

Oden engelsk speakertext

## ONBOARD

### SPEAK 1

It's late June. The Swedish ice-breaker Oden is lying in port in Gothenburg, and everyone onboard is busy preparing for the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, the start of polar expedition Beringia 2005. Each and every instrument needs to be properly secured, or the smallest wave will cause a minor disaster.

### SPEAK 2

During the expedition more than one hundred Swedish and international polar researchers are going to examine the sea, air, flora and fauna in the area around the North Pole. The journey will take three months - going through the Northwest passage past Canada to the Bering Straits, and then back, across the North Pole towards the final destination of Svalbard. Many of the researchers will only stay on the Oden for a short period of time, but Maria Andersson is going to stay onboard throughout the expedition...

## THE EXPEDITION

### SPEAK 1

The water hisses and the hull bangs when the Oden breaks the ice.

The expedition is intense, samples are taken around the clock - in the water, in the air and on the ice.

Nearly all of summer-July's days are spent in the vast ice between Greenland and Canada, but when August approaches, so does open water... The polar expedition has now reached Alaska, and it's time for the first exchange of researchers.

### SPEAK 2

The researchers are not the only ones who work 24/7, the laboratory equipment is on every minute of every hour. And meticulous planning is needed to obtain the correct results when travelling through several time-zones.

### SPEAK 3

The second leg involves research around the Bering Straits with the Oden serving as a research platform. The Russian research vessel Academic Federov assists researchers with a helicopter and transport by boat to Wrangel Island and other destinations nearby.

### SPEAK 4

When research in the Bering Straits is finished, the Oden turns to north again, and starts heading towards the pole. The final leg of the expedition transects the Arctic Ocean, in co-operation with the American research vessel Healy.

#### SPEAK 5

Maria Andersson takes samples almost every day during the expedition. Some of them are analysed onboard immediately onboard, while others can wait to be analysed at the University lab in Gothenburg.

#### SPEAK 6

The final leg is troublesome with bad weather and bad visibility. The ice is thick, and the researchers are forced to change positions for some of the tests, simply because the Oden can't reach the ones that were planned.

#### SPEAK 7

On the 25th of September the Oden reaches her final destination in Svalbard. For Maria Andersson it is time to fly home to Gothenburg carrying hundreds of water samples yet to be analyzed.

#### HOME

##### SPEAK 1

Back in Gothenburg some six months after completing the expedition. Finally there's enough time to set up the lab and analyze the water samples.

##### SPEAK 2

Even though not all the samples have been analysed yet, there are indications of something...

##### SPEAK 3

Maria is hoping that her survey of mercury in the Beringia area is going to facilitate the work for other fellow researchers...