

three days. We did everything by ourselves, without any help of tour agencies, ships, helicopter, and satellite-telephones. We told nobody where we were.

For the first route we climbed a free line at the highest part of the over two-kilometer-wide face. We worked with fixed ropes because of the stormy weather; all together we spent seven days on the route. We made the top by a polar storm and rappelled down in heavy waterfalls by night. The 28-pitch climb has excellent granite and we called it Aquasky (VI 5.11).

In the following six days we climbed in extraordinarily good weather a 25-pitch route we called Easy or Squeezy, by some hard "limit pushing" parts without drilling (VI 5.12b A4c). At the end we climbed the trio Berecz-Lamprecht-Tivadar, a shorter alpine route on the north-west-shoulder of the peak Frenchbird (Kaempeplade 8pt. III 5.10b).

The goal of our expedition was to not use bolts in our climbs. The protection was always traditional. We just left on our rappel line between the two climbs a single 8mm bolt each 60 to 100 meters. Our climb was supported by the DAV and the Sektion Bayerland.

THOMAS TIVADAR, DAV Sektion Bayerland

EAST GREENLAND

Trillergerne Mountains, Fox Jaw Cirque, Tasiilaq Fjord. The Fox Jaw Cirque lies seven kilometers beyond the head of the Tasiilaq (a.k.a. Ammassalik) Fjord, ca 80 km from the settlement of Tasiilaq. Leaving Reykjavik in Iceland on June 23, Katy Holm, Andrea Kortello, Dave Thomson, and I arrived in Tasiilaq four days later after sailing with the French-owned yacht, *Vagabond*. After some final shopping, *Vagabond* took us to the head of the Fjord and we spent the next week reconnoitering the area. We decided to make the East Trillergerne Peak, which lies north of the Fox Jaw Cirque, our first climbing objective.

From our valley base camp we accessed the Trillergerne peaks by ascending a terminal moraine for ca 300 meters, then continuing up the ridge until we were below the north side of the Fox Jaw Cirque. Here, we crossed a glacier to the peaks. We climbed the western peak to the first ledge system, then traversed across this to reach our peak. At this point we rapped straight down, fixing lines as we went. Next day we re-ascended to our high point and continued scrambling for ca 100 meters, after which the climbing became moderate. With eternal Arctic daylight we continued through the "night" and reached the summit at 3:00 p.m. on July 16. We feasted on breathtaking views of glacier-fed fjords and numerous virgin summits. The route was rappelled and the glacier reached after 44 hours of non-stop climbing. We christened it Lithographic (16 pitches, 5.10 A0).

Katy, Andrea, and Dave next went into the Fox Jaw Cirque. Their chosen objective was not to be taken lightly. After five days working the route they had still not been able to free the first pitch. A shower of rain brought them back to camp. Two days later we all returned to the cirque. On our second day back Katy freed the pitch. At this point Dave left for Canada. On August 2 we decided to "go for the top." By midnight, after consistently demanding climbing, we reached an impassable roof. This, and the return in August of some night-time darkness forced a decision to descend. This partially completed route has nine pitches up to 5.11c and A0.

We returned to the Trillergerne peaks for our final climb. Starting our ascent as before, we continued up on the western peak. Carrying a tarp and a stove we aimed for a patch of snow about halfway to the summit. Initially we hoped to climb all the way to the top but by the second

day realized it would take several days due to the complexity of route finding. As we hadn't budgeted for this, we focussed on a nearer goal. We reached the top by 3:30 p.m. on August 9, then rappelled the route, spending one more night on the mountain. Calleditas has 13 pitches up to 5.9.

Back in camp our bodies were exhausted and although we still had time for another climb, we headed out to the village of Kuummiut with some local fishermen. Here we spent five glorious days with locals, who invited us into their homes. We ate whale steaks and fresh fish and were allowed a small insight into Inuit life. During the five weeks we spent in the area, we had only three days of rain. This is really unusual for the region.

KAREN MCNEILL

Fox Jaw Cirque, Tasiilaq Fjord, first ascent of The Incisor. As part two of the Year of the Snake Expeditions 2001, I arrived at Kulusuk in July. I then took a boat through a maze of icebergs to the small village of Tasiilaq, also known as Ammassalik, home to about 2,500 Inuit people and a few Danes. Greenland is owned and governed by Denmark and my Danish contact, Hans Christian Florian, one of the top doctors in Greenland, wasted no time accentuating my jet lag even further with strong Danish pilsners. My plans to get to the fjord were quickly set after a couple of phone calls. For a small fee I hitched a ride in a helicopter on its way out to the area, arranging for a boat to pick me up on the coast several weeks later.

We flew over endless mountain ranges surrounded by dark ocean fjords dotted with huge tooth-like icebergs. As soon as I stepped out of the helicopter, it raced away. I stood alone, some distance from the base of a tower that resembled a gigantic fang from a fox's jaw. Shuttling loads, I soon had all of my gear at its base. The reason I had chosen this tower was not only that it was the most prominent and beautiful in the area but also because I thought I might be able to climb it without standing in aiders. My goal was to free climb the entire route on sight without any aid, solo.

The first half of the tower looked like wonderful free climbing. It also looked like I would have to shuttle loads up fixed lines; relentless and painstaking work. Starting at the very base of the tower, the first ca 300 meters of climbing ranged from 5.6 to 5.10 and was mostly high-quality cracks mixed with some desperate face moves here and there. It took me two days to climb, fix ropes, shuttle loads, set up a portaledge camp, and pull up all my ropes.



Trilligerne Peaks (high on left) in the Fox Jaw Cirque, from the valley floor. Karen McNeill