

Peaks in the Wrangell Range. Don Brooks, leader, James Meigs, assistant leader, Stu Brody, Art Kampen, Tom Miller and Dave Shrimpton abandoned their original objective, the northeast ridge of Blackburn, after seeing the route from the summit of Rime Peak. They descended and climbed P 10,060 via an icefall on the southwest side. Brody, Meigs and Miller then climbed P 10,060 by its northwest ridge while Brooks, Kampen and Shrimpton climbed the southwest ridge of Paraka Peak. Three flew out and Brooks, Kampen and Meigs hiked out via the Nabesna Glacier.

LUTHER G. JERSTAD

P 10,999 and P 10,000, North of Regal Mountain, Wrangell Mountains. The Alpine Club Cairn expedition was landed at Green Hill and ascended the Nabesna Glacier to establish Base Camp at 6800 feet five miles northwest of Regal Mountain. From a high camp on a fork of the glacier east of Base Camp on August 5 Yoshihiro Nakai, Miss Fusako Iwatsuru, Miss Reiko Shinya, Masami Harada, Masaki Ako and Takeshi Yamashita crossed the ridge just south of P 10,999 to one of the heads of the Whiskey Hill Glacier and climbed the northeast ridge to complete the first ascent. P 10,999 lies $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles due north of Regal Mountain. On August 9 the same group made the second ascent of the east peak of twin-summitted P 10,000, which lies $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of P 10,999. They climbed a new route, ascending the glacier west of the peak to climb the final south face.

NOBUO KUWAHARA, *Alpine Club Cairn, Osaka, Japan*

Mount Sanford Tragedy. A 4-man Japanese expedition from Hokkaido University climbed Sanford by the normal route. While descending from the summit on June 24 Tokio Momono and Shigeru Senda were caught by a blizzard. Momono died during the second night in their forced bivouac. Senda climbed down on frozen feet and was rescued on June 3. The frozen bodies of Tsutomu Inomata and Yoshikatsu Agatsuma were also found that same day.

St. Elias, Southwest Buttress, Second Ascent. The Tahoma-St. Elias Expedition was made up of Cy Perkins, Stewart Ferguson, Jim Price, Jim Witte and me. From research done during planning we thought the southwest buttress would be a new route. Upon our arrival at Kluane Lake, we learned that Japanese had successfully climbed it in 1978. We found fixed line and other evidence of their climb on the upper portion of the mountain. On June 15 we were flown by Phil Upton to the north side of the mountain at 6500 feet on the Columbia Glacier. Our route to the southwest buttress was up an unnamed glacier located below the western end of St. Elias's main east-west ridge. The route was first explored in 1913 by the International Boundary Survey party, which was

turned back at 16,000 feet by bad weather. The glacier rises quite rapidly and terminates at 13,500 feet, providing access to a small shoulder on the south side of the mountain at the base of the buttress. Getting there was no easy task; the glacier was badly broken up due in part to two serious earthquakes in the winter of 1978. We made the following camps: I at 6500 feet on the Columbia Glacier at our landing site; II at 7500 feet at the base of our glacier; III at 10,000 and IV at 12,500 feet both in the center of the glacier; V at 13,500 feet on the shoulder. Four of us climbed to the summit (18,008 feet). Jim Price was kept in camp with a throat infection. The climb of the buttress itself was slow since we fixed line over most of the route, as we anticipated the descent would be difficult because of its steepness, the 3000-foot vertical rise to the top of the ridge, the 2½-mile and 1500-foot climb along the ridge and up the summit cone, unstable weather and our exhaustion after reaching the summit. We made one bivouac on the buttress, one at the top of the ridge during the ascent, plus spending 24 hours in a snow cave at 16,500 feet waiting for a break in the sudden storm during our descent. We four got to the summit at 8:15 A.M. on July 5. The total climb took 31 days. We could not climb on 13 of them.

JOHN SKIWING, *Mountaineers*

Mount Vancouver, Southeast Ridge. Brian White, Brent Ash, Robert McLaren, Al Richardson, David Timwell and I as leader climbed Vancouver's southeast ridge from June 1 to July 1. From Base Camp at 7000 feet we made easy progress to 10,000 feet. We ferried loads to Camp I for the assault on the headwall part of the ridge, which presented more problems than anticipated. The ridge was heavily corniced and we were forced onto the very steep side slopes, where three feet of depth hoar underlay an unstable top layer. It took us six days to progress very slowly up this section; two cornices broke and plunged 1000 feet, both nearly taking us with them. At last we surmounted this portion and continued up the 2500 feet of steep ridge to Camp III. From there a two-mile trudge across unstable snowfields brought us to Camp IV at 15,000 feet. We made a summit push from Camp IV, but high winds and zero F. temperatures made us turn back 700 feet below the summit of Good Neighbor Peak. We had actually joined an already existing route by then. We returned to Camp II and the next day to Base Camp, where we waited four days for our helicopter.

ROGER GRIFFITHS, *Capilano College, North Vancouver, B.C.*

Mendenhall Towers. During August Jan Ebeltoft, Dick Wildberger and I made a first ascent on the north wall of the Mendenhall Towers over a three-day period. We climbed a steep ridge up the fifth tower with