pillar. A razor-thin ridge ran 100' to the east and rose to a slightly higher (~20') spire, but given the exposure and depleted rack, we knew that this was the end of our route.

MARK HENSPETER

Peak 10,510', first ascent, West Face. In late July, Jim Beyer and I made the likely first ascent of Peak 10,510', across the glacier northwest of Mt. Hobbs. We landed on an unnamed glacier on the south side of the range, a mile (at most) from the peak, then scrambled up a scree gully and onto the hanging glacier west of the peak. The West Face started around 40° and steepened to 65° at the top. About 3,000' of ice led to the summit block, which was a short pitch of 5.4. We rappelled the route, mostly on V-threads, returning to camp in a 20-hour round trip.

JOHN KELLEY

Upper Granite Creek and Jefferies Glacier, probable first ascents. From July 16 – August 6, upon the recommendation of well-known bush pilot and mountaineer Paul Claus, we visited the upper Granite Creek and Jefferies Glacier areas. From our drop-off point (3,014'; N 60°44'16", W 141°57'11") in upper Granite Creek, a lengthy ridge leads up Peak 8,329' (GPS elevation; 8,320' on map; N 60°41'52", W 141°42'32"), which dominates the left flank of the glacier. [Map elevations are from the USGS 1:250,000 Bering Glacier map—Ed.] We gained the undulating west-northwest ridge by loose scrambling through and around a series of low buttresses. At one point we had to drop 180m before resuming the final section toward the summit. This final section—almost one km long—was the most interesting of the route. Several gendarmes offered easy slabs and short walls, though we skirted two on their left. Never difficult (AD) but with extensive scree and boulder debris, the route was interesting and finished with a short snow slope to the top. The route involves 1,100m of ascent and the ridge itself is almost four km long.

Next we headed for the southeast ridge of Peak 7,679' (GPS; 7,656' on map; N 60°39'52", W 141°49'07"), which sits in the upper corner of a branching glacier that connects upper Granite Creek and the Jefferies Glacier. We accessed the peak via snow slopes leading to a col that connects it with a smaller tent-like peak. From here a spur, punctuated by towers and buttresses, leads directly to the summit. Although many of the towers were sound granite, the climbing was consistently loose. But it was an enjoyable and obvious line (AD, ~500m) to a snow-capped summit.

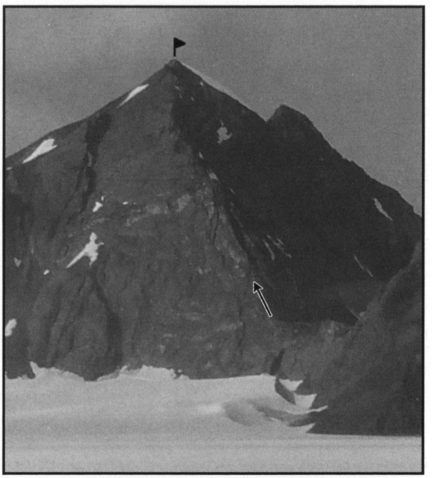
The west-northwest ridge of Peak 8,329'. *Howard-Swinburne collection*

From our camp on the southern edge of the Jefferies Glacier, on skis we ascended Peak 7,178' (GPS; 7,230' on map; N 60°35'10", W 141°45'08") via its easy west face (F) to its rocky summit.

Finally, we attempted the southeast ridge of Peak 7,890' (map elevation), situated near the col by the entrance to the Jefferies Glacier. After weaving through a series of crevasses, we gained a loose and broken rock ridge that we followed to a point 150m below where the ridge appeared to level. But a large wall blocked our way and we descended.

Based upon Paul Claus's extensive knowledge, our research, and Steve Gruhn (who maintains climbing records of many Alaskan peaks), we believe our ascents to be firsts.

Stuart Howard *and* David Swinburne, *U.K.*



The southeast ridge of Peak 7,679'. *Howard-Swinburne collection*

Mt. St. Elias, summit and sea. At 18,008' and 12 miles from salt water, Mt. St. Elias offers the world's biggest summit to sea drop. Canadians Marcus Warring and Ryan Bougie and I (Telluride, CO) wanted to climb the southwest ridge (Harvard Route) and then ski as much of the mountain as we could. Although parts of this route have been skied and climbed, according to my research, no one has completed the entire route both up and down. Most recently, in 2008, an expedition heavily funded by Red Bull did summit and ski most of the mountain—to within 600' MSL—but it was over the course of two expeditions and they did not ascend from the sea to their base on the Haydon Shoulder.

Overlooking Icy Bay from Mt. St. Elias. *Peter Inglis*