

*McKinley South Face, New Route Attempt and Accident.* On April 26, six South Koreans departed from the 7200-foot landing strip, heading for the south face of McKinley off the east fork of the Kahiltna Glacier. Over the next few weeks, they pioneered a new route between the Japanese Direct and the American Direct routes. They fixed rope to 15,600 feet on the new route. On May 10, Song Seog-Woo and Lee Seung-Hwan placed a camp at 16,300 feet. Due to a forecast of an impending storm, the lack of food and inadequate protection for the camp, they decided to descend to Base Camp. After descending some 3000 feet in five hours, Song suffered a rappelling accident and a 1000-foot fall but fortunately survived. The accident is covered above.

ROGER ROBINSON, *Denali National Park and Preserve*

*McKinley Climbers' Memorial.* A memorial dedicated to climbers who have died on McKinley has been established in Talkeetna, Gateway to Denali. Through the end of 1992, 75 mountaineers representing 13 nations have lost their lives on North America's highest peak, including a record 11 people last year. Another 20 have died on nearby mountains. Built by Ace Ebling, a retired Air Force sergeant who tends Talkeetna's cemetery, the climbers' memorial features a 30-foot-high cedar telephone pole painted white to symbolize McKinley's snow and ice. Two chainsaw-carved climbers complete with ice axes, crampons and rope are ascending the pole, which is topped by a raven figure. The finished product will also include a 10-by-24-foot mountainscape which shows McKinley, Foraker and Hunter as they appear on the horizon from Talkeetna. That mountain silhouette, also made from telephone poles and painted white, will be surrounded by a garden of forget-me-nots. A list of all who have died on McKinley and the surrounding peaks will be put on permanent display nearby. Those wishing to contribute to the upkeep of the memorial may send donations to the Talkeetna Cemetery Association, PO Box 38, Talkeetna, Alaska 99676.

BILL SHERWONIT, *Anchorage, Alaska*

*Foraker Tragedy, Pink Panther Route.* Our original plan was for Tom Walter, Ritt Kellogg and me to join forces on June 13 at the Kahiltna Base Camp to try an unclimbed route on Hunter, the ridge just south of its west ridge, which Walter had attempted two years before. Kellogg and I flew in on June 3. After reconnaissance, an unsuccessful attempt on Hunter from the west and some doubtful weather, we two were joined by Walter on the 13th as planned. We were all discouraged when we studied the unclimbed ridge. Ritt and I had had a good look at it while descending the west ridge. Two years ago, the crux for Tom had been getting to the base of the ridge up a heavily crevassed glacier. A new obstacle now presented itself; the glacial headwall exit off the ridge had turned into a broken icefall, possibly as a result of last summer's earthquake. We decided on the Pink Panther route on the east face of Foraker as an alternative.