

Climbs and Expeditions

As always, we are very grateful to the Editorial Board and to those friends without whose unstinting assistance this section could not have been compiled. It is impossible to mention all who have helped who are not members of the Editorial Board. However, particular thanks are given to Dr. Adolf Diemberger, Dr. G.O. Dyhrenfurth, Colonel James O.M. Roberts, Michael Cheney, Kamal K. Guha, Soli S. Mehta, Ichiro Yoshizawa, César Morales Arnao, Ken Wilson, Vojslav Arko, Mario Fantin, Halina Cieplinska-Bojarska, José Paytubi and many others.

UNITED STATES

Alaska

Mount McKinley. This year again the number of climbers on Mount McKinley has increased. There were 24 expeditions of which 17 reached the summit of Mount McKinley. A total of 113 climbers got to the top. None climbed the North Peak. The following climbed via the West Buttress: Horst Schindelbacher, Leo Schlömmner, Sturm Hilmar, Stefan Moser, Hanns Schell, Herbert Zefferer, Liselote Schell, Gerhardt Picheler, Walter Kutschera, *Austrians*, on May 26; Troy Reiner, Werner Leimbacher, Albert Stachelin, Ray Genet, Ron Hallstrom, Greg Brown on May 29; Max Weibel, Mathis Rofler, Paul Keller, *Swiss*, on June 5; Jeff Elphinston, Michael Boss, George Breuer, Geraldine Croney on June 16; Hidetoshi Kobayashi, Takeshi Uebara, Yoshikazu Toyama on June 16 and Kazuo Baba, Todao Ookado, Kooichi Ooyama on June 19, all *Japanese*; Thomas Park, David Campbell, Fred Camphausen, Wayne Ford, John Hawley, Horace Ory, John Otter on July 4; Rod Johnson, Eric Lindbergh, Pat Padden on July 11; two members of Senrei Alpine Club expedition, *Japanese*, in July; two members of Kamiichi Hosokai Expedition, *Japanese*, in July; Günter Plotz, *German* (started solo but joined the Army group which reached the top the same day), Clemens Lemke, Warren Gunther, Fernando Martinez, Thomas Cooper on July 29. Two expeditions climbed the West Buttress but descended Karstens Ridge and the Muldrow Glacier: Charles Rigden, Wayne Gates, Edward Conner, Dr. Gary Weinman on June 19 and Bob Watts, Donald Wycoff on June 22; Ray Genet, Gregory Craig, Paul Estes, Paul Taroslaw, Thomas Taylor, Walter Espenlaub, Ron Garrett, Albert Ballnick, Walter Jellin, Robert Carlson, Edward Martin, Bob Emrick, Lawrence Henry, Virginia Sher-

NOTE: All dates in this section refer to 1973 unless otherwise stated.

wood, Tom Ross on June 29 and Peter Gendel, Michael Gendel, Eberhard Hantsch on July 1. The following climbed the Muldrow Glacier-Karstens Ridge route: John Whisnant, Kurt Sontag, Lou Dawson, Bob Gathercole, Bob Pimentel, Timmy Lane, Kenny Williams on June 8; Ken Clanton, Charlie Sykes, Chip Morgan, Scott Hinkley, Jack Morrell, Don McDonald, High Zuker, Art Baker, Ted Browne, Horace Bone, Bill Sweeney, Bill Tombs on July 9 and George Hunker, Jeff Polack, Lyle Marchant, Ben Franklin, Laurie Barrott, Tim Byrnes, Sam Belk, Duane Stranahan, Tom Wetzel, Fred Menzer, Lee Hancock, David Ober on July 11; David Carrol, John Christie, Gregory Hayton, Douglas Sandwell on July 3. On July 1 William Clark, James Gordon, Francis Pedrizetti, Michael McGuire and Jeffrey Dial reached the top, having climbed the South Buttress. There were a number of emergencies which required the evacuation of climbers for the following reasons: 1 pulmonary edema, 4 injuries from falls, 1 sick, 1 abscessed tooth, 1 frostbite. The solo climber Plotz was helicoptered out, having lost his pack and run out of food! There were no fatalities. In the *A.A.J.*, 1973, p. 403 we reported that Chris Chandler, Patrick Devorin, Ron Fear, Alex Murray, Robert Griswold and Leroy Kingland had reached the summit of Mount McKinley. In actual fact they were turned back a couple of hundred feet from the top by stormy weather.

Denali Arctic Environmental Project. This project was sponsored by the University of Oregon Outdoor Program, the Idaho State University Outdoor Program and the American Alpine Club. It was initiated in an attempt to contribute a new ethic in mountaineering and wilderness use—a consciousness that a wild area is not something to be conquered by man, but a natural phenomenon to be lived with, appreciated and exploited only in the sense that its values may be used to enlarge man's human experiences. Central to this consciousness is a desire to leave a mountain or any natural landscape in a condition "untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain." As the highest point on the North American continent, Mount McKinley was selected in 1971 as the target for the initial clean-up of the project. During the spring of 1973, two expeditions were placed on the West-Buttress route. DAEP I, consisting of Gary O. Grimm, Harrison H. Hilbert, Dan McBridge and Tom Stich, spent 21 days on the mountain from April 27 to May 18 and reached an altitude of 17,200 feet. DAEP II spent 23 days on the mountain from May 29 to June 20. Jeff Elphinston, Michael Boss, Geraldine Crony and George Breuer reached the summit of Mount McKinley by the West-Buttress route on June 16. Kevin Fiske and John Lyon also took part. Both expeditions collected, burned and carried out litter found on the route in addition to developing and testing various expeditionary mountaineering environmental practices. In the case of Mount McKinley, a group may have only what it can carry in from outside the park boun-

daries. Surely it can burn a part and carry out the rest of what it can carry in. Every expedition should endeavor to leave its route clean and unmarked. Ideally it should also clean up the trailings of thoughtless others who have gone before. It will take the concerted effort of all mountaineers to solve present and prevent future garbage and litter problems in the mountains. The project has brought out a booklet which gives details of their work and suggestions.

Ascents in McKinley Park. As seasonal ranger, I took part in various climbs, many unsuccessful, in what proved to be a wet summer. In late June John Bryant and I climbed the west face of Fang Mountain (6736 feet) in marginal weather. We approached the mountain from the north up Savage River and camped at 5200 feet below the face. We walked out down the Sanctuary River. During a late July weekend, I walked up the west tributary of the East Fork of the Toklat River in misty weather. A sudden break in the cloud cover early the following morning spurred me to leave camp and climb P 7840 and P 7850 via the west glacier that straddles them. I continued traversing over Mount Pendleton (7810 feet) along its northwest ridge. The weather socked in as I continued climbing and I finally descended from P 7382 to the East Fork of the Toklat Glacier.

STEVEN W. HACKETT

Mount Silverthrone. Keith Anderson and Ken Kleine made the second ascent of Mount Silverthrone by a new route up the Traleika Glacier via Silverthrone Col. The climb was made from camp at 7000 feet to the 13,220-foot summit in a single, 12-hour push.

Moose's Tooth, South Summit. Dave Lunn, Dave O'Neil and I were flown by Cliff Hudson to the Ruth Glacier just west of the Moose's Tooth. We then skirted the broken east edge of the Ruth by going south (right) and then northeast before ascending the prominent icefall on the west of the Moose's Tooth, past séracs and an avalanche track. We then followed the more level upper part of this side glacier up over a snow ridge, turning east (left) to a broad basin below the main west couloir, where we camped. The couloir was dangerous as it avalanched frequently in the afternoon. Naturally we went up it in the very early morning. We found a very small spot to camp on between the north (main) and south summits of the Moose's Tooth. Although we had intended to climb the main summit, climbing equipment left in the couloir was avalanched off and the weather was bad and so we merely reconnoitered the ridge to the face of the north summit and returned to camp. We climbed the south summit (10,070 feet) instead. The seven pitches were mixed rock and snow for the first half to the shoulder and snow and ice from there. From

the basin we climbed a peak we called the "White Mushroom" on the southern edge of the basin. We climbed over the nearer and lower eastern summit to the main summit (7770 feet). On our return down the ice-fall we climbed the other summit just north of the "White Mushroom." Hudson picked us up after we had been in the region 2½ weeks.

MARGARET YOUNG

Moose's Tooth. In May Tim Auger, Mike Farrell, Ron Gilligan and I attempted the Moose's Tooth via the Ruth Glacier-south col route. Although this route has been attempted many times, the Moose's Tooth had still only one ascent—via the west ridge by a German party in 1964. Our four-day push failed 600 feet from the summit in the face of bad weather, inadequate supplies and frost-riven granite.

GALEN A. ROWELL

Mount Hayes. On May 12 Larry Small, Jim Johnson and I left the Richardson Highway at Donneley's Inn, crossed the innocent-looking Delta River and were on the way to the east ridge of Mount Hayes. Although previously climbed, this ridge held our imagination with its clean line rising from the west fork of the Trident Glacier. Six days later we reached Base Camp on the Trident, where Lloyd Anderson of Delta Junction gave us our airdrop. By May 24 we were at Camp I on Levi's Bump (named by first-ascent party in 1971. See *A.A.J.*, 1972, 18:1, pp. 105-6), where we sat out a 36-hour gale. Gear losses forced a retreat, sadly a permanent one for Larry, whose crampon had disappeared. Jim and I established a high camp on May 31, 2800 feet below the summit. On June 3 we found a detached summit block surrounded by difficult crevasses and ice cliffs and so did not stand on the very top.

DAKERS GOWANS, *Unaffiliated*

Mount Hayes, West Ridge Attempt. On July 1 we began ferrying loads across the Big Delta River above the Black Rapids Glacier. Five days were spent in humping loads to Base Camp beneath Hayes' southwest cirque. On July 8 we received an airdrop from pilot Cleo McMahan. Climbing left of the icefalls draining the cirque above, Tom Ruhkala and Dick McCarty fixed a route into the cirque. The next day John Garson and I returned to the cirque, crossed the bergschrund and began climbing the fluted headwall to the west ridge above, determining that the route would probably go. After four days of whiteout, the other three took advantage of increasingly fine weather and attempted a summit effort. In five hours they attained the ridge at 10,500 feet; the ridge to the summit was knife-edged, corniced and steep. The summit cap was an ice mushroom on the south and west. Lacking supplies and fixed rope, we terminated our venture.

DAVID STILLER, *Junior Birdmen*

Mount Hubbard, Southwest Ridge. Bruce Tickell, Skip Edmonds, Bill Lokey and John Schutt made a fine new route on Mount Hubbard. After landing in late May on the Hubbard Glacier at 4000 feet, they spent a week getting their equipment the twelve miles to 7000 feet on the Alverstone Glacier. They immediately began moving up the southwest ridge. Camp I was in an 8300-foot col just beyond P 8807 and Camps II and III at 10,000 and 11,000 feet. From there they hoped to make it in one day, but after twelve hours they were still just below the 13,000-foot plateau and camped there. On the morning of June 15 they set out for the summit but it was not until ten P.M. that they stood on the top after a battle with powder snow over 45° ice.

Redoubt Volcano to Double Peak, Chigmit Ski Traverse. Following a six-day delay, due to weather, Al Curtis of Alyeska Air Service landed our party in a low pass at 3500 feet, northwest of Redoubt. We were Steve Hackett, leader, John Samuelson, Helmut Tschaffert, Toby Wheeler, Daniel Hurd and I. An afternoon ski jaunt enabled us to establish Camp I at 4900 feet. On May 8 our route led southeast up a ridge toward the western summit of Redoubt. We pitched Camp II (6900 feet) in a protected depression on the ridge. Starting early on May 9, we made the first ascent of the western summit of Redoubt (9300 feet) by mid-morning and descended 1000 feet down the north slope to the col dividing the summits. (Before the eruption of Redoubt in the late 1950s, what is now the "western" summit was then merely the western part of the cone.) The weather soured and forced a retreat from the col to Camp II. A hasty retreat followed on May 11 to a small food cache left at Camp I for a day's travel toward Double Glacier; we gave up all hope to climb Redoubt's main (north) summit (10,197 feet). In the evening as we pitched Camp III at the headwaters of the Drift River, just north of Redoubt, the skies cleared. Seven miles on and 4000 feet higher, we set up Camp IV on Double Glacier at a cache which had been set up by Hackett and bush pilot Eric Barnes. On a clear but windy May 13, we climbed on mixed snow and rock (F6 to F8) three peaks: P 6720 (60° 39' N, 152° 51' W) and P 6200+ to its south by Hackett, Hurd, Wheeler; P 6650 (60° 39½' N, 152° 50' W) and P 6720 (by another route) by Tschaffert, Samuelson and me. Continuing high winds accompanied with snow on May 14 made it necessary to dig in for four days. At noon on the 18th we began trekking to the northeast, setting Camp V just south of Double Peak. We reached the summit of Double Peak (6818 feet) on May 19 via the steep northwest snow face. Early the next day, in another storm, we descended to the last patch of snow at the base of the Big River lobe. A long hike across moraine and swamp ended our journey at the Mobil Oil Drift River camp on May 21.

P 7542, Talkeetna Mountains. On June 29 Dick Nystrom and I headed north out of Palmer and parked our car where we crossed Granite Creek. After two days and 12 miles we made our Base Camp. On July 1 our prearranged airdrop arrived. After four days of resting and short climbs, on July 6, we headed for two days up Granite Creek towards unclimbed P 7542 (in the northwest corner of Anchorage D-5 quadrangle). We bivouacked on a saddle to the southeast of P 7542 and on July 8 we started for the top. After three steep snow traverses we were on rock. We made 14 pitches (5.0 to 5.6) on the south ridge. We have proposed the name of Andromeda to the authorities.

BRUCE ADAMS, *Unaffiliated*

Mount Tom White, Chugach Mountains. After eight leisurely days rafting down the Copper River from Chitina, we arrived at the terminus of the Miles Glacier. On June 18, after caching our river supplies, we six, Story Clark, Sarah Robey, Don White, Chris Hall, Tom Kizzia and I, started the 30-mile trudge up-glacier to the base of Mount Tom White. At 4000 feet we branched off onto the "Tom White Glacier" and followed it through minor icefalls and crevasse systems to our high camp at its head in a basin at 8000 feet. In front of us were two couloirs rising toward the unclimbed summit. After scouting the left one, which was cut by overhanging crevasses, we chose the right one, though it was steeper and scarred with avalanches. On June 29 we followed this to the summit slope in excellent weather. There we found a broad, ¼-mile-long ridge joining two summits, the southwestern of which was higher. It took us six days to hike down to our cache on the river and another day to float to Flag Point near Cordova on the Pacific. Despite its reputation, the Chugach weather was perfect. We saw many spectacular peaks along the river and an incredible variety from Mount Tom White.

WILLIAM RESOR*, *Unaffiliated*

Doonerak and Other Peaks, Brooks Range. For three weeks in August, a Sierra Club climbing group visited the north fork of the Koyukuk region, which was initially explored by Robert Marshall in the 1930s. Despite extensive climbing in the area, Marshall's several attempts on the highest peak, Doonerak (7610 feet), were unsuccessful. This was first climbed in 1952 by George Beadle, Gunnar Bergman, and Alfred Tissières, and was our main goal. Starting at Chimney Lake, our group hiked up Clear River and St. Patrick's Creek to the north fork of the Koyukuk drainage, then up Ernie's Creek to Anaktuvuk River, flying out from Anaktuvuk Pass. On August 18, from a camp on Binnyanaktuk Creek, Charles Hildebolt and Geoff Radford climbed Doonerak by its south ridge, finding no record of ascent since 1952. The ascent was repeated five days

* Recipient of a Boyd N. Everett, Jr. Climbing Fellowship Grant.

later by John Otter. On August 29, Hildebolt, Radford, and I climbed the second highest peak in the area, Cocked Hat (7410 feet), in continuous snow and poor visibility. We are unaware of any previous ascent. One technical rock route was done on the north ridge of P 6290, east of St. Patrick's Creek (Gordon and Emily Benner, Hildebolt, Radford). Other peaks climbed were Chimney Mountain and Rock, Whiteface, Midnight Mountain, Wien Mountain, Amauk and Apoon. Other trip members were Chris Christensen, Fred Derose, Wim DeWit, Charles Funk, Bill Knowland, and Paul Studemeister.

GORDON BENNER

Chilkat Range. Chuck Warren, Dave Butherus, Ted and Steve Lewis, Duncan Crosby and I as leader visited the heart of the Chilkat Range in southeastern Alaska at the head of the Davidson Glacier in June. We climbed P 6658, the main peak south of the Davidson-Casement Glacier divide on June 11. This is on the boundary of Glacier Bay National Monument. The all-snow route was easy, but the views of the many rugged peaks of the region were spectacular. We climbed P 5900 on June 15 from Base Camp at 3800 feet on the Davidson Glacier. We climbed the peak from the north side after crossing a pass to its east. It is on the north side of the main branch of the Davidson, 1½ miles east of the Glacier Bay National Monument boundary. Numerous ice worms, *Mesenchytraeus solifugus*, were found on the glacier surface on many nights. We created a sensation in Haines when we returned with live worms. The hotel proprietor took them out of his refrigerator and passed them around to his dinner guests to prove it was not another Robert Service type of hoax!

LAWRENCE E. NIELSEN

South Taku Tower, East Face. Daniel Reid and others made the first ascent of the difficult east face of South Taku Tower during the summer, placing no bolts and finding an F8, A4 standard. For the Juneau Icefield, the weather was quite good and allowed them to make the long trek across the icefield and an ascent of the Devil's Paw. We hope to have a fuller account in the *A.A.J.*, 1975.

Washington—Cascade Mountains

Mount Rainier, Willis Wall. In early May, Dusan Jagersky and I climbed about half way up the central rib on Mount Rainier's Willis Wall when a large avalanche came within 100 yards of us and swept the entire right side of the wall. This, combined with an unexpected warming trend, prompted us to make an ascending traverse to the eastern side of the wall, away from the giant ice cliff. We finished this variation by doing