

Selkirks

Moby Dick, 1988. The very prominent steep and crevassed north glacier of Moby Dick was climbed for the second time on July 24, 1988 by Dave Pollari, Jim Ruch and me. During a 1986 trip into the Battle Range we had contemplated the route, but wide-open crevasses and threatening séracs made us opt for rock routes. In 1988, as in 1978, the conditions were excellent with a few short steep snow-and-ice sections amid moderate glacier runouts. One crevasse was a problem on the ascent but quite jumpable on the descent. (Grade III.) On July 25, 1988, Pollari and Ruch climbed a prominent curved dihedral on the major rock buttress left (east) of the north glacier, which they called *The Boomerang*. There were a number of wet, polished slabs and mixed ice-and-rock pitches. The route was more committing than the north glacier and ended on the summit ridge east of the top. They descended the north glacier. (Grade IV.)

FRED BECKEY

Gimli, Valhalla Group, 1988. On August 12, 1988, Cliff Leight, Peter Jewett, Dan Waters and I climbed a new line on Gimli on the right edge of the northwest buttress. The rock is excellent quartzite with incut holds on a steep and exposed corner (II or III, 5.8).

FRED BECKEY

Ahab, 1986. Ronald Van Horssen, Steve Drake and I climbed the striking pillar on the lower southwest face of Ahab in August 1986. We ascended the striking pillar, which has several spectacular towers, and ends on the south summit of Ahab (II, 5.8). That same August, we climbed the upper south buttress directly (5.7). The rock is blocky granite, reminiscent of the Bugaboos.

FRED BECKEY

Canadian Arctic

Climbs in Auyuttuq National Park, Baffin Island. On August 7, Willard Moulton, Bill Morris, Jim Osborne, Dr. Douglas Halliday, Dr. Michael Parker and I were boated to the Overlord Camp at the head of Pangnirtung Fiord. We carried our too-heavy loads up the Weasel Valley in misty weather, turning east up the Tiroka Glacier to set up Base Camp below Mount Sif on August 11. Eight inches of fresh snow on the glacier made sled hauling and ski approaches possible. We enjoyed five days of unusually clear, warm weather. On the 12th, Morris, Parker and I made the second ascent of the Sandcastle Ridge. Meanwhile, Moulton, Osborne and Halliday made a ski ascent of a subsidiary peak (reference 404550) three miles due east of Mount Sif. On August 13, Parker and I skied over a col and descended north to the base of a double-peaked mountain (reference 403550). A first ascent of the south summit was made via the

east-face snowfields and a short summit rock scramble. That same day, Moulton, Morris and Osborne climbed a subsidiary buttress of Mount Sif behind Base Camp. On the 14th, Moulton, Morris and I climbed a solitary triangular peak immediately south of the Park boundary (reference 491500). The northwest-face route included initial rock scrambling to a steepening snow face and a short pitch up the summit block. The final climb, on August 15, was the first ascent of the north peak of a prow-shaped mountain due east of Mount Sig (reference 403500). Parker, Halliday and Moulton ascended on skis via a col and south slopes, finishing with a rock scramble. On the 16th, in worsening weather, we carried all the way to Overlord.

JAMES VERMEULEN

Borup Fiord, Ellesmere Island, 1988. Although the primary aims of the expedition were scientific, there was mountaineering activity. Most peaks over 3000 feet in the area were climbed. Mount Leith (3822 feet; 80° 51' 30" N, 81° 36' 20" W) was climbed on May 17, 1988. It was a good alpine walk or scramble. P 3500+ (80° 56' N, 81° 25' W) and Mount Burrill (80° 56' N, 81° 26' W) were climbed on May 30 and June 10. Five peaks on the Ellmerson Peninsula were climbed on June 13 and 14: P 3500+ (80° 44' 10" N, 81° W), P 3500+ (80° 44' 50" N, 80° 55' W), P 3500+ (80° 45' 30" N, 80° 55' W), P 3860+ (80° 46' 30" N, 80° 52' 30" W) and 3500+ (80° 55' N, 82° W). On June 14 and July 4, other parties climbed P 3500+ (81° 01' 50" N, 82° W) and P 3500+ (81° 01' 50" N, 81° 45' 10" W) flanking the Base Camp valley. On July 14, Mount Schuchert (3855 feet, 80° 46' N, 84° 45' W) was climbed, a fine alpine peak with a pointed snow-capped summit. On August 9, P 5300+ and P 5000+ (81° 03' 30" N, 80° 55' 30" W and 81° 04' 30" N, 80° 59' 20" W) were climbed; they were 20 miles from Base Camp. On the return trip, five peaks of 4500+ feet were traversed; the coordinates of the first and fifth are 81° 02' 10" N, 81° 00' 30" W and 81° 00' 45" N, 80° 58' 30". Whilst making a traverse of the Neil Peninsula, its high-point (3250+ feet; 80° 50' N, 82° 10' W) was climbed on August 15.

CORPORAL DAVID WALKER,

Royal Air Force, Joint Services Expedition

GREENLAND

Gunnbjørns Fjeld, Dome and Cone, 1988. Our expedition consisted of Lars Ogenhag and me, Sweden; Peter Herzog, Austria; Mark Jenkins, USA; and Helge Bardseth, Norway. We flew to the region from Isafjörður, Iceland. Except for Bardseth, we all climbed to the summit of Gunnbjørns Fjeld (3708 meters, 12,166 feet) on July 3, 1988. From the top we saw two other high peaks about ten kilometers to the south. Excellent weather made it possible to climb both. We skied and pulled sleds to the south, skirting the eastern side of Gunnbjørns Fjeld