

*Glacier Bay and Wrangell-St. Elias National Parks and Preserve, Annual Mountaineering Report, 1995.* Fifteen known expeditions with a total of 57 people made attempts of peaks in the region starting from Yakutat. Only six expeditions and 25 people were successful. The season marked the first climbing deaths within a decade in this part of Alaska. In April, Phil Kaufmann of Seattle, Washington, Steve Carroll of South Hampton, New Hampshire, and Patrick Simmons of Seattle, Washington, successfully made the summit (confirmed via radio) of Mount Orville within Glacier Bay National Park. This is believed to be the first ascent. Tragedy struck on the descent. A storm struck shortly after they made the summit and a large amount of snow fell during the next 24 hours. At some point during the extremely steep descent the three, roped together, fell. The fall was probably due to the avalanche conditions.

Other expeditions within Glacier Bay National Park included an unsuccessful attempt of Mount Wilbur by Joe Lacky with a party of four. Jack, Dan, and Tom Bennett made a successful ascent via the West Ridge of Mount Fairweather. Two trips occurred within Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. Bill Pilling and Walt Gove made an unsuccessful attempt on Mount Huxley. Jon Waterman and Jeff Hollenbaugh, both of Colorado, made an unsuccessful attempt on Mount St. Elias from the South Face. Their attempt started from Icy Bay with a trek over the Malaspina and Libbey Glaciers to the South Face. Silas Wild led a party of eight on successful attempts of Mount Vern Ritchie, Mount Duff and Mount Wade along the Alaska-British Columbian border east of Yakutat. Many climbers still do not check in with the National Park Service in Yakutat. Although this is not required, it is encouraged for information and emergency purposes.

RICK MOSSMAN, *Yakutat District Ranger*

*Mount Bear, North Ridge.* In early June, 1993, Bruce Blatchley and I made the fourth ascent of Mount Bear, via a new route on the north ridge. Our ascent occurred approximately one week after the third ascent party (Doug Barlow and Kaj Bune) reached the summit, and 42 years after the first ascent by the Stanford Klutlan Expedition (See *AAJ*, 1994, regarding third ascent; and *AAJ*, 1952, regarding the first ascent). On June 3, Pilot Paul Claus landed us at 9,100 feet on the southeastern extension of the upper Klutlan Glacier. We established two camps at approximately 10,000 and 12,500 feet, from which Blatchley soloed to the summit with poor visibility and intermittent snow on June 7. Upon return to the cabin of Ultima Thule Outfitters, we had the good fortune of comparing notes with Bune and Barlow about our respective climbs, from different sides, of this great — and often overlooked — jewel of the Wrangell-St. Elias Range.

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