

and piton to protect the last man on a traverse; (c) climbing while emotionally upset."

*California, Yosemite (3)*—On May 28, 1955 a party consisting of six experienced climbers were climbing Washington Column. The rock was dry, weather clear, and the party was properly equipped and led. Helen Ryckevorsel (34) was on second of three ropes. The first rope had already climbed the chimney. She led the second rope and slipped just as she reached the top of the pitch. She fell past her belayer and continued 45 feet down to a ledge breaking both legs and a wrist.

Rescue operations were aided by Yosemite Park Rangers who helped lower her by stretcher. She was admitted to hospital four hours after the accident.

*Source:* William Siri.

*Analysis:* She slipped while leading a 4th class pitch in an exposed open chimney. There is no clear indication why she slipped. She was presumably an able climber with adequate judgment of climbing difficulties. The route has been used hundreds of times without incident and rarely is a piton needed for protection.

*Washington, Wenatchee National Forest—East Fork of Boulder Creek above Timber Line*—On September 5, 1955 Clayton Ogle (35), a Forest Service trail crew cook, slipped on a 50 by 100 yard snow field below a rock cliff while traveling alone above Timber Line into a lake, located three miles from a trail. Carrying a heavy and bulky pack and not equipped with an ice axe, he slid the full length of the snow field and was killed when he struck the rocky ravine below. Ogle realized the danger of crossing the snow field since two days previously, with a companion, he had avoided the same snow field.

*Source:* Kenneth Wilson, in charge of the U. S. Forest Service search party which found Ogle's body, and J. K. Blair, Forest Supervisor of Wenatchee National Forest; Vic Josendal.

*Analysis:* This accident illustrates the danger of climbing alone and of climbing on snow with a bulky pack without snow-climbing equipment and without knowledge of snow-climbing technique.

*Washington, Mt. St. Helens*—On August 28, 1955 James F. Henriot (27) was hit by a rolling boulder of unknown origin while climbing on snow on Mt. St. Helens with three companions. He was making a switch-back turn when he saw the boulder just before it hit him in the hip. Lacerations and a chipped bone resulted. Henriot was hospitalized for five days but recovery has been complete.

*Source:* Interrogation of Henriot and *The Mountaineer* 48: 13, 1955 (Dec.); Vic Josendal.

*Analysis:* This accident illustrates the necessity of being constantly alert to the danger of rockfall.

*Washington, Near Mt. Stuart*—On September 5, 1955 David Martin (19) and his brother (17) along with Fred Facer (41) were returning to base camp from a climb on Mt. Stuart. They had backpacked to their base camp two days earlier, climbed to the summit ridge of Mt. Stuart, two miles away, on the previous day, and bivouacked the previous night at Ingalls Lake.

As one of the climbers climbed up a 40-foot ravine to reconnoiter the route, the other two took cover from the loose rocks which were knocked down.