

Eskimo Girl Climbs Mt. McKinley

A 23 year old Anchorage girl last month became the first Eskimo woman to reach the summit of North America's highest mountain.

Betty Ivanoff reached the sunny 20,320 foot summit of Mount McKinley on August 13, after 17 days on the mountain.

"I was just amazed," she told the ANCHORAGE TIMES last week. "I never thought I'd make it to the top."

Miss Ivanoff made the ascent with three German climbers—Tilman Spohr and Gerhard and Harmut Albrecht, two brothers. All under 30 years old, they are experienced climbers who climb a major expedition every other year.

Among their climbing credits they have Mt. Kilimanjaro in Africa, The Hindu Kush Mts. in Pakistan and the European Alps.

The 19 day excursion was planned five days before the four climbers landed on Kahilt-

na Glacier on the 7,000 foot level of the mountain.

Betty met the three German climbers in Eberhard's Sport Shop in Anchorage where they were trying to formulate plans and assemble equipment to climb North America's tallest mountain. She, as a former secretary to the Mountaineering Club of Anchorage, could give them information. Later, they invited her to join the expedition.