such an exp. Could not see bottom in this must have been 5 to 800 ft. x A man on skis certainly takes great chances in this continent and particularly where there are glaciers x Stopped for lunch around 2 PM. x and I decided to let Knowl's and Hilton return to Base x Had them over to eat with us x Dyer this morn. did not get out of his sled bag before I had breakfast over x Made orangeade x and for any hand to fill his thermos x We had our tents down (except cook tent) and he was stuck in there x News giving a hand with breakfast, cranking generator or hooking up dogs x He is only concerned with himself that he gets what is coming to Dyer x Shows no cooperation, and acts like he does not have anything to do with the progress of this party x Had a run in with him 3rd day and when he refused to make breakfast and instead started an argument with recusations that Dick and I had people to wait on us at Base etc. x In fact he took for granted that because he was Mr. Dyer he should be in a class by him self x Trailwork is not arranged in such a way x Every man has to carry his share of the

load x He does not x so when Joe
and I were looking up the whole
gangline of days to his sled and un-
able to do it alone, he was just
standing there gawking at us x which
I told him, to come and give a hand,
He got sore at my remarks and
pulled up x I told him he could
arrange to return to base with Know-
les and Hilton x That way it stood
until after hook time x I also found
him this morn. hanging on a line letting
the dogs pull him up a steep hill x
His explanation to everything I say
and arguments are some more items
why he is unfit for trail work x
He is temperamentally unfit x I
raced him the act and took him on
again providing he turn out with the
radiogram in morn. 7 AM. and make
breakfast and is ready by 8:30 AM.
He said he wanted x So that's that x
There was a sight of relief when I
saw a smooth plain stretching out
in front of me towards onto I had
seen before and to which I had
bearings for locating the cache x
but many miles did we travel before

we finally came to the site with
all needed bearings for locating
the cache x Can see no signs of it x
Skiied for 1/2 hr. in direction of
best sight and within its radius,
but it must have drifted over x That
even the bamboo pole was visible x
Carl is trying tonight an emergency
radio sched. with request for evens
and new cache to be placed before we
go any farther x Our elevation is
approx 1600 ft x
Morn. temp +18 Bar. 27.50
Night morn +3
Nov 18th

Visib zero early this morn. x Carl
and all hands overslept for radio sched at 7 AM.
We were all too tired after such a tough day
coming on the last stretch x Started
snowing around 10 AM and no chance to follow
our track back for what was intended
bringing the glacier foot cache up here x
It is approx 7 mi. to where Knowles and
Hilton turned back x Tried to get Base
on Emerg. schedule at 12 PM. x They were
evidently not listening x Also tried at
2 PM. x 6 PM. x 8 PM. and Carl & Mussy
will be trying at 12 AM to night x

A more rigid check should be kept on
rad. dept. & We can not go on before
we either locate the cache or having
a new one flown down here & Further
we have only one cooker (primus between
us) so it will not do & Strongly believe
that the 2nd Supporting Party are not
capable of travelling over the Wordie
Shelf Ice alone in middle of Dec. &
therefore I believe it would be a more
safe procedure to have base fly pictures
out here now (which they no doubt
took on the 11th) so the first returning
party could travel via the trough &
Have prepared a radiogram to that
effect which Carl will get off earliest
opportunity to Dick & Meanwhile
we must stay here and wait & As
soon as it clears the cache at
glacier will be brought up & Dyer &
I will try to locate cache here to
the ft. & But I consider all that
equipment and food for lost & It
should have been placed at or close to
rocks with properly landmarks iden-
tifying it & Played cards this after-
noon to kill some time & And now
it is 10 PM and ready to turn in bag &

Nov. 14th → 8 AM, Temp: 23
Bar. 27.30 ← Min. night +6
" 27.20 (8 PM)

The day started of cloudy at 7 AM, when I
went over for radio schedule & Heard Dick
giving us all kinds of ammunition for
leaving Base with only one (1) cooker. He
must understand that I impossible could
examine each shoe and each man
taking on what he was supposed to
take & Muesy got my instructions to
take on his sled the cooker in the
machine shop and which Dyer used in
Nemy Valley & Also the large primus I
told him to take, which would have
given us a total of 4 primuses, incl.
the small one I had in my pack &
Dick said this msg. that earliest oppor-
they would fly 3 primuses and one cooker
down to us. & Prepared a msg. tonight
Carl will send in msg. stating that as soon
as our curvy work completed here we will
leave for the south with any small pocket
size primus and two of Rymills pots &
Horn spare parts and sh. & Do not wish
to jeopardize quote explorers of the air,
unquote & Blowing and snowing whole
day with even temps of 23 to 26° F.

at rd. called at 7:30 PM. we gave weather x
Talk came up on cooker from Base x
Snow conveyed through Dick: Why can
they not go on with the one cooker
they have? x We want spoil his glory
when he is afraid to take a chance
leaving away from base for the benefit
of a surface party x As soon as we
got away he was gone on flying
gasoline caches out to head of sound x
We shall have to stand by for them x
It shows cooperation: He mentioned
around camp after Alex. Land flight
when Dick and I suggested we now
after having landed in the Bay ice to
fly the dog teams out in the field x
Hell no, dog parties are getting spoiled x
Ekland and Healy wanted to sledge down
on the glacier for the equipment left
there by Knowles-Hilton; but I advised
against it due to a change may come in
weather and not any too good vicinity x
As predicted, around 9:30 PM. wind came up
again from a more northerly direction and
with barometer falling to 27.20 x It is
now also snowing a little x

8 AM.

Nov. 15th Temp 22
Bar 27.33 Min night - 16
Had rd. shed at 7 AM. - Dick was not called
so there was no comment on my msg. x It
closed after shed 12 AM. and Dyer & I started
navig. x Got fires, also shots to all prominent
mts, around. x Thode bore line 2 m. long x Took
new shots to mts. x Sent Ekland & Healy & Morsy
down glacier for eq. x They left 1:15 PM. and
returned 5 PM. x A very fast and fine job x
Was told plane would possibly fly to night, so we
have emerg. shed. at 11 PM. and know definite
then x they intend laying cache here and we can
help them get off x After supper tonight we
built a high beacon 15 ft. with flag on top
and intend to place here dog-food - man food
and kerosene x for return journey of southern
Party and Supporting Party x Skied all over this
area trying to see signs of the cache layed
here May 21st. but to no avail x It must
have snowed under completely and a sign of it x
Also went over to a mound which looked like
it may have been the cache 1/2 m. to the south x
Strangely enough there were pressures with
crevasses some of them shot up in the
air x The area all around here is
very smooth, and suitable for landing
field all over. x A wind has started

8 AM

Bar. 27.34

up to night with velocity of 15 to 18 mi.
just starting picking up drift & it
was a cold job building the beacon so
we had to take turn going into tent warming
up. - x

From Mt. due south which on first Wordie
Cache laying flight pictures showed 1790.
we called zero, and on that peak I
took picture #1, then went to 60° - and
then took 11 pict. total around every 30°.
These are on reel #1 (Important x)

So cold in tent now that my fingers are
getting stiff so I better quit. Life
on the trail is interesting when weather
is nice and warm temp; but this
life at present is not to envy anyone x

Our sched with Base at 11 PM. indicated
that they were already on the Bay Ice
loading x Put out the signal for landing
at waited around in radio tent x Listen in
on conversations Candor had with base, and
it certainly is a great thing to have a radio
when it works x We also sent from here
asking where they were, and they came back
immediately x Fine work x They said from
plane they could see us and shortly after
we could hear the two motors roaring x
Circled us once and then came to a

Nov. 16thTemp - 10
min. = 3

landing x Great was the joy to see the
fellows Dick, Ashley, Pace, Sims, Sharbunnen
They stayed here for an hour x Had very
interesting chats and got good instructions
with pictures easiest way to return from
here in Jan. x They brought emergency cache
also cookies to us (two of them) Timmie
was so kind as to send a big & lemon
pie which tasted deliciously here and
on the trail x Our food on trail is
same day in and day out so thanks
for that Timmy x Penguin eggs which
we had fried afterwards tasted also good x
Exchanged tent with plane as the one
Carl and I had was torn and badly
patched x So now we live in a new home
x Heard was news from Dick and glad over
English naval victory when Italian battleships
were sunk in harbors x Sorry to hear of
Coventry bombing x Hope they retaliate x
It was almost 5 AM. before we turned in
and instruction to Dyer was to start E. fast
at 11. x Our sled loads have to be
rearranged from here x Will cache here
2 man portions for Supp. P. and 1 man &
for Southern Party x Dog food left
here for two 11 dog teams x

It is now 10 AM. impossible to sleep as tent is rather hot as sun shines upon it & so will instead start some work on paper &

Nov. 16th at 10 PM. Bar. 26.56
Dist. 5.75 m. Temp. +16

The sun shone fine when we started to work on our equipment - Building Biscan, Reloading sleds etc. & It was past 3 PM. before I left ahead on skis for the south & surface was good, but the loads were too heavy, particularly when we came to some slow hills & the total dist. today was only 5.75 m. and we travelled until 7⁴⁵ PM & Our elevation tonight must be approx 2500 ft. & It is blowing steady here with some drifts and here is very light as we are close to 70° south and the midnight sun is with a beautiful color cast illuminating the whole horizon & Hara worked over the loads to-night and found that we can without reducing any dist. any cut our loads on 250#. & The terrain we travelled over was very smooth but crossed a couple of crevasses & they were a continuation of the process

It sighted yesterday and which I thought could have been the Wordie Cache & Some crevasses were avoided tonight coming up here & they ran from the Mt. due west & are now camped 1 mile from Mt. Nunatak almost due south of our previous camp. & 8 AM. - Bar. 26.64
Min n. +16 Temp. 32

Nov. 17th - The day started brilliant weather, just like the days always dreaming about in the trail, not a cloud, no wind, fine warm sun, and most of all, a glorious scenery with mts, glaciers, icefalls, crevasses, etc. and dangers & All hands slept until 7 AM. & breakfast of the usual menu. Then. Due to too heavy loads we had to cut the days for supporting party to stay with us only 16 days after leaving base, instead of 19. Also cut their time in field from 12 to 10 days & we have to make more speed to get into the unknown & Will be gaining a course of 164° true this morn. & Are building a beacon this morn. and depositing 6 gal. of kerosene and 132 dog cakes & Hara to mark this well as we are depending on it for our return journey to base.

at 8 PM.

Bar. 26

Mid. 8.8 m.

After 1 m. on 164° I changed course to 195° true I order
to avoid crevasses, and skirt west side of 1000 ft. snow
mound. The surface was the best I have seen on
this trip firm and icy so the runners did not sink
so deep. However going was slow and we made only
8.8 m. Our loads are too heavy due to taking Dyer
along and letting them go east for 10 days. The
change in taking them along certainly slowed us down.
They will be with us now for only four more days. Twice
we had to relay the 2 sled loads approx. 2 m. x It
closed in on us for a while and no visibility so we
had to make camp. The dogs were well in with
so heavy load. After hovel to night it started
clearing and sun broke through with a beautiful
setting, and since we now are in lat. 70° , we
should at this time see the mid-night sun. We
have a mound 3 more miles before changing
course to 177° True, and in few days I hope to
make 160° . Quite some help before supporting party
turns back. Elevation of this camp 3300 ft.

At 10 AM. Nov. 18.

Bar. 25.86

Temp 28° Fahr.

Min during night
Fahr. 11°

Temp. +16

Nov. 18th The wind was blowing during the
whole night and some drifts. The visib.
at 7 AM was zero, so the whole gang were sleeping
in. The dogs needed the extra hours rest. Had
breakfast at 10 AM. x Awaited the weather
to clear sufficiently to make over the mound
ahead of us. x

Temp. 10 PM. = +16 — Bar. 25, 38

We had a tough day with total distance
only 7.15 m. x Were climbing from last
night's camp of 3300 ft. to 4100 ft. tonight. x
The visibility was zero and we were just
for one mile travelling on a course of
 220° True. x Then the rest of the day going
on course 180° x due south. x I was
sliding ahead with Brunton compass open
in one hand. x Lining centerline parallel
with my skis I was able to go a very
straight course. x Saw for a minute
only some mt. rocks 45° ahead of us
and starboard bow. x A high snow mound
 45° on port. x but it closed in with
heavy snowfalls. x Relaying the two
double sled teams a number of times
as going got too heavy. x Mussy did
well with his lousy team although
load considerable lighter. x Found out
when stopping at 8:30 PM. tonight —

We got away from camp 1 PM. noon, that
Mussy had thrown our brand new
tent which we exchanged from the
airplane at Wordie Shelf Ice Cache &
How he did it I still do not know
for he said only that the cloth must
have been rotten & he patched it
until 10⁴⁵ PM. tonight but it is a
poor job and we will I am certain
have trouble with it if we get out
in a real stormy blizzard & He is
very careless and indispensable at
times & Healy shows these days a very
distrusted face & At night he chatters
with Glean giving all kinds of criti-
cisms of the way Dick and I
are running the base & Shall put
him where he belongs before I let them
get out for 10 days on their own &
Writing a message to Dick tonight - the
first one since we saw them at Wordie

Nov. 19

Bar. 26.34

Temp. +26

min +16

Nov 19th

Milage 12.6 m.

Temp +21

Bar 23.34

Went up for rad. sled at 7 AM and got away at
9 AM after a tough and quarrelsome time with
Dyer & He was supposed to be up at 7 AM, the same
time as rad man & I trusted he started primus at
7³⁰ and we had eaten 8²⁰. He wanted them
to start cooking again something, also said he had
to make water for dishes & I volunteered to do the
rest if he would get his ski boots on so we could
get started & He told me then to mind my own
business & I answered back that it was my busi-
ness to get going in morn. and not hang around until
it pleased him with his fancy dishes under his
belt & Anyway before long he came out in
time to have an early start & Never again
will I take a chance with a person having such
sour grape disp. in morn. and egoistically & Even
with the our part of the tent. he prefers, did he
show his own ego, as he wanted it farthest away
from the wind & Went ahead on skis for 12.6 m
and had good going on surface just like the
Ross Barrow & We are camped tonight at
4750 ft. elevation in a narrow valley that
promiss us some shelter for the 25 to 30 m
wind now blowing & Deposited 22 cakes
of dog food 22 m. south of cache where we
abandoned 132 cakes, so there should be

plenty for our return journey x We are now going due south and past 90° and have easy identifiable landmarks to trail back to Wordie Shelf Cache x Never did I realize that elevation here was so high when I flew here on return from Alex. summit trip x A steep hill ahead of us we will have to relay the loads: it must be 20% grade x The wind today travelling was mostly from north-east with surface drift, and it helped us some x Hooch tonight tastes good, all hands hungry x The sun I can see pretty high over the horizon and it is now past 10 P.M. so this is also the cause of the midnight sun x Stopped travelling at 5:32 P.M., the earliest day since we left the 6th of Nov. x By checking on the chart to-night we are now in Lat. $70^\circ-08'$ & Long. $67^\circ-00'$ x

Nov. 20. 8 P.M. Bar. 22.78
min temp. 16 Temp. 21

8 P.M. = temp 11.

Bar. 26.57

Elev. 6300 ft.

Nov. 20th x The day was cloudy with snow most of the time and visib. 3000 x From our site we climbed at 8 A.M. up to 6400 ft. and had no landmarks, sliding ahead with Benton steering due south x The sliding was heavy for the dogs but surface at that elevation was excellent x Made 11 am. total in 7 hours x From top noticed it was sloping down and with good speed we dropped 700 ft. for ex. to climb to 6300 ft. again x Up and down smooth mound, and snow camped at 6250 ft. level x Blowing hard no visib. x Dangerous to continue so we stopped at 3 P.M. x Looked from my airplane flight south here that we are very near the edge of the plateau x From pictures in my possession we have to get down to lowest level to a trough running southerly direction x Dyer asked me today to provide him and returning supporting party with more dry food for them to stay in field longer; by picking up more supplies for us at Barbolee Mt. Cache x This can not be done, however as that cache is placed there in emergency of the plane needing rescue westward x Furthermore we would have a hard job getting down the crevasse-filled glaciers to the level of the sand x He should be satisfied with the today's supplies he is being provided with now x The cooking problem is now solved

in Dyer being relieved from all cooking
duty x Mussy cooks in morn. and I do,
the same as what I have done for almost
two weeks made the evening meal x
Had special good lunch tonight with plum
can, hot drinks, biscuits and apples etc x
Drifts are high outside and wind hunting
what a life x All hands turned in early.

Nov. 21st

Temp 16 Min +6

Bar. 24.56

It was blowing hard at 7 AM. for radio check
But as usual nothing could be heard x Further
we are camped in a hollow on the glacier
600 ft. so that may be the reason x Had
oatmeal around 10 AM. and after an observation
by which we got this camp located at $70^{\circ}-16' S$
 $67^{\circ}-03' W$. it had cleared so we got a good
view around x I at once located our position
from pictures taken from plane upon return of
cable laying flight and a steep glacier went
down in south direction x Ekland and I in the
snowdrift marked a trail down to the 5100 ft.
level and found that if we could get our sledges
down we could sledge southward from here x
Returned to camp and I decided to let supporting
Party return to East Base x However, in order
to make it worth while for Dyer, I let them

have dog food for 18 days with sufficient man
food and kerosene to sledge over to Eternity Range
We selected the 15 best dogs let them have
21 and killed 5 x Mussy was the man x Very
cold blooded x It was Blackie I, Blackie II,
Torre, Tiza and Jimmy x I gave them orders
to kill Sitka and Zeis in the next few days
as they can use them for pulling load up
glacier x Wrote a note of appointment as leader
of return party to Dyer and reloaded our sledges
took same picture and with Healy, Dyer, &
Mussy's help six we got down 1200 ft. to
level surface x Said Good Bye to them and
with Ekland's 10 dogs pulling 2 sleds, I followed
after with 5 dogs in front of Mussy's front sled x
Had a load on of 800^{lb} dog food, man food and
kerosene and our sleds gobble up they had some
hard times x We left this camp at 9 P.M.
and sledged until 2 AM. a total of 12 mi.
A low pass close to the eastern side of the
mtn looked suitable for entering through to
the south, but we were greatly surprised to
find it falling off steep at least 1000 ft. and
too dangerous to go down x Three five sledges
westward to a more open space and now
camped close to the pass in the middle of
this wide plateau x Below us southward
it appears to be a large fresh water lake

where I easily can see the shoreline and
hard level blue ice x Some rock also forms
the shoreline in many curved places x Tired
at 4³⁵ AM on Nov 22 as we are ready
to turn in.

Bar. 25.08

Temp +1

Nov. 22

Turned out at 12 AM found bright day
Breakfast and then an observation, line of position.
Got away at 2 PM. and sledged down hill with a
few crev. x Our place that looked suitable for
getting down from this high level I skied over to
which the two teams we are driving were
waiting on a plain x Coming over the pass
in front of me opened up a deep hollow
with sides 45° from mts and glaciers in all
directions x Hard blue ice formed the sides
just like our stadium x On bottom was one
of the lakes similar to what we saw from
the air x Rock piles seemed to form the
shore lines x Impossible to get out from this
place so we went further on course 195° x
Large crevasses opened up and on the
steep slopes we had difficulties with sleds
topping over for Carl x Twice on the hill I
saw murre in the air and with united
efforts we got them on right lead with
chains for hooks x The murre on the

Trailer sled split slightly, but I hope it won't
cause us any trouble further x Got better going
and a few miles further I took pictures
remains of 11 shots which are all identifiable
from Carroll's pictures x Had lunch, it was
7 PM x Decided to sledge on to 10³⁰ PM. x
Near the large mired on picture.

~~26~~ enormous crevasses encountered, but
most lucky for us were snowfields x Depicted
in circle marked with our largest beacon
flag 65 dog cakes, one man ration and
3 gallons of kerosene x Down and up
steep hills and we were on level surface
with good view of Bathsheba out straight
south of us x Set course 164 True which
will take us east of those mts as I am
afraid of high passes and glaciers that
from the air looks quite possible to pass,
but looks entirely different from surface x
Got radio set up past 12 midnight just
to come in when next being set to West
Base x Had sledged 18.2 m. and best
so far x

Temp +6

Bar 28.90

Nov. 23rd

We were on our way at 2 PM. and had a
long level stretch ahead of us x Surface was
excellent and we made very good time x

With the heavy loads we managed to make 3 miles per hour. x Visib was poor, could see lower parts of the highest mts. and mountains. Took bearings on some which I could identify from Correll's pictures x Layed down another cache with dog food and some personal gear x the loads get lighter every day by depositing every 20 m. for 11 dogs, and by feeding 15 dogs every day x We shall travel with 15 dogs for 12 days and then kill two x Later on we may kill two more in order to return to Base with 11 dogs x We were passing between two mountains up over a hump when it leveled off, and now right before us lay the most wild mt. panorama anyone could ever dream of slanting his eyes on x It was the Batterbee Mts which I could remember having seen from the air x We selected a pass to go for an course 175, which looked feasible to pass over x Travelled total dist of 20.4 m. x The best one so far and very good with these heavy loads x Plotted the course tonight and D.R. it places us past 71° South x We both overslept for rad. sled at 7 A.M. - but tried at 8 AM sled but no answer x Found out that there is no antenna output, and since I am not familiar

with the set we are at a loss what to do in order to get contact with Base x Carl did not get sufficient instructions before leaving x Believe there should either be no radio with trail parties, or they should know how to fix in any emergency x The receiver works excellent as I got a long needed time tick from London x We had the whole thing set up at 12 Noon in hope of getting something out of it, and also transmitted an emergency sled at 12 noon tonight x Time is now 1 AM. and we will be up at 7 for rad sled in morn. Wish there was some way to contact here not to worry about us, at least not before Feb. 15th x Hope Dick does not come out with the plane looking for us x We are tonight camped on a fairly level glacier running down to King George I Sound, and I would like to spend some time here tomorrow doing survey work as this is an area needed for better mapping x Correll's pictures show most of these peaks x Will have to pray for better weather as it is thick overcast now at 1:5 AM. x It was cold sleazing today because the sun failed to come out x Could see clear weather over Alex Land

With the heavy loads we managed to make 3 miles per hour. x Visib was poor, could see lower parts of the highest mts. and mountains. Took bearings on some which I could identify from Corrolls pictures x Laid down another cache with dog food and some personal gear x The loads get lighter every day by depositing every 20 m. for 11 dogs, and by feeding 15 dogs every day x We shall travel with 15 dogs for 12 days and then kill two x Later on we may kill two more in order to return to Base with 11 dogs x We were passing between two mountains up over a hump when it leveled off, and now right before us lay the most wild mt. panorama anyone could ever dream of slanting his eyes out x It was the Batterbee Mts which I could remember having seen from the air x We selected a pass to go for an course 175, which looked feasible to pass over x Travelled total dist of 20.4 m. x The best one so far and very good with these heavy loads x Plotted the course tonight and D.R. it places us past 71° South x We both overslept for rad. sled at 7 A.M. - but tried at 8 A.M. sled but no answer x Found out that there is no antenna output, and since I am not familiar

with the set we are at a loss what to do in order to get contact with Base x Cool did not get sufficient instructions before leaving x Believe there should either be no radio with trail parties, or they should know how to fix in any emergency x The receiver works excellent as I got a long needed trim tick from London x We had the whole thing set up at 12 Noon in hope of getting something out of it, and also transmitted an emergency sled at 12 now tonight x Time is now 1 A.M. and we will be up at 7 for rad sled in morn. Wish there was some way to contact base not to worry about us, at least not before Feb. 15th x Hope Dick does not come out with the plane looking for us x We are tonight camped on a fairly level glacier running down to King George I Sound, and I would like to spend some time here tomorrow doing survey work as there is an area needed for better mapping x Corrolls pictures shows most of these peaks x Will have to pray for better weather as it is thick overcast now at 1:5 A.M. x It was cold sleazey today because the sun failed to come out x Could see clear weather over Alex Sound

Nov. 24th Woke up for radio sked at 7 AM, and that kept us busy until 9¹⁰ AM. & Just a waste of time & listening to orders from the base, when really those in the field are more competent to judge what to do, and how to do it & Plans when we left the field, and also after conversation with Dick at Wordie Cache that I should determine Cape Rymill and get in as much survey work as possible at head of sound, — before going due south & He also gave me the solemn promise not to fly over us when we were southward, as his plans were only west-coast and east of Cape Rymill & This morn. the pipe took an other sound as he wanted us from this present position to get down into the sound to the Batterlee Cache which was placed here at such a location and at such a time that it is entirely useless for us & Yes for place they can place ~~anywhere~~ & We are already fully loaded up with supplies to last us for 91 days & If planes as planned had been kept - dogtraces and all should have been flown out into the field & To go down into the Sound from here means a drop of approx. 4000 ft. & This

hazardous change from Powers at Base makes us feel as being stymied & there are numerous eyes ahead; but since orders are orders we will "Comply" — It seems like even my second trip to Antarctica makes a — out of me & Always feel that Dick would never keep me harnessed & But such is life & Hope their flight goes through satisfactorily and we are by that time I hope at Cape Rymill & Will then head south "orders or no orders" & We have not had this sleep a night yet for many days so our legs are pretty stiff when we roll out for these rad. sked. in morn. at 7 AM. & Today is hazy and about 10 m wind & Will try to take position:

It is: Lat. $71^{\circ}05'$

at 10 AM.

Long. $65^{\circ}56'$

Bar. 24.94

Temp $+22^{\circ}$

Min $+16^{\circ}$

at 10 PM.

Temp $+23$

Bar. 25.98

It's now 10 PM. and am just inside tent with primus going full blast and hooch soon coming up & Camp to-night is in the worst possible spot between two huge crevasses and tent is close to one of them, so for a sleep walk this is not the place &

At 12 to-night tried to get Base on radio; but failed.
Evidently those emergency skedi are on paper only.
It is now 3 times we have tried contact. Pretty
disheartened with outlook of getting down to sound
from here. More we look, the more crev. shows up.

Nov. 25th

8 AM. - Bar. 26.08 Temp +34, Min +9.
Monday mrg. (the day after) were up at 7 AM. x
Awaited clearer weather with better visib. in the hope
of finding a way thru this mess of crev. x Meanwhile
took a circle of pictures and survey sights on some
of the mts., both on this side and also other side of
sound x Later Carl and I with Alpine Rope-trail flags
etc. went through some places for opening; but as
we went on with no idea of seeing where the edges
of the crev's. nor surfaces were, more broken up the
whole area appeared x On skis in this white sheet
I went over the edge of one crev., but luckily for me
it was hard snow filled approx 3ft from edge to level x
A funny sensation as the ski tips went downward, and
only afterwards did I realize in what danger I was in x
15 ft. to the left and I would not have seen daylight
again x One of those things only fate decides upon x
It reminds me of huge skyscrapers (buildings) with planks
to walk from one to the other and streets down below from
600 to 1000 ft. so it is easy to realize how dangerous it
is to fool around in this part of Antarctica where

glaciers and mts meet x Approx. 2m ahead
of us in direct 90° of sound I can see the
worst broken up area ever sighted around
here x They are broken in two directions and
shaped like diamonds with the smooth sound
and Alex. Land Mts. in back ground x Have
a good view of Mt. we were headed for on our
flight around Alex. Land and which is also
shown in Ellsworth's picture (A. G. S. Magazine)
A triangular shaped Mt. of Stratified Rock
and nearest location is 71°-10' South x
North of our camp are 3 mt. peaks as
an island in this havoc of crev's., and which
makes it impossible even to think of getting
down to the sound in this area x
After looking at aerial-photos there was
nothing else for us to do but start climbing
11m (eleven miles) to our camp high up on
the hill x Elevation from approx 1000ft. up
to 5000 ft. x Loaded sleds and had a tough job
turning around on this little ice island with
our two dog teams x And back the trail we
went and came to vicinity of our previous
camp where we pitched anew x The pull up
took us twice as many hours as getting
down and both dogs and men are pretty
tired tonight x Disgusted also for
being interfered with in our trailwork x

I always thought that Dick Black knew better not to try direct a trail party out in the field x They alone and only can judge as to whether or not it is possible of passing over mts. and crev. areas x From my observations on plane flight around

Alex. Land, I could see it would be impossible to get down on west side to sound x Crev. glaciers and mts. was too bad, which Rymill also stated in his book from this area x Further south it may be possible which we intended to investigate x And as oral agreement with Dick and myself goes they were that if no passage down to sound could be found for us to stay at high elevation skirting mts. and from

the south in vicinity of Snowd. Mt's, try to locate what he would like to call Cape Rymill x As I see it now, that will be exactly what we will have to do x Last sked. we got a direct order to head direct for Batterbee Cache, which previous cache was placed after we were on Wordie Shelf Ice Area x I and also Carl have made up our minds not to change routes to areas that looks ^{impossible} and dangerous to pass over x After all it is our lives endangered and luckily for Dick my fall in crev. 11 m down

(also my luck) we are back on more safe ground again x The blue berries (fish-mind yeh) which he had had the day before and from which he had slight stomach ache, according to his radio speech, and caused him to get mad at us when informed of our plan to go east of Batterbee mts. should not constitute a reason for jeopardizing our lives in ordering us over a route which was against our better judgement x Leaving base I was given free hands to travel, arrange parties with 5 men etc, and do as I saw fit, which could show credit to east Base and U.S.A.S. After all we are no lay-abouts and experienced in this kind of work behind, so now trying to have us forced down crev. areas is entirely against our wills x Camped a couple of miles south of our camp Nov. 23rd and close to an area shown an Carrolls picture full of crevasses x Sun was up for a short time, but it soon clouded over with some light snow with visib. zero x Bar at 10 P.M. 25.02 Temp +16

Nov. 26

8 AM. Bar. 25.02 - Min +9 Temp
Temp +16

Woke up for radio check at 7 AM and tried to contact for more than an hour. Something must be wrong at the base for nothing has changed at this end. Believe Pearce knows best how to contact the trail-parties & we could receive them very well; but they did not hear our calls & Jim came through at 8:30 AM and I was not slow in getting transmit up for an ob. Had got everything set when it clouded thick and started snowing & I closed for sleeping bag again and had a couple of hours sleep & at 11 AM. Carl called me and said sun was out; so in underwear only and mukluks I got 2 complete sets of shots & figured them out right then and have spent the whole day inside plotting courses and caught up on writing notes & outside it has been blowing, snowing and no vicib. so my second shot for a fix I'll have to wait with until 7 AM. tomorrow so we can travel rather early & tent overhead of my side leaks badly due to some gasoline

or oilspots which eliminates the water-proofing & the snow lays heavy on top-side so once in a while we have to shake tent cloths to prevent weight being too heavy & the primus has been going most of the day to keep fairly unpleasant temperatures when working & Drops comes on Carl's head once in a while but I still keep telling him that his hair is getting thicker all the time & will have another try at the rad. to-morrow morn. at 7 AM & hope to be able to tell Dick that his order did not turn out so well and asking him what we shall do now & he turned down flat my plan of going east of Battister Mts so now I can't sides it is entirely up to him & one plan of getting as far south as to 80° slowly skinned away, but as soon as flight is over we will head straight south & I consider it of as much geographical value as anything else being undertaken on this Expedition & the only difference is that Dick does not want anyone but himself to make anything note worthy &
Bar 25.02 Temp +16 at 8 PM.

Nov. 27

Bar. 25.03 (8 AM) Min Temp +16

Temp. 26

Bar. 25.00 8 PM

Temp. 23

It was snowing hard the whole night through and when the sun broke through the clouds occasionally, it melted the snow on top of the tent and it was dripping badly so our sleeping bags were pretty wet. Took an observation before 8 AM in order to determine the magnetic variation at this spot. Shall figure it out tonight. We had the radio set up at 7 AM, for trying to contact Base when Supporting Party was making them. We kept on cranking; but no answer for us, every time they were trying to pick up Muzzy's repeats, we cutted in. Something must be wrong with our transmitter. The receiver works ok. Heard from base in conversation with Supporting Party that we had taken One Man Ration that they were supposed to have. Nothing doing. They got from us: One Man ration + what was left in fire-box enough for 7 days for 3 men which should last them 17 days. They received 18 days dogfood, enough to take them back to cache - 5 mi south

of Wordie Shelf Ice Crawl. Of course they had 8 gallons, sufficient for 32 days. So I can not understand what they can be complaining about. Had camera mounted this morn. and took 12 pics, also a series of bearings to Mt. peaks; so this area should be well tied in.

Dogs hooked up and started off. Going was heavy as 8 to 10" of new snow had fallen and after a couple of miles the 5 dogs on last sled could pull no more. Decided to abandon the 3rd sled; and re-arranged the whole load on two sleds. The snow got softer, and deeper so after a while we had to start idling. Total distance to-night was only 6.4 mi. Had we not been interfered with from base we could have travelled for 4 days on hard good surface averaging 20 mi per day. We are well disgusted to-night with our plan and reason for going on this trip since Dick so completely disregards others interests and feelings. As long as he can do all the exploring he is satisfied. Breaking words and "selling a friend down the river" came to me as a warning from former

expedition men before departure, as the
the word I was certain to expect from
him if his prestige was ever threatened.
Can now see his reasons for not
having sent to Wash. any human interest
stories as he not very easily could
have written anything about himself.

Nov. 28th Temp +54
8 AM. Bar 25.00 Min +16.

It was a bad day we turned out for
at 6⁴⁵ AM. x It was warm and snowing
heavily, with out sleet dripping badly x
Surprisingly enough we got contact with
base and told of our predicament and
for further instruction and orders. He
blew up as expected and told us that if we
wanted to we could get down this glacier x
Later on he started to tell us that he
left it to me how to get down on the
sound even going east of Battersee x
He even went so far this morn. as to
tell me that he was commanding
officer, and friend or no friend or
promise what he had given me
was all to be forgotten x This is he
said another Boya Expedition regard
to plans and telling what to do x

He got our answers back: Ok Commanding
Officer x What has got into Dick since I
spoke to him at Wordie. I do not under-
stand x Snow has, I know, influenced
him and brought Dick straight against
the only friend he has had at base
all the time x It is very discouraging
and lack of enthusiasm that can
be the only result of such treatment
and lack of understanding x

Spent the whole day in camp due to poor
visibility and heavy snowfall x The sun
broke through after-noon and I took
the opportunity of taking an observation x
Will try take the other ob from here before
departure in order to get a fix x
Thanksgiving today, so Cal said, for he brought
out a small can of oysters and we had
oyster stew x hooch and milk x Our
course now is 170° true which will take
us east of small mt. x Hope from here
to be able to descend to sound x To
the cache layed down by plane x

Nov 29th Got away at the usual time and had a tough time making 5 m. x Had to relay our load so progress was slow. x Took one sled ahead, set up the tent and ready to make lunch when I discovered mitts and matches were on the other sled. x So I took the opportunity to ski 4 m. down to top of the hill to a pass to find out if it was possible to traverse other side. x I never reached the top, but judging from the appearance of the smooth land and its connection to the mountains, I took for granted we could come down again. x Was tired when returned to camp. Carl came up with the other sled shortly. And lunch was on soon. x At 12 P.M. we tried base on snow. Sled, but as usual no success. x Believe the frequencies fade out to zero in this mountainous country. x Next day I spent in taking fixes and a series of pictures. x

Nov. 30th Sun shone bright when we were away. x Climbing with our loads and playing. x Estimated height of pass to be 4000 ft over sea level and 1500 over camp. x On top recognized from Carrolls picture and zig zagging thru crevasses

We camped on a ledge overlooking a valley and Alex Land. x Had some steep down hill runs where our sleds turned over. x Fell through a crevasse and was lucky to stretch across and rolled over on side the safe way. x Was a little jittery after this exp. - The greatest danger being only two men in a party is if one should take a fatal accident. x The other person could then never reach base alone. x A fog covered everything underneath us - just like a wooden blanket spread out. x Got chilly towards evening but the surface was fast down hill. x It looked rather disgusting the terrain we would have to travel over reaching summit. x From air a person can never get the right perspective as to heights of hills etc. x

Dec 1st Took fix in evening and pictures circle with bearings to all good peaks around. x So this land is well tied in. x Went down hill in good speed over crevasses but the drops were dangerously steep at places so we had to have all chains on for brakes. x Skied crevasses and came down