

glaciers that our access was finally made through the mountain rampart. One group operated there and climbed some of the high-grade towers by stylish and demanding routes, while the other group climbed from a hidden loch, ringed by attractive peaks, north of the valley and intermingled with the mountains visited by the 1971 St. Andrews expedition (*A.A.J.*, 1972. 18:1, p. 156). At the halfway stage we regrouped for new objectives in the side valleys close to Base Camp, while for the final efforts we placed another party by canoe amongst the most easterly of the smooth and sheer pinnacles of the "Land of the Towers," while another canoe party voyaged east to climb on the islands of Pamiagdhluk and Quvernit. Weather conditions were excellent throughout the summer: most climbs were done on windless and sunny days and bivouacs were seldom contemplated by the parties abseiling down in the night gloom. Two mountains may illustrate the nature of the routes: Angiartarfik (1845 meters or 6053 feet; Grade III), a complex massive peak above Base Camp, was ascended by front-pointing in crampons up 2300 feet of frozen high-angled snow and then descended on the same slope in soft thawing slush: this, the easiest route on the peak, became impracticable by mid-July when the snow melted off to expose a crevassed slope of green ice; Twin Pillars of Pamiagdhluk (1373 meters or 4505 feet; Grade V), a welded pair of abrupt pinnacles comprising the highest peak on this island, was climbed in a three-day sortie by traversing on to its steep slabby east wall and following a thin 300-metre line to the summit crest. The gradings for the mountains climbed were 5-Is, 15-IIIs, 12-IIIs, 6-IVs, 6-Vs. We returned to Scotland at the end of August by the same route after a twelve-week stay. There were no accidents, illness, hunger, thirst, discomfort and drama; good fortune with a small dash of efficient organisation made this one of the most successful of our University expeditions to Greenland.

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Staunings Alper, Complete North-South Traverse. The very rugged mountains, the Staunings Alper, which lie at 72° north latitude, were traversed for the first time along their entire length between July 28 and August 30, from Kap Petersen to Syd Kap, a distance of 170 miles, and then another 100 miles back to Mesters Vig, another 100 miles. The Cambridge University party was led by Keith J. Miller and further composed of James Bishop, Christopher Padfield and John Thorogood. Though they climbed to no summits, they crossed numerous high passes and explored a considerable amount of virgin glacial country.

MEXICO

Baja California

Gran Trono Blanco. The Libro Abierto route on the north face follows a continuous right-facing dihedral for six pitches. There was a little