

complaints have blamed the "yellow snow" near the popular camping locations. As the number of climbers keeps increasing, it becomes harder and harder to find clean snow for cooking and drinking. So this year, the climbing rangers at the Talkeetna Ranger Station made a special point of urging all climbers to bag their human wastes and to dump the bags into deep crevasses. Plastic bags were provided by the National Park Service for those who need them. We by no means believe that this is the final solution to the handling of human wastes on Mount McKinley, but we do feel that it is a reasonably realistic intermediate step, and it should help solve the immediate health hazard. We were satisfied with the compliance in our first year of this effort, and are confident that climbers in future years will be even more sensitive to the proper handling of human wastes. At the same time, we intend to continue our efforts to find the best way—that is reasonable, practical and effective—to do so.

As in most years, a large number of climbers from foreign countries travelled to Alaska to attempt Mount McKinley. This year, 161 climbers from fourteen different nations were on the mountain. The largest numbers came from Great Britain, Germany, and Japan, but there were also climbers from Austria, France, Canada, Switzerland, Denmark, New Zealand, Taiwan, Italy, Spain, Sweden, and Norway. To assist at least the majority of these climbers, the National Park Service has recently had its mountaineering brochure translated into two languages. In addition to English, we now have German and Japanese editions available. Anyone desiring any of these brochures or any other information can write to:

Mountaineering Ranger
Denali National Park and Preserve
P.O. Box 9
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Mount McKinley, Winter Solo Ascent and Tragedy, 1984. The press reports a winter solo ascent of McKinley on February 12, 1984 by the noted Japanese climber, Naomi Uemura. He began the ascent on February 1 and climbed the West Buttress route. A glacier pilot making an overflight on February 16 saw him at 16,400 feet. Tragically, however, Uemura did not complete the descent. A search for him by Jim Wickwire and Eiho Otani high on the mountain proved fruitless.

Mount McKinley, Northwest Buttress, Second Ascent, 1982. Alan Novey, David Shrimpton, John Rehmer, Jim Snyder, John Stolpman and I skied up the Kahiltna Glacier to Kahiltna Pass (10,000 feet) and climbed down to the Peters Glacier (8000 feet). It took four days to get ourselves and three weeks' gear to