firm to kick steps, but too soft to hold tools, it was exciting stuff. Exit was made directly at the summit after 7 hours on the face. Descent took 10 hours via the east ridge (normal route).

Randy Winner, Turtles Climbing Group, Missoula

Mount Robson Traverse. On August 20 Michael Sawicky and I climbed the long snow and ice face on the north side of Mount Robson. Reaching the top of the face at two A.M. we continued through the ice formations of the narrow Emperor Ridge and arrived at the summit at seven A.M. Near the summit we saw what we believed were mountain goat tracks. Because of the instability of the snow at and above the Hourglass, we descended by the Schwarz Ledges, which presented a complicated route-finding problem from above.

Ronald H. Sacks

Canadian Arctic

Virginia Glacier Expedition. In 1967, the writer led the Cape Dyer Arctic-Alpine Expedition into an unexplored area of arctic mountains west of Cape Dyer on the Cumberland Peninsula of Baffin Island (see AAJ, CAJ, 1968). At that time we approached by boat with Eskimos from Broughton Island, traversed the valley of the “Southwind” Glacier, reaching Mount Raleigh at its head, climbed and named many of the major peaks, and exited across the Virginia Glacier to Sunneshine Fiord and Cape Dyer. In August 1977 we returned to the Virginia Glacier area, utilizing Avon inflatable dinghies to approach from Cape Dyer. First we completed a photographic survey for the Glacier Inventory of Canada for comparison with our 1967 data, then explored the valley of the Virginia Glacier to its head, climbing two peaks there, as well as Mount Gilbert (solo—P. Ritterbush) to the north for the first time. We then returned to the boats for a 80-mile journey southwest along the coast to locate two attractive mountains seen in that direction during a climb in 1967. After various problems we reached the head of Mermaid Fiord west of Totnes Road and went 10 miles inland to the west, penetrating this huge glaciated area for the first time. Ascents of P 5975 and its adjacent twin were accomplished and a new area for arctic trekkers and climbers opened up. (For details and map references see CAJ, 1978.) The party was D. Kerchof, P. Ritterbush, P. Rogers, L. Scotton and I. E. Streisinger and Anna Gerenday completed the same sea journey with kayaks.

George Van B. Cochran

Stewart Valley, Baffin Island. An expedition of the Ottawa and Montreal Sections of the Alpine Club of Canada spent three weeks
climbing in the Stewart valley at N 71° 03′. The party consisted of K. O'Connell and E. Whalley, leaders, and J.A.R. Blais, W. Breidenbach, S. Deering, L.W.K. Horner, P. Mix, R. Montgomery, W.R. Reader, J. Richardson, P. Ritzema, S.D. Rosenbaum, W. Vennum and J. Whitteker. They made the first ascent of 19 mountains in the region, including the only named peak, Longstaff Peak (5384 feet) and what appears to be the highest peak in the region P 5935+.

Mount Friga, West Face, and “Watchtower,” Northwest Ridge, Baffin Island. In July and August, 1976, Phil Bartlett and I made numerous ascents, including two new ascents. “The Watchtower,” as we christened the peak, is a rock tower (c. 5500 feet) which lies above a glacier which drops to the Weasel valley just south of Tyr Peak. On our second attempt we made a 2000-foot rock route up the northwest ridge in 23 hours. The lower and upper thirds were of sustained UIAA V and V+ with 60 aid points. Tremendous slabs and crack climbing (IV) were encountered in the middle section. We did a new route on the long and previously unclimbed west face of Mount Friga. The 3000 feet of climbing took 8½ hours and had considerable objective dangers. There was little difficult rock but the ice and mixed climbing were up to Scottish Grade IV.

Steven Parr, Alpine Climbing Group

Gauntlet Peak, Baffin Island. In August Ken Hunter, Frank Gordon and I climbed in the Pangnirtung Pass region. Base Camp was established at 500 feet below the west buttress of Gauntlet Peak. Advanced Base was made two days later at 2500 feet in the cirque between Mount Turnweather and Gauntlet Peak. After reconnaissance we rejected the north face of Turnweather due to continuous rockfall. We attempted a route on the south face of the west rib. After climbing a 1300-foot ice-and-snow gully and six rock pitches, we retreated because of rockfall and overhangs at a high point of 4300 feet on the 6050-foot peak. From Base Camp Hunter and Gordon climbed a rock route on Gauntlet Peak via a shallow cirque on the western side. The route was 21 pitches and F9.

Barry Allen Nelson, Geneva Spur Limited

Peaks on Bylot Island. Between July 2 and August 15, the Reverend Laurie Dexter, Greg Good, Rob Kelly, Jim Savage and I traversed Bylot Island from Tay Bay on the northwest coast to Button Point on the southeast. We carried all supplies on one-man sleds. The climbing was, in general, non-technical with many superb ski ascents. Weather and snow conditions, at least during the “night,” were exceptionally fine. We climbed 20 peaks including P 6765, the highest on the island. All except