

the Chugach Mountains. During the week of October 3 to 11 we traversed 33 miles, ascending and descending 10,000 feet through three cols, from Lake Eklutna to the Knik River via Hunters Creek Glacier. In a lull between snowstorms we made the first ascent of the two highest peaks in the Hunters Creek Glacier cirque: Hunters Peak (7549 feet) and Troublesome Peak (7465 feet). It took us two long days to walk out the 13 miles from the headwall of the cirque over recently snow-covered crevasses and sections of unbelievable Alaskan alders along Hunters Creek.

STEVEN W. HACKETT, *Mountaineering Club of Alaska*

*Marcus Baker, Chugach Mountains.* On June 6 Wendell Oderkirk, Bob Smith and Patrick Freney were airlifted to 8500 feet on the Knik Glacier. They spent the rest of the day moving 1½ miles closer to the peak, but camping at more or less the same altitude. On June 7 they wound their way through crevasses to 10,000 feet, where Freney stopped. They continued on up until after twelve hours of climbing they completed the fourth ascent of the 13,176-foot peak. In July a Japanese party made the fifth ascent, but details are lacking.

*"Alabaster", Northwestern Chugach.* After rendezvousing about mile 94 on the Glenn Highway on July 2, Bob Pelz, Royce Purinton and I camped on north gravel bars beside a roaring Matanuska River. Next morning, convinced our one-man kayak was a less than adequate craft in which to shuttle across rain-swollen channels, we turned up a local pilot who landed us on south bars of the river. The rest of the day and next were spent packing nine miles over moose and bear trails, threading the alder thickets of Monument Creek's west benches and up the pocket glacier flowing off the northeast face of "Alabaster" (8065 feet), central peak of three sentinel eight-thousand footers containing the glacier. Next day from camp at 6000 feet we beat a lowering whiteout to the virgin summit, previously attempted in April, 1969, by its east ridge; due to poor snow conditions, our route followed the north ridge after bypassing the face in favor of a northeast chute to the ridge.

ROBERT SPURR