

FILMS UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES



"ANTARCTICA"

16mm, colour, 5 mins. 45 seconds

Narration Script

IMAGE

FOOTAGE

SOUND

NARRATOR:

ICE CLIFF,
PENGUINS

003

Antarctica... undisturbed since the beginning of time. Its very existence unknown for ages.

SLED WITH
DOG TEAM

006

Today things have changed: at the beginning of the century the Antarctic became accessible to man and explorers came down to plant their flags over slices of the new continent.

OLD PRINTS,
NEWSREEL OF
EARLY EXPLORATIONS

016

In 1959, twelve nations signed a treaty: the Antarctic Treaty. It provided that, for the next thirty years, this entire continent would be used by all of mankind, but only for scientific and peaceful endeavours.

MEN ALIGHTING FROM PLANE	028	Scientists from the world over have been flocking there ever since... geologists, biologists, oceanographers... There is no science which doesn't discover here new fields of research.
WEATHER BALLOON LAUNCH	038	Keeping track of atmospheric conditions here is crucial... Antarctic weather affects the climate not only of the Southern hemisphere but also that of the rest of the world.
ENTRANCE TO ANTARCTIC STATION	051	
SOVIET AND AMERICAN METEOROLOGISTS	056	This man is a Soviet meteorologist... but he worked for a year with the Americans at one of their bases. Exchange scientists from all over the world work together at the stations maintained "on the ice" by the signatory members of the Antarctic Treaty... the first treaty ever designed to internationalize part of the world and dedicate it to all of mankind.
SOVIET SCIENTIST INTERVIEW	073	<u>(ON CAMERA)</u> "Antarctica is good example of such kind of cooperation in scientific fields and not only that, but surely people can work together and they work together and they are working now."

SHELTER ON
FROZEN SEA

081 On sea ice at the foot of Mount Erebus, the only active volcano below the Southern polar circle, biologists use specially designed underwater television equipment to study the Weddel seal... a mammal noted for its ability to dive down to 2000 feet below the surface.

SCIENTISTS
OBSERVING
TV MONITORS

096 In contrast with the barren Antarctic, the waters of the ocean which surrounds it are teeming with life.

(ON CAMERA)

"23,06... the pup leaves this position in the tide crack at this stage. A little but awkward in its swimming. Now, it's swimming over to join its mother. blows a few bubbles... manoeuvring towards the camera and starts nuzzling with its mother.
- They're playful...
- Look at that... they are... she's tickling him... a very friendly little pup. How are you, eh?"

SCIENTIST
PETTING SEALS

120 Flinty eyes are already fixed on the seals with the idea of harvesting them. But the important thing is to make sure that the species is not endangered - like so many others have been - through overexploitation.

- MICROWAVE ANTENNA 130 Here in the Antarctic, scientists found an ideal location to discover new facts about our world.
- ACCELERATED AURORA PATTERNS 135 Some observe auroras and listen with rapture to strange and mysterious radio noises from outer space.
- SCIENTISTS OBSERVING INSTRUMENTS 140 Others study the inter-relation between our own geomagnetic field and radiations from distant galaxies.
- MEN GOING DOWN INTO ICE CAVE 145 Many international research projects have been launched in the years since the Antarctic Treaty. How thick is the icecap? Which are its characteristics at various levels?
- DRILLING THROUGH ICE CAP 154 Two teams - one Swiss and one American - are drilling down through the ice. Ground level is over 7,000 feet below.
- (ON CAMERA)
- EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO SCIENTISTS 169 - "The purpose of the hole is to provide cores for analysis - the ice sheets are formed by a continual accumulation of snowfall and they provide samples of the earth's atmosphere in past time."

- "We take out of the air the carbon dioxide and a part of this carbon dioxide is carbon 14, radioactive carbon, a very small part and the part indicates the age of the ice."

- "The minimal age is probably in the neighborhood of 50,000 years - it could be much older than that."

- "I think it could be 200,000 years old... or more."

(RUSSIAN SCIENTIST, V.O.)

MAN GOING UP
STATION
ESCAPE HATCH

186

"Our relations is good relations... People all over the world can see this wonderful example of international cooperation and there is, in the world, one country where there is no border, there is no - never has been and never will be - war. It is very wonderful..."

MAN WALKING
IN WHITEOUT
STORM

199

The example that has been set and achieved here since the Antarctic Treaty twenty years ago, provides a pattern that the rest of the world could well follow.

LAST FRAME

207