

Secrets of Warmth

... On an Expedition to Antarctica ...

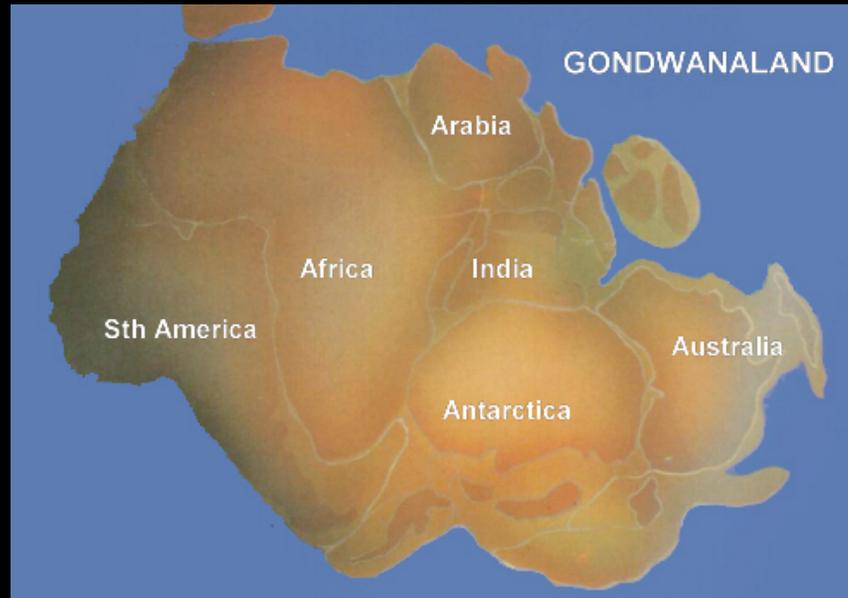
Jon Giorgini

A story of ...

- Tent-shredding 100+ mph storms
- Bitter cold (-50 degrees)
- Crevasse falls
- Near-death emergency
- Rescue
- Amputation
- Cannibalism (**don't panic!**)
- Unstoppable hippie nudism (**panic!**)

Along the way you'll meet ...

- The Team: Olympic gymnast, 2 Silicon Valley CEOs, rocket scientist
- Two Swedes on a quest to ski the world's highest mountains
- An eccentric Englishman ... skiing (solo) coast-to-pole
- A team of three "wild" women ...packing 22 pounds of vitamins



Millions Yrs Ago

Condition

540-360

.....

Mild : equatorial, tropical

360

.....

Cooler: ~ centered on S. Pole, flora & swamps

250-146

.....

Desert: dry, hot

160

.....

Gondwanaland begins breaking apart (Africa)

146-65

.....

Dinosaurs, **some coniferous forests**

125

.....

India separates

40

.....

Australia separates (latitudinal current; **ice appears**)

23-15

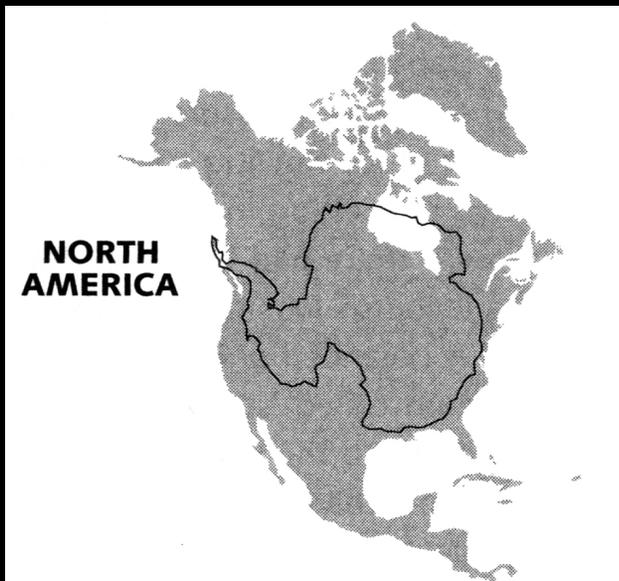
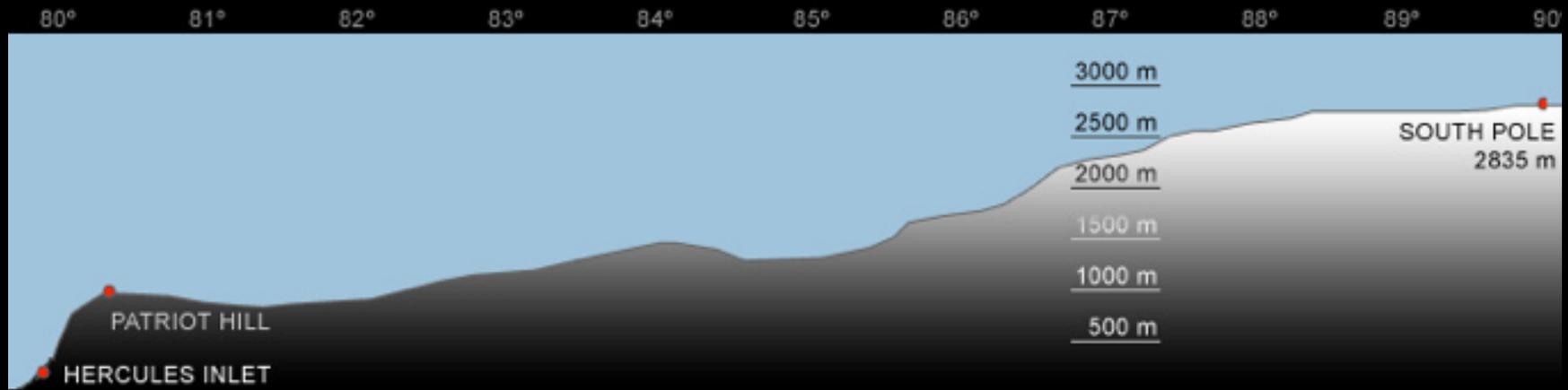
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Drake passage opens ---> circumpolar current
(**ice slowly replaces forests**)

6

.....

Ice coverage reaches current extent (99.6%)



Human sighting in 1820 (Bellinghausen)
 Extreme continent:

- **Coldest** (-112 to -130 F in winter)
- **Driest** (interior ~5cm/year water equiv)
- **Highest** (1.5 mi, thin air, high UV)
- **Windiest** (at edges, 150+ mph)
- **99.6% ice covered** (avg/max: 1 & 3 mi)
- 6 months darkness / 6 months sunshine
- Life along coast, but ... ~ **sterile inland**

... HOW to get there?

1. Cruise ship

Pro : Beautiful wildlife and scenery along coast

Con: Minimal exposure to environment



2. Government employment (NSF/Raytheon)

Pro: Antarctica run by governments, so potential to go anywhere ... someone else wants you to go

Con: Long-term committment
Others set the agenda



McMurdo (USA), stock photo



Amundsen-Scott South Pole Base (USA), stock photo

3. Private expedition

Pro : Set the agenda

Con: Expensive



Punta Arenas, Chile
(tip of S.A.)

2175 miles

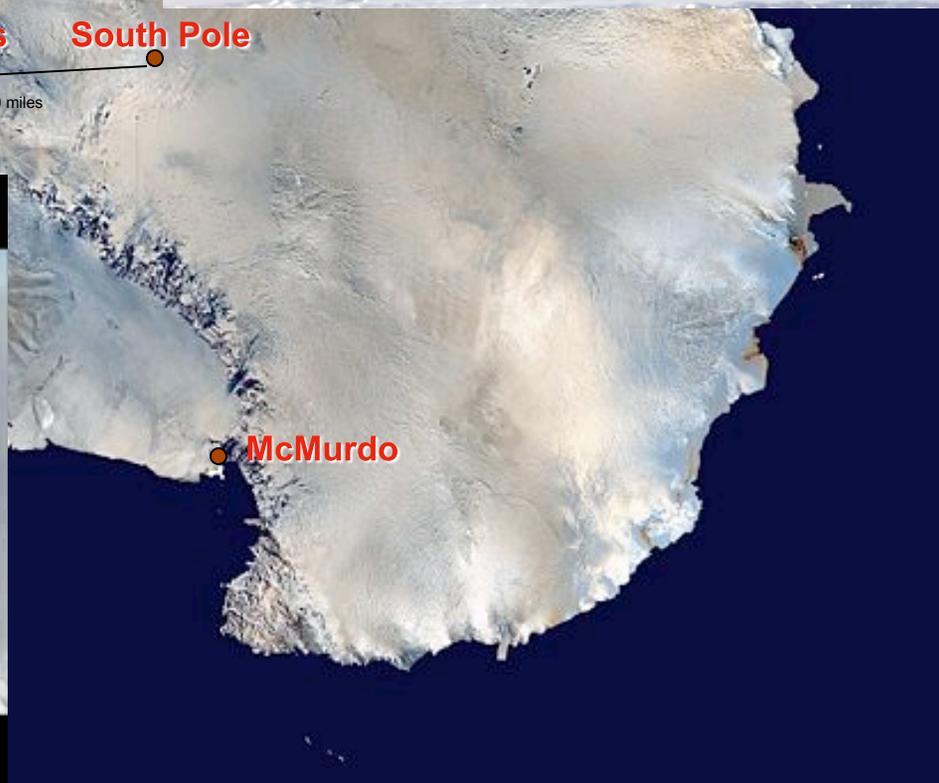
Patriot Hills

South Pole

670 miles

Vinson Massif

McMurdo



Preparations (~ 1 year)

Vinson Massif ... an intermediate class mountain
“Ski”-to-pole means ... walk (snowshoeing with skis)

Skills needed:

Technical alpine mountaineering

Glacier travel techniques

Crevasse fall recovery

Crampons, ice-axes, rope teams, anchoring

Basic skiing

Physical requirements:

Ascent rate: 3,500 feet in 2-3 hours

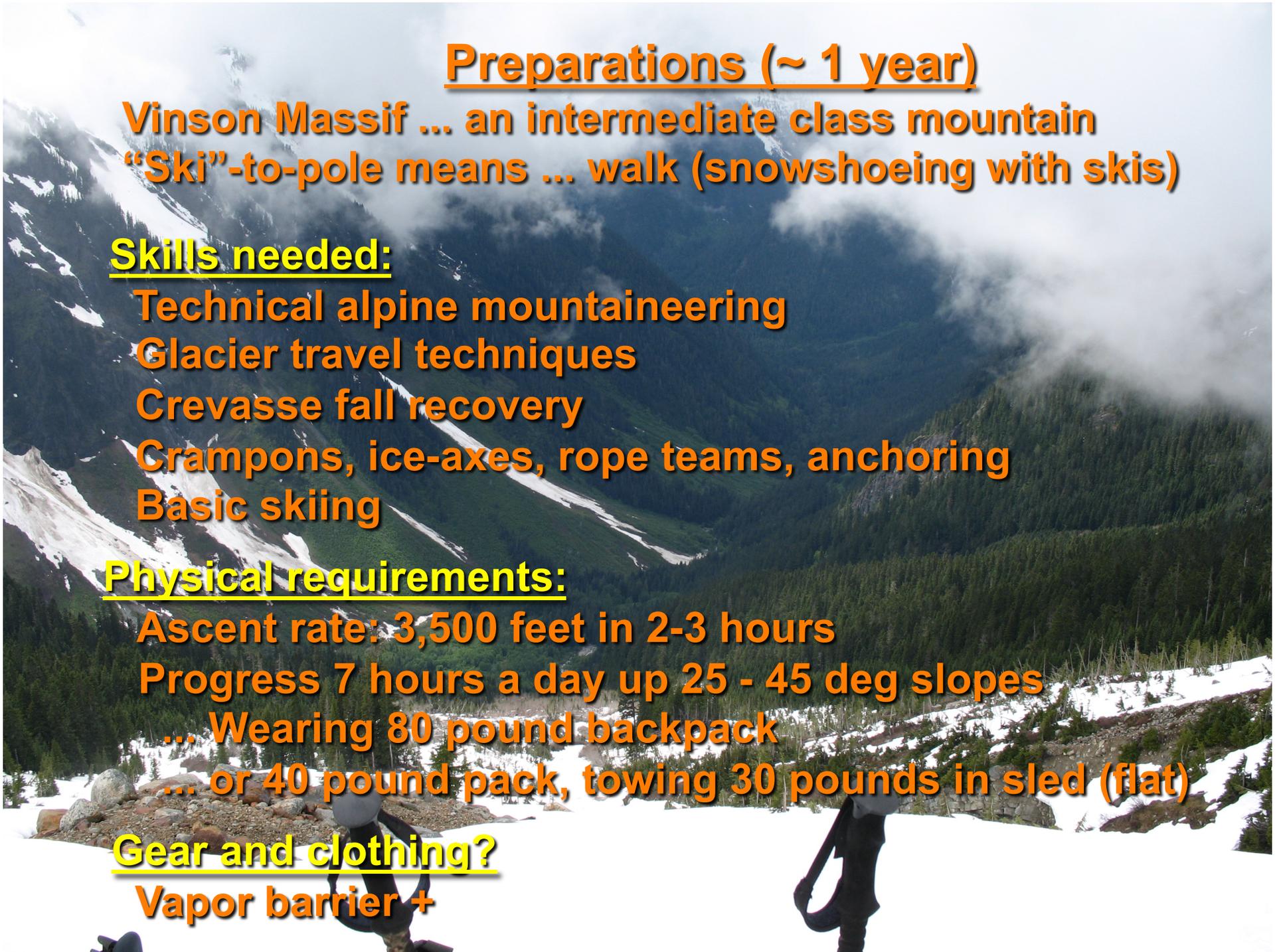
Progress 7 hours a day up 25 - 45 deg slopes

... Wearing 80 pound backpack

... or 40 pound pack, towing 30 pounds in sled (flat)

Gear and clothing?

Vapor barrier +



**WITH STEPHENSON EQUIPMENT
WE CAN BEAR EVERYTHING NATURE GIVES US**



Realization:

- 1) Top company in vapor-barrier clothing field ... run by 1970's nudists
- 2) Wherever there is cold weather, nudist technology is ready to be deployed
- 3) Really looking forward to getting a new mail carrier (2 years)















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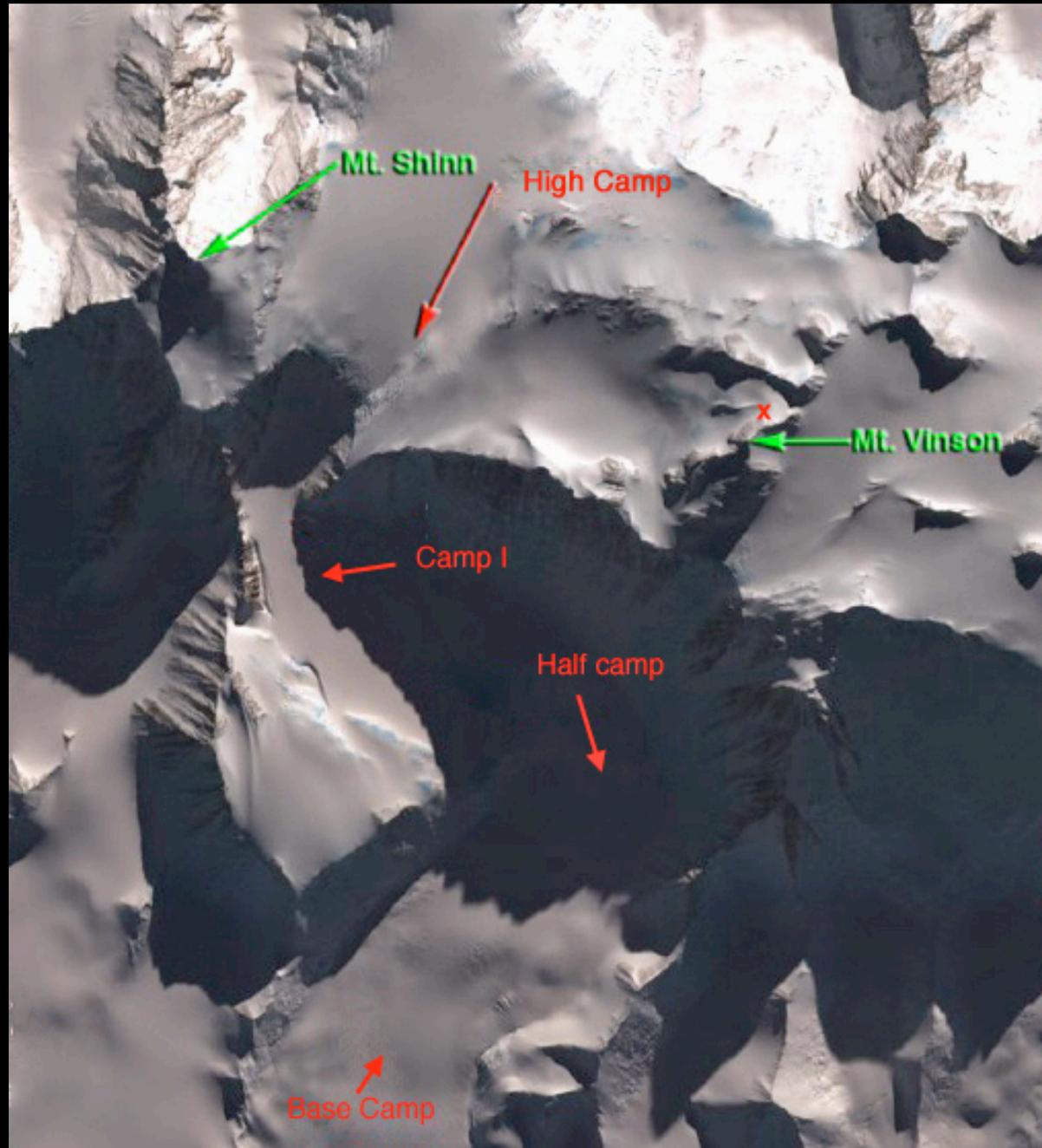


















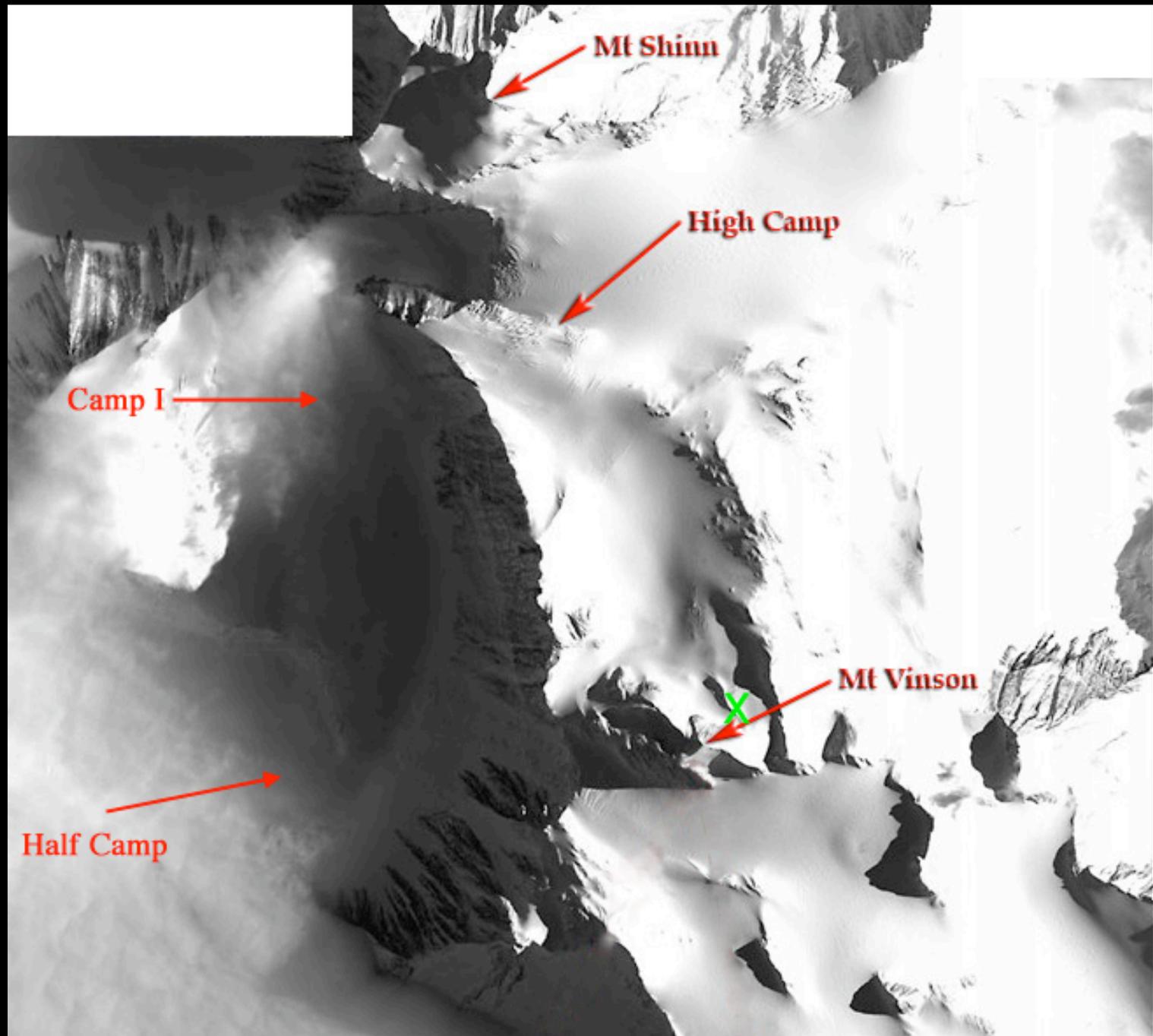




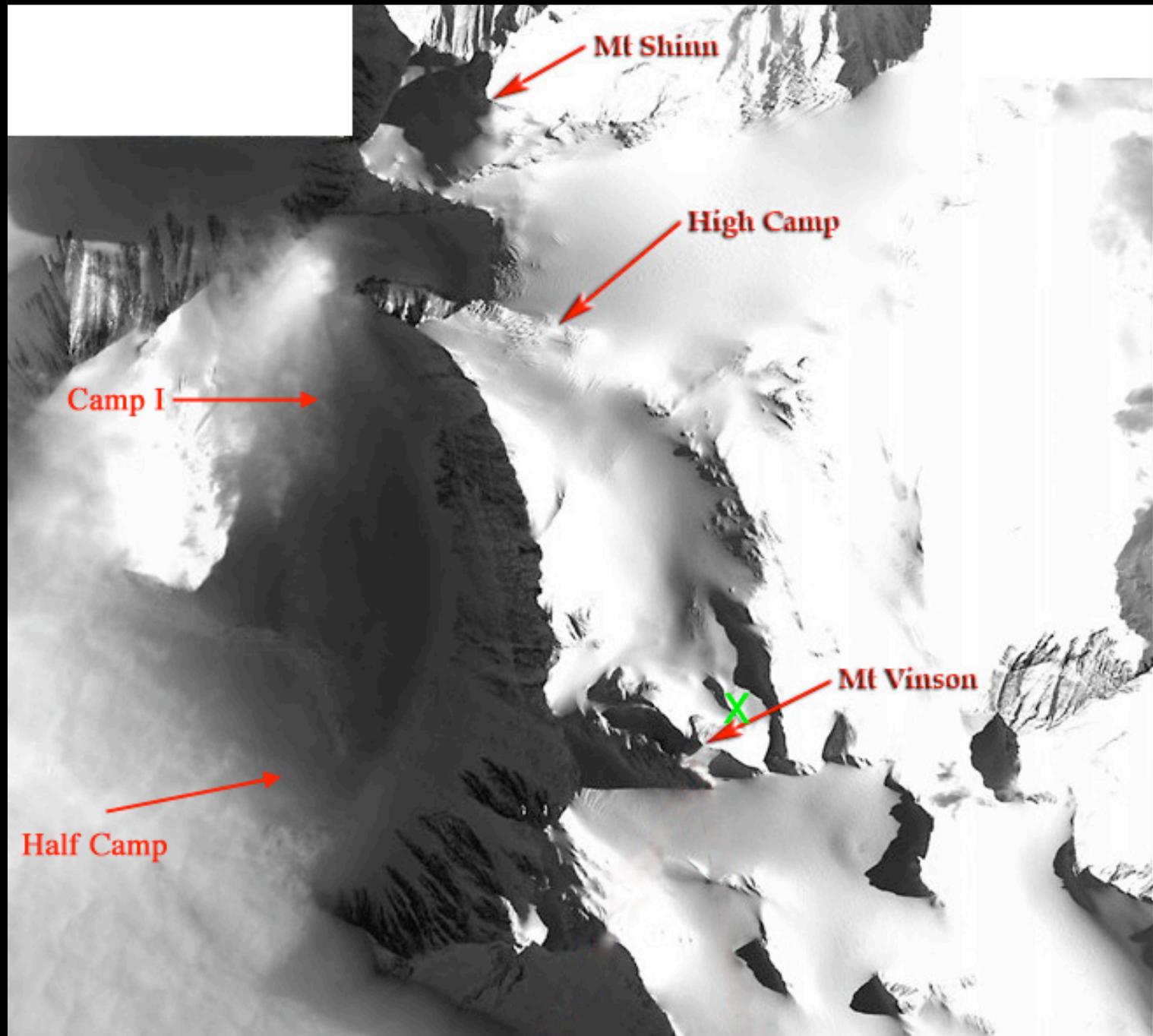












Mt Shinn

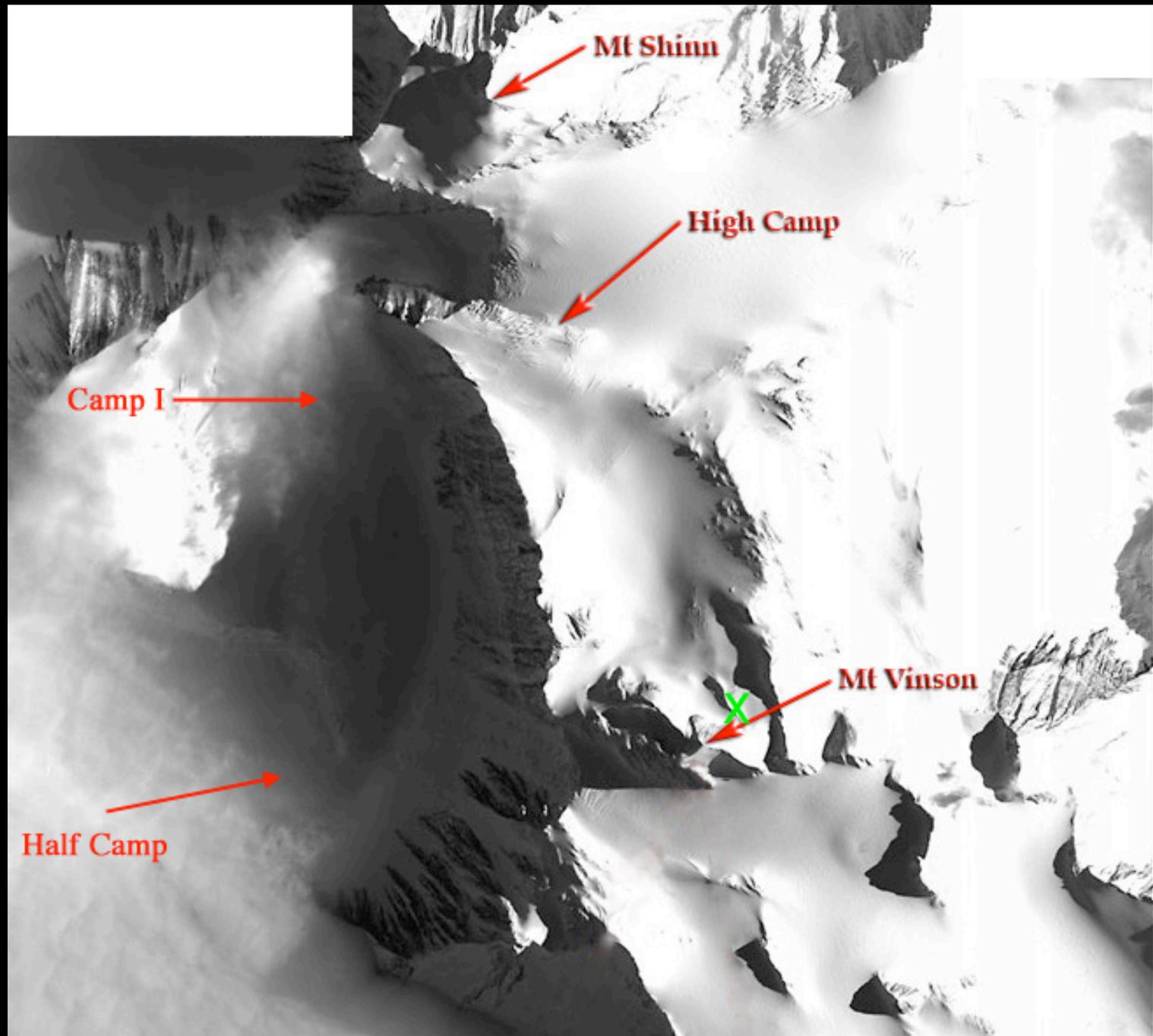
High Camp

Camp I

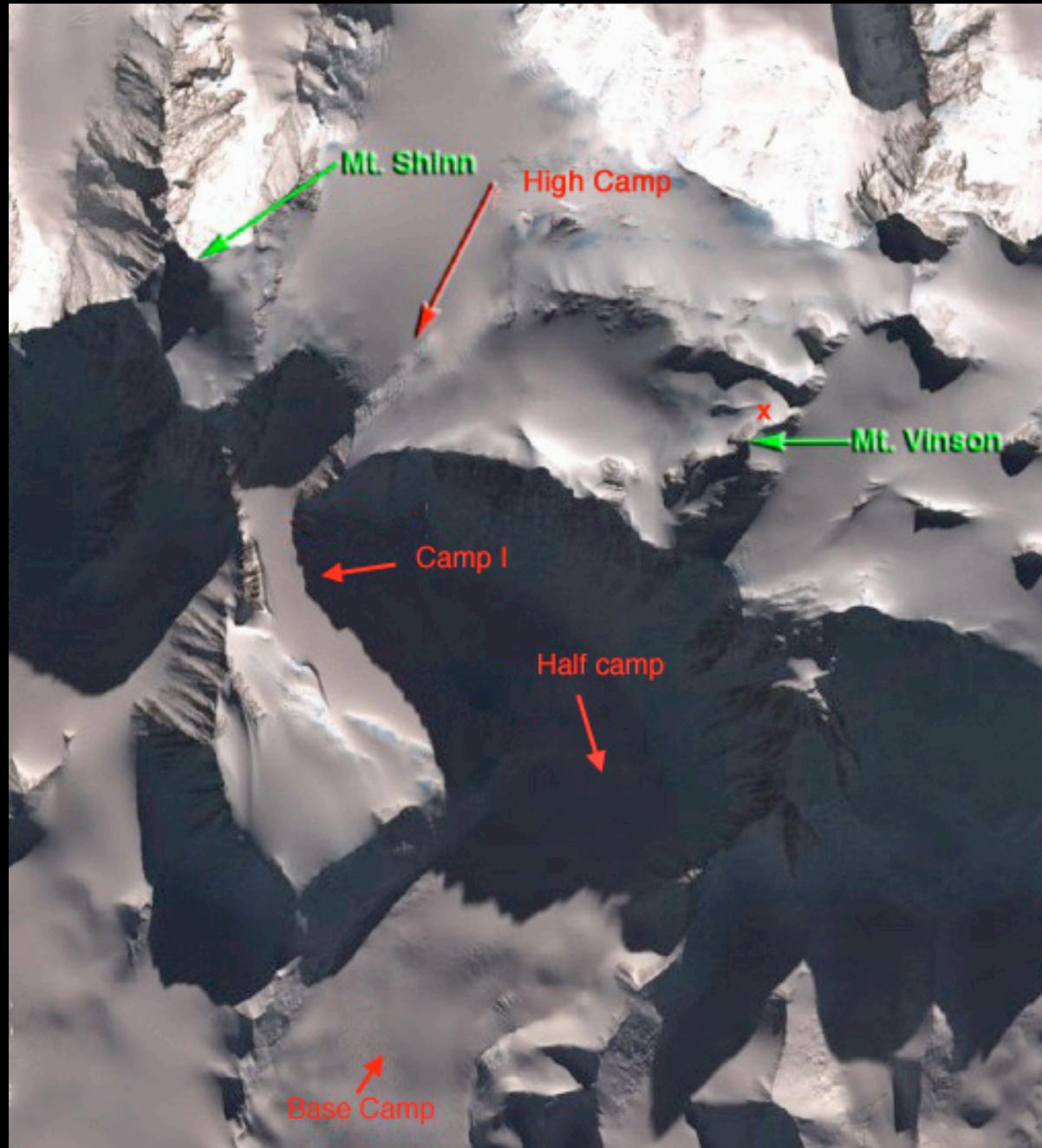
Half Camp

Mt Vinson























60 days, 620 miles, no resupply ... **out of time**



53 days, 730 miles & 4 air-drops later ... South Pole!



Skied down the highest mountain on each continent ...



VS.



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