

members of the Washington Alpine Club had established camp at the end of the road in Snow Gulch and started preparations for climbing the mountain the following day. With the comment that he was just going for a walk to "try out my new boots," Reid left Camp at 4:00 p.m. and started up the trail, lightly clad and with only his ice axe. About 300 yards from camp, and just barely out of sight, he encountered the first hard snow in the gully, remains of the past winter's avalanches. About 200 feet up the snow he apparently attempted to get onto the rock again, but the rotten snow at the lip of the gap between snow and rock collapsed under him and he fell about 40 feet suffering severe head injuries and a broken neck.

*Source:* Kenn Carpenter, Everett Mountain Rescue Unit.

*Analysis:* As an experienced climber Reid should have been more cautious in approaching the moat and known that the edge of the snow was soft and very likely undercut and weak. His first error was in leaving camp alone. There was evidence which suggested his fall was not immediately fatal, and hence a companion's call to the nearby camp might possibly have saved his life.

*Washington, Cascades, Mt. Pilchuck*—On June 20, following an early supper, Scoutmaster Dearborn gave permission to Eagle Scout Henry Bryan (15) and his 23 companions to do some exploring in the vicinity of their Heather Lake Campsite. During their excursion Bryan attempted to jump a moat separating the rock he was on from the steep hard snow field. Following the jump he slipped and slid over the lip of the snow, falling 15 feet to the rocks below and becoming wedged between rock and ice. Dearborn quickly arrived at the scene, sent word to the Ranger Station for help, and with the aid of the other boys evacuated Bryan on a makeshift litter back to the camp. Within three hours of the accident the rescue team and doctor arrived, and Bryan was in a hospital three and a half hours later. He was unconscious for 10 days.

*Source:* Kenn Carpenter, Everett Mountain Rescue Unit.

*Analysis:* As an Eagle Scout, Bryan was an experienced camper and hiker, but he was not aware of the dangers that hard snow presented to off-trail climbing. Had he taken an ice axe with him and known how to use it, there is no doubt he could have arrested his slide before going into the moat.

*Washington, Dome Peak Area, Spire Point*—Sixteen climbers were on an official Mazama outing in the Dome Peak Area with a base camp located near Cub Lake. Outing was under the leadership of Ed Dolan and Jim Craig. On August 6, the entire group started to move over the divide to Whiterock Lake to bivouac Thursday night. On reaching the crest the group was split. A party of five, including both outing leaders, was to continue on to Whiterock Lakes, deposit gear, and proceed farther north to climb Sentinel and Old Guard. The remaining group was to climb Spire Point and then proceed to Whiterock Lakes. Both groups consisted of experienced climbers with many years of climbing on both snow and