## BAFFIN ISLAND

*Mt. Asgard, east face of South Tower.* In July I soloed a new route on the 2,000' east face of the South Tower of Mount Asgard on Baffin Island. My route (VI 5.10 A2) consisted of mostly free climbing with an equal mixture of well-protected crack and runout face. I ascended the route in 16 long pitches and descended via 14 long rappels. The climb required 24 hours of climbing from the glacier to the true summit. No bolts were placed and no cracks were "cleaned." The summit was reached July 27.

JIM BEYER, *adapted from* Alpinist *Magazine*

Wide open spaces and waves of sastrugi on the Baffin Icefield Traverse. *Greg Horne*

*Icefield traverse and Peak 1,850m, southwest ridge.* From April 14 to May 5 Louise Jarry, Vicki Sahanatien, Doug Stern, Vivian Wasiuta, and I made a ski traverse of an unnamed icefield on the Cumberland Peninsula from Iqalugajut Fiord to Kaniqturusiq Fiord (south fork of Padle Fiord), all east of Kingnait Pass. This was the first complete traverse of the icefield from its southern edge to its northern limit, and we made the first ascent of the highest peak in this icefield. The ground logistics consisted of a snowmobile drop-off from Pangnirtung and a pickup from Qikiqtaruaq.

This icefield had been previously visited by Mike O'Reilly et al. in 1974 (*CAJ 1975*, p. 99). They climbed 10 peaks. George Van Cochran et al. briefly spent some time there in 1977 (*CAJ 1978*, p. 36), and there is a vague report in the 1977 *CAJ* (p. 90) of a spring traverse by four skiers "from Padle Fiord to Kingnait Fiord over the glaciers and icecaps south of the Padle–Kingnait trough." No other details of this trip were reported.

From Iqalugajut Fiord we skied up a valley with a series of lakes to pass #1 (350m), with a small lake on its east side. We crossed the Kuugajuaq River valley, skied up a side drainage, crossed pass #2, and camped near the southern end of the icefield. We made a steep, cramponed pull of our sleds onto the edge of the icefield, traversed a gentle plateau, crossed pass #3, a