

Watkins Bjerger, First Ascents. After they were held up for seven days in Iceland, improved weather in Greenland allowed a British group to fly into the Watkins Bjerger. Undeterred by more poor weather, this group made first ascents of four of the remaining 3000-meter virgin peaks in the Watkins, plus the fifth ascent of Paul Emile Victor (a.k.a. Mound or PEV, 3609m).

JAMES GREGSON, *Alpine Club*

Watkins Mountains, Various Ascents. In May, Christine Watkins led a British group including Anne Picard and Charlotte Skinmeir that made several ascents (many firsts) from the Upper Woolley Glacier. First ascents included Sphinx (3210m), Ladies' Peak (2992m), Pyramid Peak (3320m), Midnight Peak (3256m), and International Peak (3410m). They joined efforts with commercial Tangent Expeditions personnel Robin Beadle (Guide), Tom Keeley, and Bruce Maxwell.

IAN PARNELL, *United Kingdom*

LINDBERGH FJELD RANGE

Lindbergh Fjeld, Multiple First Ascents. In July and August, the team of Mike Berthold, Paul Campion, Jonathan Clark, Sam Dickinson, Chris and Vanessa Helliwell, Ben Irons, David Keaton, Adrian Pedley, and Paul Walker climbed a number of peaks. Jaetteborg (Danish: Jagged Castle, 3050m) was one of the highest unclimbed peaks in the Arctic. It is one of only two officially named peaks in the Lindbergh Fjeld, the other being Snebordet, previously climbed by Phil Bartlett's 1992 expedition, which walked in from the Lemons (1993 AAJ, p.



Jaetteborg in the Lindbergh Range. The first ascent was accomplished in 2000. DAVID KEATON

169). Therefore, almost all of the climbing was exploratory, and all the peaks were first ascents except for the second ascent of Snebordet. All other peaks were unofficially named by the group or not named at all.

From Base Camp 1 (2120m), the following peaks were climbed: on July 27, Peak 2830m and Peak 2860m, and on July 28, Howvan (2260m). From Base Camp 2 (2320m), Sunrise (2610m), Peak 2670A, Peak 2670B, and Engaus (2980m) were climbed on July 31, while Jaetteborg (3050m) was climbed on August 2. From Base Camp 3 (2520m), peaks climbed were Mother (2870m), August 5; Father (2920m), August 5; Avatar (2590m), August 6; Steph (2720m), August 6; Nicola (2710m), August 7; Snebordet (3150m), August 7; and Pedro (3090m), August 7.

DAVID KEATON, *unaffiliated*

LEMON MOUNTAINS

Lemon Mountains, Various First Ascents. The British Lemon Mountains Expedition 2000 was an exploratory climbing expedition to part of Greenland's east coast. Together with a visit to the area in 1999, our plan was to explore the beautiful Lemons and climb as many routes as possible. Percy Lemon first spotted the Lemons during his survey with Gino Watkins as part of the Trans-Arctic Air Route Expedition in 1930-33. Despite the interest of eight groups since then, perhaps most famously Chris Bonington's visits in 1991 and 1993, only ten peaks had been climbed on the Hedgehog and Chisel glaciers when we first visited in 1999. We hoped to explore these glaciers much more thoroughly. I'm pleased to say that between the two trips, we climbed 50 new routes, including 32 first ascents up to TD+.

What made our visits to the Lemons so enjoyable is that the rock is of particularly good quality for the Arctic. Solid granitic gneiss, pointing virtually straight up, has endowed the area with jagged peaks and steep, clean-looking faces. Added to this, a soft intrusion running throughout the Lemons has left many deep, ice-filled slots and chimneys.

During our 1999 visit, we climbed around the Hedgehog Glacier (just south of The Cathedral, the highest mountain in the region). This year, however, we concentrated our energies on the Chisel and Sarah glaciers, where we had seen some exciting-looking peaks from the previous year's climbs. Despite our best intentions, there are still plenty of unclimbed peaks in the Lemons. For an idea of the variety of climbing there, following are some examples of the routes we climbed.

The Citadel was one of our favorite mixed routes and one of the peaks we spotted in 1999; its striking profile towers above the surrounding mountains. An easy snow ramp led onto a rather scary looking east ridge, but it turned out to be eight pitches of S and VS. The summit ridge, a 50-degree snow crest in rock boots, was less pleasant.

The best ice we found was on the Steeple, where we followed a single fault line up the entire east face of the mountain. Tucked away near the bottom of the route were two icefalls of Scottish V, cut deep into a buttress; then, as we climbed the snow gully, the cover thinned to a perfect runnel of grade III ice.

We enjoyed plenty of rock climbing in the Lemons, with the lovely Greenland summer weather finding us in rock boots and thermals, soaking up the sun on south-facing slabs and corners. With so many towers, spires, and faces, there are plenty of both extreme and classic lines waiting to be climbed.