

SANTA TAKES FLIGHT:

What, no reindeer? Not on this trip . Santa Claus has to vary his transport to suit his customers in many parts of the world, and at Cypress Gardens, Florida, a kite and some water-skis seem to go with the landscape. But you won't get Santa to change his traditional red-and-white outfit, whatever the weather - and whatever anyone else is wearing. He must have plenty of confidence in his own skill - that sack doesn't look very waterproof.

The girls express their gratitude - in deeds and words,

But Santa Claus's parish covers a lot of territory. At Frobisher, in the Canadian arctic, every Eskimo for miles rides into the Canadian Government base for a big Christmas party - looking rather like small Father Christmases themselves. It's so cold we can't stay outside for long, or the camera freezes up. Inside, it's good and cozy - and there's the old man himself. He must have flown from Florida in record time. Handing out the presents is a slower job - for Eskimo names are long, and hard to pronounce. Some are longer than their owners.

Hosts for the evening are the men who work at the Base - civilians, Mounties, and Canadian and U.S. airmen. And their Eskimo guests, Canada's most northerly citizens, are among the happiest and friendliest people in the world. When you live where the sun's out of sight, for weeks on end, you have to be cheerful to keep warm!