

## ACCIDENTS 1967 CANADA

*Alberta, Rockies, Mt. McGillivray.* On 8 July John Bruinink (19) left Calgary and hitch hiked into Rockies to make a scrambling course. He had previously laid out the trail three weeks before. He said he "may go climbing." He was supposed to have had a rope although none was found near the body. On 10 July search party located the body, climbing hardware, hammer, rucksack, and water bottle. Body was found two to three miles southwest of where he was supposed to be going and there were no signs of his having been in the intended location. His wrist watch was stopped at 3:15-3:20, presumably p.m. He apparently fell while climbing alone.

*Source:* Calgary Mountain Rescue group report; newspaper clipping.

*Yukon Territory, St. Elias Range, North side of Mt. Logan.* On 8 July Vince Bauer (27), and Peter Thompson (21) were climbing at night. About 100 feet above camp, Bauer in sitting belay, Thompson was leading. About 90 feet above belay a snow slab cracked carrying Thompson down. Bauer pulled out from belay. Thompson has recollection of seeing Bauer standing up as he, Thompson, was being swept down, but is not certain. Both persons were carried down 60-70 degree slope about 600 to 700 vertical feet where they were hung up on either side of a snow hump on a decreasingly steep slope. Both ice axes were lost. Both were able to climb back up to within 200 feet below camp using a shovel to dig steps. Accident was discovered at 4:00 p.m. when rest of party got up. What appeared to have happened was that a two foot slab of snow, the result of a snowfall about 10 to 14 days before the accident, had broken away. Avalanche occurred on a short section of 35° slope leading to the crest of a very thin corniced ridge. Bauer suffered a broken arm and was evacuated the next day. Thompson received a laceration of the forehead that required 20 stitches by a member of the party who was a nurse.

*Source:* James Craig.

*Analysis:* Testing the snow with a shovel would probably have revealed lack of consolidation of the snow. This short section of slope of about 100 feet distance was fairly solid to walk on and one of the easiest parts of the ridge leading to one of the most difficult.

## UNITED STATES

*New Hampshire, Mt. Lafayette.* On 22 July Gregory Sherblow (17) and Stewart Putnam (17) were camped on top of Mt. Lafayette. A lightning storm developed and a bolt of lightning struck about 35 feet from their tent, smashed a boulder, and sent ground currents through them. Sherblow was knocked semi-conscious, immobile and received skin burns. Putnam was unconscious and in shock. Sherblow ran to the Greenleaf hut for help. Persons there evacuated Putnam to the hut.

*Source:* Newspaper clipping.