

*Eldorado, West Arête.* On August 24, 1969, Richard Emerson and I made the first ascent of the 2800-foot arête that leads directly up the west face to the summit of Eldorado. (Pete Schoening's 1951 route is to the right (south) of this climb – *Editor*). We camped just southwest of the notch between the Triad and Eldorado. On the day of the climb we crossed through the notch, dropped down 1000 feet and traversed under the west face to the arête. By eight A.M. we were roped up and climbing. Shortly thereafter we were enveloped by fog. The arête, although nowhere really difficult, required constant attention. There are few route-finding problems, however, as one is generally forced to stay on the crest. The first tower was passed high on the left, the others were either climbed or passed high on the right. A short rappel was made in getting off the last tower. As one nears the summit, the ridge eases off to class-three climbing. Three pitons and a number of slings were used for protection. We reached the summit at six P.M., just as the fog lifted and shortly before it started to rain. This climb compares extremely favorably with such classic climbs as the north ridge of Mount Stuart and the northwest arête of Forbidden.

WALTER R. GOVE

*Mount Torment, North Ridge.* Jim Pritchard and I made this fairly easy but very enjoyable alpine climb in mid-July, 1969. Camp was made in Boston Basin. To get to the north ridge we crossed over the south ridge and the west ridge of Torment. We then dropped 1000 feet and traversed across the northwest glacier to the foot of the north ridge. The ridge crest was gained from the left via a narrow and fairly steep snow finger which ended in a short class-four rock pitch. Once on the ridge crest, the route was mostly class three.

WALTER R. GOVE

*Picket Range, Carpetbaggers Traverse.* During July, Joan and Carla Firey, Dave Knudson and I made an eleven-day high circuit of the Goodell Creek Drainage in the Pickets. We entered the group from the south following Ed Cooper's approach to a campsite below Pinnacle Peak (See Cooper, *A.A.J.*, 1962 for route and for peak names.) We made a new crossing of the Southern Pickets by the Himmelgeister-Otto Horn Col and found a pleasant new route to Picket Pass along the McMillan-Goodell Creek Divide north of Frenzel Spitz. From Picket Pass to the

Picket-Goodell Creek Divide and south to Jasper Pass, we roughly followed Tabor and Crowder's *Routes and Rocks in the Mt. Challenger Quadrangle*. Our exit was by a traverse of the glacier on the east side of Despair at about 6000 feet and then out via Triumph Pass and Thornton Lakes. A first ascent was made on Ghost, a peak about 8000-feet-high between Crooked Thumb and Phantom. The route was from the notch south of the peak which was gained from the west. We stayed on the south and west sides of the mountain following obvious weaknesses. A new route was made on Pinnacle Peak by its north ridge. Both of these climbs involved easy to moderate fifth-class pitches. The entire party completed each of these as well as other climbs. This fair-weather backpack required roping down, cramponing and other technical maneuvers.

PETER RENZ

*Little Mac Spire, Southwest Arête.* On our third day in the Southern Pickets, Art Huffman and I were looking for a route that did not involve scrambling up some rotten gully to get to solid rock. On August 15, after a two-hour approach from a camp east of Terror Basin, we stepped off a snowfield onto some very solid granite. This was the base of the southwest arête of the easternmost of the McMillan Spires, which was first climbed via its south face in 1969 and named Little Mac Spire (See *A.A.J.*, 1970, 17:1, p.122). On the western side of the arête is the gully separating East McMillan and Little Mac Spires, while on the other side is the steep 500-foot south face. The rock on the crest remained solid, although not always granitic, for eight enjoyable leads of class four and five, and led directly to the summit. The average angle is perhaps 50° to 60°, broken by three nearly vertical steps along the way. Descent was by rappel down the upper arête and lower south face. NCCS II, F4.

DON WILLIAMSON, *unaffiliated*

*Twin Sisters, "Skookum Peak."* The Twin Sisters Range has a number of peaks ranging between 5600 and 6700 feet which are worthwhile climbs on solid granite rock. On May 31, 1969, Dave Dixon and I made a first ascent of this 6500-foot peak located about 2/5 of a mile south of the South Twin Sister. We ascended the 450-foot northeast ridge in four leads with the last section of the ridge being F4 to F5 in difficulty. The peak was named after Skookum Creek which originates in the vicinity.

DALLAS KLOKE