

# Surveyor for survey



The only research ship operated by the United States in the Antarctic region arrived in Newcastle yesterday for a survey of a different type.

In this case, the ship will be the subject of a survey. It will spend the next six weeks at the State Dockyard undergoing an overhaul.

The Eltanin (3886 tons displacement) arrived in Newcastle from its 47th Antarctic cruise since 1962.

In 70 days, the ship covered 10,990 miles.

Though the Eltanin is operated by the U.S. Military Sealift Command for the

**PICTURE:** Computer programmer Steve Apter checks data catalogued by the Eltanin's computer.

## RESEARCH SHIP TO BE DOCKED

National Science Foundation, it carries a civilian crew and scientists from several nations.

Included in the scientific party of 48 are two Englishmen, a New Zealander, a scientist from the Bureau of Meteorology in Melbourne and one from the University of N.S.W.

### Laboratories

On previous voyages, the ship has carried scientists from the Argentine, Chile, France, Germany and Russia.

The 266ft. ship is virtu-

ally a complex of floating laboratories, devoted to geological, geophysical, oceanographic, meteorological, biological, botanical and ornithological research.

It carries its own electronics repair shop as well as a more standard machine and carpenter shop.

In the centre of the ship is a data processing centre, with one of the latest computers.

Eltanin is one of the first ships in the world to be equipped with a satellite navigation system. This is particularly useful in An-

tarctic fog, when satellites have a wider-seeing eye than radar.

It also has a strengthened bow, designed to ride up on ice flows and push the ice aside.

More than 4 million specimens taken by the ship from the Antarctic ocean floor have been distributed to scientists in 10 countries in the past few years.