

Standing Rock. The first ascent of the Standing Rock was made by Layton Kor and me on October 13-15. Kor led 50 feet late in the afternoon of the first day. Next day he and Steve Komito reached a point two-thirds of the distance to the summit and rappelled down. Ominous weather developed on the morning of the third day, and Steve decided to stay down. Kor and I prusiked up and completed the climb, reaching the summit about noon. This tower is located in the proposed Canyonlands National Park. Like a totem pole, it rises 300 feet though it is but 40 feet in diameter. The first lead is a direct aid pitch to a large roof on the east side, then mixed aid and free climbing on a 40-foot section of thin horizontal bands of fractured rotten sandstone blocks. This area is extremely dangerous. When Kor was attempting to place a piton in an overhanging ledge, a block weighing perhaps 100 pounds broke loose and fell upon him, pinning him to the ledge where he was standing. Miraculously, he was unhurt. The next two leads are direct aid, with one belay in slings, on vertical to overhanging sandstone of fairly good quality. The final lead is a short pitch of moderately difficult free climbing on very friable sandstone. It is an unusual and spectacular climb, although we do not recommend it because of its very great objective danger. There are other towers in Standing Rock Basin which would be as difficult, but not as outstanding. We feel that they are not worth the risk.

HUNTLEY INGALLS

Main Fisher Tower: The Titan. Layton Kor, George Hurley, and I made the first ascent of the Tower in May. On May 5-6 we climbed half-way to the summit, stringing the tower as we climbed. We returned and completed the climb on May 12-13. The Titan has not been surveyed, but comparison with human figures in photographs indicates an approximate average height of 900 feet on three sides. A saddle on the north side gives access to the route, which has about 650 vertical feet of technical climbing. The rock is Moenkopi sandstone which has a disturbing rounded rotten appearance, sometimes covered with a crust of baked mud. The rock underneath the crust is fairly good and takes pitons and bolts well. We were surprised to find a crack system on most of the route. The route begins with a 300-foot direct-aid pitch up a vertical buttress to the base of the Finger of Fate, a gendarme which overhangs the route on all sides. This obstacle is surmounted by a very exposed direct-aid traverse to the right and a fissure through the overhang. The next pitch leads to the Duck Walk, a friction traverse on an arête. We bivouacked on a good platform about 30 feet above here. High winds and a drop in temperature gave us a poor night. We reached the summit with two direct-aid leads above the

bivouac platform. The summit is a large broken cap of hard sandstone which overhangs the tower on all sides. Some of the rappels are very exposed and require stirrup transfers. The climb is dangerous, but the risk is not unreasonable for climbers with experience on grade-five climbs involving extensive direct aid.

HUNTLEY INGALLS

Castle Tower. The first ascent of this beautiful 400-foot high sandstone tower near Moab was made on September 15 and 16, 1961, by Layton Kor and me. The route follows a crack and chimney system in a right-angle dihedral on the southeast corner. The climbing varies in difficulty from lower to upper fifth class. A very tight exposed chimney makes the third lead the most difficult. The summit is flat and spacious. The sandstone on this tower, unlike most desert towers, is hard and reliable. The only dangerous feature of the climb is several loose blocks in the lower part of the chimney on the third lead. These should be removed by the last man on the next ascent.

HUNTLEY INGALLS

North Sixshooter Peak. This tower, about 300 feet high, stands at the summit of a talus cone about 20 miles northeast of Monticello. On April 4, Rick Horn, Jack Turner, and I got halfway to the summit before we were defeated by a sandstorm. On April 14, Horn and I returned with Steve Komito and reached the summit. Our route is on the south side and has one lead of lower fifth class climbing and three leads of easy direct aid. The rock is good sandstone except for the last 30 feet, which are stacks of loose flagstones.

HUNTLEY INGALLS

Montana

North Face of A Peak, Cabinet Range. The Libby Quadrangle Map of the USGS shows the elevation of A Peak to be 8634 feet. This is the second point in the range, the highest being Snowshoe Peak, about a mile to the southeast. The map also shows the summit to be a "triangulation point or transit-traverse station", which probably accounts for the name "A" Peak. Its north face drops 4051 feet into Granite Lake, though the talus and dirt slope at the base accounts for nearly 1500 feet of the height. The rock is a type of limestone and is, for the most part, very sound. In places it has been worn so smooth that no holds can be found, while in others they are so good that overhanging pitches can be climbed with comparative ease. After two previous unsuccessful attempts with Dean Millsap, I was joined by Dan Doody. We started in on the afternoon of