

wind- and rainstorm, Jacobs, Martin and I on June 7 crossed the glacier south of us to the base of P 6744 and climbed this beautiful shark-toothed peak by its east ridge. On June 8, all four crossed the glacier again to climb P 6855 by its serpentine southwest ridge. On June 9, we returned to Base Camp and Nelson and Martin were flown out. Jacobs and I stayed to attempt P 6842 at the east end of the valley. We moved camp seven miles southeast to near a two-mile-long frozen lake. On June 11, we climbed to 4500 feet on P 6151's south ridge. Heavy fog forced us to give up P 6842, but we continued along the south ridge of P 6151 to its summit and descended the west face. On June 12, we returned to our rendezvous and were flown out. I believe these were all first ascents.

DANNY KOST, *St. Elias Alpine Guides*

*P 7317 and P 6188, Thompson Ridge Area, Chugach Mountains.* A joint trip by Bob Jacobs of the St. Elias Alpine Guides and Matt Culberson of the American Alpine Institute made two first ascents in June. The group of ten made Base Camp on the south side of Granite Creek and spent eight days in the region. They climbed P 7317 and P 6188, which lie on the north side of the Bagley Icefield. This is just east of the mountains climbed in 1986 by the joint Polish-St. Elias Alpine Guides expedition.

*Central Brooks Range, 1985-1988.* During the summers of 1985 through 1988, I and others have made several easy to moderate routes in the central Brooks Range. All routes were done in free time from work on a biological research project. The routes reported here are all one-day excursions from the only road presently traversing the Brooks Range, the pipeline haul road. Originating in Fairbanks, the relatively well maintained gravel road covers about 300 miles of classic Alaskan taiga to cross the Brooks Range at Atigun Pass. From Atigun Pass the often rutted road descends through the Atigun River gorge. Routes mentioned here, listed from south to north from the pass on both sides of the Atigun River, are reached by side canyons. The USGS *Philip Smith Mountains* quadrangle (1:250,000) covers the entire region. Approaches are straightforward, involving the normal arctic Alaska factors such as mosquitoes, tussock tundra and occasional grizzlies. Rock ranges from solid quartzite and conglomerate to terrible limestone and very foul shale. The snow and ice are most solid at "night," and the glaciers appear to be in active recession. May and June are the best summer months, while in the winter it is normally very clear. The haul road also provides a starting point for the day- or-so journey to Mount Doonerak (south of the pass at Trembly Creek) in the Gates of the Arctic National Park. Currently, a pass obtainable from the Bureau of Land Management is required to pass north of Atigun Pass. From Atigun Pass, the routes done so far include the following: *Left Leg Gully*: the best looking snow-and-ice gully above the glacier on the north side of P 7087 (three or four rope-lengths from the glacier); *Dan Peak* (7050 feet) is essentially a glacier slog but the upper part of

the glacier is steep enough to make a good glisade; *Castle Mountain* (7410 feet) is ascended up the crumbly southwest ridge to the extremely crumbly limestone of the turreted summit area; *Wellsung Mountain* (7610 feet) is climbed up the north-northeast ridge from the obvious notch on the ridge. It is pleasant mixed climbing on rock and ice with short rock steps to the notch. From there it is class-4 rock to the top; *Kiev* (7600 + feet) on the border of the Gates of the Arctic Park, is a long haul from Galbraith Lake to the glacier under the north face. From the glacier, I ascended the ice headwall to a point on the snowy north ridge just below the summit rocks. There was 50° ice with class-3 rock at the top. The north ridge can also be reached from the glacier to the west; *Bunny Ears* (6200 + feet, 3.2 miles northwest of Castle Mountain) were both climbed from the notch between them. There is good rock on the west side of the north ear.

KEVIN J. MURRAY

*P 9875, University Range.* Bob Jacobs first saw P 9875 in 1975 during an exploratory hike up the Chitistone River. The view of this peak up Toby Creek is breathtaking. The 4500-foot north face is Eiger-like in appearance but rises to a sharp, corniced summit. On September 6, I flew to Glacier Creek and hiked up to 4500 feet along the Twaharpies Glacier. The next day Jacobs flew over to check my location before he landed and began to hike up to meet me. I moved camp to 5800 feet at the foot of the icefall which flows off the east face of the peak. I then climbed through the icefall and to 7200 feet to reconnoiter. Bob arrived at camp moments after my descent. On September 8, we climbed through the icefall to my high point and then up the glacier to 8000 feet. From there we went up 45° to 50° snow and rock to join the south ridge at 9300 feet. We worked along the narrow ridge, having to cross the ridge when the cornice changed directions. The last 350 feet were up 45° snow and ice on the summit pyramid.

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*Mount Chitina, St. Elias Mountains.* On September 20, Donnie Hunton and I were dropped off at Hubert's landing strip at 2000 feet and hiked along the Chitina Glacier. September 21 and 22 were spent crossing the Chitina Glacier and moving camp to 4400 feet on the west ridge of Mount Chitina. The National Center for Earthquake Research has a solar-powered transmitter at 4800 feet on the ridge. On September 24, we climbed the low-angled snow slopes above 5700 feet to the corniced summit (2568 meters, 8424 feet). The mountain lies at the confluence of the Logan and Chitina Glaciers, 30 miles west of Mount Logan. I believe this was the first ascent of the mountain.

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*Chilkat and Takhinsha Mountains.* In June and July, Chuck Warren, Gil Dewart, Walt Price, Marty Mushkin, Ed Kerwin, Linda Bolte, George Barnett