

dump as we headed for Mount Hayes. Our knowledge of the existing route on the west face of Hayes was sparse, but Carl remembered mention of an icefall and gully. It seemed certain that the previous ascent must have been near the icefall tumbling down the right side. Accordingly we decided on a rib line in the center of the face. Due to a storm, we got going only at two P.M. on May 23. Low technical difficulty at first enabled us to climb unroped and within three hours we were halfway up the face. With the steepening angle, our pace slowed and we were soon belaying. At one A.M. we had some vertical ice and then the cornice to dig through before emerging on the huge summit plateau. Erecting the small bivy tent was hell with the wind howling and the temperature at  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$ , but we were soon holed up in it and brewing. The next day, May 24, in a break in the storm, we rushed to the summit and back to our tent. Our plans for a long rest changed when the weather continued to improve. We reluctantly packed up at midnight and set off down the west ridge, a cold and miserable descent, but after a night and half a day of down-climbing and rappelling, Carl fell and I jumped over the bergschrund at the bottom of the ridge. All that remained were three desperate days of skiing out down the Susitna Glacier in a spring thaw and a 12-hour float down the river to civilization.

DAVID CHEESMOND

*Mount Spurr.* Doug Van Etten, Skip King and I made a winter ascent of Mount Spurr (3566 meters, 11,070 feet) on March 7. Low clouds forced us to land on a glacier south of Chakachamna Lake, 18 miles from where we had planned to start. The route took us over the heavily corniced rim of Crater Peak (2109 meters, 7575 feet), then onto the plateau below. Crampons were required only near the summit of Mount Spurr where we saw several crevasses still venting sulphurous gas. We also climbed nearby P 10,893 (3320 meters).

WILLY HERSMAN, *Mountaineering Club of Alaska*

*P 6225 and Sinclair Mountain, East of Lynn Canal.* Dana van Burgh and I made the first ascent of P 6225, one of the highest peaks on the eastern side of Lynn Canal between Skagway and Haines, which we have called "Mordor." It dominates the view north of Haines and lies only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the coast, halfway between Dayabas and Kasidaya Creeks. We spent six days of devious bushwhacking and ridge walking getting to it. We chose not to fly the route or take maps to add to the pioneering aspect. The whole trip took eleven days. Annie O'Dell was the third member of the team. Sinclair Mountain (6300 feet) farther south was climbed by Kevin Allred in one day from his home in Haines. He crossed the Lynn Canal by boat and worked his way up to the base up a major drainage basin. On the west buttress, which is technical climbing, he noticed slings and he found a cairn on top, left by the first-ascent party in the 1970s. His was the second ascent and was done in hunting boots by this relative novice.

JOHN E. SVENSON, JR.