

happened and they continued on up the talus. The brother and older man did not find Larry and went past the ledge where he was. They continued on until they reached the ledge trail and followed it up. They were benighted and stayed on a ledge until three Rangers and one fire guard came to their aid. Mike met his father about 200 feet above the valley floor. The father and son came down together from that point.

Gee apparently died in the night from his injuries shortly after Mike left. He was dead when the rescue party reached the scene about midnight.

*Source:* Fredrick Anderson, Park Ranger

*California, Inyo National Forest, Shadow Lake Area.* On 24 August a party from "Outward Bound" from Pasadena left Agnew Meadow (8,600 ft.) and camped at a small lake (8,200 ft.) about two miles from the end of the road. A 17-year-old member of the party complained of not feeling well. The next day they continued towards Shadow Lake (9,000 ft.). Here the boy became progressively worse and lapsed into a coma in the late afternoon. He had been seen by a physician who diagnosed his condition as pneumonia and gave him an injection. The victim died in the night.

*Source:* Thomas H. Jukes

*Analysis:* This is probably a case of high altitude pulmonary edema. It indicates the potential hazard of going from sea-level to only moderate altitude and doing physical exertion without adequate time allowed for proper adaptation.

*California, San Bernardino Range, Mt. San Gorgonio.* On 23 December, Michael Daugherty (26), Charles Helfer (21), and Joseph Hara (50) were descending the route of ascent and the accident occurred about 500 feet below the summit on the North side. At the time of the accident the party was cramponning down a hard snow slope of no greater than 35° which connected the summit ridge with a wooded ridge separating two somewhat steeper (about 40°) couloirs. This was the only place on the climb (about 100 yards) that had any exposure. The rest of the climb either was on lower angle or heavily wooded. The party was descending unroped using crampons and ice axes.

About 100 feet above the upper end of the wooded ridge, the party was proceeding in file when the last member of the party (Hara) fell. This occurred about 3:00 p.m. The first two members of the party turned and saw Hara sliding downward on his back, feet first, with his ice axe firmly grasped in both hands and held above him. They both shouted to him to roll over in order to execute a self arrest. Hara appeared to make no attempt to do this and slid down into the broad couloir on the East side of the ridge, gaining speed and disappearing from sight.

Daugherty and Helfer descended the wooded ridge and found Hara, severely injured (probably from hitting rock and trees on the way down), in a small tree protruding from the snow toward the bottom of the couloir, approximately 500 feet below where he fell. They cut a platform in the snow and removed Hara from the tree, placing him on the platform. Helfer then proceeded to the roadhead and summoned aid while Daugherty administered first aid. Hara died at approximately 4:00 p.m.

*Source:* Michael Daugherty, Charles Helfer, and David Harrah

*Analysis:* (Harrah) It is possible that this accident could have been prevented if the party had been roped. On the other hand, the route lay along relatively gentle terrain, with optimal conditions for crampon walking; the conditions were such that a slip and fall did not seem at all likely. Hara had had some instruction in the use of the ice axe, and he had done well on the ascent. Exactly why he slipped, and why he could not regain control, will probably never be known. The most plausible explanation seems to be that he was more deeply affected by fatigue than he or his companions realized.

*California, Death Valley National Monument, Telescope Peak.* On 20 December, Grant Trigg (19) and a companion, Schultz, were descending from the summit of Telescope Peak. The two men attempted ice axe glissades over the steep fall-off of the Eastern slope of the mountain, on icy snow with out-croppings of rock and bush. Trigg was separated from his ice axe, slid 1,000 feet down a steep snow chute and fell to his death over a 200-foot ice fall at the mouth of the chute. Schultz spent some time trying to locate Trigg, was unsuccessful, and worked his way off the slope to the trail with great difficulty, and went on for help.

*Source:* Carl A. Heller and Gilbert Blinn

*Analysis:* Both Trigg and Schultz evidently had such limited experience in climbing on ice and snow, and in the uses of the equipment and techniques thereof, that they did not realize the hazards of an ice axe glissade on such a treacherous slope. More experienced climbers would not have attempted it.

*California, Death Valley National Monument, Telescope Peak.* On 21 December, Richard Slates (34), a member of a search party for the body of Grant Trigg arrived by one-passenger helicopter on a ridge of Telescope Peak and elected to deviate from the established search pattern by proceeding alone up the ridge toward the summit. He did not wait for a second man, who arrived about one-and-a-half hours later in the same helicopter. Analyses of tracks showed a slip and a fall on steep, crusted snow. There was no evidence of attempted ice axe arrest. A slide of fifty feet carried Slates over a 200-foot icy waterfall to his death.

*Source:* Dr. Carl A. Heller

*Analysis:* It is possible that a sudden helicopter lift to 9,500 feet may have affected Slates' judgment, since solo climbing is against the group rules. He was not in good shape and was probably tired.

*Oregon, Mt. Hood.* Late in the night of 16 July, Terry Tindall (19), Sue Davis (17), and John MacDaniels (18) arrived at Cloud Cap Inn. It was thought they had intended to climb Mt. Hood that night, but stormy conditions forced them to abandon that plan. Another party was at Cloud Cap. Both parties awoke at 5:00 a.m. The other party left at 7:00 a.m. and the MacDaniels party at about 8:00 a.m. The weather during the climb was mostly warm and sunny. The day before had been stormy. The MacDaniels party roped up when they reached Eliot Glacier and put on their crampons. They climbed through the lower ice fall on Eliot Glacier (for interest's sake) to the moat-crevasse which separates the curving Eliot Glacier from the Northeast face below Cooper Spur. They picked up and followed the route made by the earlier party. The earlier party reported that they met soft snow two feet thick on a wet base on their route. By this time (about