

Denali National Park and Preserve

Annual Mountaineering Summary - 2007



FIRST SOLO WINTER ASCENT OF MT. FORAKER

The 2007 climbing season was off to a successful start with the first solo winter ascent of Mt. Foraker by the renowned Japanese climber Masatoshi Kuriaki. This "Wind Warrior" of the Alaska Range posted the only successful ascent of Mt. Foraker out of 21 attempts this season. Masatoshi, a quiet, understated climber with enormous resolve, has spent a whopping 532 days by himself in the Alaska Range since his first winter climb in 1997. The Denali staff will miss seeing Masatoshi in 2008, as this winter's adventure involves taking care of his newborn baby!

In early April, the West Ridge of Mt. Hunter was successfully climbed by an NPS patrol comprised of mountaineering rangers Mik Shain and Tucker Chenoweth, along with volunteer Tim Connelly. This early season climb was intended to hone technical mountaineering skills, expand our staff-wide base of route knowledge, and to make an early assessment of snow conditions.

We welcomed a new mountaineering ranger this season, Kevin Wright, who brings great skills and experience to the team as a former Denali guide, an accomplished ski patroller, and a former NPS mountaineering volunteer. We sadly said goodbye to John Evans, a mountaineering ranger here since 2001. A 25-year veteran on Denali, Evans' vast experience as a mountain guide and former Air National Guard Pararescueman added great depth to our ranger team.


The U.S. Army High Altitude Rescue Team (B. Company, 4th-123rd, Aviation) from Ft. Wainwright in Fairbanks was committed overseas once again and thereby unable to support our camp insertion. We were fortunate to work with the U.S. Army Black Hawks (1st, 207th, Aviation) from Ft. Richardson in Anchorage who proved an invaluable resource in removing the camps. We hope to work with both of these remarkable teams again in the future.

We conducted 19 search and rescue missions involving five fatalities, reminding us yet again how fragile human life is in the Alaska Range. These incidents involved climbing falls, crevasse falls, rappel failure, snow blindness, an avalanche, altitude sickness, and other assorted medical problems. Along with numerous medical transports of patients from the 14,200-foot camp on Denali, the NPS-contracted Lama Helicopter, flown by pilot Jim Hood, performed two operational shorthaul rescues this season in terrain outside our typical focus area, including a day-hiker on Mt. Healy near park headquarters and a distressed hiker in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

Congratulations go out to Denali Pro Award winners Heidi Kloos and Robert Durnell for their selfless assistance to other climbers during a particularly grueling rescue mission. (*More on page 2.*)

The South District staff continued efforts to investigate and penalize businesses offering unauthorized commercial services within the park, both in the aviation and mountain guiding realms. This year, working in conjunction with the United States Attorney's Office, we conducted two different undercover investigations. One of these investigations led to the execution of a search warrant, and charges are currently pending in the case. The other investigation resulted in the cancellation of climbing permits for illegally guided clients. This past season the National Park Service cancelled over one hundred registrations for climbers involved -- either knowingly or unknowingly -- with illegal businesses.

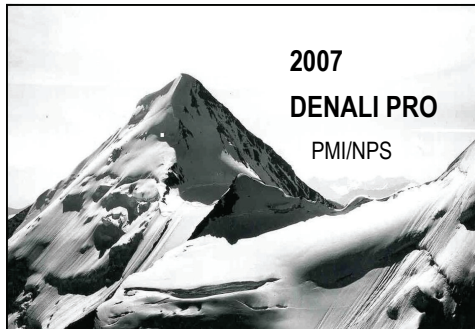
As this Summary goes to press, we learned that our medical director for Denali National Park and Preserve, Dr. Jen Dow, is the 2007 recipient of the "Memorial Longenbaugh Award", a prestigious accolade honoring both her professional and volunteer work in Alaskan emergency medicine. From all the staff at Denali, thank you Dr. Dow for all your hard work!

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Read diary excerpts (p.6-7) from Masatoshi Kuriaki's 2007 solo winter ascent of the Southeast Ridge of Mt. Foraker. (photo: M. Kuriaki)		

DENALI PRO AWARD

The Denali Pro Award recognizes climbers for exemplary performance in expedition behavior, risk assessment, and minimum impact while climbing Denali. Pigeon Mountain Industries (PMI) and the National Park Service are proud to recognize guides Heidi Kloos and Robert Durnell of Mountain Trip International as joint recipients of the 2007 Denali Pro Award for their selfless assistance to other climbers in need.

While climbing on Mt. McKinley, Heidi Kloos and Robert Durnell were at the 17,200-foot camp on the 17th of May when they witnessed two climbers from another expedition suffer a 2,000 foot fall. They immediately volunteered to assist a National Park Service patrol with the rescue of these two climbers. They both were assigned to the hasty team dispatched to evaluate the situation, and upon arrival at the accident site discovered a catastrophic scene where two members of the 'Cascade Climbers' expedition lay entangled in a climbing rope with their personal effects strewn all about. One of the two climbers had perished in the fall, and the other was in serious condition with a compromised airway and active bleeding. Kloos



and Durnell were instrumental in assisting the NPS mountaineering ranger in providing immediate emergency medical treatment and preparing the victim for evacuation back to the 17,200-foot camp.

After the evacuation was underway, they both stayed behind at the accident site, unbidden, to collect and consolidate as many personal effects that could be found from the surrounding area, and to mark the

gear and deceased climber with wands. This was a very unpleasant but vital task since the majority of the gear would have been buried by the snow that was falling and being blown by the 30 mph winds that were present. Upon completion of this task they returned to the 17,200-foot camp where they took upon themselves the chore of providing sustenance for all the rescue personnel and hot water bottles for the surviving victim throughout the night. Lamentably, the climber died the following morning without ever regaining consciousness, but the hard work put forth by Kloos and Durnell ensured that everything possible was done to save the severely injured climber. Their selfless efforts to render aid to fellow climbers illustrate the highest quality of character that the Denali Pro Award seeks to recognize.

(Ranger John Loomis)

THE NUMBERS

ROUTE	<u>ATTEMPTS</u>		<u>SUMMITS</u>		SUMMIT						
	Teams	Climbers	Teams	Climbers	PERCENTAGE						
<div>45 nations were represented on Mt. McKinley & Mt. Foraker this season,</div> <div><div>United States729</div><div>United Kingdom64</div><div>Canada50</div><div>Germany39</div><div>Spain36</div></div> <div>The majority of American climbers came from one of four states:</div> <div><div>Alaska (118)</div><div>Colorado (115)</div><div>Washington (94)</div><div>California (83)</div></div>											
						MT. MCKINLEY					
						Cassin Ridge	4	10	2	3	30
						Denali Diamond	1	2	1	2	100
						Muldrow Glacier	3	19	3	14	74
						South Buttress	1	3	0	0	0
						West Buttress	257	1,099	150	513	47
						West Buttress Traverse	3	17	3	13	76
						West Rib	6	15	1	2	13
						Upper West Rib	16	53	9	26	49
						TOTALS	291	1,218	169	573	47%
						MT. FORAKER					
Southeast Ridge	1	1	1	1	100						
Sultana	7	20	0	0	0						
TOTALS	8	21	1	1	5%						

FIRST ASCENTS AND NOTABLE CLIMBS

The most activity in the range this season occurred off of the Ruth Glacier. Beginning early in the season a Japanese three-some climbed a trio of hard new routes. Fumitaka Ichimura, Yusuke Sato, and Yamada Tatsuro spent 24 days on the Ruth in April and made five attempts on unclimbed lines, three of them successful: Mt Bradley, Southeast Face; Mt Johnson, North Face; and Mt Church, North Face.

Also in April, Gareth Hughes and Vivian Scott made a first ascent on the East Face of 10,260-foot Mt. Dan Beard. The two climbed the route along the right side of the face in 24 hours. New route activity in the Ruth resumed again in June. Cedar Wright and Renan Ozturk climbed five rock routes in the 5.10 to 5.12 range along the east side of the Gorge. The longest lines were on the west face of the Eyetooth (a direct variation to the last 10 pitches of the Ogler Route) and a route to the left of the major dihedral. They also added two quality routes on the Stump within 100 feet of Gold Finger. These are some of the most accessible rock routes in the Alaska Range, located within a 30-minute ski of a Ruth Gorge base camp where aircraft can land, if conditions allow. Lastly for Ruth activity, Alaskan locals Jay Rowe and Peter Haeussler climbed a moderate route on the Southeast Buttress of the Sugar Tooth. From Espresso Gap, they climbed 21 pitches to the summit.

Elsewhere in the range the activity was sparse but no less impressive. On March 10, Masatoshi Kuriaki completed his quest to get to the summit of Foraker during a calendar winter (*see Winter Diary, pages 6-7*). This year he climbed the South East Ridge. While he had previously succeeded on this route and on the Sultana, these earlier summits had occurred several days after the spring equinox. Also on the Foraker massif, Peter Doucette, Ben Gilmore, and Freddie Wilkinson climbed a steep new route up the 4,000-foot South Face of the Fin, a 13,300-foot sub-peak on the remote southwest side of Mt. Foraker. This

route is included here due to its remote nature, as it was not a completed route to a summit.

Over on Mt. Hunter, Britons Jon Bracey and Andy Houseman made the second ascent of the *French Route* on the North Buttress of Mt. Hunter on May 8, 23 years after the first ascent. The pair climbed the route and then descended via the West Ridge to base camp in four days.

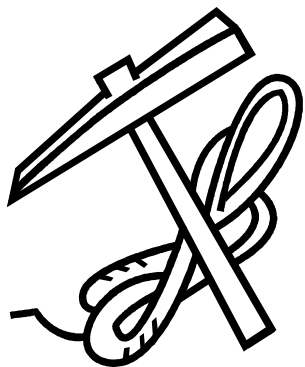
On Mt. McKinley, Michio Kumamoto, became the oldest person to reach the summit on June 29, 12 days after celebrating his 76th birthday. On the technical climbing scene Colin Haley and Mark Westman climbed the *Denali Diamond* in under 2 days from the bergschrund to the summit. This stunning route ascends the steep wall left of the Cassin Ridge and has now posted five ascents. A group of highly motivated skiers were active on the upper mountain in June. Good conditions allowed Adam Clark, Kristen Kramer, Clark Fyans, Nick Devore, and Chris Davenport to ski most of the popular lines. Then they also set out for new ground, making a probable first descent of the couloir on the Black Tower on the North summit (extremely obvious from the 17,200-foot high camp).

The Kichatna Spires had another visit from the British. Simon Hitchens, Phil Jefferey, and Mike "Twid" Turner came in April and made the first ascents of three long ice gullies off the Tatina Glacier.

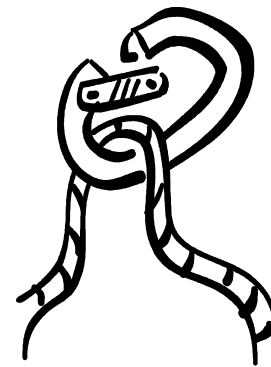
In May, Martin Gutmann and Lucas Iten, both from Switzerland, along with Jack Sasser from Colorado, made three new rock climbs in Little Switzerland. Two of these lines are on the Throne, to the right of the Lost Marsupial Gully and on the West Face. The third is on the south side of the Royal Tower, all of these routes are reported to offer quality rock and aesthetic climbing in the 5.10 range.

(Ranger Joe Reichert)

Quick Statistics—Mt. McKinley



- Average trip length: 16.8 days
- Average trip length for groups that summited: 17.6 days
- Busiest summit day: June 12, with 77 summits
- Summit breakdown by month: June (379); May (177); July (15)
- Average age: 37 years old
- Women constituted 12% of all climbers



RESCUE SUMMARY - 2007

Detailed below are nineteen search and rescue missions performed by Denali National Park and Preserve rangers in 2007. For more detailed information on the missions listed below and information on the other missions performed in 2007 refer to [Accidents in North American Mountaineering-2008](#), published by the American Alpine Club..

Fatal Fall: On April 23, a two-person team was climbing the Northeast Ridge of Mt. Wake (9,100 feet) in the Ruth Gorge. While on rappel, one of the climbers came off the end of the rope and suffered a fatal fall of over 1,300 feet. The partner descended the rest of the route and sought help from another climbing party in the Ruth Gorge that had a satellite phone. The NPS was notified later that evening. The victim's body was recovered the following day by fixed wing aircraft.

Crevasse Fall: On May 6, the Basecamp Manager reported to the NPS that a climber had taken a crevasse fall at the bottom of Heartbreak Hill (~7,000 feet) and needed assistance. Three rangers were dispatched down glacier to the reported location and found one injured climber who had already been extracted from the crevasse. Injuries included a possible fractured upper and lower left arm, pain in right ankle, as well as possible broken ribs. Rangers stabilized the injured patient and escorted the climbers back to Basecamp.

Fatal Fall: Two members of a climbing team departed from the 14,200-foot camp in the morning of May 16 for an ascent of the Upper Rib route, with a planned descent via the West Buttress. The following day, the two were observed by guides and a ranger patrol at the 17,200-foot high camp to be traversing along the top of the Messner Couloir (a route not normally taken) to a point high above the trail leading to Denali Pass. The team was last spotted traversing at an elevation of approximately 18,900-feet, but seconds later the team had fallen down the slope, stopping at the 17,000-foot level. A hasty team was dispatched to the site and discovered one climber deceased, while the other was alive but critically wounded. The wounded climber was treated for immediate life-threatening injuries and transported to the ranger tent at 17,200-feet. The climber was treated throughout the night but ultimately succumbed to injuries and died the morning of May 18.

Fatal Avalanche Fall: Two climbers were killed in a fall caused by an avalanche while attempting the Japanese Couloir route on Mount Barrille. The accident was not witnessed, but likely occurred sometime on the evening of May 16 or the morning of May 17. The remains of the two climbers were spotted on May 19 in wet avalanche debris at the base of Mt. Barrille by rangers aboard the Lama helicopter. Later that evening, the bodies were recovered and flown back to Talkeetna.

Medical Illness: On May 22, a client on a guided expedition contacted NPS staff at the 14,200-foot camp exhibiting signs and symptoms of a possible Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA), sometimes referred to as a "mini-stroke". The climber received medical care until weather permitted an evacuation by the NPS Lama Helicopter.

HAPE/HACE: An unresponsive climber was brought to the

14,200-foot NPS camp for evaluation on May 25. Ranger and volunteer staff determined that the sick climber was suffering from severe High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE) and High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE). The individual was treated and quickly evacuated from the 14,200-foot camp by the Lama helicopter.

Crevasse Fall: On May 25, a member of a two-person climbing team fell into a crevasse at the 7,500-foot level of the Kahiltna Glacier. The fall was held by a combination of his companion, rope drag, and a snow bridge approximately 60 feet down in the crevasse. The climber on top secured the rope and after determining that the fallen partner was relatively uninjured, dragged out the partner's sled and pack. The climber in the crevasse was unable to extricate himself, nor could the partner haul him out on his own. The team used their satellite phone to request assistance. A team of three (1 ranger and 2 VIP's) was transported to the scene by the Lama helicopter and extricated the climber from the crevasse. Both team members were then flown to the Kahiltna Basecamp, and the fallen climber was flown onward to Talkeetna for medical attention to cuts received around the head and face.

Knee Injury: On May 30, a guided client injured a knee while descending below the fixed lines on the West Buttress. The next day, the client was assessed by a VIP ranger physician at the 14,200-foot camp. The determination was made to evacuate the injured climber via the Lama helicopter to the Kahiltna Basecamp where the patient was released.

Snow Blindness: Led by his partner, a climber sought ranger assistance at the medical tent at 14,200 feet as he was completely impaired in both eyes by snow blindness. The snow blindness took longer than normal to heal up due to the severity of the injury, and ranger and medical staff at the camp deemed it safer to evacuate the climber than risk an accident on the descent due to impaired vision. However, due to the prolonged period of non-flyable weather, he eventually healed adequately enough to descend safely on foot with his partner.

Kidney Stone: On June 6, NPS was notified of a climber at the 7,800-foot camp unable to walk because of severe abdominal pain. Staff on scene diagnosed the climber's illness as a probable kidney stone. The patient remained non-ambulatory following treatment and was evacuated from the mountain by the Lama helicopter.

HAPE: Also on June 6, a guided client approached the medics at the 14,200-foot camp complaining of difficulty breathing and was subsequently diagnosed with High Altitude Pulmonary Edema. Ranger and medical volunteers treated the climber with oxygen and albuterol. As the patient's condition did not significantly improve, an air evacuation took place at the earliest

RESCUE SUMMARY, continued

opportunity, which due to weather considerations was not until the morning of June 8.

Knee Injury: A climber reported to NPS staff at the 14,200 foot camp on June 13 with an injured knee that occurred while alpine skiing above camp. After two days of rest, the patient was still unable to bear weight on the injury. On June 17, the patient was evacuated from the mountain via the Lama helicopter.

Medical Illness: A guided client sought help from the 14,200-foot medical camp with unexplained bradycardic episodes and accompanying shortness of breath. The condition continued even at rest and on oxygen. Patrol medics, in consultation with the park's sponsoring physician, recommended that the patient be flown off the mountain. The evacuation occurred two days later owing to poor flying weather.

Medical Illness: On June 27, a guide escorted a client down to the 14,200-foot camp from the 17,200-foot high camp. In the vicinity of Washburn's Thumb (approx. 16,900 feet), the client experienced a sudden onset of abdominal pain followed by a period of vomiting and bowel movements. The guide contacted the 14,200-foot ranger camp via radio to inform them what was occurring, but stated that they did not require any assistance at the time. Radio contact was maintained throughout the day and the guide and client ultimately arrived into the camp that evening without assistance. After a physical examination and consultation with the park's sponsoring physician at Alaska Regional Hospital, it was determined that the client had a possible bowel obstruction. The climber was emergency evacuated via the Lama helicopter to Talkeetna, and ground transported to the Mat-Su Regional Hospital for definitive medical care.

Knee Injury: A climber experienced a small fall on June 28 while descending the fixed lines of the West Buttress. The climber's right knee was injured during the fall and subsequently was unable to support any weight. The team requested NPS assistance to descend to the camp at 14,200 feet. Two rangers and a patrol volunteer evacuated the injured party to the ranger camp by rescue litter. The next morning, the patient was flown out by Lama helicopter to the Kahiltna Basecamp and transferred to a fixed wing aircraft to Talkeetna.

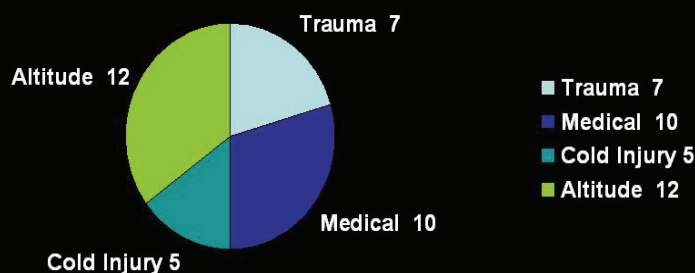
Probable HACE: On June 29, a client on a guided expedition collapsed below Denali Pass at the 18,000-foot level of Mt. McKinley. The patient was treated on the spot for HACE symptoms and short-rope down to the 17,200-foot camp for further medical evaluation by ranger staff. Upon improvement, it was determined that the patient could descend under their own power with short-rope assistance. The patient was advised to descend immediately and to be re-evaluated by ranger and volunteer medical staff at the 14,200-foot camp. Showing no additional signs or symptoms besides the event, the client descended with their guide to 7,200-foot Kahiltna Basecamp and flew out by fixed wing aircraft to Talkeetna.

Snow Blindness/HAPE: A climber incapacitated by snow blindness and pulmonary edema was evacuated from the West Buttress high camp to the 14,200-foot ranger camp via a roped lowering operation on June 30. Two days later the weather allowed the Lama helicopter to evacuate the sick climber to Talkeetna, where the patient was transferred to a fixed wing air ambulance for further hospital care in Anchorage.

Seizures: Also on June 30, a client exhibited seizures on the first day of a guided West Buttress expedition. Later that evening, the climber was airlifted from the 7,100-foot level of the Kahiltna Glacier by an Air National Guard helicopter for transport to Providence Hospital in Anchorage.

Cardiac Event: On July 4, a lead guide on a commercial expedition descended with a sick client from high camp to the 14,200-foot ranger camp for medical assistance; the client was complaining of shortness of breath, a general lack of energy, and lower left intercostal chest pain. The patient had a previous cardiac history, so after initial medical treatment to stabilize the condition, the Lama helicopter was placed on standby for a medical evacuation. Weather deteriorated and did not improve sufficiently until July 9, at which time the Lama flew the patient to the Kahiltna Basecamp where the climber was released from NPS care following a physical examination by a park medic. The patient flew out to Talkeetna and sought consultation with a cardiologist.

2007 Medical Summary



This year eighteen different health care providers worked under the supervision of Denali National Park medical advisor Dr. Jennifer Dow. As always, a wide range of injuries and afflictions were treated, from snow blindness at Basecamp to severe trauma at the 17,200-foot camp. In every instance these volunteers provided exceptional care in what are unforgiving environments.

WINTER DIARY - by Masatoshi Kuriaki

On day 39 of my expedition, I stood on top of Mt. Foraker. It was March 10, 2007 at 5:03 PM Alaska standard time (AST). The temperature was -50 F, with 20-30 knot winds, making a wind chill of almost -100 F. I only stayed for ten minutes but this was the culmination of four years of attempts at a goal of a solo winter ascent of the mountain. At last, I was successful.

My journey began in the summer of 1995, when I climbed Denali and dreamed of climbing solo in the winter. My dream grew into a quest to climb each of the three highest summits in the Alaska range in the winter. The three peaks are: Mt. McKinley whose native name is Denali meaning high one or great one, Mt.

Foraker whose native name is Sultana meaning wife or woman and finally Mt. Hunter, whose native name Beguya, meaning child. At this time, after ten winters of climbing, I have stood on the top of Mt. McKinley in the winter and on the top of Mt. Foraker, twice in the spring just a few days after the spring equinox. This is my story of this year's climb.

Day 1, January 31:

I flew into Kahiltna Glacier with Paul of Talkeetna Air Taxi in a Cessna 185 on wheel skis. I unloaded 300 pounds of gear, including my fuel, food, clothes, climbing gear and my 14 foot safety poles for crossing glaciers.

I spent the rest of the day setting up my base camp and organizing gear, elevation 6,450 feet.

Day 2 - 6, February 1 - 5:

I started ferrying my gear to the beginning of the Southeast Ridge at 6,700 feet across a portion of the glacier and then Camp 1 ascending the lower slope of the ridge to approximately 8,100 feet.

When crossing the glacier I use a pair of 14-foot-long Aluminum safety poles and mountain skis. The poles are used to help protect me in case of hidden crevasse. This was put to the test when I stepped on a hidden crevasse on day 4 and the poles and the skis stopped me from a



(Photo: M. Kuriaki)

serious fall.

I spent the next four days ferrying loads to the beginning of the ridge and up to Camp 1 and then building a snow cave.

Day 7 - 18, February 6 - 17:

At this point, I am staying at Camp 1 and ferry supplies from the beginning of the ridge (6,700 feet) to Camp 1 for 4 days, then ferry supplies to Camp 2 at 9,780 feet. The climbing became more technical and I had to rig 2 separate fixed lines of 200 feet each anchored with webbing around bed rock. The weather was clear and cold, with one day snow fall only. This made the chance of avalanche in this area known for avalanches very small.

It took me eight days to make five trips to Camp 2 and build the snow cave there.

Day 19 -29, February 18 - 28:

Camp 2, at 9,780 feet, the view of Mt. McKinley and Mt. Hunter and the rest of the Alaska range was fantastic. The winds began to pick up. I was stuck in my snow cave for 5 days straight until the winds let up enough for me to start moving to Camp 3 at 11,300 feet. It took me four trips in a 6 day period to ferry my gear to a point just below Camp 3. I had to rig one fixed line using 2 ropes, anchored with webbing around bed rock in two places.

Day 30 - 35, March 1 - 6:

I moved the fixed line to a steep section just below Camp 3 and started to move my supplies into Camp 3. I moved my two rope fixed line to just above Camp 3 and started to continue up the mountain to Camp 4 or High Camp at 13,400 feet. I made a stash just below High Camp and returned for a second load. On the second trip, I pulled the lower section of my fixed line and took it with me to use just below High Camp. Along this section, I encountered areas of blue ice exposed by lack of snow. It was good to finally be at High Camp with my supplies to make an attempt at the summit. It took me 6 days to accomplish this move to High Camp.

WINTER DIARY (continued)

Day 36 - 38, March 7 - 9:

High winds keep me at camp, watching the lenticular clouds form over Mt. McKinley, Mt. Foraker and Mt. Hunter, powered by the strong winds. I sat watching and waiting.

Day 39, March 10:

The lenticular clouds are still forming on Mt. McKinley and Mt. Hunter but not on Mt. Foraker. The winds are less than they have been the last few days. I will try!

The first thing I encountered is a steep knife ridge with an overhanging cornice. I have to stay back from the cornice but high enough on the slope not to cause an avalanche. Next, I came to an area of tricky crevasses. This took some time to negotiate. The rest of the way to the summit was hard ice and snow and I had to watch my step so I would not slip and fall. At last after 9 hours 15 minutes of climbing, I reached the summit of Mt. Foraker, 17,400 feet, at 5:03 PM AST. I only stayed 10 minutes in the -100 degree wind chill. I took many pictures and started my descent. It was getting late and my glasses were fogging up. With the combination of this and the flat light it would be too dangerous to try and cross the crevasse area and the knife edge ridge. After descending for three hours, I decided to make an emergency snow cave at 14,500 feet. This took me 3 1/2 hours to dig the snow cave. I spent a cold night in the snow cave without a sleeping bag at -20 F.



(Photo: M. Kuriaki)

Day 40 - 43, March 11 - 14:

After a cold night, I woke up to a calmer day and descended to High Camp but by afternoon the winds had picked back up. I spent another 3 days at High Camp because of high winds.

Day 44 - 52, March 15 - 23:

It took me 9 days to descend to my old base camp on the Kahiltna Glacier.

Day 53 - 57, March 24 - 28:

The wind had made the landing area on the glacier extremely rough. The plane was not able to land at my base camp. I had to ferry all my gear three miles to a protected area on the south east fork of the Kahiltna Glacier which is the standard base camp for climbers on Mt. McKinley.

On the 28th of March, Paul showed up in a Beaver and flew me back to Talkeetna.

After a long, hot shower, I ate two double cheeseburgers, two house salads and 2 orders of french fries. I topped this off with two desserts at Latitude 62 in Talkeetna, Alaska.



(Photo: M. Kuriaki)

Masatoshi KURIAKI
JAPAN

PERSONNEL

South District Staff

South District Ranger
Mountaineering Rangers

Daryl Miller
Tucker Chenoweth
John Evans
John Leonard
John Loomis
Meg Perdue
Joe Reichert
Roger Robinson
Mik Shain

Helicopter Manager
Helicopter Pilots

Kevin Wright
Dave Kreutzer

Helicopter Mechanic
Admin/Public Information
Supervisory VUA
Visitor Use Assistants

Jim Hood
Francisco Orlaineta
Doug Green
Maureen McLaughlin
Missy Smothers
Julia Crocetto
Al Gallo

South Denali Planner
Park Planner, BCMP
Education Specialist
Interpretive Ranger
Interpretive SCA*
Janitor
Medical Directors

Pam Robinson
Miriam Valentine
Charlie Loeb
Jenni Burr
Helen Cole
Nancy Williams
Jack Fickel
Jennifer Dow, M.D.
Peter Hackett, M.D.

**Student Conservation Association Intern*



Air National Guard Pararescuemen

Joe Higgins
Richard Konopka
Skip Kula
Chad Moore
Roger Sparks

United States Marine Corps

John Moore
Steve Morris

Mountaineering

Volunteers

Chris Alke
Dale Arvidson
Paul Austin*
Jeremy Cohen
Tim Connelly
Max Darrah
Jennifer Dow
Tim Duffy
Julia Fairbank
Wayne Fuller
Ben Habecker
Dexter Hale
Ian Healy
Matthew Hendrickson
Mary Horwedel
Jody Hynes
Obidiah Jenkins
Peggy Jones
Paul Koubek
Brandon Latham
Mike Loso
Paul Marcolini
Robb McLean
Martin Miller
Brian Napier
Andy Newton
Pete Panarese
Stuart Paterson
Craig Patterson
Tyler Rhodes
Kristin Richardson
Robert Ripley
Paul Smith
James Wright

**On detail assignment from
Grand Canyon NP*



<<Floor (L to R): C. Loeb, J. Loomis, K. Wright, J. Reichert. Standing (L to R): M. Smothers, A. Gallo, J. Leonard, R. Robinson, M. Perdue, P. Robinson, D. Miller, M. Shain, J. Evans, J. Burr, T. Chenoweth, M. McLaughlin, D. Kreutzer, J. Fickel