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COVER

Rock avalanche in glacial cirque on Mount Baldwin near Mammoth Lakes, California, that occurred during the earthquake swarm of 25 to 27 May 1980. Slope above avalanche is 240 meters high. Rock avalanches have killed tens of thousands of people during historical earthquakes. These landslides are dislodged from steep, high slopes containing zones of relatively weak rock that are undercut by glacial or fluvial erosion. See page 1288. [D. K. Keefer, U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, California 94025]