

Mount Bressler, Northern Boundary Range. The unexplored reaches of the Juneau Icefield are transected by the Alaskan-British Columbian boundary. Here a series of isolated and spectacular nunatak peaks at elevations of 7000 to 8600 feet rise out of the endless sweep of high glacier fields. In 1961 and 1962 this region was reconnoitered by exploratory field parties of the Juneau Icefield Research Program, operating from a new 7000-foot research station, Camp 8, on the Alaskan side of the boundary, on the high divide of the Taku and Llewellyn glaciers, about 12 miles northwest of the Devil's Paw. During the first week of August, 1962, eight members, Barry Prather, David M. Potter IV, Fred Dunham, Douglas Swanston, Chris Egan, Frederick Fisher, Peter Kakela and the writer, reached the base of 8000-foot Mount Bressler in the sector of the range lying between Mount Ogilvie (7700 feet) and Mount Nesselrode (8100 feet). From here an ascent to the summit of Mount Bressler was made on August 5 via a route of mixed snow, ice and rock. Although the climb was generally simple technically, it provided exposed ridges and faces, including a 100-yard traverse of a memorably spectacular ice arête. The peak is being named for the late Dr. Tupper Bressler, field geologist with the Alaskan Branch, USGS, who had worked with several members of the Juneau Icefield Research Program. He lost his life in 1959, presumably from high-altitude pulmonary edema, while engaged in geological research on the summit of Mount Rainier.

While on this massif, we spent several hours collecting an assemblage of arctic-alpine lichen and in assessment of a large array of patterned ground features in felsenmeer pavements along frost-shattered ridges and cleavers. One interesting discovery was the recognition of a high erosion surface on the summit with distinct evidence of glacial overriding. This surface is considered tentatively to be pre-Pleistocene in origin. On the summit a panoramic photo survey station was established to be re-occupied by future parties. This station will provide not only a memorable photographic experience but a basis for valuable future comparisons of changes in ice level and general glacial configuration of these ice-armored peaks.

MAYNARD M. MILLER

Washington—Cascade Mountains

Mount Adams, East Face Direct via Victory Ridge. On the weekend of July 7 Don Gordon and I camped on the north side of the mountain, hoping to complete one of the few remaining unclimbed routes—a direct ascent of the east face in line with the summit. On an ascent of the North Wilson Glacier in 1961 it was evident that there was just one feasible line through the fringing ice cliffs near the summit, and this was by climbing

the upper portion of a steep rocky buttress called Victory Ridge. The climb would have to be done early in the summer in order to find sufficient snow and ice on the rock's gullies and ledges to provide safe climbing, yet not too early, for then there would be an avalanche hazard. Victory Ridge from beneath foiled our earlier effort, since it breaks into a hopeless series of gendarmes. That time we were forced to pass close to the north side of this ridge, then climb the steep gully systems with a careful eye above for ice fragments and pellets which were continually coming down. We did not fear the ice cliffs as long as we kept away from rubble areas above.

A clear and cool night forecasted our best chance. We left camp about 2 A.M. and by daylight were already traversing beneath the Lyman Glaciers. In a few more hours we were roped and climbing up a segment of the South Wilson Glacier that led to a great headwall capped by the upper ice cliffs. Here the sun had already loosened particles of snow, and by the time we crossed a great bergschrund individual stones were hissing down the many channels grooved into the steep snow-and-ice face leading to upper Victory Ridge. After crossing the schrund, we climbed two leads on steep ice which demanded some cutting. Then we followed a snow arête on the ridge and began a two-hour traversing climb to the right, much of the time dodging small but rapid rockfall and loose ice fragments. In time we climbed into the center of three prominent ice couloirs that sweep up the cliff. On each lead we now had to cut steps and continually watch for falling fragments. We mitigated danger by belaying from safe ledges off to the sides and by climbing rapidly from safe stances to other safe stances. Eventually we cut and cramponed our way to a safe position directly under the ice cliff; but here it overhung in all directions, with huge icicles barring progress. We then cut steps to the south for three long leads, using both rock and ice pitons on this traverse and keeping immediately beneath the final cliff. On one 50-foot stretch, it was necessary to stay behind the curtain of icicles, a weird but actually technically safe traverse. Finally we cut across a section of black ice and found only 200 feet of sloping ice ahead of us. Once up this, not even a single crevasse separated us from the summit, only a few hundred yards directly ahead.

FRED BECKEY

Mount Adams, Mazama Glacier Icefall. Just south of Battlement Ridge on the east face of this 12,207-foot peak, the Summit Glacier breaks off into two distinct icefalls. The icefall nearest to the ridge is that of the Klickitat Glacier. Farther south and separated from the Klickitat by prominent cliffs is the Mazama Glacier icefall; this was first climbed July 8