

*Analysis:* Marginal terrain can be as dangerous as mountainous. They had ascended this route earlier under dry conditions; the descent was on steep wet rocks and was felt to be sufficiently difficult to warrant lowering the packs and taking the least exposed route.

*Washington, Cliff in Upper Entiat Valley*—On 29 June, Dewey Long (15) fell 100 feet to his death while attempting to climb a cliff with a friend in the hills of the upper Entiat Valley.

*Source:* Newspaper clipping.

*Washington, Cascades, Snoqualmie Pass area*—On October 5, Gerald Burns (25) and two companions were hiking across country to a lake for fishing. The terrain was generally steep but with adequate ledges for safe travel. While crossing a steep gulley, a rock about the size of a 2 quart jar fell without warning from above and struck Burns on the head. The companions gave assistance and then ran for help. They met three hikers on the trail, telling them of the location of the accident, and then continued to Snoqualmie Pass. A Navy helicopter, a second helicopter, and the M.R.C. proceeded toward the spot where Burns lay in a semi conscious state. Amazingly, the three hikers had also found Burns three hours earlier weaving on his feet in a rather precarious position. He was lowered in a stretcher down the gulley and carried to a flat area that night. On the following morning a 'copter was able to get in amid heavy clouds and evacuate the victim. The brain injury was serious and after three weeks Burns was still unconscious (Oct. 30).

*Source:* Pete Schoening and Dee Molenaar.

*Analysis:* This might be considered a freak accident. However, experienced climbers usually keep a constant vigilance for falling rock from above, especially in couloirs. The accident displays again the need for a minimum party of four persons—one person to stay with the injured person. In this case both companions left the injured person alone. Miraculously the hikers were able to find Burns with only a general description of his location. Had they not found Burns it is highly possible that Burns, in his semi conscious condition, would have toppled down the gulley before the rescuers could be guided by the companions to the site some three hours later. Fortunately no one was seriously injured by falling rock in the gulley during the evacuation and the weather remained mild. Peter Schoening received a slight cut on one leg when working down the gulley with evacuation litter and victim. George Senner, also in the rescue party, stated that the two climbers attempted to cross the rock couloir higher up but loose rocks made them decide to cross lower down. Burns was possibly hit by a rock they had loosened higher up. This suggests the need for greater care in travelling below recently loosened rock areas.

*Washington, Cascade Range, Mt. Si*—On January 26 Clark Phillips (19), Rick Cummings, and Claude Harmon set out to climb the west face of Mt. Si. The weather was mild and they were lightly dressed in cotton shirts and wearing leather soled oxfords. They scrambled up the lower slopes

until about 300 feet from the top, when they split up. Phillips took one route and the others another. The rocks became steeper and soon Phillips found himself in a precarious position. As he was deciding what to do the rocks under his feet gave way and he started to slide. He was fortunately able to stop, however he was unable to proceed up or down from where he had stopped. He called to his companions who went for help. After 8½ hours he was rescued in the dark by the M.R.C. group from Seattle.

*Source:* Argosy, August 1958, 37: Newspaper clipping.

*Analysis:* Inexperienced, unroped, inadequately equipped climbers exceeding their abilities.

*Washington, Cascades, Mt. Snoqualmie*—On May 11 a large party of 60 Mountaineers were on an experience climb on Mt. Snoqualmie. They had reached the summit and at about 12 noon were starting the descent. Three of the party were ahead of Cecil Schmidt and hidden by the slope. Schmidt glissaded down and according to reports ran into one of this group and impaled himself on the climber's ice axe. He removed the axe from the wound in his hip and then glissaded down a short distance to where the leader was stationed. Here he collapsed. First aid was administered. A successful evacuation was done by the group.

*Source:* The Mountaineer, July 1958, page 5.

*Analysis:* This type of situation had been foreseen and an attempt had been made to forestall it by placing competent persons along the route. The constant need for control while glissading is apparent. It should also be emphasized that a climber who has stopped his glissade should not take for granted that he is secure. He should be aware of what is happening above and behind him.

*Washington, Camas, Chimney Rocks*—At approximately 4:30 p.m. on May 25, one rope of three started up the west face on the centermost rock in the Chimney Rocks. After they had reached a point where they anchored three pitons, John Satterberg (23) started up the face. He snapped on to a piton approximately 50 feet above the starting point and climbed to a point about 50 feet above this piton. At this point he anchored himself into the three pitons and proceeded to belay John Gollehan (19) up to this position. After resting for a while they changed leads and Gollehan started out. He traversed to the right and then started up the steep face where he shortly disappeared from sight. About the time 30 feet of rope were out Satterberg heard a slipping noise and Gollehan yelled "falling." Satterberg was straddling an outcropping and was giving him a sitting belay. He immediately started to pull in the rope to minimize the distance between Gollehan and himself. About this time Gollehan and the rope came flying over the cliff above Satterberg. The rope had apparently been severed in the fall and Gollehan hit a glancing blow on the side of the rock about 50 feet below Satterberg and fell another 30 or 40 feet before hitting squarely and bouncing another 40 or 50 feet into some underbrush. Satterberg yelled to the other members of the party who were near the top and they hurried