

# Shackleton's eye view of the yachts

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A SHACKLETON reconnaissance aircraft of South Africa's Maritime Command yesterday located 20 of the yachts competing in the Cape-to-Rio race — and two that were not.

The Shackleton also located a Russian fishing fleet of 17 vessels operating 50 miles from Cape Columbine.

Leaving D. F. Malan airport at 6 a.m. with eight journalists on board, the Shackleton's first aim was to locate the Cape-to-Rio guardship S.A.S. Tafelberg and drop a load of post and supplies.

On the way, radar operators Phil Foord and Brian Ferreira picked up on their radar screen the first of the tiny dots which were to mean so much before the day was out.

It turned out to be the Durban ketch Sandefjord, one of the grand old ladies of the race, 436

miles from Cape Town and speeding ahead under full canvas.

After three low passes over the Sandefjord, the Shackleton turned away to investigate another small dot on the radar screen — and those on board had great difficulty puzzling out the second boat's identification.

She turned out to be a small sloop not in the race at all. And to judge by the self-steering gear on her helm and the lone figure waving from her cockpit, she was single-handed.

## MARIE CELINE

Off to the north-west again, until Tafelberg appeared with two small motor dinghies riding alongside, to pick up the supply drop.

From Tafelberg there were several small dots on the radar screen to be investigated.

Among them was the Marie Celine, the American yawl on her way round the world. She left Cape Town a few days before the Cape-to-Rio boats.

The Shackleton was on its way home when the Russian fleet was spotted.

All its vessels were investigated — and then there was only the last lap and a landing 14 hours after take-off.

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