

leader reconnoitered the northern approach to the west ridge of St. Elias with the hope of possibly climbing the peak over this route. Consistently bad weather, however, created slab avalanche dangers that prevented our being successful without taking undue risks. We climbed three smaller peaks during brief clearings of the weather. One, climbed by the entire party on July 6, was marked on the USGS Quad. Bering Glacier as The Hump, probably climbed by a Colorado group in 1966 (12,375 feet). The other two are essentially on the north ridge of Mount Huxley and probably first ascents. One (c. 10,900 feet) was climbed on July 9 by Müller, Schotten and Stewart and the other (c. 11,400 feet) on July 10 by Rose, Williams and me.

HANS A. ZOGG, *Mountaineers*

Mounts Jeannette, Newton and St. Elias. Our goal was to have been the long southeast ridge of Mount St. Elias, a sinuous, silver edifice that bursts from the Newton Glacier for 11,000 feet to meet the gentle summit cone. The plan was simple—to land at its foot with fifty days' food and lay siege until the job was done. Simplicity soon vanished. Our pilot, Jack Wilson, flew over the Newton with Paul Gerhard, Ed Lane and Steve Altman, but found no spot to land. We found ourselves at Boyd Everett's old Base Camp on the Columbus Glacier, ten miles and a 14,000-foot-high traverse away from the southeast ridge. The map revealed a more promising route to the Newton Glacier over a pass several miles farther east, Jeannette Col. Before all our gear had been lowered over the cliffs on the far side of Jeannette Col, our new rigid crampons were clearly failing. We decided instead to traverse the ridge from Mount Jeannette to Mount Newton, climbing St. Elias from the north by way of Russell Col, a modification of the Duke of the Abruzzi's pioneering climb in 1897. (They joined the Italian route at Russell Col and the Japanese route of 1964 on Mount Newton.—*Editor*.) On the morning of June 21, Bob Rice, Mike Coffeen and Ed Lane left to find a route up Mount Jeannette—a mound of steep ice and snow, towering west of camp. The rest of us climbed to the col and began the uninspiring job of hauling up 500 feet of rope, the food and fuel which had been prematurely lowered across the col. The climber's progress on Jeannette was tortured and they reached little more than half-way up the 3000 feet. The morning after, Gerhard and I left early. Arnon, Shank and Altman followed. By late afternoon, a route was fixed to within a few hundred feet of the summit. Coffeen and Lane caught us and alternated several fine leads over steep ice to the top (11,750 feet). We rappelled down the ropes in the chill of sunset

and celebrated our first ascent with a feast. Three days later, after another storm, our camp was perched 400 feet under Jeannette's summit. Eight days of beautiful weather then let us move over peaks of 12,000 feet (1st ascent) and 12,500 feet (3rd ascent) to Mount Newton (13,810 feet; 3rd ascent). On each day the pattern was similar—an early pair breaking trail and fixing ropes, the others carrying loads and returning to break camp—generally a new peak to reach and pass. On June 2 we descended from Mount Newton into an eerie fog blowing through Russell Col and established our eighth and final camp at 12,000 feet on a small platform. Our crampons, by now amalgams of wire, tape and steel, still held. Then bad weather returned. Our ten days of food suddenly seemed small. For four days storms pinned us in camp. Two-man teams ventured onto the steep, corniced ridge during calmer periods, stringing ropes and hacking steps, but the next storm generally eliminated progress. This final difficult quarter-mile was finished only on the return of clear weather on July 6, when Shank and Gerhard fixed the crux. While the others converted the toe-holds into a highway, Arnon and I literally swam across Russell Col to 13,000 feet on the Abruzzi route through waist-deep snow. July 7 dawned clear. The perennial fog had vanished from the Pacific Ocean to the south. A few hours sufficed to reach the 13,000-foot previous high point. From there, trail had to be broken and our progress through unsettled snow was erratic. Five hours later we were only 2000 feet higher and mares' tails were floating across the sky. A steady 50 mile-per-hour gale followed shortly. Near the top of the Abruzzi ridge at 15,500 feet, Gerhard began a traverse around the mountain to the west to try to escape the wind. He disappeared onto the lee side of the ridge. Shank and I heard him yell, "Avalanche!" The snow soon passed but Gerhard had vanished. Luckily he could jümar back up the ice cliff to us. It seemed as if the summit would never be reached. As pitch blended into pitch and false summit merged into false summit, we continued, finding a route free from avalanche and breaking trail the whole way. The summit (fifth ascent) was miraculously free from wind. Then 14 hours after leaving camp, we started back down into the wind. On the descent the storm got worse and we had to bivouac. Finally we returned to camp 31 hours after leaving it. After two days of storm in Camp VIII, we climbed back to the top of Mount Newton and another cache of food—this one buried under a 15-foot snowdrift and located only by an arrow of wands left on the lee slope. A day and a half were needed to descend the many small bergschrunds and icefalls on Mount Newton's north ridge. The

Columbus Glacier was hard underfoot and on June 12 we completed our circuit and arrived in Base Camp under Jeannette Col.

LOUIS F. REICHARDT, *Sierra Club*

Mount Vancouver, Border Peak. The Osaka-Fu Mountaineering Association expedition was led by Nobuo Kuwahara and made up of Yasuhiro Sawada, Tokuji Kawada, Yoshikazu Nishikawa, Suichi Ueda, Toshiaki Miyamoto, Yoshio Mizuta, Masaru Shibata, Masaichi Kimura and Kanji Shimizu. On May 28 all were flown to the Seward Glacier where Base Camp was established at 6000 feet. On the 29th and 30th Camps I and II were established at 6900 and 10,175 feet. It took two days to prepare the route to Camp III (12,200 feet) in a snow cave. Camp IV was another snow cave at 13,000 feet. On June 9 Shibata and Kimura climbed a knife edge to the second rock peak and a col, where they made Camp V, also a snow cave at 14,000 feet. On June 10 the two summit climbers reached the south peak of Mount Vancouver (15,700 feet), "Good Neighbor Peak," at 11:30 after a six-hour climb. They slept at Camp V and returned on the 11th to Camp II. Meanwhile on June 10 an avalanche occurred 150 feet below Camp II and carried Sawada, Nishikawa and Miyamoto down. Kuwabara remained fixed to the rope. A search of several days did not reveal Sadawa's body, but the other two were found under the snow. The climb of the southwest ridge was a new route and the second ascent of the south peak.

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *Japanese Alpine Club and A.A.C.*

Chilkoot Range. George Barnett, Dr. Russell Batt, William Bendy, Dr. Jorgen Meyer-Arendt, Dan Reeder, Dr. Thomas Stengle, Charles Warren and I as leader climbed in the Chilkoot range along the international boundary adjacent to the south branch of the Meade Glacier about 40 miles southeast of Skagway. We made the following first ascents: Mount Poletica (Boundary Peak 102; 7620 feet) on May 19 by Barnett, Meyer-Arendt, Nielson, Stengle and May 31 by Barnett, Batt, Reeder, Warren via northeast knife-edged snow ridge; Sparrow Peak* (6630 feet; two miles northeast of Poletica in British Columbia) on May 24 by Barnett, Meyer-Arendt, Nielsen, Stengle via south ridge; Mount Stacie* (c. 7300 feet; two miles northwest of Poletica in British Columbia) on May 25 by Barnett, Batt, Stengle via south face; Mount Service* (Boundary Peak 101; 7847 feet) on May 28 by whole party by both east face and northeast ridge; Bicorn Peak* (north summit; two miles east of Service in British Columbia) on May 29 by Bendy, Meyer-Arendt, Stengle via