

a rock near the bottom and fell into a crevasse. Challinor started to work his way slowly down to Carabin but also slipped and slid down the glacier about 1500 ft. into other rocks. Both men were injured. Challinor was able to call for help and a rescue party removed them from the glacier the following day under rather adverse circumstances. Both of the injured were lightly clad, and it is remarkable that they did not suffer more from exposure. Carabin received fractured skull, wrists, right upper arm, and two vertebrae. He was left with a residual right paralysis. Challinor suffered a fractured ankle and crushed and fractured vertebrae.

*Source:* Gerald Challinor, Robert W. Riddle, Sheriff Libby, Montana, and E. Thomas Collins, Chairman, Western Montana Mountain Rescue Council.

*Idaho, Sawtooth Range, Mt. Heyburn.* On August 27, Gerald Fuller (27) and James Ball (34) were attempting an untried sixth-class ascent of the North face of Mt. Heyburn. Fuller had climbed 20 ft. above his belayer to the top of a small block. Then without piton protection climbed another 20 ft. up an extremely difficult perpendicular right-angle corner where a piton was placed for tension. A second tension piton was placed above the first, but before the single rope could be snapped in, the first piton pulled out. Fuller fell a subsequently measured 80 ft. in a series of three bounces before a belay could be effective. He was then lowered to a ledge, the rope secured, and Ball went to his aid. The injured man was unconscious and had severe scalp lacerations and facial abrasions. Fuller regained consciousness but remained confused for approximately 2 hours. First-aid was administered and it was discovered that his left leg was unable to bear weight. The injured climber was lowered by rope approximately 800 ft. to the talus, where he was given all the extra clothing and was, of necessity, left while Ball went for help. An evacuation party was formed and Fuller was later removed to hospital. His injuries were a fractured talus of the left ankle, multiple lacerations of the scalp, fracture of the outer table of the skull, multiple facial abrasions, and multiple contusions.

*Source:* James D. Ball.

*California, San Gabriel Mountains, Mt. Baden-Powell.* On February 19, Charles Brubaker (20), William Glass (20), Roy O'Brien (19), and Larry Sheets (17), set out to climb Mt. Baden-Powell (9399 ft.) The party planned to follow the summer trail. In winter the steep couloirs crossed by the trail are filled with ice. The party was equipped with one ice axe and one 120-ft. climbing rope, as they expected icy conditions.

At approximately 1:45 p.m. the party had reached the 7700 foot level on the mountain and had discovered that the ice conditions were more severe than they had expected or had the ability to cope with. Considering that they were not likely to reach the summit, the group turned back at this point. Slightly below the highest point reached by the party the route crossed a particularly steep and icy couloir. Brubaker attempted to cross it without roping up and slipped immediately. He fell approximately 1700 ft. in an uncontrolled slide and was killed instantly when he struck the rocks at the bottom of the couloir.

The remainder of the party continued the descent with considerable haste, taking one hour and a half to reach the cars and additional time to reach the nearest ranger station. Rescue personnel reached the body late in the evening and completed the evacuation before midnight using standard mountaineering techniques.

Considering the season, climbing conditions at the time of the accident were excellent; the weather was pleasantly cool with a slight north wind blowing.

*Source:* Robert C. Gardner, Altadena Mountain Rescue Squad, Altadena Sheriff's Station, Altadena.

*Analysis:* It is evident that Brubaker used poor judgment in not roping up. The party was inadequately equipped for such a climb at this season; each member should have had an ice axe and crampons. This is another instance where an easy summer route becomes much more difficult under winter conditions.

*California, Tahquitz Rock.* On November 4, John Suppe (18), Stuart White (19), and John Bahr (18) were climbing on Tahquitz Rock. Suppe was leader; he had had five seasons general mountaineering experience, including one summer of rock climbing in Yosemite Valley. White and Bahr had had limited experience. In the morning before the climb, Suppe discussed theory and gave them some drill in fundamentals.

The party began the climb at 2:00 p.m., on The Trough. The route was in shadow most of the day, and by the time the accident occurred (about 5:45 p.m.) all of the climbers, especially White, were chilled. The party had reached their objective and descended by rappelling and climbing. On the next-to-last pitch Suppe belayed while first Bahr and then White climbed down to the large ledge at the top of the bottom pitch. White and Suppe were tied into the climbing rope; Bahr was not tied in. Suppe had told White to stand in a certain crevice to belay while Suppe climbed down; White did not do so but simply stood on the ledge to belay. Suppe made a one-strand sling out of nylon parachute cord and looped it over a rock nubbin, with his climbing rope passing through it; thus, as Suppe climbed down, the rope was going from White up to the sling and then down to Suppe. Suppe climbed down most of the pitch, but in some places where he could not see footholds he used the two strands of climbing rope to give himself tension. When almost at the belay ledge he stopped to rest in tension and the sling broke. Suppe fell somewhat more than the length of the rope (120 ft.), down a steep slabby trough, suffering extensive abrasions. White, pulled off the ledge, fell more than 150 ft., hitting his head on the way down. Suppe climbed down to White while Bahr rappelled down and went for help. A rescue party, organized by the Idyllwild Fire Department, reached the injured climbers at 8:00 p.m. White was carried out on a stretcher, but Suppe was able to walk down. The party reached the cars at 9:30 and the hospital at 10:00 p.m. White never regained consciousness and died in the hospital eleven days later.

*Source:* David Harrah (from interviewing Suppe and Bahr and examining the area).

*Analysis:* The immediate cause of the accident was the breaking of the