

## ACCIDENTS 1964 CANADA

*British Columbia, Coast Range, North Peak, Golden Ears.* On 23 February Fred Douglas (19) was one of a party of three making a ski-mountaineering ascent of the Golden Ears Peak. At 4,500 feet, the party removed skis for a rest. In the flat light Douglas walked off the snow ridge and fell and slid down steep snow and ice to a 3,200-foot level where he lodged in a group of trees.

After the alarm was given, an RCAF helicopter dropped MRG members at 2,000-foot level in poor weather late the same day. Five stayed overnight, and seven more joined them next morning. The victim was found at 9 A.M., February 24, severely shaken, but only slightly injured. He was moved a short distance, then evacuated by a hazardous hovering pickup.

*Source:* R. E. Mason; Paddy Sherman.

*Alberta, Banff National Park, Mt. Laurie.* On 1 July three Calgary climbers, who were to meet an 18 year old friend, Brian Lwyellan Andreason, of Calgary, at the base of a recognized climbing route toward the west end of the front face of Mt. Laurie, found his body lying on the scree at the base of the route.

They left the body, returned to the highway, and contacted Cpl. M. Metcalfe of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canmore detachment, who sent Cst. C. Biln with the three Calgary climbers, carrying a canvas stretcher, back up the mountain to locate the body and start down with it.

*Source:* G. H. L. Dempster, General Superintendent, Banff National Park; Paddy Sherman.

*Analysis:* The accident victim was relatively inexperienced, according to his friend's reports. He had evidently slipped and fallen to his death while attempting a climb alone.

*Alberta, Banff National Park, Mt. St. Piran.* On 16 July Dennis Sadler, Patricia Greenlaw, Alice Hryak, and Dianne Fowler planned to traverse the Lake Agnes trail (a recognized hiking trail) to the summit of the pass between Mt. Niblock and Mt. St. Piran, drop down to a small lake (Lake Minewakun) and follow a steep trail down the creek to the Lake O'Hara trail and loop back to the Lake Louise Chateau. No member of the party had been over this route before. All members were in their early twenties and inexperienced in climbing.

A snowfield lies on the far side of the Pass and the entire group, who had never glissaded before, attempted a direct descent without ice axes. Patricia Greenlaw went out of control just prior to reaching the boulder bed at the base of the snowfield, made two flying steps out on the rocks before her right leg dropped between two boulders resulting in a compound fracture of the right tibia, some 3 inches above the ankle.

Dennis Sadler left Alice Hryak and Dianne Fowler to cope with the injured girl while he started off to report the accident at the Chateau. Evacuation was successful later that same day.