

Bunch could not get off until the next morning when the snowshoed runway had hardened. As he winged his way out, the weather closed in behind him as a prelude to the general weather pattern for the duration of our climb. Heading northwest toward a point a mile east of Mount Churchill, we established camps at 11,600 and 13,600 feet. On May 23 we turned southwest, skirted south of P 14,916 and camped at 14,800 feet, east of Bona. The 24th dawned clear with only a single lenticular cloud over the summit of Bona. Snow on the east ridge was hard packed to about 600 feet below the summit, where it deteriorated to a rotten crevassed snowfield. All seven, Barney Seiler, leader, Leo Hannan, Mike Hunt, John Ireton, John Todd, Peter Vlasveld and I, completed the sixth ascent of Mount Bona (16,421 feet) at 2:05 P.M. in deteriorating weather. Inclement weather precluded an ascent of Mount Churchill. We were airlifted from the glacier on May 28.

NORMAN STADEM, *Mountaineering Club of Alaska*

*Mount Sanford.* Solo-climber Naomi Uemura from Japan accomplished the fourth ascent of Mount Sanford (16,237 feet). He flew in to only 3500 feet with food for twenty days. With a long pole tied to his pack, he probed all the way. He was driven back for more food from high up after a three or four-day storm, but he returned and reached the top on September 19.

J. VINCENT HOEMAN

*Mount Sanford, Attempt on South Ridge.* On June 10 Milt Johnson, Dave Shaw, Don Stockard and I were flown to the saddle south of Mount Sanford. While relaying supplies to the base of the ridge at 14,000 feet, Milt aggravated an old knee injury and remained at 10,000 feet. The rest reached the ridge, but turned back after several days of continuous wet snowfall.

ALEX N. BITTENBINDER

*Mount Drum, Southwest Ridge.* After being held up for five days at 5000 feet by rain and snow, on August 26 we Swiss, Heinz Allemann and I made the second ascent of Mount Drum (12,010 feet) by a new route, the southwest ridge. This ridge may be called more beautiful than difficult, but its great length calls for good physical condition. We descended the glaciers of the western side through crevasses and icefalls.

NIKLAUS LÖTSCHER, *Schweizer Alpen Club*

*Attempt on Mount St. Elias.* From July 1 to 14 Bob Baker, Hans Müller, Gary Rose, Ted Schotten, Tom Stewart, Hall Williams and I as

leader reconnoitered the northern approach to the west ridge of St. Elias with the hope of possibly climbing the peak over this route. Consistently bad weather, however, created slab avalanche dangers that prevented our being successful without taking undue risks. We climbed three smaller peaks during brief clearings of the weather. One, climbed by the entire party on July 6, was marked on the USGS Quad. Bering Glacier as The Hump, probably climbed by a Colorado group in 1966 (12,375 feet). The other two are essentially on the north ridge of Mount Huxley and probably first ascents. One (c. 10,900 feet) was climbed on July 9 by Müller, Schotten and Stewart and the other (c. 11,400 feet) on July 10 by Rose, Williams and me.

HANS A. ZOGG, *Mountaineers*

*Mounts Jeannette, Newton and St. Elias.* Our goal was to have been the long southeast ridge of Mount St. Elias, a sinuous, silver edifice that bursts from the Newton Glacier for 11,000 feet to meet the gentle summit cone. The plan was simple—to land at its foot with fifty days' food and lay siege until the job was done. Simplicity soon vanished. Our pilot, Jack Wilson, flew over the Newton with Paul Gerhard, Ed Lane and Steve Altman, but found no spot to land. We found ourselves at Boyd Everett's old Base Camp on the Columbus Glacier, ten miles and a 14,000-foot-high traverse away from the southeast ridge. The map revealed a more promising route to the Newton Glacier over a pass several miles farther east, Jeannette Col. Before all our gear had been lowered over the cliffs on the far side of Jeannette Col, our new rigid crampons were clearly failing. We decided instead to traverse the ridge from Mount Jeannette to Mount Newton, climbing St. Elias from the north by way of Russell Col, a modification of the Duke of the Abruzzi's pioneering climb in 1897. (They joined the Italian route at Russell Col and the Japanese route of 1964 on Mount Newton.—*Editor.*) On the morning of June 21, Bob Rice, Mike Coffeen and Ed Lane left to find a route up Mount Jeannette—a mound of steep ice and snow, towering west of camp. The rest of us climbed to the col and began the uninspiring job of hauling up 500 feet of rope, the food and fuel which had been prematurely lowered across the col. The climber's progress on Jeannette was tortured and they reached little more than half-way up the 3000 feet. The morning after, Gerhard and I left early. Arnon, Shank and Altman followed. By late afternoon, a route was fixed to within a few hundred feet of the summit. Coffeen and Lane caught us and alternated several fine leads over steep ice to the top (11,750 feet). We rappelled down the ropes in the chill of sunset