

Editor's note: Ejnar Mikkelsens Fjeld and Borgetinde had two ascents each prior to 2007. The first ascent of the former, 3,308m peak was a tour de force and thought to be the highest unclimbed peak in Greenland at the time. In 1970 a British team led by Andrew Ross sailed down the coast from Scoresby Sund and trekked inland for over 70km to make a committing ascent of what some people consider to be one of the most impressive summits in East Greenland. It was not climbed again until 1998, when a Swiss team led by Roland Aeschmann repeated this south glacier route. Borgetinde is 3,338m and was first climbed in 1972 by Rod Brown and Nigel Soper from a Sheffield University expedition and again in 2000 by Nigel Edwards's British expedition (see AAJ 2001). Prior to 2007 another British team led by Bob Dawson had climbed peaks a little to the north of the 2007 British location, and in 2006 two Tangent-organized expeditions visited the northeastern sector bordering the icecap (see AAJ 2007). Before the arrival of the British group in 2007 another group made the third ascent of Borgetinde but failed on Ejnar Mikkelsens Fjeld due to avalanche conditions. A second group, an all-women expedition, also climbed peaks in the Sortebræ, situated a couple of days travel from the British group.

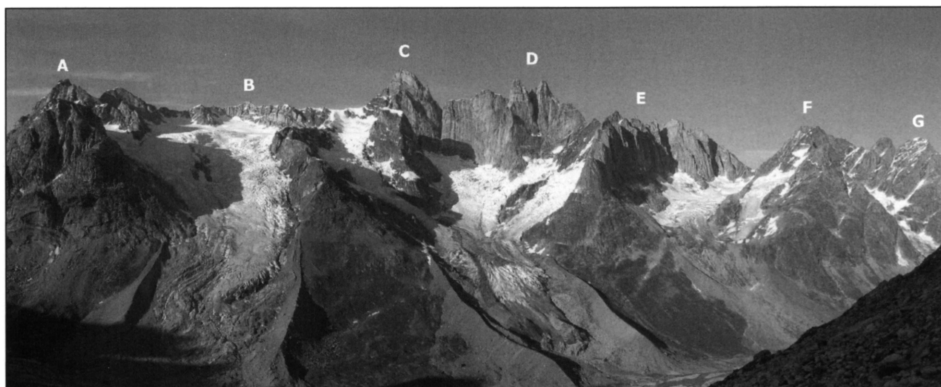
Schweizerland, Mt. Forel and Perfeknunatak, corrections. The route climbed on Mt. Forel by the Spanish team in 2006 was the northeast ridge and not the southeast as stated in AAJ 2007 (pp. 204–5). Most likely this was a first ascent; the ridge seen on the right side of the picture on p. 204, the northwest ridge, was climbed by a Tangent expedition. Forel was first climbed in 1938, via a relatively straightforward snow route, by Andre Roch's Swiss expedition, which traveled through Schweizerland and climbed 13 other virgin peaks, including Laupers Bjerg, Rodeburg, and Rytterknaegten, the latter an impressive technical rock ascent. Forel did not receive a second ascent until 1966, when it was climbed by Japanese. However, it is more likely to have had 20 or so ascents, rather than a dozen as reported.

The Spanish also climbed the southwest ridge of Perfeknunatak via a line they named Al Tran-tran. Although the report states they weren't clear if the peak had been climbed before, it is actually located directly opposite Forel and was first climbed by Swiss in '38. Hans Christian Florian, Jens Jørgen Kjærgaard, and Martin Madsen climbed it on June 3rd, 2004, and discovered a fine cairn on the summit. They checked for messages and rebuilt it, and are surprised that it was not visible to the Spanish. The straightforward route to this summit is from the east, just out of the frame to the right on the p. 204 photo.

HANS CHRISTIAN FLORIAN, *Greenland*

Fox Jaw Cirque, six first ascents. In mid-June, Josh Beckner, Darcy Deutcher, Kadin Panagoulis, Jed Porter, Annie Trujillo, and I stepped off a boat and schlepped seven miles into the Fox Jaw Cirque in the Tasiilaq Fjord Area. First reports of climbing in this cirque stem from 1998, when Dave Briggs and Mike Libeck climbed a 360m gem on a formation dubbed the Molar. Dave and Mike bestowed the name "Fox Jaw" on the jagged granite cirque, after comparing it to the toothy jaw-line of a fox skeleton that they found during the approach. We took it as a totem of luck when we stumbled upon the same fox jaw during our hike to the area.

And what luck we had. It's possible that we had the best weather of any alpine climbing area in the world during our six-week stay: only seven days of lazy drizzle disrupted the continuous sunny weather. We climbed six new routes—five in the cirque and one on a peak to the east, which we named Ganesh. To say the least, the climbing was marvelous—thin granite



Looking east at the Trillingerne Group as seen across the Tasiilaq River valley from Ganesh. (A) Pikkelhuen (2,039m). (B) Pt. 1,842m. (C) Storebror (2,069m). (D) Trillingerne (northwest summit, 1,943m; southeast summit 1,965m). (F) Fox Jaw Cirque (highest point 1,684m). (G) Pt. 1,639m. (H) Pt 1,553m. The head of the Tasiilaq Fjord is off picture to the right. *Josh Beckner*

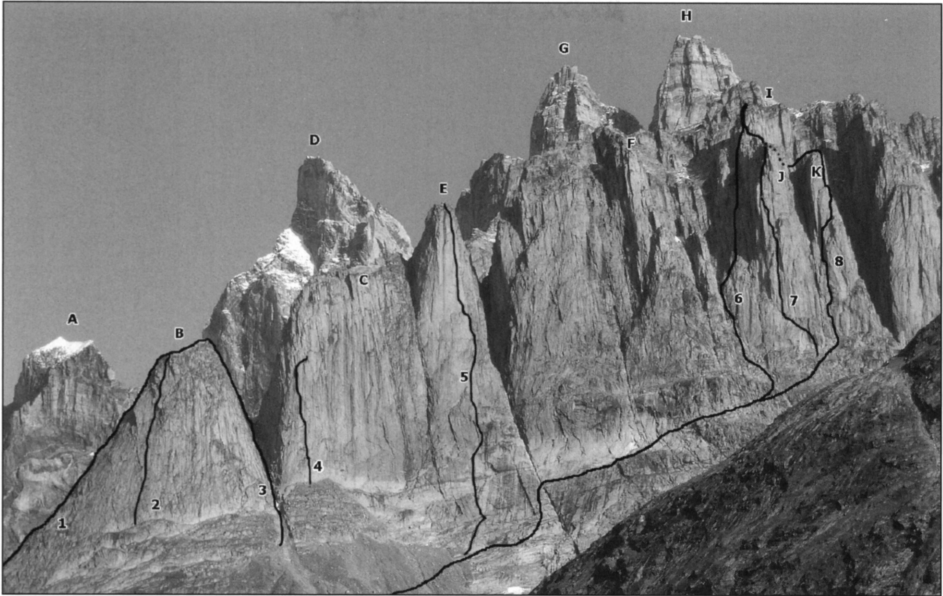
cracks with generous face holds kept the climbing moderate. There was much less loose rock than one might expect in an alpine environment. In fact, the climbing could be considered alpine-lite: the pleasure of alpine climbing with half the danger. The low elevation, pleasant temperatures, mega-daylight, splitter weather, and solid rock constantly put smiles on our faces.

A typical climbing day looked like this: We'd awake at 4 a.m., stuff some sort of Danish cereal into our mouths, slog up the moraine for two hours, hop onto the glacier for a bit, pick a line on one of the dozen or so buttresses, and start climbing. The height of the walls constantly surprised us—routes that we imagined would be eight pitches turned out to be 12 or so. Because of this the larger climbs often took two efforts. We'd get up part way and realize we didn't have the food/water/guts to complete it, so we'd come down and try again in a couple of days. We didn't place any bolts; the only gear we left was for rapel anchors.

Non-climbing days were spent hiking around the valleys, scrambling up non-technical peaks, racking, and preparing, or reading a book from our extensive library. The food available in Greenland, it should be said, wasn't ideal. We arrived a week before the first Danish re-supply boat of the season. Much of our food was expired "salami" and cheese that, while it didn't



The Trillingerne Group north of the head of the Tasiilaq Fjord in Schweizerland. This is a small part of a 1:100,000 color map named Kaarali Gletscher, which has been produced with 25m contours by Hans Christian Florian. It covers the area from the Tasiilaq river in the west to the Knud Rasmussen Glacier in the east, and from the 16th September Glacier in the north to the huge glacial lake of the Sermiligaq in the south. Available from Hans Christian Florian Sørensen, Sygehuset, DK-3913, Tasiilaq, Greenland; hcflorian@hotmail.com.



Schweizerland's Fox Jaw Cirque from the south. (A) Unnamed summit on the southwest ridge of Storebror. (B) Milk Tooth Spire (ca 1,100m). (C) Molar. (D) Storebror (2,069m). (E) Incisor. (F) Cavity Ridge. (G) Trillingerne northwest (1,943m). (H) Trillingerne southeast (1,965m). (I) Fang. (J) Left Rabbit Ear. (K) Right Rabbit Ear. Snaggletooth is off picture to the right. (1) Doublemint Direct (III 5.8, Lundin-Whorton, 2007). (2) Tooth Fairy (330m, III 5.8, American-Canadian team, 2007). (3) Descent used by Lundin and Whorton after Doublemint Direct. (4) Attempt on the Molar by Beckner, Furman and Panagoulis, 2007. (5) Tears in Paradise (ca 600m, V 5.11 A1, Libeck, 2001). (6) Descent route followed by Lundin and Whorton after their ascent of Right Rabbit Ear and the Fang. (7) Naeterqaabin-Jebbananee (550m, 13 pitches, IV 5.10, American-Canadian team, 2007). (8) Straight Up Now Tell Me (ca 550m, 16 pitches, V 5.9 A2, Lundin-Whorton, 2007). Not marked are: Gute Zeiten, Schlechte Zeiten (350m, 5.8, Leitner-Schöls, 2000) between 2 and 3; Southeast Buttress (330m, III 5.9, American-Canadian team, 2007) a little left of 3; Lovin' All the Right Places (465m, IV 5.10 A2+, Briggs-Libeck, 1998) on the Molar, probably right of 4; Beers in Paradise (600m, V 5.10+, A0 pendulum, American-Canadian team, 2007) starting to the left of 5; Swiss Route on Cavity Ridge (2000). Lines are approximate. *Erin Whorton*

give much intestinal crisis, was fairly hard to choke down without a grimace and a gag.

At the end of our trip we were very happy to meet Jessica Lundin and Erin Whorton, a climbing duo from the U.S. We only overlapped for a couple of days, but it was great to share each others' psyche, and try to overwhelm them with stories and beta. Spending time with them also reminded us of how weird we had gotten. Our trip was enriched with the camaraderie of each other's company, the stunning setting, and the interaction with local Inuit and Danes. We thank the National Outdoor Leadership School for their generous support. If you would like more information on climbing in the Fox Jaw, contact me at nathanfurman@yahoo.com.

Summary of first ascents: Tooth Fairy (III 5.8, 7 pitches, 330m) on Milk Tooth Spire (Baby Molar); Natural Mystic (V 5.10+, 17 pitches, 900m) on Snaggletooth; Naeterqaabin-Jebbananee (IV 5.10, 13 pitches, 550m) on Left Rabbit Ear; Beers in Paradise (V 5.10++, A0 pendulum, 14 pitches, 600m) on the Incisor (shares four pitches with the Libeck Route); Southeast Buttress (III 5.9, 7 pitches, 330m); on Milk Tooth Spire (Baby Molar); Ganesh (III 5.8, mixed snow and ice, 7 pitches, 330m).