

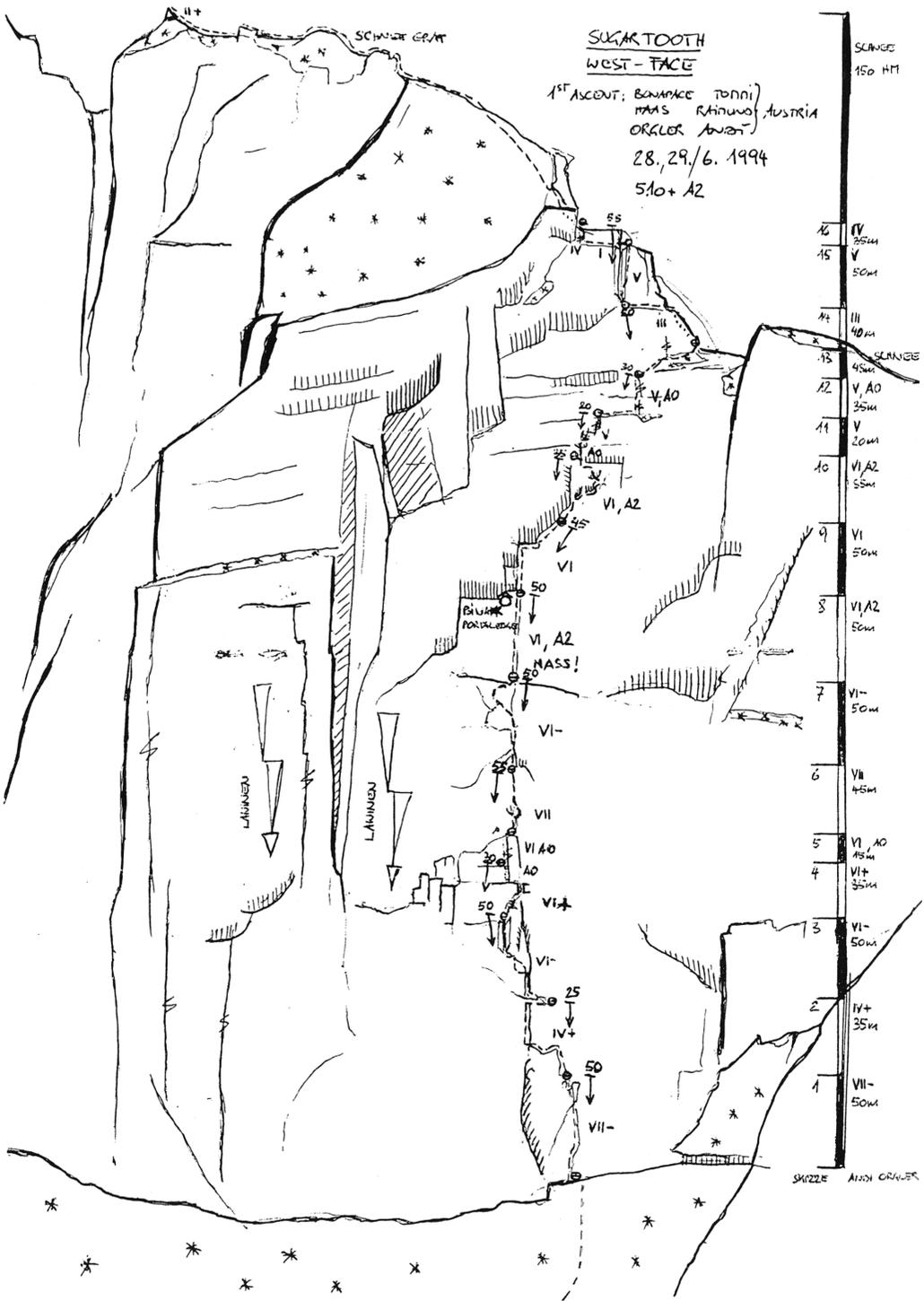
a snow cave and slept until the welcome freeze of night returned. After crossing the plateau, we got our first look at the most thrilling part of the route. The plateau narrowed into the summit ridge, the last 1000 feet of which were thin and corniced, cresting and falling through space. We took turns standing on the summit cornice, reaching it on June 30.

MICHAEL LITZOW, *Alaska Alpine Club*

Eyetooth and Sugartooth, Ruth Gorge. On June 17, Doug Keeting flew Tommi Bonapace, Raimund Haas and me to just below Mount Bradley in the Ruth Gorge. That afternoon, we skied to the gap due east of Mount Dickey to study the smooth west faces of our two peaks, which lie south of the Moose's Tooth. Tommi and I had first noticed these faces when we climbed the Bottleneck on Dickey in 1988. Mugs Stump and I had in 1987 made an agreement not to interfere in the projects of the other. The peaks around the gap were to be left for him, but tragically Mugs was lost two years ago and so the peaks were now "free." We skied back to Base Camp, where we were trapped for the next nine days in storm. On July 27, the weather improved. At noon, we climbed to the cirque marked 17 on the D-2 Talkeetna sheet below the Sugartooth, the southernmost of the two peaks. We started up the west face. We climbed three pitches before it began to rain and the rock became too slippery for free climbing. We rappelled and descended to the glacier. Though it had snowed in the night, we set out again in the morning, made good progress despite verglas and got to a little rock band at mid height by the evening. Because the sun had warmed the summit icefield, there were avalanches and so we climbed to get protection from some giant roofs for our bivouac. Although the face was not perpendicular (UIAA VI, A2), the climbing was demanding since water flowed over the edge of the roofs and soaked us. At two A.M., we constructed a three-man sitting ledge under a 20-meter roof. June 29 dawned cold and cloudy. Because of our wet clothing, we waited until noon before continuing. We climbed three lovely, steep pitches through the belt of roofs and got to the south ridge in the afternoon. Because we believed the mountain unclimbed and the weather for the next day promised to be fine, we spent another night on the mountain. On June 30, we climbed the snow ridge and the last five-meter rock pyramid to enjoy the unbelievable view over the southern McKinley region from the summit. We were within shouting range of Conrad Anker and Paul Gagner on the Ghost Wall. By evening of the 30th, we were back in Base Camp. After a rest day, we started up the west face of the Eyetooth, but after climbing eight pitches, we were driven back by a snowstorm. Not until July 7 could we consider an alpine-style climb. Despite low atmospheric pressure and overcast, we started back up with minimal gear. At seven P.M. we were climbing the first rope-lengths on lovely granite, while the rock on the 900-meter-high buttress dried. At midnight, having climbed 14 pitches, we settled into a comfortable bivouac, although Tommi first kept on and led another perpendicular rope-length. During the night, it began to snow lightly. Shrouded

SUGAR TOOTH
WEST-FACE

1ST ASCENT: BENJAMINE TONDI
MANS RAINUNG, AUSTRIA
ORGLER ANTON
28, 29/6. 1994
5.10 + A2



SCHNITZ ANON GRÄBER

EYETOOTH WEST-PILLAR

1ST ASCENT: BRADACE TOMI
 HAYS RAINES
 ORLER AWOT
 (AUSTRIANS)

8/7, 7, 1994

5.10 ALL FREE

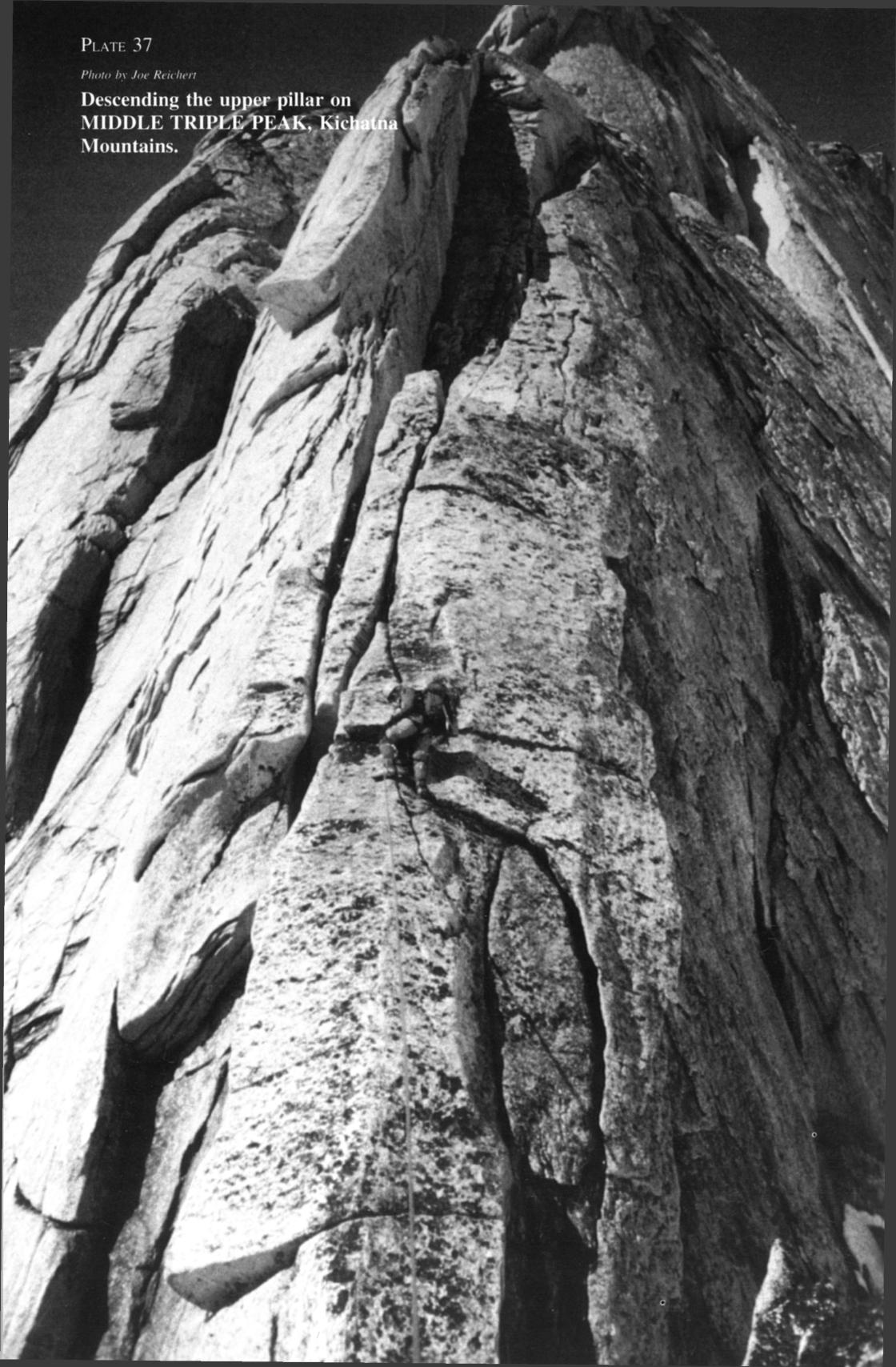


23	III	25m
22	V-	50m
21	VI-	55m
20	IV+	40m
19	V+	50m
18	V	45m
17	V	55m
16	VI-	55m
15	VII-	45m
14	III	75m
13	V	50m
12	V	50m
11	V+	55m
10	VI	55m
9	V+	50m
8	VI	50m
7	V	55m
6	IV+	50m
5	V	55m
4	IV	45m
3	VI-	20m
2	V+	50m
1	VI-	50m

PLATE 37

Photo by Joe Reichert

**Descending the upper pillar on
MIDDLE TRIPLE PEAK, Kichatna
Mountains.**



in clouds, we saw that our only chance was to finish the climb quickly. In steadily worsening weather, we reached the south summit ridge in nine pitches and got to the top. It snowed harder and the wind picked up, but we set off in the dusk and rappelled 24 times through the whole night since we could not consider a bivouac with the scanty equipment we had. At seven A.M. on July 9, we were delighted to get to Base Camp minus one rope and some kilos lighter. Mugs Stump would have been enchanted with the route and we have named it "The Dream in the Spirit of Mugs."

ANDREAS ORGLER, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

P 6840, Ramparts. Billy Shott and Steve Gorchman ascended the southwest face of P 6840, a 1700-foot-high granite wall (5.10, A2). This peak lies west of P 6850, which was first climbed in 1991 by Fred Beckey and Clay Wadman. This is the second mountain climbed in the remote Rampart Range, which lies west of "Little Switzerland."

Middle Triple, Kichatna Spires, First Ascent by a Woman. On July 12, Michele Morseth and I were flown to the Shadows Glacier of the Kichatna Mountains. We spent the first three days ferrying loads over a pass to the Sunshine Glacier. The next day, we relaxed and watched Michael Pennings and Jon Allen make the third ascent of the route. [See article earlier in this *Journal*.] On Day 6, we climbed four pitches, a beautiful 5.9 dihedral and some thin aid, and fixed four ropes. The following day was rest day in the rain as we prepared for a long day on the headwall. Planning on four to six days on the route, on Day 8 we were hauling up the lines when the third rope frayed through the entire sheath. Having already dropped our spare rope, we were forced to descend. This was a blessing in disguise as a storm began in earnest and continued for six days. On July 26, the rain eased and in the drizzle we climbed through the short night toward the snow-frosted ridge and upper pillar. Dawn brought a sunny day and the rock dried pitch by pitch. After thirty hours, we arrived at the top of the headwall and a tent site. Following twelve hours of rest, we headed up the ridge. Six pitches were mostly fourth- and easy fifth-class, notable exceptions being a 5.8 corner and an airy knife-edge, both led by Michele. At the end of twelve hours, we were at the second bivi ledge, a penthouse pocket of snow with a view of the entire Alaska Range. High pressure continued as we began our summit push on July 29. Free of loads, we climbed the final eight rock pitches over splendid alpine granite. These were continuous 200-foot pitches with an occasional 5.10 move, magnificent climbing with a view of Denali, Hunter and Foraker from each belay. Except for three points of aid to surmount the final roof, the final 14 pitches are of moderate free climbing. Michele and I spent five hours on the summit snowfield watching sunset turn into sunrise, napping and waiting for the snow to soften. We kicked steps nearly to the top of the summit cornice, which was too