

29 we finally could glimpse the snow-laden face. Notwithstanding the snow, on June 30 Podgornik, Moreolo and I started up a couloir of 60° to 80° ice. After 23 hours we had climbed 1030 meters up the wall to the crest where we rested for four hours. A radio report announced the arrival of more bad weather. We immediately descended with 23 rappels of 60 meters and a 50-meter traverse. We did not continue from our high point to the summit.

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Milne Island, East Greenland. Our expedition consisted of John Shrewsbury, leader, Mike Garrett, Margaret Graham, Anne and Henry Wheatcroft, Chris Whitford and me. Milne Island is a remote, and as far as we could ascertain, nearly unexplored island within Scoresby Sound. Approximately 40 miles wide and 70 miles long, it has an icecap reaching 2000 meters. We were flown in from Iceland. During our 18-day stay we undertook two six-day backpacking trips. On the first we crossed the Charcot Glacier to the south and climbed two new peaks, P 1320 and P 1510 as well as Bays Fjelde (1028 meters) and P 960, which had summit cairns. The second trip was north along the coast. We did climb a snow summit of 1120 meters. From Base Camp, which was on the east coast, we climbed P 388 and P 1247.

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NORTH POLE

Two Expeditions to the North Pole. In 1978 Japanese Naomi Uemura reached the North Pole alone with a dog team. He was resupplied by air. He was airlifted back to his base. That same year other Japanese led by Kaneshige Ikeda also sledged to the North Pole. In 1986 five men and a woman made the journey with dog teams but without resupply. At the same time Frenchman Dr. Jean-Louis Etienne hauled his sled alone to the Pole but he was resupplied five times by air. Americans Will Steger, Paul Schurke, Ann Bancroft, Geoff Carroll and Bob Mantell, Canadians Brent Poddy and Richard Weber and New Zealander Bob McKerrow started from Ellesmere Island with 49 dogs on March 8. The heavy loads and rough pressure ice forced them to relay early in the journey. They were visited twice by aircraft, which brought them no supplies. On April 2 McKerrow had to be evacuated, having suffered broken ribs from a careening sled. On April 16 Mantell was airlifted out because of frozen feet. Dogs were also flown out and only 21 of them made the final journey. The six remaining members were flown back from the Pole on May 1. On March 9 Etienne set out, pulling his sled, from Ward Hunt Island, just north of Ellesmere Island and slightly east of where the others had left the day before. Amazingly, the two parties met briefly on April 8. He reached the North Pole on May 11 but because of bad weather had to wait for four days to be picked up by plane. Articles in the *National Geographic* of September 1986 describe both expeditions.