

we bivouacked 100 feet apart. Views of Redoubt and the Twin Spires and the overhanging inner wall sustained our tremendous position. The next morning we faced the crux. In the offwidth slot, approximately halfway to the bolt, we stepped around the edge to climb cracks and blocks which lead back into the top of the chimney (80 feet, 5.8). Instead of continuing with the direct finish, we rappelled to the hanging couloir to finish the original route. From the jumbled summit, we made new plans as we gazed into the heart of the Northern Pickets. (IV, 5.8.)

MARK BEBIE

*Mount Johannesburg, Northeast Face.* On December 22, John Stoddard and I climbed a new route on the northeast face of Mount Johannesburg. From a bivouac under a sérac on the hanging glacier, we climbed the couloir formed by a fault on the left side of the face to about one-third height. Just after the first water-ice bulge, we exited right out of the couloir over mixed ground to a small hanging snowfield. From here we ascended steep snow and some water-ice to the large snowfield high on the northeast face. Deep powder snow over rotten rock, and the late hour made a continued ascent unreasonable about 200 feet from the summit. Since we had been climbing in clouds all day, we were anxious about finding our descent couloirs in the dark. As we crested the east ridge at sunset, the clouds dropped bathing the whole of the North Cascades in a magnificent orange glow. As the full moon rose, we started backing down on névé to the Cascade-Johannesburg col. The stunning moon-lit Mount Formidable made me pause several times to reflect on the origin of the peak's name. We reached our bivouac at eight P.M.

MARK BEBIE

*Chimney Rock, First Winter Ascent.* The first week of winter found the Cascades under the influence of steady high pressure. Feeling the need to complete unfinished business, Pat McNerthney and I again headed for Chimney Rock, this year with Greg Collum. Logging operations allowed us to drive within four miles of the summer-time trailhead. A day and a half of skiing and step-kicking delivered us to a camp high on the Chimney Rock Glacier. The next morning, December 28, we were racing up the steep snow gully between the main and south peaks. A short rock step required the rope and a belay. From the ridge crest, Pat led the way to the east face of the final summit tower, traversing up, down, and around steep snow and ice ramps. Three steep pitches followed. The conditions were fantastic; the rock was bare and dry, and snow in gullies and on ledges was frozen solid. Quickly we reached the summit and mused at our luck with the weather. It would have been a much different experience given the usual snow-plastered rock of a Cascade winter climb. We descended with five rappels and much down-climbing.

DANIEL CAUTHORN