mountain. In all, about 40 peaks and summits of varying degrees of difficulty were reached for the first time. A full report will appear in the *Canadian Alpine Journal* for 1980. The members of the party were: Fran Allen, Ted Anderson, Matt Babicki, Rod Blais, Jo-Ann Creore, Mike Frame, Klaus Haring, John Leedale, Paul Martinson, Ursula Maydell, Dave McMullen, Kevin O'Connell, Roly Reader, and Ted Whalley.

TED WHALLEY, *Alpine Club of Canada*

Mount Thor, West Face. A Japanese party of seven led by Kuzuichi Yamazaki made an attempt of the west face of Mount Thor but Isao Yagi fell to his death and the climb was not completed. Other members were Ide, Yamamoto, Inuzuka, Kirmura, and Makino. They were in the area from May 23 to July 15.

Mount Thor, West Face Direct Attempt. Steven Amter, Michael Sawicky and I attempted a direct route on the west face of Mount Thor. The face is about 4500 feet high, much of it overhanging. Lying above the Arctic Circle near a vast icefield, the mountain is exposed to high winds and violent weather. There have been three Japanese attempts, which relied heavily on bolts and fixed ropes. Our expedition had three 11mm and three 9mm ropes. We were well stocked with nuts, pitons and big-wall paraphernalia. We had single-point suspension hammocks made by David Feinberg. After leaving Base Camp for the last time, we spent 32 days on the wall. The route to Camp I was fourth class up low-angle snow and icy slabs. Above Camp I, we followed the Japanese route except for two pitches which could be called a route-finding error. The climbing on the first section was easy and enjoyable except for the loose rock and the distracting fixed ropes, bolts and litter left by the Japanese. In 32 hours we climbed 900 feet to a ledge where we leveled a bivouac platform and descended. We spent 20 hours hauling our gear up to Camp II. The rock was strange, hard in most places, but brittle inside and around cracks, and some of it loose. Each pitch took about twice as long as one would estimate. We climbed in 25- to 35-hour shifts, two shifts on and one shift off. After fixing most of our rope we prepared to move camp. Just when we had everything packed, the weather turned mean and pinned us down in Camp II for 96 hours. We should have quit, but we took food the Japanese had left and headed up the ropes to Camp III, the most exposed and frightening place imaginable, where we dangled 3000 feet above the valley. Without fixed ropes, we were hit by a serious snowstorm and 100 mph winds. We actually climbed through the blizzard in an effort to get somewhere else. The wind was so intense that I had to weight my stirrups to keep the wind from blowing them into my face. We finally reached a small ledge under