

*Source:* Newspaper accounts. M. M. Atwater Avalanche Forester U. S. F. S. Appalachia 19: 588, December, 1953.

*Analysis:* Dangerous avalanche conditions existed: rain on 18 inches of new snow and along their path there were fresh avalanche tracks. At the scene of the accident they did not choose a protected route through timber but traversed an open slope overhung by cliffs. Secondly, when buried by an avalanche every effort should be made to dig oneself out if possible, since the chance of restarting an avalanche that has run its course is extremely slight, whereas there is a good chance of being buried deeper by a second avalanche in the same area. Whenever one is caught in an avalanche, he should "swim"—that is, use swimming motions to remain as near the surface as possible—and to extricate himself, if possible, as soon as he can. The swimming motion, in addition, may create an air space which could prevent suffocation.

*Washington—Cascade Mts., Wilmon Spires:* Robert V. Kasper (20) a member of the Mountaineers was on a scheduled club climb on the Wilmon Spires on 30 August 1953 when a large rock, apparently dislodged by the leader of his rope, struck him a glancing blow on his head and then struck his right leg directly producing a compound fracture of the femur. First aid was given immediately by other members of the party while two other members of the party were sent for help. The evacuation was completed successfully the following day by the Mountain Rescue Council.

*Source:* Ralph Johnson and Ome Daiber.

*Analysis:* This accident emphasizes the need for extreme care by leading climbers to prevent dislodging rocks and the need for a close liaison with following climbers to alert them of any falling rocks.

*Washington—Cascade Mts., Mt. St. Helens:* On 7 September 1953, a Sunday School party was out on the Toutle glacier without mountaineering equipment or ropes. One of the boys started to slip into an open crevasse when the leader of the party, Dr. Raymond Roy, grabbed him. Just then another boy, Ted Sageser (16), slipped and plunged into a crevasse falling 30-40 ft. The weather was good and the accident occurred in the afternoon, but by the time a Longview Mountain Rescue Council party arrived at midnight, the boy was dead. According to reports the injured boy was alive up to a few minutes before the rescuers arrived.

*Source:* Ralph Johnson and Ome Daiber.

*Analysis:* An inexperienced party that did not recognize the hazards present on a glacier.

*Washington—Cascades—Crested Buttes:* Eugene Hull (20), Wallace Carey (21) and John Crawford (23) went on a mountain trip on Crested Butte on 4 October 1953. They were not roped and the terrain over which they travelled was not considered difficult by the rescue party. Carey and Crawford were travelling together and above Hull. They maintained contact by shouts. When Hull failed to keep a rendezvous the others thought he