

*Vinson Massif, New Route, and Mount Craddock, 1992.* A full article by Jay Smith on an expedition to Antarctica appears earlier in this *Journal*. It describes the ascent of Vinson Massif via the south face and the first ascent of Mount Craddock.

*Vinson Variant, 1992.* André Hokke and I landed at Patriot Hill on December 11, 1992 and flew to the base of the Vinson Massif on the Branscomb Glacier together with New Zealand guides Hall and Ball with their three clients. Taking advantage of good weather, both teams left separately for the climb alpine-style the same day. We got to Camp II at 2800 meters in seven hours. The next day we camped at 3900 meters and on December 14, 1992, we reached the summit. We two took the Chilean variant on the last part. Instead of the direct route to the summit, we chose the technically more interesting summit ridge to the left, ascending from east to west. The Hall-and-Ball party reached the summit two hours after us.

EDWARD BEKKER, *Valkenburg Alpine Friends, Netherlands*

*Vinson Massif, New Routes.* My wife Jo and I have just returned from the Vinson Massif, where we completed two new routes on Vinson from the west. The first route was made from Camp on the normal route. In a four-day climb up and down, we took a line up the right-hand icefall due west of the summit. The second route took a direct line up a thin couloir in the center of the steep 6200-foot wall left of the icefalls. I climbed the route solo in 6 hours 50 minutes and descended the northwest ridge in an hour and a half to just below Camp II on the normal route. I didn't go to the true summit since I had been there a few days before. (WI3, 5.9.) [Written February 1, 1994.]

JAY SMITH

*Mount Vaughan Attempt, Queen Maud Mountains.* From 1928 to 1930, Norman D. Vaughan was a member of Admiral Richard E. Byrd's first Antarctic Expedition. In 1929, under the leadership of Dr. Laurence Gould, a party made a long geological sledge route across much of the southern continent's unexplored terrain. Vaughan was an important member of the team, being one of three in charge of the sled dogs. In honor of his service, Admiral Byrd named Mount Vaughan (3139 meters, 10,300 feet) for him. After 1993, sled dogs will no longer be allowed on the continent. Vaughan conceived the idea of sledging 300 miles to the mountain and climbing it, hoping to reach the summit on his 88th birthday, December 19, 1993. Vaughan was accompanied south by his wife, Carolyn Muegge-Vaughan, guides Vernon Tejas and Skip Horner, Dr. Ken Zafren, Dolly Lefever, who recently climbed Mount Everest, dog handler Larry Grout, veterinarian Dr. Jerry Vanek and several others. On November 6, an advance party with 20 dogs, Grout, Vanek and the plane crew took off from