

*Mount Foraker, Southeast Ridge and Mount McKinley, Cassin Ridge.* On May 28 my brother Don Frederickson, Todd Bibler, Tom Ormond and I left the Kahiltna Glacier for the southeast ridge of Mount Foraker with supplies for a week. We set up Camp I at 8500 feet on top of the "Toe." The next day we moved up in a snow storm to place Camp II at 11,000 feet at the foot of the bergschrund/crevasse that cuts across the slope 300 feet below the ridge crest. The next two days we were occupied with a body recovery operation resulting from a slab avalanche accident suffered by a five-person Japanese party. They lost two members when the avalanche carried them over the ice cliff a short distance from our camp. We left Camp II on June 1 in marginal weather, climbed straight up to the ridge crest and followed it upward. (The Japanese had traversed left after surmounting the ice cliff to avoid crossing a small horizontal crevasse and thereby cut and triggered the windslab avalanche.) Shortly above the crevasse the slope turned to ice and became safe. We soon broke into clear weather and continued to the top of the steep icy step at 13,000 feet that marks the corniced ridge section. We set up Camp III in a schrund on the west of the ridge. We reached the summit at 4:30 P.M. on June 2 in cold, windy conditions after 9½ hours of climbing. After a storm we set off for the Cassin Ridge. Three short days brought us to the foot of the Japanese couloir on June 8. The next morning brought us the first of four perfect climbing days, clear and windless. We utilized the standard camps at 14,200, 15,900 and 17,300 feet before reaching the summit at 5:30 P.M. on June 12. We descended the West Buttress. The lower part of the Cassin Ridge has become festooned with fixed ropes left from past ascents. Twelve separate ropes are at one point in the Japanese couloir.

GARY FREDERICKSON, *Summit Alpine Club*

*Mount Hunter, 1977.* A Japanese expedition led by Itaru Inui and composed of H. Kamuro, K. Tsutagawa, H. Kudo, M. Tanaka and S. Mori landed on the Tokositna Glacier on June 14, 1977 below the north-east face. They placed a camp at 11,500 feet on the north ridge on June 19. After fixing ropes to 13,125 feet, on June 23, 1977 all set out for the summit from 11,500 feet and reached the top at two P.M. There are five routes which have been made on the north and east sides of Mount Hunter, three of them by Japanese expeditions. In 1966 Donald N. and Donald W. Anderson climbed the northeast face to reach the summit via the east ridge high up. In 1975 the Osaka Eiho-Kai climbed the mountain, striking the east ridge much lower. In 1971 the Hokuryo Alpine Club ascended the north ridge from the southeast fork of the Kahiltna Glacier and followed the ridge to the top. The Kansai Gakuin expedition route, described above, reached the north ridge higher up and from the Tokositna Glacier. Therefore both the east-ridge parties started differently but ended

on the same route, as did both of the north-ridge parties. The fifth route was the north face done in 1977 by Mike Kennedy and George Lowe.

*Mount Huntington, French Route Attempt.* Rom Lee, Craig Reininger, Eric Simonson and I attempted the French route on Mount Huntington alpine-style. We ascended the French face from the west fork of the Ruth Glacier on June 27 after sitting in Base Camp for a week of continuous snow flurries. Terray's account did not overestimate the objective danger of this approach to the ridge. During four 12- to 18-hour days, we experienced very exciting climbing in a very committed position since the weather was bad and we were leaving no ropes for the descent. Seven hundred vertical feet from the summit, faced with continual digging in the rotten, nearly vertical snow to find the verglased granite, we bivouacked on a four-foot shelf. Feeling the odds tilting, we began a retreat. Two days later, at night and in heavy snowfall, we rappelled 1800 feet back to our igloo on the glacier.

ROB JUNE NEWSOM, *Tooloose Alpine Society*

*Mount Huntington, South Ridge Attempt.* A Japanese group attempted to climb the south ridge of Mount Huntington from its base. After several weeks they gave up, having reached the top of the second tower.

*Mount Huntington, West Face.* In April Denny Hogan, Vic Walsh, and I climbed an ice gully to the left of the 1965 Harvard route on the west face of Huntington. We placed our "High" Camp in the protection of a small cliff at around 10,000 feet, fixed three pitches of steep ice, then aborted our first "all-out" attempt at the top of our fixed ropes in a flurry of snow and heavy spin-drift. After another day of poor weather, Denny and I made one more "all-out" attempt. Nine ice pitches brought us at about four P.M. to the Japanese fixed lines at the start of the traverse on the Harvard route. Although not very well prepared for a bivouac, we decided to go for the top—directly across and up the summit snowfield rather than following the Harvard route along the left edge—and bivouac on the way down. Night caught us well below the summit and we traversed left to the rock where Dave Roberts *et al* had bivouacked in 1965, arriving about ten P.M. We aborted our dawn push only slightly above that point in threatening weather, returning to the High Camp about five P.M. with neither time nor energy for another try.

JOHN EVANS

*Rooster Comb Attempt, Mount Dan Beard.* Mark Houston, Rick Stockwell and I spent the month of April in the Ruth Amphitheatre. Our first objective was the Rooster Comb via the col between it and Hunting-