

# Secret Navy Job in Arctic Underway Next Month

SAN DIEGO, June 17.—(AP)—A fleet of Navy ships will steam into the Beaufort Sea north of Alaska next month on what is described as "a big hauling job," to secret Arctic bases.

R. Adm. George C. Towner, commander of Amphibious Group E, said a number of San Diego based ships under his command will leave here July 5 for the expedition.

"Security regulations prevent us from talking much about this operation," he said. "I would describe it mainly as a big hauling job."

More than thirty ships will take part including ten freighters being taken out of

storage by the United States Maritime Administration for the voyage.

Ships from here will sail for Seattle and leave there July.

Towner said most of the ships, including a number of freighters will stay at Barrow. He said there are several icebreakers in the area and tank landing ships will ferry supplies to outlying bases. He said if ice conditions are good the expedition should turn by September 1.

Dr. Waldo K. Lyon, chief authority at the naval electronics laboratory here and several other scientists from the laboratory will accompany the fleet.