

It's a long trek to Alaska



photo by Dr. Ted Mala

Members of the Bering Bridge Expedition, a joint U.S.-Soviet ski and dog sled trek between the two nations, arrived in Provideniya in the Soviet Far East April 2.

"The incredible warmth of the people more than made up for the lack of

modern facilities," said Dr. Ted Mala, who accompanied expedition members into Provideniya. Mala heads up the Institute for Circumpolar Studies at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

The expedition is scheduled to cross

the International Dateline April 23 and will continue east, arriving in Kotzebue in May. Depending on weather and ice conditions, participants will ski across the ice, travel in skin boats or helicopter over.