



1
00:00:02,120 --> 00:00:06,040

I can't talk. Hang on.

2
00:00:06,060 --> 00:00:08,150

Alright. Ready.

3
00:00:08,170 --> 00:00:12,230

I'm Kathryn Hansen and I'm with the NASA Earth science news team.

4
00:00:12,250 --> 00:00:16,120

I'm Jefferson Beck, I'm a video producer with the Earth science storytelling team.

5
00:00:16,140 --> 00:00:20,140

And we're here in Kangerlussuaq, Greenland. We arrived a few days ago

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00:00:20,160 --> 00:00:25,220

and we'll be here for about two weeks, bringing you all the excitement from Ice Bridge.

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00:00:25,240 --> 00:00:29,270

This is my first time here in Greenland, I'm very excited to be here.

8
00:00:29,290 --> 00:00:33,290

We arrived just a couple days ago right after the sea ice flights concluded,

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00:00:33,310 --> 00:00:37,980

but we've still got lots of land ice flights, flights over glaciers,

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00:00:38,000 --> 00:00:42,030

flying at 1500 feet over these ice features. So sometimes

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00:00:42,050 --> 00:00:47,050

the rocks on either side of you, so I'm told, are way up above your head.

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00:00:47,500 --> 00:00:50,080

So I'm excited to actually get up there on a plane,

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00:00:50,100 --> 00:00:54,120

but as we'll hear, uh ... we don't have a plane at the moment.

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00:00:57,400 --> 00:01:00,170

So what have the challenges been for this mission?

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00:01:00,190 --> 00:01:06,290

The challenges for this campaign, well, first we left earlier than we ever have.

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00:01:06,310 --> 00:01:10,980

And up in Thule, which is a very cold and remote area,

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00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:16,320

when we first got there, I think our windchills were about -45 degrees Fahrenheit.

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00:01:16,340 --> 00:01:20,330

Which is something to experience when you're outside and I'm having to set up a tripod outside,

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00:01:20,350 --> 00:01:24,350

in blowing wind and your eyelashes are freezing together and

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00:01:24,370 --> 00:01:28,360

my moustache is frozen solid from my breath exhaling.

21

00:01:28,380 --> 00:01:32,380

That's a different kind of thing.

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00:01:32,400 --> 00:01:36,420

Also, with the weather, we went through a delta class storm in Thule, which lasted

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00:01:36,440 --> 00:01:40,460

about thirty-six hours, and the wind was blowing

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00:01:40,480 --> 00:01:44,500

over 100 miles per hour in some areas right there at the base,

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00:01:44,520 --> 00:01:48,530

and I saw windchills down to -63 degrees Fahrenheit and we had to

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00:01:48,550 --> 00:01:52,570

we were locked in our dorms and relied on MREs to eat,

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00:01:52,590 --> 00:01:55,380

so weather had been a big challenge.

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00:01:55,400 --> 00:02:00,630

Now here in Kangerlussuaq, we've had a slight trouble with the

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00:02:00,650 --> 00:02:04,660

mechanics on the airplane. On our first flight out of here yesterday

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00:02:04,680 --> 00:02:08,690

the mechanics noticed it and as they were checking out

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00:02:08,710 --> 00:02:12,720

the plane and now they've had to ferry the plane back to Wallops island at the NASA base

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00:02:12,740 --> 00:02:16,750

there to do some repairs. And they left us scientists here

33

00:02:16,770 --> 00:02:20,780

just for safety reasons. So we've had a day off where we can process data

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00:02:20,800 --> 00:02:24,830

and get out in the field.

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00:02:24,850 --> 00:02:28,840

Today in Kangerlussuaq, Greenland, we took advantage of our day off

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00:02:28,860 --> 00:02:32,890

from flying, on the ground here, to calibrate our GPS system.

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00:02:32,910 --> 00:02:36,940

We drove around in this truck with a GPS antenna on top

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00:02:36,960 --> 00:02:41,000

for five hours, going no more than ten miles per hour, covering fifty miles.

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00:02:41,020 --> 00:02:45,010

And what this does is it creates an elevation map of a known area

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00:02:45,030 --> 00:02:49,030

the ramp, that we use to calibrate the instruments on the aircraft so we can be very confident

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00:02:49,050 --> 00:02:53,060

in our measurements of the ice sheet.

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00:02:53,080 --> 00:02:57,110

While Kathryn was safe and warm inside that truck, I was outside trying

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00:02:57,130 --> 00:03:01,170

to get one of the more boring time-lapses that I hope to ever shoot.

44

00:03:01,190 --> 00:03:05,230

And here's my state of mind and state of being

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00:03:05,250 --> 00:03:09,250

after that hour and a half out in the cold.

46

00:03:09,270 --> 00:03:18,980

[wind]

[snow crunching underfoot]

47

00:03:19,000 --> 00:03:24,480

So I feel like there is some analogy here that could be drawn to science.

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00:03:24,500 --> 00:03:29,350

Short periods of action, short periods of useful data into the camera,

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00:03:29,370 --> 00:03:33,360

and long periods of sub-, sub-freezing temperatures.

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00:03:41,410 --> 00:03:45,430

So we've been going around shooting all day, interviewing people,

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00:03:45,450 --> 00:03:49,450

that sort of thing; but probably my favorite thing is something that's happened at night.

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00:03:49,470 --> 00:03:52,980

Two nights in a row now, we've had these fantastic auroras out.

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00:03:53,000 --> 00:03:57,530

And we sat out last night, walking out and doing a time-lapse by taking 30 second exposures,

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00:03:57,550 --> 00:04:01,730

one by one by one, for about an hour and a half.