

peaks in the Canadian Rockies, Tsar is now easily accessible via logging roads which follow Sullivan Creek from Kinbasket Lake. The approach from our vehicle to a high camp just below the ice took two hours. Ironically, Tsar now has one of the shortest approaches of the major Rockies peaks. Our line followed the easiest route up the ridge, occasionally diverging onto both the north and southeast faces (V, 5.9). We found ourselves in an intense lightning storm a few pitches from the top and watched strikes ignite four separate forest fires as darkness came on. Unable to cross over the top because of lightning strikes, we bivouacked on an exposed ridge and summited the next morning. We down-climbed the standard north ridge-face route, which is complicated and took most of the day to descend. It took us to the foot of the mountain far from our vehicle.

GRAY THOMPSON

North West Territories

Proboscis, Southeast Face, "Yukon Tears" Logan Mountains. In a three-day blitz in 1963, Layton Kor, Royal Robbins, Jim McCarthy and Dick McCracken climbed a route on the southeast face of Proboscis and issued in a new level by applying big-wall techniques to a remote alpine wall. In 1992, Todd Skinner, Paul Piana and Galen Rowell made their all-free ascent of the Great Canadian Knife (*AAJ*, 1993, pages 68-77.) On August 5, Scott Cosgrove, Kurt Smith and I completed the fourth ascent of the face and the second free line. We chose a crack line 200 feet right of the Knife. A 3-pitch dihedral with good protection led to three pitches of face climbing, the aid-climbing crux. The climb then joined a steep, knobby crack for seven pitches to a ledge. A 5.2 traverse led to the top of the Knife route, where I added a 5.10 variation up a seam left of the good crack. Three more pitches took us to an exposed knife-edged ridge. Seven pitches of low fifth-class boulder problems brought us to the summit register, a metal film canister, circa 1960, and perfectly preserved yellow paper. We spent 19 days working on the 24-pitch route, finding 7 pitches of 5.12, 2 of 5.11 and 4 of 5.10.

JEFF JACKSON, *Texas Mountain Guides*

Canadian Arctic

Asgard, North Face of North Tower, "Valkyrie." Chris Breemer and I put up a new line on the north face of the north tower of Asgard, which we completed on July 24 (VI, A4+; 14 pitches.) We had two days of good weather out of the fourteen we were on the wall, which was steep enough to avoid the falling ice. On July 9, we were helicoptered to the Turner Glacier and spent a couple of days hauling gear to the foot of the wall. We began the ascent on July 12, but were trapped in our portaledge for five days after climbing 350 feet. We