

the buttress at two-thirds height. Traversing left around a corner we found narrow ice runnels of 60° to 70° and difficult mixed ground leading to the upper icefield. From there the route could traverse right to the west ridge or continue straight up for a dramatic finish. However, we descended from there to our bivouac and finished the descent the following day. We spent seven days on the route, mostly in storm and spindrift. We chopped bivouac sites out of ice slopes. The initial 1500 feet of snow climbing are exposed to sérac fall and avalanche. Otherwise the route is objectively safe except for the cornice capping the buttress.

STEVEN MASIOLI

*Moose's Tooth Attempt and Barrille, 1984*, In April 1984, Dave Jones and I spent ten days in the Ruth Gorge. We first explored variations for reaching the lower snowfields of the German route on the Moose's Tooth. On the southern face above the icefall which lies along the approach to the south-face routes are several couloirs bisecting the lower face. We eventually chose one starting at 5000 feet at the base of the icefall. It is straightforward with a few bulges of 70° ice. At the top of the couloir is a giant chockstone, under which is a large, safe bivouac area. From there a 400-foot traverse into and up another couloir provides fifth-class rock and mixed climbing and access to the snow slope below the west wall of the German route. We did not complete that route because of windslab conditions below the west wall. Our route should provide an interesting and at times a safer variation at the beginning of any trip to the west ridge of the Tooth. After failing on the Krakauer Couloir on the Moose's Tooth's south face, we did a six-hour ascent of Barrille via a variation of the Japanese Couloir on the southeast face. The couloir splits about 1000 feet above the glacier. The Japanese apparently took the right fork. To save time and avoid a steep rock-and-ice step, we took the left fork. At the top of that fork, the couloir leads to a traverse with fourth- and fifth-class mixed climbing onto the upper snowfields.

DOUGLAS POPE, *Unaffiliated*

*Bear's Tooth, East Face Attempt*. Doug Klewin and I on June 15 attempted the east face of the Bear's Tooth, the peak adjacent to the Moose's Tooth and south of it in the intimidating cirque of the Buckskin Glacier. We climbed three pitches up the longest toe of the 4500-foot wall. Klewin was psyched to continue but I was not because of heavy objective danger in the form of ice falling from the upper ledges. Klewin plans to try the route again.

ROB NEWSOM

*McGinnis Peak, East Face, Hayes Range*. "Cutthroat Couloir" forms the right corner of the east face of McGinnis Peak with the southeast ridge on its left side. Our ascent of the peak by Cutthroat Couloir may be the most difficult climb