

Climbs and Expeditions

UNITED STATES

Alaska

Meiji University Mount McKinley Expedition. The first of five expeditions to Mount McKinley was landed by Don Sheldon at about 8000 feet on the Kahiltna Glacier from the 9th to the 12th of April. This was from Meiji University, Tokyo, Japan, and was led by Takeichi Katano. Other members of the party were Susuma Takahashi, Mimuro, Doi, Suzuki, Takagi, Matsuda, Kaji, Higashi, Kobayashi, Katayanagi, Fujita, Takahashi and Kanazawa. Stormy weather in April prevented their establishing Camp III at 14,700 feet before May 3. The next day they fixed a 1000-foot rope on the steep slope at about 16,000 feet. A reconnaissance by Fujita, Doi, Mimuro and Takahashi on May 5 was turned into an ascent of the South Peak, although the weather was very bad. Camp IV was established at 17,000 feet on May 9 and a tent for two set up on Denali Pass on May 12. From there, Takahashi and Koyayashi climbed the North Peak the next day. On May 14 this pair was joined by Katano, Kanazawa, Fijita, Higashi and Matsuda. The two struck their tent and carried it with them as all of them climbed to the top. This same pair spent the night on the summit. All had descended to 10,200 feet by May 16.

Waseda University Mount McKinley Expedition. Don Sheldon flew the Japanese Waseda University group to the 8000-foot level on May 1 and 2. On May 6, from their 13,200-foot camp, they climbed the west buttress route as high as 14,100 feet and then crossed the snow plateau towards the western rim of the south face to choose a camp site at 14,600 feet. On May 8 they reconnoitered to 15,200 feet and found themselves on the route pioneered a year ago. (See *A.A.J.*, 1960, 12:1, pp. 1-9.) Mantaro Kito, Syunsuke Imamura, Masayuso Teratani and Yosihiko Kikusima prepared the route along the upper part of the western rim to 17,000 feet, while the leader Takamasa Yosizaka and Akira Yamamoto carried camp to 16,000 feet on the west buttress to act in support of the others. On May 13 the latter two climbed in cloudy weather through Denali Pass to the top of the shoulder where they expected their companions to emerge from the western

Note: All dates refer to 1960 unless stated otherwise.