free at 6c—to the left of the vertical north face in 1998. It's possible the name Half Dome was first coined by a British party, who had the north face as one of their objectives the same year.]

The dome reminded me of Fairview Dome in Tuolumne Meadows, except it dwarfs its California cousin. Standing at the base racking up, we greatly underestimated the dome's size: this lead us to leave everything except our small free rack and water bottles. From the belays on Nalumasortoq we had seen a crack that started halfway up the wall and continued to the summit. The rock below the crack looked highly featured but there seemed to be only intermittent opportunities for protection. As we started up doubts arose about the possibilities of safely reaching the crack. The difficulty of the climbing was not a problem for us, but the lack of gear was. There was enough to lure us higher, but there were many serious sections where we had to climb 20-30' above gear at 5.10 standard. After swinging leads up seven meandering pitches, we finally reached what we thought from the ground would be a hand crack. It turned out to be a flaring chimney with a finger crack in the back. After several pitches of 10-, the angle started to decrease, but we still were still some way from the top. In an effort to summit before darkness, we decided to simul-climb the remaining 500'. After a few moments of anxious relaxation on the summit, we rappelled into the darkness without headlamps, off the backside into the unknown. The 1,600' route currently remains unnamed but the grade is 5.10X

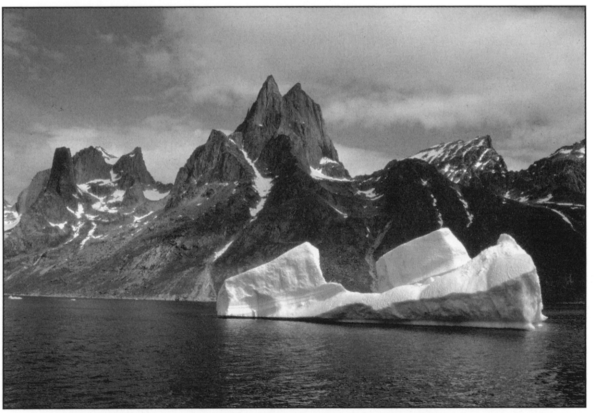
During the climb, as I was belaying Micah, my gaze would drift over to the Right Pillar of Nalumasortoq and the amazing line we had come so close to sending. This little break from our project had provided me with the inspiration I needed to head back up for our sixth attempt on the Right Pillar. Three days after climbing the dome, we completed the first all free ascent of the Right Pillar via Non C'e Due Senza Tre (2,700', 5.11+). It turned out to be the best route Micah or I have ever climbed. A lead article on this climb is found earlier in this Journal.

THAD FRIDAY

Historical note: In August 2002 Chris Chitty, Ari Menitove, and Steve Su came close to making the first free ascent of the French-Italian route, Non C'e Due Senza Tre (Jérôme Arpin, Mario Manica, Francesco Vaudo, and except for the final day, Giancarlo Ruffino, June 2000; 850m 19 pitches, VI 6c A3). They were forced to rest on gear for a few moves near the top and climb a variation top pitch. However, the A3 pitch was free climbed at 5.11a with bad gear and the overall rating of the climb was felt to be 5.11c.

Agdlerussakasit (1,750m), east face, new route on east face; The Butler (900m) and Mark (900m), first ascents. Overlooking Torssukatak Sound the seaward face of Agdlerussakasit, which is possibly one of the largest sea cliffs in the world, leads to several subsidiary summits. One of these, referred to as the Thumbnail, was first climbed in August 2000 by Ben Bransby, Matt Dickinson, Ian Parnell, and Gareth Parry, to give a ca 1,350m route (vertical height) at E6 6b.

Last July the Irish-Australian pair of James Mehigan and Richard Sonnerdale started more or less at the same point as the 2000 British Route and in one day slanted up the walls left of the Thumbnail to the half-way terrace, where they were able to escape to the left and down a snow couloir to the fjord. They later returned to complete the upper half of the face, slanting back right to hit the ridge just above the summit of the Thumbnail. No fixed ropes were used on The Cruise Line (July 23 and 28, 1,350m and 20 pitches), which was naturally protected throughout and graded E3 5c.



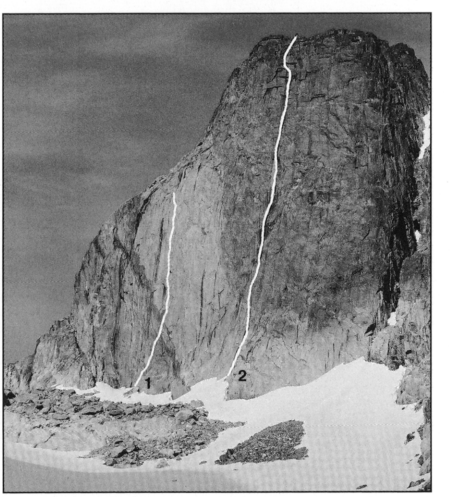
Pamiagdluk Island from Torssukatak Sound. "Mark" is the wall half-hidden on the left. The tusk at left is the Baroness (FA Creamer-Anderson, 2001). The Baron is the high summit in the middle (still unclimbed). The Butler is hidden between the Baron and Baroness. *Jon Roberts*

Our expedition also made first ascents of other peaks. Dewi Durban and I climbed The Butler (900m) via the south face. The 200m route, climbed on July 25 and named The Cripple and the Tortoise, was E2 5c and A1. This followed an attempt to climb the west face on July 15, where the line was aborted after 120m of E2 5c. We also climbed another 900m summit, which we named Mark. This is a formation further up from the Baroness on the right. Mehigan and Sonnerdale climbed the west face of this on July 16 via the 450m Called into Question (E2 5b). On the 31st Mehigan returned with me and we almost climbed another route on the left side of the west face, retreating due to lack of protection on the compact slabs leading to the crest of the north ridge. Other routes up to ca 300m and E2 5c were climbed on crags near to base camp.

One of the main objectives of our expedition was to raise money for UNICEF's Southern Africa appeal (target around £1,000), hoping that by doing so we can increase awareness of the situation in that area.

JON ROBERTS, *U.K.*

Agdlerussakasit east face, Maujit Qoqarsassia (1,560 m) first ascent and new route. The members of our expedition were Jesus Bosque (cameraman), Cecilia Buil (Spain), Gorka Ferro (kayaker), and Roberta Nunez (Brazil). From Nanortalik we paddled in single kayaks to base camp opposite the Thumbnail in Torssukatak Sound. This 80km journey took three days and part of it took place on the open sea. On August 1 we all crossed the fjord in our kayaks and reached the foot of the wall. From there Bosque, Nunez, and I climbed up 50m from the water's edge and reached a big ledge, above which rose a huge chimney-dihedral system. We slept the night here, while Ferro returned to base camp.



"Mark," showing (1) Arms Trader (Mehigan-Roberts) and (2) Called into Question (Mehigan-Sonnerdale). *Jon Roberts*

Our idea was to climb the slabs on the right of this chimney system to reach the halfway terrace, and even at this point we could see that