

an error in the report on the Romanzof Mountains. What appears as "P 7800, the westernmost high Alaskan Arctic peak" should read "P 8700, the easternmost high Alaskan Arctic Peak."

DENNIS SCHMITT, *Sierra Club*

Baird Mountains, 1992. During an archeological survey, I made a number of ascents in the Swatka, DeLong and Baird Mountains, including the prominent limestone peak 11 miles up the Nakolik, whose north face comprises two pitches of class-5 rock.

DENNIS SCHMITT, *Sierra Club*

Brooks Range, Endicott Mountains. Working for the Park Service, Walt Rogers and I trekked on snowshoes this spring from the upper Negu across the entire Killik basin to Okomilaga and Chandler Lake. The significance of the Killik depression as a snow-free fauna oasis was noted. We encountered 9 grizzly bears, a wolf pack of 5 hunters, 2 lone wolves and a vixen with 3 pups. I concluded that it is elevation rather than the wind pattern that is responsible for the oasis. We made four modest ascents.

DENNIS SCHMITT, *Sierra Club*

Phillip Smith Mountains. We made a new route from the upper Ribdon to the headwaters of the Wind River, traversing the ridge west of Windy Glacier and descending onto the ice. The upper Ribdon is endowed with alpine meadows, limestone buttresses, tunneling rivers, pools, falls and a natural arch. We continued east through a succession of passes leading to the upper Ivashak. High on the Ivashak, we found Clarence Rhodes' plane. The last entry in the flight journal was for September 19, 1958. We made three ascents during the traverse including P 8025 above the west fork of the Ribdon.

DENNIS SCHMITT, *Sierra Club*

Devil's Thumb and Kate's Needle. Eric Trouillot and I spent three weeks in May skiing and climbing in the Stikine Icecap area on the Alaskan-British Columbian border. Our major climbing objective was the Devil's Thumb (2767 meters, 9078 feet), whose summit we reached in a 24-hour day from a 2100-meter camp on May 23 after two aborted attempts. On our second attempt, we climbed the lower two buttresses of the east ridge and were traversing around some pinnacles where the southeast snowfield meets the ridge when bad weather and time (five P.M.) forced us down. On our successful climb, we reascended the right (east) margin of the southeast snowfield on 45° snow and ice to our previous highpoint, a rock buttress directly below the first tower beyond the prominent lower two buttresses of the east ridge. We climbed three

5.7 pitches of south-facing rock to gain the ridge and followed the crest to the summit. This entailed much 5.7 with a short section of 5.9 to ascend directly the largest gendarme. This pinnacle had been bypassed by the first-ascent party on the south side, using aid, but we made a point of staying on the crest. We made a few short rappels from the larger towers. With exceptionally dry conditions, we climbed from the snowfield to the summit in rock shoes. On the descent, we left the ridge closer to the summit and rappelled diagonally five or six times to the southeast snowfield. We also climbed Kate's Needle (3055 meters, 10,023 feet) by the normal west-face and ridge route. The crux was a heavily corniced ridge between the west and the main summits, where avalanche hazard on the south-facing side and large cornices on the north made things exciting. Aside from the two climbs, we checked out ski approaches to the area. We attempted to helicopter to the Patterson Glacier from Petersburg but ended on the next glacier north in bad visibility, which cost us several days of descending a nasty icfall with sleds and big packs. Our exit to Shakes Lake on the Stikine River was straightforward but a rendezvous with a boat at Shakes was thwarted by ice on the lake.

ROBERT ENAGONIO, *Alpine Club of Canada*

Traverse along Alaskan-British Columbian Border from the Stikine to the Samotua. On May 7, fingers were crossed that Craig Hollinger and our ski-plane pilot, Ron Janzen of TelAir, would complete the food placements and meet Markus Kellerhals, Steve Sheffield, Peter Stone, Brian Wood and me at the Scud River airstrip on the banks of the Stikine River. The noise of the jet boat did not fulfill my dream of a relaxed float down the Stikine from Telegraph Creek. After we whiled away time, waiting aboard at the Scud River's mouth, the ski plane flew overhead. A short while later, Craig appeared from the bush, assuring us that the food was safely placed. We traveled south by boat until we were landed just north of the terminus of the Stikine Glacier. From the glacial deposits on the banks of the Stikine, we entered a tangle of birch and willow. Skis sometimes on, sometimes off, melt ponds and ancient terminal moraines. Then, the semi-frozen terminal Great Lake appeared ahead of us. Initially, the lake provided us with safe and easy traveling. However, our plans to ascend the Great Glacier from its toe were thwarted by the deteriorating nature of the lake ice. We were forced to abandon the watery lake for a bushwhack onto the ridge system just north of the glacier terminus. The next morning began with rain. By lunch time, we entered the wet and steep forest. Thankfully, after several hours, snow covered the ground. Skis worked fine as we broke out of the trees. After a night of wet snow flakes, on the third morning the weather cleared for almost four weeks. We skied down an enormous gully onto the Great Glacier. Two days of "exhilarating plodding" saw us over the headwall. We camped just over a mile south of Mount Pratt and that evening climbed P 6475'*. The days that

*Peaks in Alaska are given in feet and those in Canada in meters.