

## CANADA

**Yukon Territory**

*Climbing Season in Kluane National Park, Icefield Ranges, St. Elias Mountains.* Mountaineering in the St. Elias Mountains was greatly reduced this summer as there were only ten groups in all. The following were successful. Americans Jim Himmes, David Rogers, Stanleigh Cole and James Thompson climbed Mount Logan by its east ridge. Canadians Willi Pfisterer, Ron Chambers, Rick Staley, Doug Burles, Darro Stinson, Claire Israelson, Bruce Sundo, Hal Morrison, Kevin McLaughlin and Lloyd Freese successfully climbed McArthur Peak. Americans Greg Grange, Peter Dea, Steve Monfredo and Andrew Lapkass traversed Logan, climbing the east ridge and descending the King Trench route. Canadians Will Black, David Charlebois, David Hammer and Calvin McDonald climbed Mount Steele by what is probably a new route between Mounts Steele and Walsh. Americans Franz Mohling, Turan Barut and Stephen Jensen were killed when their party was struck by an avalanche while in their camp at 15,000 feet on a north ridge of Mount Logan. The survivors, Paul O'Sullivan, Jim Ebersole, Doug Johnson and Kenneth Nolan were evacuated from the mountain at a later date. In all 56 people spent 906 man-days in the icefields of the park.

LLOYD FREESE, *Kluane National Park*

*Tombstone Mountains Correction.* On the last line of page 161 of *A.A.J.*, 1982 Mount Monolith is incorrectly given as Mount Mordith.

**Coast Range**

*Noel Peak, Stikine Icecap.* Between June 27 and July 18, Stacia Cronin, Jay McCubbrey, Peter VanderNailen, Tony Watkin, Beverly Wilson, David Wilson, Les Wilson, and I visited the northern Stikine Icecap of British Columbia. Our primary objective was Noel Peak (10,040 feet), which we believed unclimbed. We flew by float plane from Edontenajon Lake on the Stewart-Cassiar Highway to a Base Camp on Chutine Lake (1000 feet). I'd used this camp on previous trips in 1978 and 1980. We made an airdrop of food and fuel on the icecap at 6500 feet about ten miles south of the lake. Within three days we had gained the icecap and collected our supplies. Using home-made drags, constructed from heavy plastic sheeting by Les, we skiied south across the undulating icecap another twenty miles to the base of Noel Peak. A high camp was established at 7700 feet, just below an impressive rock buttress, on the northwest ridge. On July 6 all but Stacia and Peter crossed the glacier at the base of the west face to tackle the southwest ridge. Actually, this proved to be a series of parallel arêtes rather than a single ridge. We climbed a rotten

gully between two of them to 9500 feet. Beyond, the ridge line consisted of a complex series of staggered gendarmes. The weather deteriorated suddenly. As it was nearly seven P.M., we bivouacked there. The next morning the weather showed no signs of clearing and we descended. When the weather was still poor two days later, we started back to Base Camp. On the return trip we made ascents of Boundary Peak 74 (7358 feet), Peak 8170, two miles to the northeast, and the east peak of the Sheppard Peak massif (8200 feet). Much to our surprise, Peak 8170 had seen a previous ascent by persons unidentified. Soon after our return to the U.S. the 1982 *Canadian Alpine Journal* came out and we learned that Noel Peak had been climbed the previous summer by the southeast face. Ours had been the fourth unsuccessful attempt of the southwest ridge.

PAUL TAMM

*Ottarosko, Nuit Range, Coast Mountains.* Ottarosko, a 10,000-foot massif near the northern end of the Nuit Range, east of Waddington, is featured by a large, cascading northern glacier and a long, serrated southern ridge. Its most striking aspect is the steep western ice face—a narrow, fluted slope that broadens and flattens into a small valley glacier draining into Nude Creek. In September Jim Nelson, Greg Collum, Bill Pilling and I flew to the outwash flat below the glacier by helicopter, then made an interim bivouac on the glacier edge near the second icefall. Our plan, to climb the main slope of the ice face, was enhanced by a recent snowfall that provided solid surface conditions atop the blue glare ice. Once across the bergschrund, the route went directly upward, in its higher portions requiring ice-screw placement for safety. The final portion of the climb followed the rocky south ridge, where two fifth-class pitches provided a few exposed problems. Descent was made by the west ridge and departure from the area by way of the pass leading to Ottarosko Creek, then following its valley to Tatlayoko Lake.

FRED BECKEY

### **Canadian Rockies**

*Mount Robson, Emperor Face; North Twin, North Face; Assiniboine, East Face.* Tony Dick and I climbed a new line in the Emperor Face in August 1981. We went left of the Stumps-Logan line. There was much hard ice climbing, much rockfall and rock climbing up to 5.9, A3. In July 1982 Urs Kallen, Tim Friesen and I attempted to repeat the Lowe-Jones route on North Twin's north face. We were four days on the face but were unable to do the final wall as it was streaming with water caused by unusually warm conditions. Instead we traversed left to the ridge and followed this to the summit. We then crossed the icefield to the highway. We believe this is the most difficult face yet climbed in the Canadian Rockies. It still awaits a second ascent eight years after the