

Cerro Torre. The furor goes on unabated over the 1971 ascent of Cerro Torre by Cesare Maestri, in which the Italian climbers placed an enormous number of bolts with the help of a pneumatic drill. It will be remembered that in 1959 Maestri claimed the first ascent by the east face, north col and north ridge. In this climb he was accompanied by Toni Egger, who on the descent was swept off to his death by an avalanche. Over the years, more and more doubts have been expressed as to whether they had actually got to the top. Maestri's 1971 ascent apparently did not end at the summit but on the shoulder below the final mushroom of ice, possibly 200 feet from the top. *Mountain*, 23, of September 1972 has devoted much of the issue to the Cerro Torre. Included is an article on Maestri's climbs, one on the Anglo-Swiss attempt of 1972, and an interview with Maestri.

Cerro Solo. After the Anglo-Swiss expedition to Cerro Torre, Eric Jones made in February a solo ascent of Cerro Solo in five hours.

Monte Sarmiento, Western Summit, Tierra del Fuego. The third Italian expedition led by Giuseppe Agnolotti to attempt the western summit of Monte Sarmiento from October 27 to November 20 got to within 125 feet of the summit but could not climb a final overhang covered with cauliflower snow. Accompanying Agnolotti were Rinaldo Bonino, Ezio La Boria, Antonio Perino, Alberto Re, Franco Girodi and Padre Giuseppe Ferrari.

EUROPE

Grandes Jorasses and Aiguille de Leschaux, Mont Blanc Group. On August 11 Guido Machedo and I made the first ascent of the south face of the Grandes Jorasses. We climbed the 5000-foot-high face in three days, starting from the Ferret Valley. Our first bivouac was 500 feet above the base and the second 1300 feet below the summit. The new route is the longest face climb in the Mont Blanc group. On August 23 Miller Rava and I made the first ascent of the *direttissima* of the north-east face of the Aiguille de Leschaux. Our route is left of Cassin's. We climbed the face in two days, starting from the Dalmazzi hut. The face is 2600 feet high and we bivouacked 350 feet below the top. It was very difficult free and artificial climbing.

ALESSANDRO GOGNA

ASIA

Nepal

European Everest Expedition. The pre-monsoon European Everest expedition's attempt to climb the southwest face ended in abject failure

due mostly to poor leadership and dissent among the climbers. The leader, German Dr. Karl Maria Herrligkoffer, was with the expedition for only three weeks of its three months' duration. Shortly after arrival at Base Camp, he had to return to Germany for more clothing and equipment for the Sherpas. Later he was evacuated for medical reasons, stemming probably from his return to 16,000 feet by helicopter. The climbers were Michel Anderl, deputy leader; Fritz Kuen, leader on the face; Adolf Huber, Adolf Weissensteiner, Werner Haim, Horst Schneider, Adolf Sager, Sepp Maag, Peter Perner, *Austrians*; Leo Breitenberger, *Italian*; Don Whillans, Doug Scott, Hamish MacInnis, *British*; Peter Bednar, *naturalized German of Czech origin*; Hans Berger, *Swiss*; and Misha Saleki, *Iranian*. The weather was generally excellent but there were early delays in the Khumbu Icefall because of insufficient Sherpa clothing. Details vary in different reports but it would seem that certain Austrians stayed rather constantly in the lead, fearing that if the British reached that position, they would never relinquish it. They also accused the British of laziness and of wasting oxygen, while the British felt there was no overall planning and that they were kept from doing what they were capable of. In any case, morale was terrible. Finally after establishing Camp VI at the same point as on the International Expedition in 1971, Kuen and Huber made a half-hearted summit attempt on May 21, from which they returned because of the cold. They reached 27,000 feet, about the same point as Whillans and Haston the year before. The attempt was given up at that time; the three British had quit in disgust five days earlier.

Mount Everest Post-Monsoon Attempt. The British expedition which attempted the southwest face of Everest in the post-monsoon period was fighting from the beginning against time. It was led by Christian Bonington with Lieutenant Colonel James Roberts as deputy. They reached Base Camp on September 14 and in five days had a route worked through the Khumbu Icefall. Camp II (Advanced Base) at the foot of the southwest face was established on October 1 by Nick Estcourt and Dave Bathgate, who put in the route to Camp III at 23,000 feet the next day. Doug Scott and Mick Burke pioneered the route to Camp IV at 24,500 feet on October 10. Hamish MacInnes and Dougal Haston finished preparing the route to Camp V at 26,000 feet on October 14. Since the face had considerable snow cover, no fixed ropes from previous expeditions were usable, but conditions were generally good. Two snowstorms had delayed the team and as Chris Bonington and Sherpas moved up, the terribly strong post-monsoon winds began to slow down their effort. A bad four-day storm hit at the end of October and all but Graham Tiso were forced back down off the face. On November 6 they started fixing ropes towards Camp VI. By November 14 there were finally enough supplies at Camp VI for Haston, MacInnes, Scott and Burke to move up, hoping to establish two men there. Their plan had been to climb the rock band by starting

up a snow gully in which Haston had climbed some 250 feet in 1971. The gully was now nearly 1000-feet of very difficult rock! This was out of the question. Haston then looked around the corner to the "Escape Route" to the south ridge, but continual 100-mph winds ruled this out. They had no choice but to give up the attempt. On the way down, an Australian who had been helping in Base Camp, Tony Tighe, came up to meet the party and was tragically killed by a collapsing ice wall in the icefall. Kelvin Kent and Dr. Barney Rosedale also were members of the expedition. (We are grateful to Doug Scott for supplying this information.)

Pumori. Our expedition was composed of teacher-guides in the Ecole Nationale de Ski et d'Alpinisme at Chamonix: Yves Pollet-Villard, leader; Pierre Blanc, Jean Coudray, Yvon Masino, Georges Payot, Raymond Renaud and me as deputy-leader. From Kathmandu we flew to Lukla on September 17 and left Lukla on September 19 with eight Sherpas and 148 porters. Base Camp was established at 17,000 feet at Gorakshep, two hours below the Everest Base Camp. Camp I was placed on September 29 at 17,900 feet on the moraine that descends from Kala Pattar. We attacked the south face at 18,375 feet, choosing the spur which comes lowest and ascends to the summit of Pumori. It has four rocky steps, separated by ice or snow and very steep corniced ridges. The buttress is separated from the summit slope by a final 150-foot rocky barrier. The crux sections were the second (20,650 feet) and fourth (22,000 feet) steps. The first step was above the bergschrund and was cut on the left by a 75° verglas-covered, difficult ice couloir which we abandoned in favor of the more exposed but easier right side. The Sherpas failed to climb this. Some 70° snow led to Camp II on the buttress crest 350 feet below the second step, which started with 250 feet of very difficult mixed climbing. We escaped into a 500-foot-high amphitheater to avoid a part of the step. The top of the amphitheater being overhanging, we climbed to the right over a 100-foot slab with direct aid and onto the ice plaque which covered the upper part of the slab; up this we front-pointed for 65 feet on 80° ice. We emerged at the top of this second step on fifty feet of rock to reach the 65° fluted snow slopes that led to the third step at 21,300 feet. We climbed this step on UIAA IV+ rock and got back to the corniced, broken ridge where we had to ascend vertical walls of rotten snow. The 650-foot ridge took us three days and led to the fourth step, which for some time we feared unclimbable. Fortunately, extremely difficult and in part artificial climbing brought us to a 65° ridge under the rocky barrier below the summit slopes. At the top of this ridge we were pinned for four days, October 26 to 29, by a storm which dropped over three feet of snow. We had fixed some 10,000 feet of rope and wondered if we could find it in the deep snow. It was however the very steepness that saved us since the snow sloughed off as it fell; then a violent wind blew off what remained. Polet-Villard, Masino, Payot and Coudray re-ascended in two days to Camp III, surprised to find all the fixed ropes in

place. We felt they could make it but feared windslabs. On November 3 they set out at 6:30 and by ten o'clock were above the highest fixed ropes. They took an hour and a half to cross the 150 feet of the rocky barrier. They were on the summit (23,442 feet) at noon in brilliant but windy weather. The second team, Blanc, Renaud, Sirdar Ang Temba and I, were at Camp III as they descended. There was room for only four people at the campsite, which previously had taken us two days to carve out of the steep ice. We four were at the summit on November 4 in bright, still weather. We used 170 pitons, 15 ice screws, 70 pickets and 10,000 feet of fixed rope.

MAURICE GICQUEL, *Groupe de Haute Montagne*

Lhotse Attempt. Germans Gerhard Lenser and Michael Holz hoped to try Lhotse (27,923 feet) from the east but failed to find approach routes to the mountain. In early April they found their way barred by a formidable ice wall. They rested briefly at Kunde, which they left on April 9 for another approach via Mingbo Pass. At 17,000 feet they were confronted by another ice wall, 500 feet high and completely smooth, which their load-carrying Sherpas could not handle.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

Kangchungtse or Makalu II. A four-man Japanese group from Denki-Tsushin University led by Tadashige Nishiyama from Base Camp on the Barun Glacier reconnoitered Kangchungtse (25,066 feet), which was first climbed by French in 1954. They established their highest camp, Camp IV, on the northwest ridge at 22,000 feet on May 4. Yusuke Ito and a Sherpa got to 23,000 feet on May 6, but they had no supplies for a summit bid.

Makalu. The Mountaineering Union of Yugoslavia expedition was led by Ales Kunaver and comprised ten climbers, three scientists and one journalist. They attempted the unclimbed south face, placing Camp V at 25,750 feet on 27,825-foot Makalu. In early November Miya Malezie and Janko Azman reached the top of the south face at 26,575 feet but could not get to the summit.

Kongde-Ri, East Peak. A German Alpine Club five-man expedition from the Allgäu-Kempton section made the first ascent of Kongde-Ri's eastern (lower) summit (19,991 feet), 21 miles southwest of Mount Everest. The climb was made from the Lumding Khola, which lies south of the peak. Franz Dürschmidt made a solo ascent of 19,000-foot Kan-karmu, which is south of Kongde-Ri's east peak.

Rolwaling. Franz Ludwig Klement, his wife Annelie, Max Leonhard, Florian Maurer, Ferdinand and Max Pfordte and Harro Storck from

Munich entered the Rolwaling valley and on March 14 set up Base Camp above Nangaon at 14,275 feet. Camp I was placed at 16,750 feet, north of Jaluntse. On March 21 Storck solo made the first ascent of Jaluntse (19,390 feet), which was climbed twice more by the group. Camp II was then pitched to the west at 17,650 feet. Three more ascents were made from there: Jalungkang (18,865 feet), on which they unexpectedly found a summit cairn; Zirgokang (18,983 feet); and on March 28 Chadirgo (18,242 feet) by both Klements. From a Camp III, between March 31 and April 2, Leonhard, F. Pfordte and Storck made the first ascent of Kadakomago (19,849 feet) by its difficult northwest face. The group then moved north in the Rolwaling and established a new Camp II at 19,000 feet. Storck and Max Pfordte climbed Singkar (20,544 feet) by its southwest ridge. The Klements had to return from 250 feet below the summit when Frau Klement lost a crampon. They also climbed P 6293 (20,647 feet), a second ascent, by the southwest slope.

Chobutse, Rolwaling Valley. The members of our expedition were Michaela Wegert, Gustav and Klaus Harder, Peter Vogler and I as leader. On April 8 we finally ascended the upper Rolwaling Khola from Beding to the high alpine meadow, Nangaon, and some 650 feet higher established Base Camp at 14,100 feet, close to the Ripimu Glacier. Michaela Wegert and I on April 12 climbed P 5300 (17,389 feet), just north of Kang Pom Ri. An attempt by Klaus Harder and Vogler from the northwest to climb Chigimago, south of Base Camp, failed some 650 feet from the top. After a week of acclimatization, we felt strong enough for our main objective, Chobutse (21,982 feet). We hoped to approach it from the Ripimu Glacier, climb a steep step into the glacial basin below the col between it and Takargo and up the eastern face to the summit. We placed Camp I at 16,750 feet on April 14 in the moraine of the Ripimu. The approach to the glacial basin was steep and dangerous, being overhung by an ice terrace. We spent a day securing the route. With bivouac equipment for three days Gustav Harder and I set out on April 17 from Camp I. Knee-deep and even hip-deep snow and intense sun forced us to halt at 19,350 feet around noon. We dug a snow cave. The next day we went on in not difficult terrain but bothered by new snow. After a long traverse, we reached the col. We continued up astride the sharp ridge. Camp III was at 20,350 feet in a hole in a huge cornice. On the 19th Gustav and I climbed some 350 feet of difficult mixed climbing but had to turn back for lack of pitons. On April 22 Vogler and I were back in Camp III. On the 23rd we fixed ropes on the rock band and were joined by the Harder brothers in Camp III. On April 24 we were soon up the fixed ropes, then traversed steep ice, climbed a snow gully, a steep step and looked up at the two-pronged top. When we got there, we could view the 8000ers, Lhotse, Makalu, Everest and nearby Cho Oyu. Gaurisankar and Meluntse seemed near enough to touch. After that climb we headed up the Tolam Bau Glacier. Camp was set up at 17,700

PLATE 85

Photo by Wolfgang Weinzierl

CHOBUTSE, Nepal.

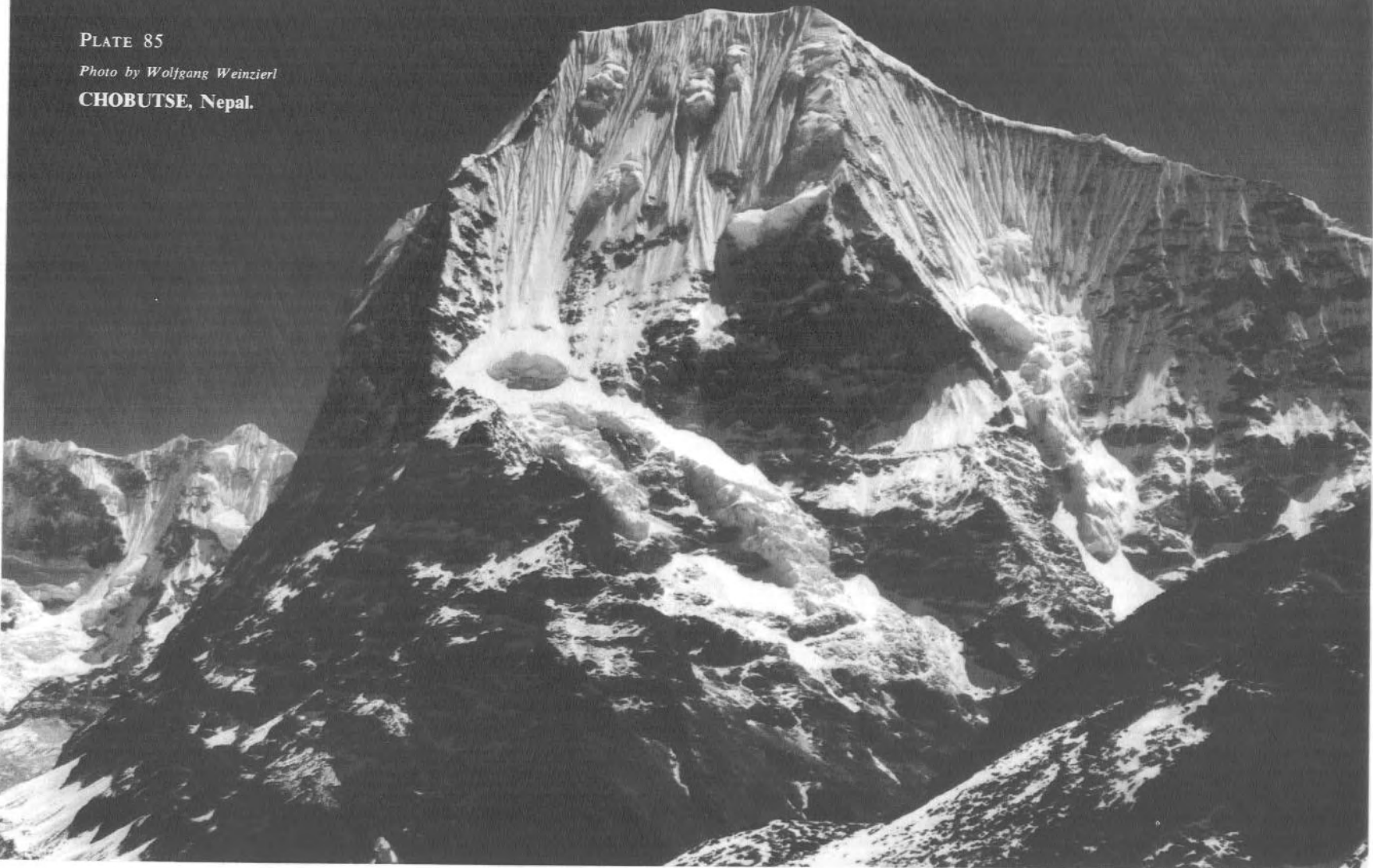


PLATE 86

Photo by Maurice Gicquel

The new French route on PUMORI.

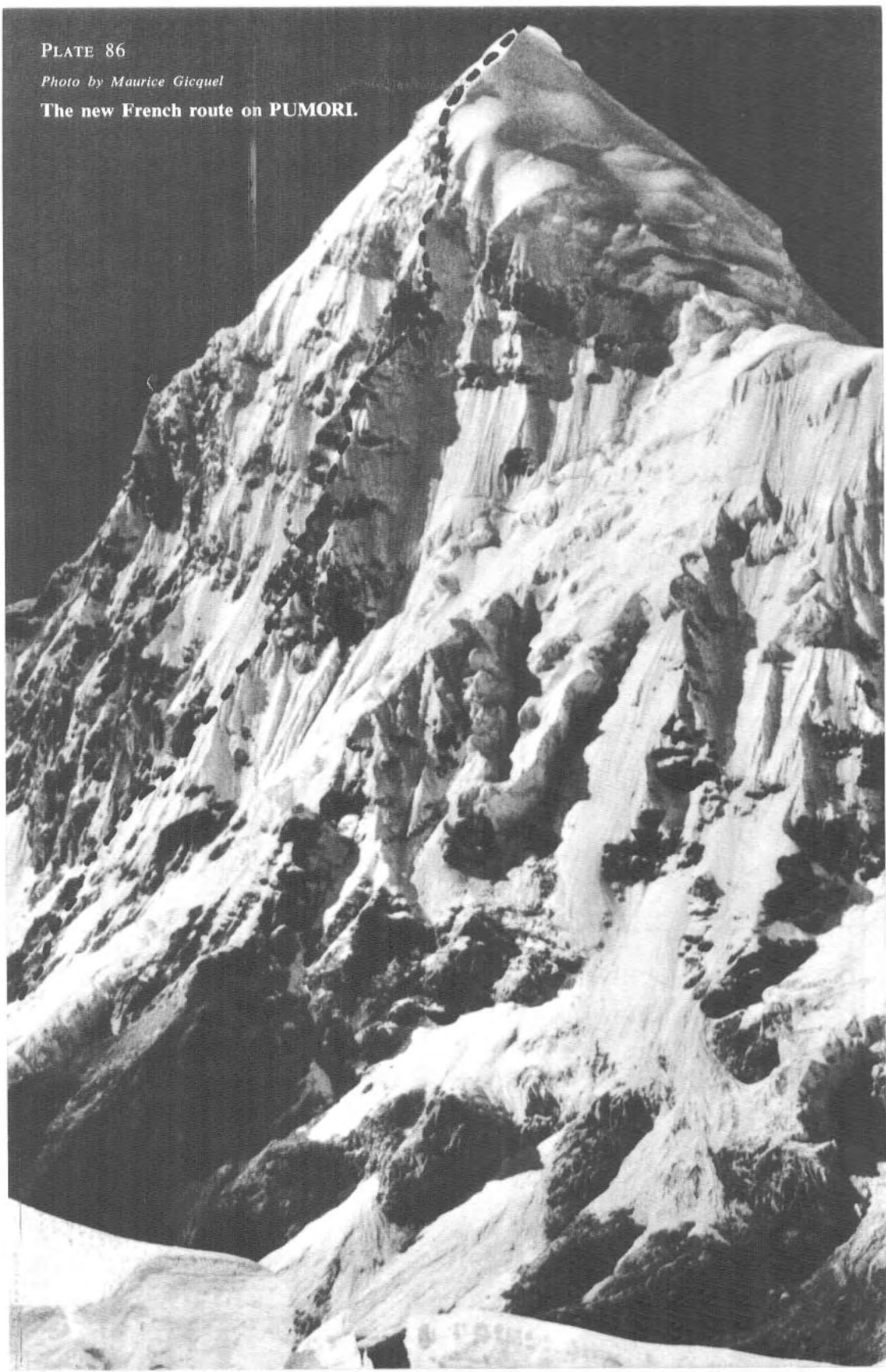


PLATE 87

Photos by Doug Scott

**A "swinging bridge" in the
Khumbu Icefall under a
bad sérac, Mount Everest.**

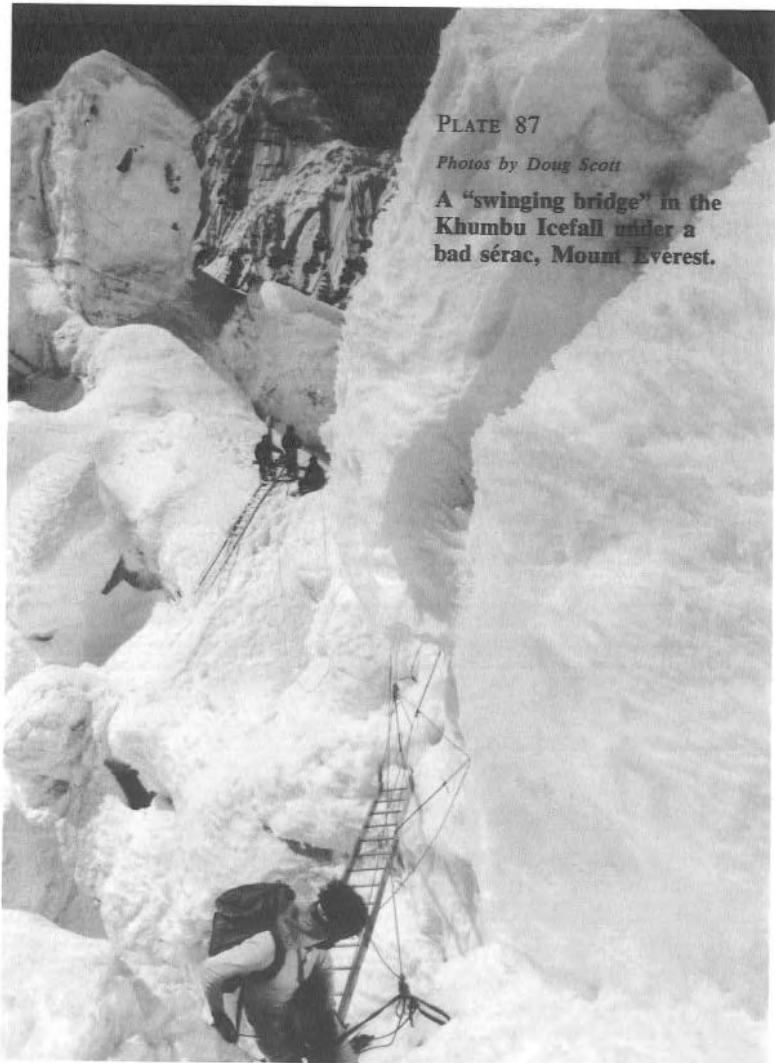


PLATE 88

**Return to Camp IV after a
four-day storm to find the
Whillans boxes holed with
stonefall and full of hard snow.**

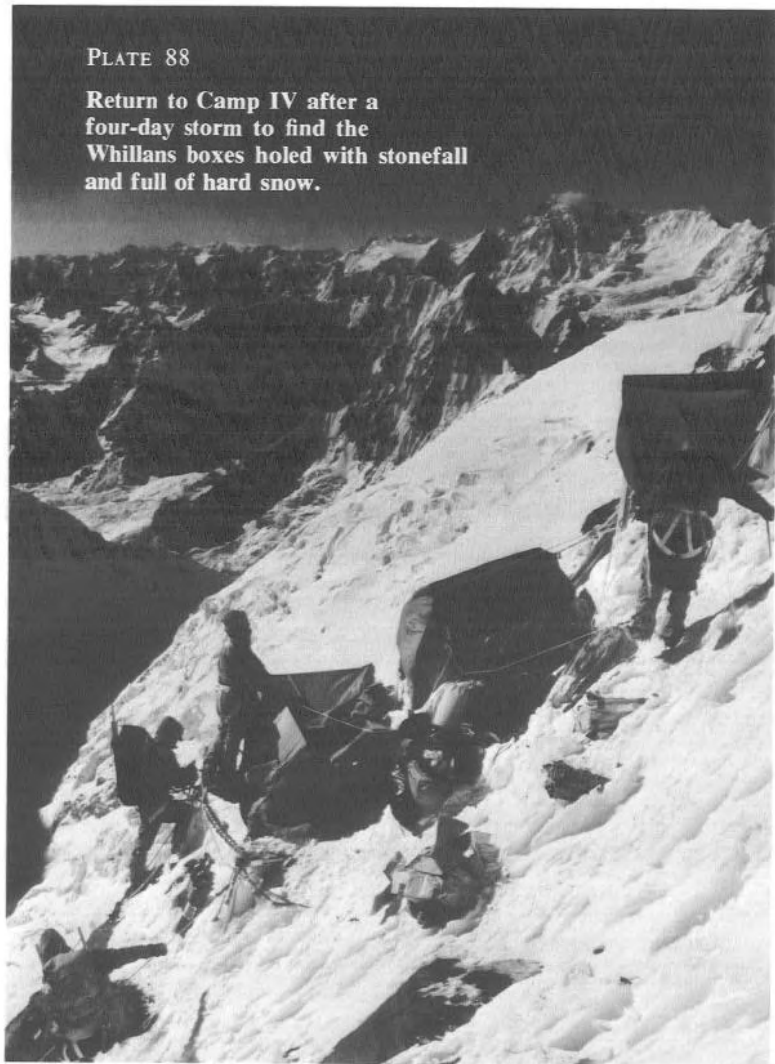


PLATE 89

Photos by Doug Scott

Mick Burke climbing the fixed ropes to Camp V, Mount Everest.

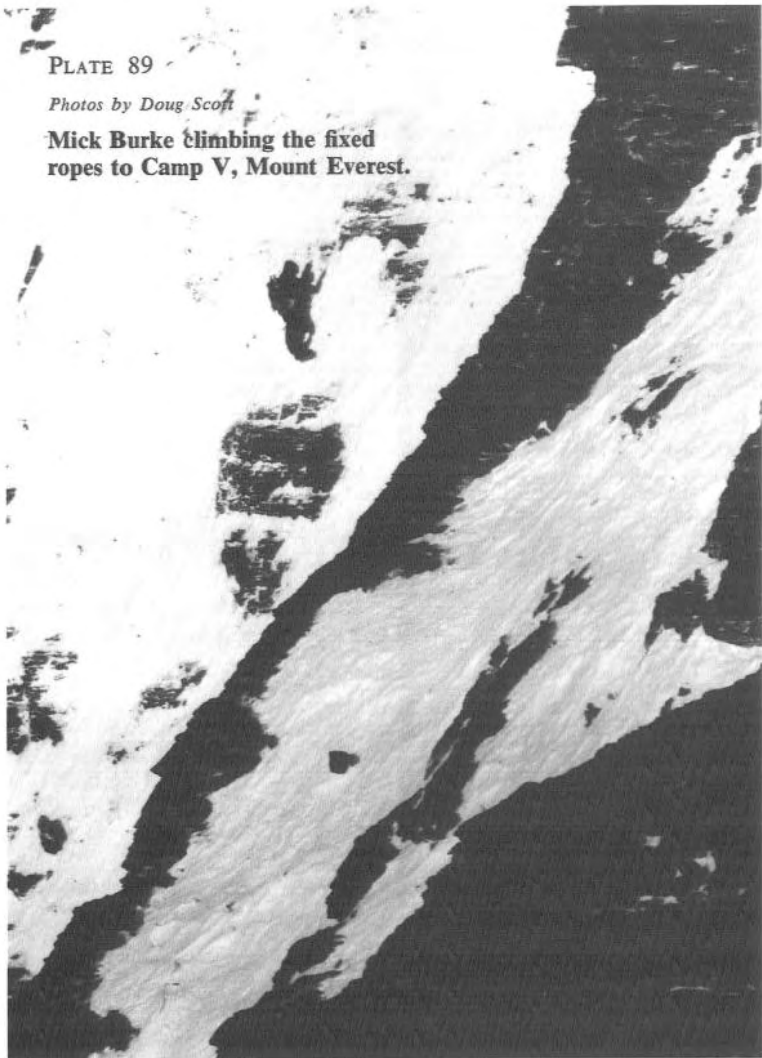
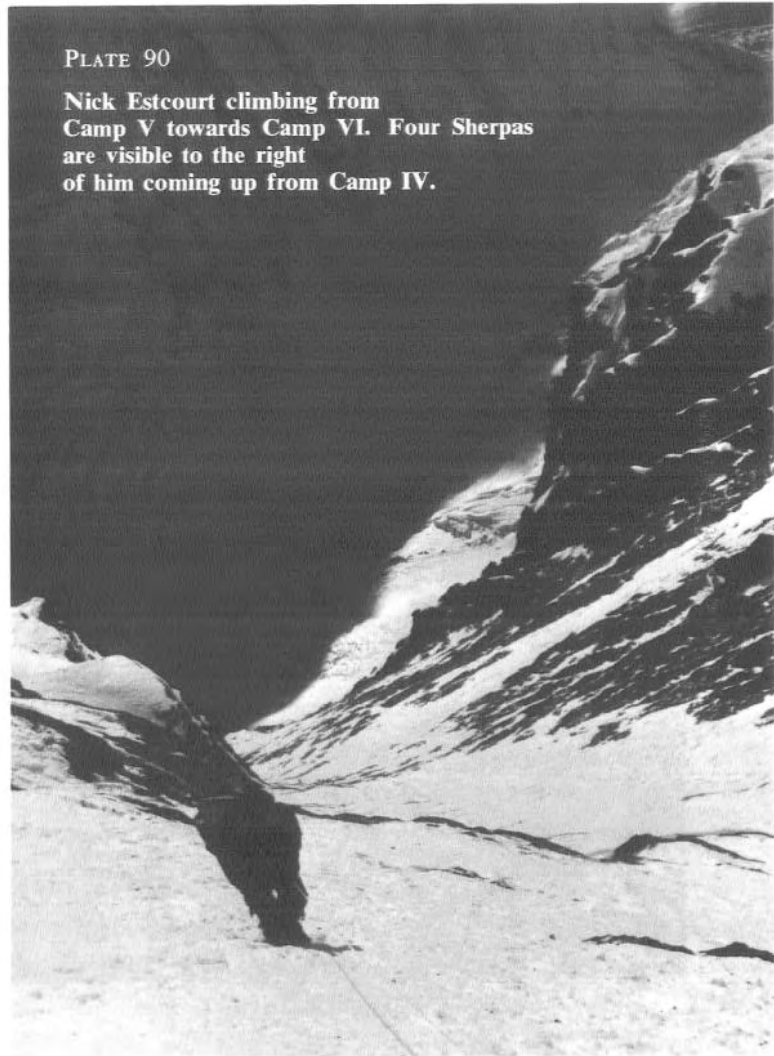


PLATE 90

Nick Estcourt climbing from Camp V towards Camp VI. Four Sherpas are visible to the right of him coming up from Camp IV.



feet above the difficult and dangerous icefall that separated the upper and lower parts of the glacier. It was at the foot of Tangiragitau. On May 6, Vogler and Klaus Harder climbed P 6150 (20,177 feet), which lies just south of Takargo, from the east, a climb repeated the next day by Michaela Wegert and me. Also on May 7 Vogler and Klaus Harder climbed Pimu (20,670 feet). From a col north of Tangiragitau they ascended easy rock and continued on across steep snow gullies. Finally they reached an ice rib which in six rope-lengths and two hours led them to the main south ridge. The remaining 650 feet up the final ice ridge took two more hours. Descent finally ended at midnight.

WOLFGANG WEINZIERL, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

Rolwaling Himal. The Rolwaling valley, directly south of Guarisan-
kar, was visited in April by ten members of the Royal Netherlands Alpine
Club. From Kathmandu we went by car to Barabise along the "Chinese
Road" and from there took the steep road via Dulausa through blooming
rhododendron woods, which were especially beautiful on the eastern
slopes of the Tingsan La. On the seventh day we entered the Rolwaling
gorge, disappointed to see that the woods had been destroyed by a tre-
mendous fire seven or eight years ago. At the end of the gorge lies the
picturesque, charming Sherpa village of Beding (12,000 feet). From
Base Camp at 15,100 feet near the lake at the end of the Tolam Bau
glacier, we attempted to climb Chugimago, an elegant cone of fluted ice.
The attempt failed because of loose snow and cornices. Margreet Hoge-
weg, Xander Verrijn-Stuart, Robert Eckhardt, and Frans Visser climbed
Parchamo, an easy snow peak of 20,600 feet on the way across the Tashi
Labcha pass to Thami.

J. A. NOORDIJK, *Koninklijke Nederlandse Alpen Vereniging*

Gurja Himal, Northwest Spur and North Ridge. Our expedition was
organized by the Lyon Section of the French Alpine Club and supported
by the Fédération Française de la Montagne. The members were Pierre
Buttin, leader, Mlle N. Brocard, Mme Y. Buttin, T Dietz, J.P. Frésafond,
R. Gillot, J. Leroudier, Mme Ch. Leroudier, B. Mathieu, S. Sarthou, J.
Soubis, R. Thomas and I. After being refused permission for Nilgiri, we
heard only two weeks before departure that we had obtained permission
for Gurja Himal. Wishing to climb a route different from that of the
Japanese in 1969, we had the choice of the south face or the north ridge.
We had no information on these and so after an aerial reconnaissance,
we chose the north ridge. The south face would have required more
equipment and time than we had available. Thomas and Mathieu drove
a truck with our equipment from Lyon to Pokhara. We others arrived
at Kathmandu by plane on September 16. From there, with sirdar
Mingma Tsering, Sherpa Pasang Phouroua, cook Dawa Tondou, kitchen
boy Da Tenzing and liaison officer T.B. Gurung, we reached by plane

first Pokhara and then Dorpathan. We left the latter on September 29 with 70 porters. In four days, after crossing the 15,425-foot "Italian Col", which had a difficult snowy couloir requiring fixed ropes, we got to the "Japanese Base Camp" at the foot of Churen Himal, high in the Kaphe (or Gustung) Khola at about 13,000 feet. The next day we placed our Base Camp 1000 feet and an hour higher towards the Dhaulagiri VI glacial basin. From October 3 to 17 we established three camps, helped in the early part by ropes fixed by the Japanese expedition to Dhaulagiri IV. Camp I was at 16,400 feet at the foot of a rock band which gave access to the glacial plateau between Gurja Himal and Gustang; Camp II at 18,700 feet on the plateau at the foot of the north-west spur; and Camp III at 21,325 feet on the spur. On October 21 Sarthou and Mathieu left Camp III at seven A.M., climbed to the top of the spur, gained the north ridge, crossed the "Lyonnais Col" at 23,000 feet and reached the summit (23,600 feet) at three P.M. Meanwhile the Buttins, Soubis and the two Sherpas placed Camp III bis on the normal (west face) route at about 21,650 feet, ready to receive Sarthou and Mathieu. The latter came through Camp III bis to Camp II, thanks to the track. On October 22 all those in Camp III bis reached the summit by the Japanese route. High winds and the lack of acclimatization among some prevented the other four from reaching the summit on October 23. Camps were evacuated on the 24th.

BERNARD AMY, *Club Alpin Français*

Manaslu, East Face. Fifteen members of a South Korean expedition were killed when on April 10 avalanches overwhelmed their Camp III at 21,300 feet. The dead were four Koreans including the leader, Kim Ho Sup, one Japanese and ten Sherpas. There survived two Sherpas and a brother of the leader, Kim Yae Sup, who had lost another brother on the same mountain in 1971. These three were swept down some 2500 feet but were not buried. As they lay there, another avalanche descended and carried them another 1000 feet, but they were able to extricate themselves. Previously, the climbers had reached a height of 23,800 feet. Seven other members of the expedition were not in the camp when it was struck by the avalanche.

Manaslu, South Face. A Tyrolean expedition led by Wolfgang Nairz made the third ascent of 26,760-foot Manaslu by a third new route, the 10,000-foot south face, a face route of sustained difficulty. Yet success was immediately marred by the death of two members. It was a strong team: Nairz, Reinhold Messner, Dr. Oswald Ölz, Andi Schlick, Franz Jäger, Hansjorg Hochfilzer, Horst Fankhauser, Hans Hofer, and Josl Knoll. After a 10-day march up the Marsyandi valley and the Dona Khola, they got to Base Camp at 14,100 feet on March 29. The first problem was a 2000-foot-high, difficult rock buttress. Then followed the "Ice

Labyrinth", which led to Camp II at 19,200 feet and Camp III on the southwest shoulder at 21,650 feet. The ice ramp between Camps III and IV on the edge of the summit plateau at 24,275 feet was of extreme difficulty. On April 25 all was in readiness. Messner and Jäger moved up the comparatively easy summit plateau in good weather while Fankhauser and Schlick came up to Camp IV in support. At ten A.M. Jäger felt he might hold Messner back and started to return to Camp IV. Messner continued alone up two steep snow pitches and along the final rock ridge to reach the top at two P.M. He started down almost immediately since the weather was threatening. Soon it was a howling blizzard; after wandering confusedly in the wild storm, he finally made it back to Camp IV at about dark. Jäger had not returned! Fankhauser and Schlick set off into the raging night in the direction of Jäger's shouts, but they could find no trace of him. After vain searching, they were forced to dig a snow cave to save their own lives. During the night Schlick headed out, never to be seen again. In the morning Fankhauser and Messner searched for the two in vain. Finally they had to abandon the search and beat a retreat down the ice slope, now covered by four feet of new snow. Conditions precluded any further search.

Kande Hiunchuli, Patrasi Himal. The expedition of the Tokyo Yamatabi Club was led by Hiroshi Nishida and had five other members. They were flown to Jumla on September 20. Base Camp (12,500 feet) was on the west side of the Patrasi Himal. Their route up the southwest ridge was the same taken by the Kobe Commercial University previously. From Camp II on October 18 Shigeru Kuwahata and Toyukazu Hirota reached the summit (21,742 feet). However they claim the altitude to be 6580 meters or 21,588 feet and they may have climbed some other peak in the range.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Central Peak of Annapurna South or Moditse. Uzo Tada led four other members of the Doryu Alpine Club. They attacked the east ridge. On October 21 Yoshio Yamamoto and Kozu Yoshida reached the central peak (23,458 feet) of Annapurna South from the north. Owing to lack of time, they gave up climbing on to the highest peak of Annapurna South. (This summit is northeast of the main peak. See the map in Craig Anderson's article in this *Journal*.)

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Tukche Peak. The Tokyo Yakka University expedition was led by Kiichi Sakaguchi. On October 17 Naotami Yatsuyama and Sherpa Lakpa Norbu climbed to the top (22,730 feet) from Camp III at 22,650 feet.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Dhaulagiri IV. The Japanese Gumma expedition was led by Fumio Kobayashi. After establishing Camp IV on April 26 at 20,300 feet on the Austrian route on this 25,135-foot peak, Takajiro Matsui fell ill and died on April 30 from pulmonary edema. The expedition was abandoned on May 8.

Dhaulagiri IV. The Japan Rock Climbing Society Expedition led by Akinori Otsu attempted Dhaulagiri IV from Base Camp at 13,500 feet in Kaphe Khola in the post-monsoon. They established Camps I at 15,775 feet on September 6, II at 17,400 on the 11th, III at 18,700 feet on the 20th, IV at 20,675 feet on the 29th, and V at 21,000 feet on October 3. They attempted the 65°, 1650-foot western ice wall of the ridge between Junction Peak and Gama Peak, but they gave up halfway up it. They returned to Camp IV and from there climbed up and on October 13 established Camp VI at 22,650 feet near Gama Peak. On October 14 Takeshi Fujika and Tetsuji Sato and two Sherpas crossed Gama Peak (23,453 feet) and continued as far as a small rock peak where the knife-edged ridge began. This was their farthest point on the route to Dhaulagiri IV. On October 15 Fujita and Sato with Yoichiro Anma climbed Dhaulagiri VI (23,246 feet).

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Putha Hiunchuli. The Seppyo Alpine Club Expedition was composed of Masahiro Kobayashi, Shuji Yasukawa, Kenzo Ishikawa, Satoshi Nara, Takashi Chigai, Hiroshi Aoki, Hidemitsu Yamaguchi and me as leader. We placed Base Camp up the Kaphe Khola at 14,450 feet on March 24 and Camp I at 16,400 feet on March 28. We fixed 350 feet of rope below Camp II which we established at 17,900 feet on April 2. We traversed right, then up and left to Camp III (April 7) at 18,850 feet, fixing some 800 feet of rope. Temporary Camp IV was placed at 20,175 feet on April 13 up a 50° ice face where we fixed 3000 feet of rope. Camp IV at 20,850 feet was established on April 17. On April 18 Hiroshi Aoki and the Sherpa Ang Norbu climbed the 60° ice and rock of the south face where they had 4000 feet of fixed rope. They made the second ascent of Putha Hiunchuli (23,774 feet) by this new route up the south spur.

HIROYASU TAKAHASHI, *Seppyo Alpine Club, Japan*

Putha Hiunchuli. Another Japanese expedition, from the Nagoya YMCA Alpine Club, led by Tadaki Sabashi, climbed Putha Hiunchuli also by the south spur in the post-monsoon. They too came from the southwest. Leaving Camp IV at 21,000 feet, on October 14 Hiroyuki Matsuo and Sherpa Nawang Samden climbed to the summit, followed by Yukio Aoyama, Koichi Sakuae and Toshihiko Fujiwara. Two days later Daizahiro Ito, the American James Pritchard and a Sherpa repeated the climb to the summit.

Nampa, First Ascent. The Mountaineering Association of Aomori Prefecture expedition was led by Seigo Matsushima. They took the same route which had been attempted by the British in the fall of 1970. On May 4 Susumu Takahashi and Kukuju Kimura left Camp IV at 19,350 feet on the west ridge but had to bivouac on the way. The next day the two climbers reached the summit (22,162 feet) at noon. On the way down, when they reached some steep blue ice, Takahashi suddenly slipped, fell down the north face and disappeared eternally.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Jethibohurani or Nampa South Attempt. Yasuo Ohsumi led eight climbers from Nagoya University. Their aim was to climb Jethibohurani or Nampa South (22,802 feet).* They placed Base Camp at 12,300 feet on its west side. They reached 20,175 feet on October 27. Sherpa Ang Temba's death at Camp II from pleurisy and a four-day storm prevented further attempts.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

India—Garhwal

P 19,081 (Durgakot). This peak in the Tharkot range was climbed on October 15 by Pranesh Chowdhury, Monuj Bhowmik, Dr. Sunirmal Ghosh and Ram Singh. They reached Base Camp at Sukhram on October 10 and established Camp I on the 12th. As snow conditions on Tharkot were difficult, the attempt on Tharkot was abandoned. They established Camp II on the 14th and climbed the previously unnamed peak the next day.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

Trisul. Trisul (23,360 feet) was attempted by a 24-member team from Baroda led by Deepak Ambegaonkar, who died on June 13 from a slip on the mountain.

SOHLI S. MEHTA, *Himalayan Club*

Bhagirathi II. A team from the Indo-Tibetan Border Police climbed this peak on June 15, after setting up two camps. The members were N.C. Tripathi, Sohan Lal, L.P. Semwal, Marain Singh, Tej Bahadur Gurung, Nim Putar, Ang Putar, Pura Singh and Kunwar Singh.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

* The peak lies about 9 kms south of Nampa, along the ridge which runs south of Nampa over Boyaye to Jethibohurani. The editor questions the altitude of 6940 meters, which is considerably higher than Nampa's 6754 meters.

First Ascent of Bhagirathi IV, V, and P 18,500. The members of our team were Ganga Singh Negi, Minoo I. Mehta, Kripal Singh Negi, Padam Dutt Nautiyal (the last two high-altitude porters) and I as leader. We set up Base Camp at Nandanban (14,500 feet) on June 1. On June 3, we finally found a shepherds' campsite up the ablation valley along the glacier where Camp I was set up at 15,500 feet. Padam, Kripal and I went up through a cleft in the boulder ridge to have a close look at Bhagirathi V. From a plateau on top of the ridge, Bhagirathi V was visible from its base to top; From there a ridge led to a peak of 18,200 feet. Then there was a gap with a rocky face on both sides. Another peak of 18,500 feet was nearby. June 4 dawned very fine. Kripal and Padam left at eight A.M. and gained the top of the ridge quickly. They then gained the gap where the snow was thigh-deep. Beyond the gap a not too steep snowy ridge descended from P 18,500. The snow was good to the rocky summit. From the top they studied the approaches to Bhagirathi V, which was all rock. The gap and the ridge from the 18,200er seemed feasible. After descending to the gap, they climbed the ridge to the 18,200er and proceeded to the summit of Bhagirathi V (19,000 feet). On June 5 we set up Camp II at 16,500 feet on the left lateral moraine of the Vasuki Glacier. We decided to attempt Bhagirathi IV from the Vasuki Glacier. On June 6 Padam, Minoo and Kripal started up the ablation valley on the left. Where it disappeared, they crossed over to the slopes of the ridge, negotiated a few subsidiary ridges and reached the base of Bhagirathi IV. They zigzagged up its 45° slope and reached the summit (18,000 feet) at two P.M. On June 7 Ganga and I left for the northernmost peak on the ridge. The eastern face was steep, and there was not much snow on it. Near the summit it was all rock with the slabs standing in the wrong direction. We reached the summit (17,800 feet) at 9:30 A.M.

G.R. PATWARDHAN, Extracted with permission from *Himavanta*

P 20,700 near Ganesh Parbat. This virgin peak was climbed on July 13 by an Indo-Tibetan Border Police team led by R.K. Khanna.

SOHLI S. MEHTA, *Himalayan Club*

Bauljuri. Bauljuri (19,429 feet) in the Nanda Devi group was climbed on September 30 by a nine-member Nainital Mountaineering Club team. Among the group were Girish Sah, leader, Anup Sah and Sundaranand.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

Sudarshan. An expedition of the Gangotri Exploration Committee led by Biren Sarkar set up Base Camp at 15,575 feet near the Raktvarn Glacier on September 12, Camp I at 18,500 feet on the 19th and Camp II at 20,000 feet on the 24th. Two unnamed peaks were climbed on September 23: P 20,230 by Karuna Das, Asit Bose, Baren Mukherjee and Satinath

Sarkhel and P 20,570 by Amio Mukherjee, Sujol Mukherjee and Soilen Bhattacharui. Sudarshan (21,350 feet) was climbed on September 24 by Amio Mukherjee, Karuna Das, Sujol Mukherjee and Binit Das Gupta.

SOHLI S. MEHTA, *Himalayan Club*

P 19,080 and P 18,560, Arwa Valley. The nine-man team from the Mountaineers' Club of Calcutta led by Baidyanath Rakshit climbed two unnamed peaks north of the Arwa valley. T.S. Subramanian, Barun Ghosh, Provat Kumar Ganguly, two Sherpas Lakpa Tsering and Ang Nima, and a local porter climbed virgin P 19,080 east of the Baidum Glacier on October 13. They and Dhruba Jyoti Ghosh climbed P 18,560 on October 19. Base Camp was at 15,500 feet at Chandhumka.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

P 20,370, Tons Valley. This peak, west of Swagarohini, was attempted by a Dutagar expedition led by Amula Sen.

SOHLI S. MEHTA, *Himalayan Club*

Kamet. An expedition from the Assam Mountaineering Association led by Atanu Prosad Barua abandoned its attempt on Kamet (25,447 feet) when beaten back by a sudden and severe blizzard only 400 feet from the summit. They had set up Camp IV at 22,500 feet on the west face. Another assault team had set another camp at 21,660 feet on the east face of Abi Gamin.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

India—Himachal Pradesh

Lion, Central, Kulu. Lion (20,100 feet) was climbed by its west face on June 27 by an expedition of Calcutta's Institute of Exploration led by Sanatan Bhattacharya. The summiters were Nitai Roy, Kesab Mukherjee, Asit Roy, Asit Moitra, and Sherpas Tsering Namgyal, Rinzing and Jangbu. Central (20,620 feet) was climbed two days later by its south face by Nitai Roy, Moitra, Kukherjee and four Sherpas. These peaks had been previously climbed only by a British ladies' expedition in 1962.

SOHLI S. MEHTA, *Himalayan Club*

Deo Tibba, Hanuman Tibba, Manali Peak. These continue to be popular targets for small parties and trainees from the Western Himalayan Mountaineering Institute at Manali.

SOHLI S. MEHTA, *Himalayan Club*

Ravi Chandra Watershed, Kulu. Tony Smythe and I made for the Bara Bangahal region west of Kulu in May. Our objective was the unre-

connoitred Ravi Chandra watershed and Smythe, our sirdar Wangyal and I climbed the highest peak (19,777 feet) at the head of the Tapni Laluni Glacier. On the descent I plunged 400 feet over an icefall and survived. After a return to Manali and hospital treatment, we set off with Major Bajaj, Indian liaison officer, and Wangyal to explore the Mulkila region to the north in Lahul. It is difficult for western parties to gain access to this part, which lies in the restricted area. For information we relied on the records of an Austro-British expedition which climbed Mulkila (21,380 feet) in 1939. We did not quite climb it, getting to within several hundred feet of the top before returning for lack of time and resources. Our route lay via the east ridge, which the 1939 expedition used.

JOHN MILLAR, *Österreichischer Alpenverein, United Kingdom Branch*

Hanuman Tibba. Hanuman Tibba (19,450 feet) was climbed on July 11, 1971 by Nick DeLisa, Susan and Gordon Jarrell, Sara Officer, Pat Ophuls, Chris Pizzo and me with Dhan Khumar Sherpa and Rinzing Ladakhi of the Western Himalayas Mountaineering Institute. We went up the Ravi River to the moraine west of the peak and then around its main south ridge to a glacier camp at 17,000 feet. The summit was a 13-hour round trip from this camp. It appears to be the first ascent by an American party.

PETER L. OVERMIRE

Indrasan and Deo Tibba. The Kansai Ganpo Kai expedition, led by Seiichi Asanome, successfully made a new route, the south face of Indrasan (20,410 feet), on May 18. Deo Tibba (19,688 feet) was also climbed some days before by some of the party.

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Phabrang. The Mountaineering Association of Shiga Prefecture sent Shigemaro Ibayashi, leader, Takao Yamada and six others to India. Base Camp was placed at 15,000 feet north of the mountain on September 21. A 19,000-foot peak west of Camp I (18,000 feet) was climbed on September 23 by Ibayashi, Kawasaki and the porter Namgyal. Camp II was established on the 24th. The next day Yamada, Iriyama and Oka and Sherpa Rinzin Namgyal reached the summit of Phabrang (20,250 feet) via the west ridge. On the 26th Oka, Nohsei and Katori climbed a 19,160-foot peak.

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Phabrang South. Tohichi Ohtake led the Tokyo Denki University expedition. After crossing the Rohtang Pass by bus, they reached Thiro Nalla of Lahul via Keron on September 12. After going through the villages of Chokang, Chhogzing, Guhari and Nawinghar, they placed their

first Base Camp at 13,000 feet. They then tried an unnamed 19,748-foot peak which stands in a remote corner of the Thirot Nalla. They reached the southwest col after placing Camps I (15,750 feet) and II (17,325 feet) on the north glacier. They were prevented from continuing on advice of their liaison officer because of inner line problems. They then returned and entered the Nainghar Nulla. Base Camp was at 13,600 feet, Camp I at 15,750 feet, Camp II at 17,400 feet and Camp III at 18,500 feet. On October 30 Kunitoshi Iguchi and Tsutomu Mashiko reached Phabrang South (20,145 feet). That same day Ohtake and Namgyal climbed Siri Parbat (19,029 feet). It is wondered if one of the peaks climbed by the Shiga party and by this expedition are not the same.

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Parbati South, Kulu. Six past or present members of Aston University and a doctor travelled overland in an ex-RAF ambulance to India. After three weeks of negotiations in Delhi, we received a permit to attempt Parbati South. This 20,101-foot unclimbed peak is forty miles east of Kulu. Our aims were twofold: 1. to climb Parbati South. We retreated 600 feet from the summit. Illness and technical difficulties forced us to withdraw after establishing five camps in three weeks in September. Climbing difficulties included a 2000-foot couloir at 50° to 60° and UIAA V+, A1 rock climbing. 2. to measure pollution in the western Himalaya. Samples were taken of glacier ice at Camp II (17,000 feet) up to 20 feet below the surface. Initial tests show that some of the samples contain 0.05 parts per million (ppm) of lead whilst a survey of the Greenland icecap showed 0.01 ppm. We believe that these results show cause for concern.

J.D. PROSSER, *University of Aston, Birmingham, England*

Kanglacha, Ladakh. Kanglacha (20,520 feet) was climbed on July 17 by a six-man Indo-Tibetan Border Police team led by Y.C. Khanna.

SOHLI S. MEHTA, *Himalayan Club*

P 20,308, Pangong Range, Ladakh. This virgin peak was climbed on September 20 by six members of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police and two other policemen. The summiters were R.C. Anand, leader, Balbir Singh, Tashi Sherpa, Rabgyas, Dubi Ram, Tsering Norbu, Singh and Naik.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

Kashmir Himal. Four Americans, Leslie Wheeler, David Graber, Joel Bown and I, joined four Kashmiris, Mohammed Ashraf, Vijay Kumar, Nazeer Ahmad, and Mohammed Aslam, for the first ascent of Tuliyan Peak (15,900 feet). On June 1, we reached the summit via the southwest ridge from a camp at Tuliyan Lake, about 20 miles south of Phal-

gam, Kashmir. The Americans then moved to the Kunir Hayan peaks above Shishnag Lakes near the route of the Hindu pilgrimage to the cave at Amarnath. On June 8, we climbed Shiva (16,500 feet via the east face); on June 10 Bown and Wheeler climbed Vishnu (16,700 feet via the northeast spur) while Graber and Blum climbed Brama (16,300 feet via the west face). All three peaks were approached from the north from a high camp above Shishnag Lake at 13,600 feet. They appear to be identical with the Shisha peaks climbed by C.G. Bruce in 1898 from the south, making ours the second ascent.

ARLENE BLUM

Hindu Kush—Pakistani-Afghan Frontier

Noshaq. The Bulgarian Hindu Kush Expedition, led by Petr Kavrkov and composed of D. Petkov, K. Aleksiev, I. Vasilev, K. Dimčev, A. Zahariev, H. Džambazov, P. Georgiev, R. Savov, J. Stojanov, K. Petrov and D. Jirov, had a tragic fate. They were in the Qadzi Deh valley. Base Camp was established on August 18, 1971 at 14,750 feet. They planned an ascent of the Austrian (west buttress) route of Noshaq, but one group made a reconnaissance of the Japanese-Polish route of 1960, during which they climbed P 6300 (20,670 feet) between Noshaq and Aspe Safed. They established three high camps between August 19 and 27. On August 28 Dimčev, Vasilev and Zahariev left Camp III at 23,225 feet for the summit. At 24,000 feet Dimčev had to return to Camp III because of frostbite. Vasilev and Zahariev reached the summit, from which they signaled with rockets. They were never seen again. At five P.M. that same day another group led by Petkov arrived at Camp III. Georgiev and Petkov had inflamed throats and the leader from Base Camp ordered them all back or at least the sick ones. Not until the 30th did they descend towards Camp II, but Georgiev and Džambazov never made it to that camp. Petkov was left in Camp III with food and water. The leader had sent five porters up from Base Camp. On the 31st Petkov reported himself in bad shape at Camp III and on September 1 a porter with oxygen got to the cliffs below Camp III but could go no farther. He saw no trace of the missing climbers. In the next days porters did reach Camp III but found Petkov dead there.

ADOLF DIEMBERGER, *Österreichischer Alpenklub*

Noshaq, Southwest Face. Our 11-member group wanted to make a ladies' ascent of Noshaq. We were Janusz Kurczab, leader, Janucz Onyszkiewicz, Wanda Rutkiewicz, Jan Holnicki-Szulc, Jan Lewicki, Andrzej Lapinski, Andrzej Marczak, Andrzej Sikorski, Krzysztof Zdzitowiecki, Alison Chadwick, English but resident in Warsaw and I. We drove by truck to Qazi Deh from Poland. We set up Base Camp on August 4. By the 13th we had two camps on the west ridge and two more below the

southwest face of Noshag. On August 14 Rutkiewicz, Holnicki-Szulc, Sikorski and Zdzitowiecki made the first ascent of Wala Peak 82 (19,521 feet) by its northeast buttress and on the 15th of Wala Peak 81 (19,620 feet), to which they traversed along the main ridge. From August 15 to 18 Lapiński, Marczak and Onyszkiewicz traversed from Aspe Safed I (21,349 feet) to Aspe Safed IV (20,145 feet) over all four summits. On August 16 Chadwick, Kurczab, Lewicki and I climbed Aspe Safed IV. This peak had been previously climbed only by the German expedition from Berchtesgaden a month before. From August 20 to 22 Holnicki-Szulc, Kurczab and Zdzitowiecki made the first ascent of the southwest face of Noshag alpine-style. They bivouacked twice. On August 23 Rutkiewicz, Honicki, Sikorski and Zdzitowiecki got to the summit of Noshag by the west ridge. On the 25th Chadwick, Marczak, Onyszkiewicz and I repeated the west ridge climb. This is an altitude record for Polish ladies.

EWA CZARNECKA-MARZAK, *Klubu Wysokogórskiego, Poland*

Noshag. Driving a Volkswagen bug and microbus, four Norwegians, Eric Boehlke, Odd Eliassen, Per Gran, Owe Skjerven, and I left Oslo on June 25 and on July 12 arrived in Kabul. After the official formalities, on July 17 we all flew from Kabul to Faizabad. We traveled by truck to Qadzi Deh and proceeded on foot to Base Camp (15,100 feet) at the foot of the west ridge of Noshag. On July 25 and 26 we all climbed Kharposht-e-Yakhi (18,688 feet) over the ordinary route and on August 1 the Norwegians climbed Asp-e-Safed (21,349 feet). Their attempt to traverse the ridge and peaks to the west was stymied by deep snow and insufficient acclimatization. I did not accompany them as I was recovering from my first bout with pneumonia. On August 8 Eliassen and Skjerven climbed Noshag's west peak (24,115 feet) in very cold weather and three days later Gran, Boehlke and I went over the west peak to the main summit (24,580 feet). On my return I was extremely weak and only with difficulty managed to reach Base Camp two days later. My condition was diagnosed as severe pneumonia plus frostbite of the feet. We broke camp and by August 21 were back in Kabul.

DAVID ISLES

Noshag. Our American Hindu Kush Expedition arrived at Base Camp at the foot of the west ridge of Noshag on August 3. Kharposht-e-Yakhi (18,688 feet) was climbed on August 7 by D. and A. George, Arlene Blum, Joel Bown, S. Darling, and Leslie (Toby) Wheeler and by me on the 11th. Asp-e-Safed (21,349 feet) was ascended on August 14 by Bown, Blum, Darling and me and by D. George and Wheeler on the 15th. Meanwhile on August 12 Earl Furman and Margaret Young climbed Noshag from Camp III on the west ridge, though Bill Griffin had to return to camp because of cold feet. On August 25 Bown reached the middle peak of

Noshaq, but others turned back some 500 feet lower because of bad weather.

DAVID J. GRABER, *Sierra Club*

Noshaq. A group of 53 Europeans, organized in Italy by Beppe Tenti with technical direction by Reinhold Messner, invaded the Qazi Deh valley and placed Base Camp at the foot of Noshaq. Climbing activities were concentrated on Kharposht-e-Yakhi (18,700 feet), climbed up its south side from Base Camp; Asp-e-Safed (21,677 feet) climbed from a Camp II in the 20,350-foot col between it and Noshaq; and Noshaq (24,580 feet). The latter was climbed via the west spur with camps at 18,000, 20,675 and 22,950 feet. On August 11 Messner reached the summit with Claudio Bergamo, Sergio Bigarella and Renato Mamini. The climb was repeated on August 15 by Frenchman Michel Parmentier, and Austrians Willy Ruprecht and Alfred Virant and Giuse Locana, who set an altitude record for Italian women.

Peaks near Noshaq. Our expedition from Berchtesgaden was composed of Herbert Eglauer, Albert Steinbacher, Heini Brandner, Sepp Rasp, Roland Bannert, Manfred Hillebrand, Gerd Gsottschneider, Reiner Maier and Udo Blaes. On July 4 Hillebrand, Rasp and I climbed Aspe-Safed I (21,349 feet) from the north with camps at 17,000 and 19,500 feet. On July 7 Eglauer, Steinbacher, Brandner and Bannert made the first ascent of Aspe-Safed IV (20,145 feet). We climbed from the north up a 2300-foot 55° to 60° ice couloir to a col and thence up the northwest ridge to the summit. Because of bad weather we had two bivouacs. On July 10 Eglauer, Hillebrand, Gsottschneider and I made a ski ascent of Karposht-e-Yakhi (18,688 feet). The next day Steinbacher repeated the ascent with Blaes and Maier remaining 350 feet below the top. On July 15 Eglauer and Gsottschneider climbed 17,160-foot Rakhe Kuchek I by its south face, a new route. Eglauer went on alone to make the second ascent of Rakhe Kuchek II (17,390 feet). On July 16 Steinbacher and I got the middle peak of Noshaq (24,115 feet) with camps at 17,700, 20,350 and 23,000 feet.

LORENZ HEISS, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

Koh-e-Urgund-e-Payan. Six of our Sport Eiselin group climbed previously ascended Koh-e-Urgund-e-Payan (20,091 feet). We ascended the steep glacier left (east) of the Swiss spur. Base Camp was at 15,100 feet at the foot of the spur. We had two high camps. On August 19 Fräulein Dr. Veronika Marz and Sepp Loretz made the top; on August 21 Fräulein Alice Landtwing, Frau Ruth Steinmann, Erich Vanis and I. Lack of time turned Duane Ewers and Jean-Louis Barbey back shortly below the top. We had only ten days for the whole climb.

ALOIS STRICKLER, *Schweizer Alpen Club*

Koh-e-Urgund Attempt, Koh-e-Awal. Unfortunately our undertaking turned out sadly. Two of my companions, Werner Bergmann and Horst Kaltow disappeared on August 30 near Camp II on Koh-e-Urgund, presumably buried in an avalanche. Before that, I had fallen sick and had to leave early with my wife Iris, crossing on foot from Zebak to Dasht-e-Rewat. We arrived at Base Camp in the Urgund-e-Bala valley at 14,750 feet on August 10. On August 13 Bergmann, Gernot Eisenmann, Herbert Holzmayr, Kaltow and Iris Trübswetter climbed Wala Peak 259 (19,029 feet; F) * from the northeast by the glacier and finally the north ridge, while Paul Lenk and Dieter Linnemann ascended the peak between Wala 282 and 283 (18,734 feet; F) by a snow gully on the west. On August 15 Bergmann, Eisenmann, Heinz Heidenreich, Holzmayr, P. Lenk and Ernst Schiebler climbed the foresummit of Wala 260 (18,078 feet; F) from the northeast while Christian Stacheder, my wife Iris and I traversed around Koh-e-Awal (or Avval) (Wala 291) via the "Krakow Plateau" and the Awal (Avval) col. On August 16 Bergmann, Heidenreich and Holzmayr climbed Wala 261 (17,389 feet; F) by the south ridge and descended a scree gully to the north, while Kaltow and Iris climbed Koh-e-Awal (19,029 feet; NR) by a snow gully from the west to the north ridge. They ascended via the Awal col and the "Krakow Plateau," the original Polish ascent route. Because of my illness, two days later Iris had to accompany me to the valley. On the 18th Kaltow and Linnemann climbed Wala 260 (18,373 feet; F) from the northeast over the north peak; Bergmann, Eisenmann, Heidenreich and Schiebler ascended Jurm I (19,095 feet; Wala 282; NR) by a snow gully on the west while Holzmayr and P. Lenk established Camp I on a spur at 16,400 feet on the ridge north of Koh-e-Urgund (23,420 feet). On August 20 Kaltow, Linnemann and Stacheder repeated the ascent of Wala 261, while Holzmayr and P. Lenk climbed P 6010 (19,718 feet; F) on the north ridge of Koh-e-Urgund, which they reached from Camp I by steep ice from the northeast. On August 23 Bergmann, Holzmayr, Kaltow and P. Lenk established Camp II at 19,000 feet in a saddle still two miles from Koh-e-Urgund on its north ridge, while Eisenmann, Antje Lenk, Linnemann and Stacheder repeated the ascent of Koh-e-Awal. Bergmann and Kaltow climbed P 6130 (20,112 feet; F) on Koh-e-Urgund's north ridge on August 24, coming from the north. Bad weather then intervened. On August 28 Koh-e-Awal was again climbed by a steep snow gully from the west which led to the north ridge near the summit (NR) and descended the southeast ridge (NR). Meanwhile Kaltow and Bergmann had reoccupied Camp II on Koh-e-Urgund. Light signals on the evening of August 29 were the last signs of life from them. It stormed again on the

* Peaks may be identified on Jerzy Wala's map. All altitudes were by aneroid except for that of Koh-e-Awal (Wala 281), which is taken from his map. First ascents are marked "F" and new routes "NR".

30th creating serious avalanche danger. In good weather on August 31 there was no sign of anyone in Camp II. Indistinct tracks seem to indicate that they were probably buried in an avalanche as they tried to descend in the bad weather. The expedition was abandoned on September 7 after an extensive search.

THOMAS TRÜBSWETTER, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

Jurm I and II. The Jurm valley was the last valley in this part of the Hindu Kush to be visited by climbing expeditions. The highest peaks, Jurm I and II, lie near Awal. The mountains climbed by the Italians from Padua mostly lay on the ridge between the Jurm and the Urgunt-e-Bala valleys. They approached through Faizabad, Barak, Zebak, Qasi Deh and Fermandosi. Base Camp was in the Jurm valley at 13,950 feet. Despite much bad weather, they made the following first ascents: Koh-e-Past (Wala Peak 291a; 17,717 feet) on July 22 by Vittorio Lazzarino, Paoli Lion; Koh-e-Chard (Wala 288; 17,553 feet) on July 24 by Ugo Quintily, Lazzarino, Lion and Dr. Elide Veronese; Shal-e-Safid (Wala 286; 17,946 feet) on July 27 by Alfredo Dal Santo, Quintily; Koh-e-Dur (Wala 281a; 18,111 feet) on July 29 by Lino Bortolami, expedition leader, and Dal Santo; Kohe-e-Stara (the most difficult peak) (Wala 292, 18,176 feet) on August 1 by Bortolami, Lion; Koh-e-Jurm I (Wala 282; c. 19,685 feet*) and Koh-e-Jurm II (across the col from I and about 35 feet lower) on August 1 by Lazzarino, Dal Santo; and Koh-e-Sauze (Wala 291; 18,078 feet) on August 3 by all except Lazzarino. Lazzarino and the Afghan interpreter Bashir made the second ascent of Koh-e-Durang (Wala 289; 17,385 feet) on August 4.

ADOLF DIEMBERGER, *Österreichischer Alpenklub*

Akher-Chagh, Koh-e-Tez, Shayoz Zom. A Polish expedition, led by Ryszard Koziol, first made several acclimatization climbs in the Salang massif near the Salang Pass road. They then entered the Urgunt-e-Bala valley, which had been explored for the first time in 1962 by Poles, when they made the first ascent of Koh-e-Tez. As before, this year's group established camp on the "Krakow Plateau" between Koh-e-Awal and Koh-e-Tez on the western end of the Kotgaz Glacier on July 27. On August 2, 5 and 15 they climbed the 18,700-foot peak on the east ridge of Wala Peak 582. On August 10 and 15 they climbed Koh-e-Awal (19,029 feet, Wala 281). They got for the first time to the col between Koh-e-Tez and Akher Chagh and on August 21 A. Lewandowski, W. Kurtyka and J.K. Rusiecki completed the very difficult new route over the west ridge to the summit of Akher Chagh (23,032 feet). Route preparation took from August 8 to 20; they fixed 1300 feet of rope. An even more interesting

* Thomas Trübswetter gives 5820 meters or 19,095 feet for this peak, which agrees with Jerzy Wala's altitude.

route was also made on Akher Chagh, a *direttissima* up the northwest face, completed on September 5 by P. Jasinski, Kurtyka, M. Kowalczyk and Rusiecki. The 6000-foot face was first snow and ice and then ice and rock above. They also made a new route on Koh-e-Tez (23,015 feet) when Kurtyka, A. Bednarz and Koziol on August 28 climbed the north ridge. They descended the previously climbed west ridge. They also ascended Shayoz Zom (22,490 feet) on September 5, not a first ascent.

ADOLF DIEMBERGER, *Österreichischer Alpenklub*

Kohe Hevad, Kunkho-i-Kuchek, Kohe Bakhera, Ishmurgh Valley. Walter Giger, leader, Alfred and Hansruedi Koelz, Arnold Frauenfelder, Roman Boutellier, Jürg Reinhard, Hansjürg Wetter and I traveled to Kabul overland and by truck to Ishmurgh. We established Base Camp on the left side of the Ishmurgh Glacier on July 10. All of us except Alfred Koelz and Frauenfelder made the second ascent of Kohe Akademia (17,389 feet) by the northeast face on July 12. With one camp we all climbed Kohe Anoshah (18,209 feet) by its northwest face on July 16, also a second ascent. The next day H. Koelz and I made the second ascent of Kohe Spartakiada (17,061 feet). On July 18 nearly two feet of snow fell in Base Camp. We made the second ascent of Kohe Setara (19,882 feet) by a new route, the south ridge. Boutellier and Giger got to the top on July 22 and Frauenfelder, H. Koelz, Reinhard and I on the 23rd. The same six made the first ascent of Kohe Bakhera (west peak: 20,473 feet; east peak: 20,571 feet) by a 3000-foot couloir on the southwest face. We started at midnight and reached the col between the two summits at eight A.M. It took us from August 1 to 11 to make the first ascent of Lunkho-i-Kuchek (21,096 feet). With camps at 17,500 and 20,000 feet, we followed the northwest flank to the watershed between Wakhan and Chitral and then the southwestern ridge to the top. The first attempt failed because of another snowfall, but Boutellier, Giger, H. Koelz, Reinhard and I made it on August 11. Boutellier, Giger, H. Koelz and I made the second ascent of Ariana on August 15, bivouacking on the descent. On August 19 the same four made the fifth ascent of Kohe Hevad (22,471 feet) via the east face with two bivouacs.

PETER RÜFENACHT, *Akademischer Alpenclub Zurich*

Koh-e-Keshnikhan Northeast Ridge. Our expedition was composed of P.A. Froidevaux, C. Reuille, A. Villiger de Lausanne and J.J. Asper, C. Dalphin, J.F. Gal, J. Loretz and me of Geneva. We had as our objective the fourth ascent of Keshnikhan by a new route, the northeast ridge. From Base Camp at 12,800 feet we moved up to Camp I at 15,425 feet over moraine, boulders and then glacier. To get to Camp II on the ridge at 18,000 feet we climbed a very steep slope, which got progressively steeper and was 70° at the top. From Camp II to III (20,350 feet) there were two 60° ice slopes. We fixed some 1650 feet of rope. The ridge ran

at 45° from Camp III to the summit (22,162 feet). On July 16 Dalphin and Reuille reached the top, followed the next day by Gal and Villiger. A ten-day storm prevented attempts by the rest of us.

MARC EBNETER, *Club Alpin Suisse*

Agram Valley, Wakhan. S. du Chaffaud, A. Martin, Y. Richard and I, French, and B. Lawder, American, explored in the summer of 1971 the Agram valley, south of Zebek, at the beginning of the Wakhan. The whole massif around the Agram valley was unknown to us, for we had set out for Nuristan, but the access route was cut off at the beginning of July. We climbed the highest peaks up slopes which dominate the valley. The following first ascents were made: Kohe Degoll (17,192 feet; on the western rim of the valley some 5 miles north of the head) via the northwest ridge by du Chaffaud and Richard; Hohe Tanhaa (16,864 feet) via the north face by Regnaud solo; Kohe Naumalum (17,586 feet) via the west ridge by Regnaud and Richard. These two lie northeast of the Agram An (pass), the latter being the highest peak in the valley. The region was unexplored, although the German expedition led by J. Ruf passed the entrance to the valley when they ascended the Mandro Gaz valley in 1964.

DENIS REGNAUD, *Club Alpin Français*

Peaks in Wakhan and Zebak Regions. The Polish Afghan Hindu Kush Expedition was composed of two groups: from Kraków-Lublin Stanislaw Biel, leader, J. Chmielewski, H. Ciońka, A. Janota, P. Jasiński, M. Kata, M. Kowalczyk, Z. Ryn, Z. Stepek, P. Taraszewicz, A. Tokarski, Jerzy Wala, Stanislaw Worwa, R. Zawadzki, R. Farat and A. Skoczylas; from Wrocław Jerzy Wojnarowicz, leader, Stanislaw Aniol, T. Barbacki, R. Bebak, M. Bogucki, J. Fereński, K. Glazek, K. Piotrowski and A. Sidorowicz. From August 25 to 29, 1971 they climbed together and made 15 ascents of peaks between 13,125 and 15,425 feet in the Salang region. Then the Wrocław group entered the Qadzi Deh valley. They made the following first ascents of peaks between the Wakhan and Zebak regions: P c.5000 (c.16,404 feet) from north on August 8 by Glazek; P c.5100 (c.16,733 feet) from south on August 9 by Bebak, Fereński; Kohe Syah (16,687 feet) from south on August 9 by Aniol, Wojnarowicz; Haram (c.17,390 feet) from south on August 23 by Glazek, Sidorowicz; two towers, Kohe Sakht (18,455 feet) and Diware Kalan (19,059 feet) from southeast on August 24 by Glazek, Sidorowicz; Gumbaze Yakhi (c.19,030 feet) from north and on to Sahe Kalan (c.19,225 feet) on October 1 by Glazek, Piotrowski; Kohe Zard via south face on October 1 by Fereński, Bebak, Sidorowicz. Above the Qadzi Deh valley they climbed the following: Aspe Safed (c.21,325 feet) via north ridge on September 17 by Fereński; Aspe Syah (c.20,505 feet) via northeast ridge from September 14 to 17 by Glazek, Piotrowski; peak near Wala Peak 124 via northeast ridge by Wojnarowicz, Fereński, Bebak. Meanwhile the Kraków-Lublin

group was exploring the Banba Tangi, Eshan and Sust valleys. In the Eshan valley Jasinski and Kowalczyk on September 8 climbed Kohe Lashkor (17,186 feet) while the next day in the Sust valley Janota and Tokarski climbed Myana Koh (16,975 feet). The peak numbered 421 by Wala and previously called Kohe Qala Ust is more correctly Kohe Kuhan (20,700 feet) and the east peak (20,670 feet) is Kohe Kuhan e Sarqi. An attempt from the Sust Glacier over the eastern flank of Makhrute Safed and the northeast ridge of Kohe Kuhan e Sarqi failed in bad weather. They climbed the following: Sakhe Sangi (17,300 feet; Wala Peak 449) via southwest ridge on September 18 by Ciońčka, Ryn, Stepek, Wala; Sakhe Kuchek (17,744 feet; Wala Peak 448) from northwest on September 18 by Jasiński, Kowalczyk, Janota, Worwa, Zawadski; Makhrude Safed (19,193 feet) on September 26 by Ciońčka, Ryn, Wala, Zawadski and again on September 27 by Ryn, Zawadski. In the Issik valley Chmielewski climbed P 5040 (16,536 feet), P 5112 (16,771 feet) and P 5464 (17,927 feet) on September 25. Chmielewski, Kata, Skoczylas and Tokarski climbed the east summit (19,948 feet) of Kohe Zemestan by its east ridge on September 29 and 30. The Khaspak valley divides into the Qalat and Syorpas valleys. There they made the following ascents: Kohe Copan (c.16,400 feet) via west side on October 8 by Biel, Worwa; Diware Kalan (19,059 feet) via north ridge on October 10 by Jasiński, Kowalczyk; P 5250 (17,225 feet) via north ridge on October 9 by Zawadski, Stepek, Ryn, Farat; Kohe Dandan (c.16,900 feet) via northwest ridge on October 9 by Stepek, Ryn; Kohe Sangi (c.18,210 feet) on October 10 by Zawadski, Ryn, Stepek; Cangale Syah (16,956 feet) on October 11 by Biel, Ciońčka, Worwa; P 5000 (16,404 feet) from east on October 14 by Jasiński, Kowalczyk; P 4810 (15,781 feet) via northwest ridge on October 14 by Janota, Worwa, Stepek, P 4850 (15,912 feet) via east ridge by Ciońčka, Wala and P 4992 (16,378 feet) via north ridge by Chmielewski both on October 15.

ADOLF DIEMBERGER, *Österreichischer Alpenklub*

M6, Mandaras Valley. An Italian expedition from Ascoli was led by Francesco Saladini and composed of Pinetta Teodori, Maurizio Calibani, Giuseppe Raggi, Giuseppe and Carlo Fanesi and Giancarlo Tosti. They ascended the last unclimbed 6000er of the Mandaras valley, M6 (20,140 feet). Base Camp was established at 14,100 feet at the head of the valley and Advanced Base on the principal glacier at 16,400 feet. High Camp was at 17,400 feet on the glacier that separates the west ridge of M5 from M6. The north ridge seemed the most feasible, rising some 2600 feet from the north col. Route preparation occupied the last days of July. A several-day attempt ended in a 19,350-foot bivouac when it dawned snowing on August 6. On August 9 Saladini and Teodori left their high camp at three A.M., reached the bivouac site of the previous attempt at eight and continued along the ridge to get to the top at 3:40 P.M. They bivouacked on the descent at 19,000 feet.

Hindu Kush—Afghanistan

Koh-i-Morsurq and Other Peaks, Suigal. The members of the party were R.D. Barton, I.A. Napier, D.G. Peers, D. Robinson, J.G. Tyler and I. [Editor's note: All were first ascents except for those marked *, which indicates a new route, or marked **, which indicates a previously climbed peak. Nearly all peaks appear on Frey's map. Note the difference in altitude given by Bolton for Koh-i-Morsurq (6075 meters or 19,931 feet), which is much lower than Frey's (6435 meters or 21,112 feet).] Ascents made south of the Suigal: P 5386** (17,670 feet) on August 14 via west ridge by Barton, Tyler; Traverse south over P 4700 (15,420 feet), P 4900 (16,076 feet), P 5100 (16,733 feet) to P 5269 (17,287 feet) on August 14 by Robinson, Bolton; P 5050 (16,568 feet) and P 5000 (16,404 feet); both between P 5269 and P 5248) and P 5300 (17,389 feet; between P 5269 and P 5385) on August 15 by Robinson, Bolton; P 5014 (16,450 feet) via southwest ridge on August 14 by Napier, Peers; P 5200 (17,061 feet) via south gully and P 5500 (18,045 feet) via east ridge on August 15 by Napier, Piers (both between P 5014 and Koh-i-Askival); P 4257** (13,967 feet) on August 17 by Robinson; Koh-i-Askival* (19,259 feet) via east ridge on August 18 and 19 by Barton, Tyler; P 5600 (18,373 feet) via east-west traverse on August 18 by Napier, Peers (2 kms south of Koh-i-Askival); P 5800* (19,029 feet) via west-east traverse on August 19 by Napier, Peers (4 kms southwest of Koh-i-Askival); P 4860 (15,912 feet) via north ridge on August 22 Bolton (1st peak north of P 5000 mentioned above); P 5400 (17,717 feet) via west face on August 24 by Barton, Tyler (2 kms northeast of Koh-i-Ainshval); P 5580 (18,307 feet) via north ridge on August 25 by Barton, Tyler (northwest of Koh-i-Ainshval); P 5850 (19,193 feet) via north ridge on August 26 by Barton, Tyler (northwest of Koh-i-Ainshval); Koh-i-Morsurq** (19,931 feet) via northeast face on August 26 by Robinson, Bolton; Koh-i-Ainshval (18,455 feet) via northeast face and traverse north over P 5500 (18,045 feet) and P 5300 (17,389 feet) on August 28 by Bolton; P 4500 (14,764 feet) on August 29 by Robinson (3 kms east of Koh-i-Ainshval); P 5350 (17,553 feet) via north face on September 1 by Barton, Tyler (1 km west of P 5386); P 4300 (14,108 feet) and P 4500 (14,764 feet) on September 2 by Bolton (4th and 3rd peaks north of P 5000); P 5248 (17,219 feet) via east ridge and traverse east of P 5050 (16,568 feet), P 5100 (16,733 feet), P 5000 (16,404 feet) and P 4600 (15,092 feet) on September 3 by Bolton. Ascents made northwest of the Suigal: Koh-i-Shoshgal** (15,863 feet) on August 9 via north face by Peers, Robinson; P 5200 (17,061 feet) via west ridge on August 24 by Robinson, Bolton (on a line between Koh-i-Shoshgal and Koh-i-Ainshval); P 5150* (16,897 feet) via east ridge on August 24 by Napier, Peers (between Divar-i-Saf and Surak-i-Sard); P 5699 (18,698 feet; this lies just to the west) on September 1 by Robinson, Napier; P 5600* (18,273 feet) via north ridge on September 5 by Tyler (1½ kms south of Koh-i-

Chrebek); P 5650 (18,537 feet) via east face on September 6 by Barton (1½ kms southwest of Koh-i-Chrebek).

A. JAMES BOLTON, *British Inter-Universities Mountaineering Expedition*

Koh-i-Tundy Shagai Sha, Shkurigal Valley, Bashgal, Central Hindu Kush. Our expedition, M. Hore, K.J. MacDermott, R.C. Pelly, G.C. Taylor, P.S. Wesson and I, drove from England to Afghanistan in 13 days. After spending a week in Kabul, getting final permission to visit Nuristan and obtaining the services of an interpreter, we took an Afghan lorry to Jalalabad. From there we travelled over the extremely rough road up the Kunar valley in two Soviet-built "jeeps". Flooding of the Bashgal River made the road beyond Barikot impassible for motor vehicles. The equipment and stores were loaded onto donkeys for the last 70 miles to Base Camp at the head of the Shkurigal valley. We spent five weeks mountaineering and carrying out investigations into earth tremors in the area. We climbed twelve peaks,* ten of which were first ascents. These were P 5048 (16,562 feet) on July 21 by Danby, Hore; P 5010 (16,437 feet) on July 20 and 21 by Pelly, Taylor; P 5412 (17,756 feet) on July 25 by Danby, Pelly; N.F. 13 or P 5881 (19,295 feet) on July 27 by Hore, Taylor, second ascent; P 5228 (17,153 feet) on August 1 by Pelly; P 5216 (17,113 feet) on August 3 by Pelly, Wesson; P 5070 (16,634 feet) on August 3 by Taylor; P 4998 (16,401 feet) and P 5070 (16,634 feet; "Koh-i-Molar") on August 7 by Danby, Pelly, Taylor; P 5380 (17,651 feet) on August 8 by Danby, Pelly, Taylor; P 5585 (18,323 feet) on August 12 by Danby, Pelly and Koh-i-Tundy Shagai Sha (20,082 feet) on August 14 by Danby, Pelly, fourth ascent. The latter was climbed by the previously unclimbed northwest face. Our first attempt was abandoned because of excessive cold. On the second attempt Pelly and I climbed to the summit from a bivouac at 16,125 feet in five hours. Of particular interest was a cirque of granite towers we called the "Shark's Teeth," 8 kms east of Koh-i-Parshui. The faces of the teeth were absolutely smooth except for overhangs every hundred feet or so and looked unclimbable. However P 5070 (Koh-i-Molar) was climbed by a traverse leading up and across the face, hardly discernable when looking at the mountain front-on. P 5380 (Koh-i-Canine) was climbed after ten hours in a steep ice couloir, which separated it from the neighboring peak. From the top of the couloir we climbed to the summit along a rock ridge. We abseiled down in starlight.

C. JOHN DANBY, *Cambridge University Mountaineering Club*

* All these peaks may be located on Wolfgang Frey's excellent map. P 5048 lies 8 kms east of Koh-i-Parshui; P 5010, 11 kms east of Koh-i-Tundy Shagai Sha; P 5412, 8 kms northeast of Koh-i-Tundy Shagai Sha; P 5228, 3 kms east of Koh-i-Parshui; P 5216, 5 kms east of Koh-i-Tundy Shagai Sha; P 5070, 12 kms northeast of Koh-i-Tundy Shagai Sha; P 5585, just north of Kotal Parshui. The "Shark's Teeth" have no altitudes on Frey's map.

Bandaka. Hirosaki University's expedition was led by Sumindo Hanada. They left Kabul on July 9 and reached Keron on the 17th via Hazarat Said. They established Base Camp on the 19th at 13,800 feet in the Sakhi valley. They then placed three camps at 16,925, 19,200 and 20,675 feet. Mitsutaka Kudo and Tokuo Taniguchi got to the top of Bandaka (22,450 feet) on August 10, Hanada and Ikuo Kimura and Takao Suzuki on the 12th and Noriyasu Narita and Shuji Katsura on the 13th. They left Base Camp on the 28th and reached Kabul on the 28th via Keron, Anjuman and Dasht-i-Rewat.

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Koh-i-Safed, Warmano Valley. The Tokyo Gakugei University expedition, led by Izomu Ikeba and Akio Yamada, had 11 members. Leaving Kabul on July 21, they crossed the Anjuman on the 30th and reached Base Camp at 12,500 feet in the Warmano valley on the 31st. On August 6 Hiroshi Shibata and Ikko Ohwada attempted Koh-i-Safed (19,688 feet) by its south ridge, getting to 18,700 feet. Their support party, Yusho Yami and Makoto Takeda, climbed P 5550 (18,045 feet), south of a col on the south ridge. The first pair climbed P 5178 (16,989 feet). The northwest party, Ikeba, Noroko Shibata, Aiko Arai and Hiroshi Yajima, went on from Camp II at 13,775 feet to a col between P 5340 (17,520 feet) and P 5341 and climbed the former. On the 9th the south ridge party with Akio Yamada and Kimura went up the right glacier of the south ridge and took the German ridge to the col and reached the summit snowfield of Koh-i-Safed. On the same day Ryoichi Kaneko, Yasuko Sato, Yamai and Katsutoshi Terasawa of the northwest party climbed P 5341 (17,523 feet).

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Koh-i-Mondi, North Face. Our expedition was led by Peter Boardman and composed of Bill Church, Chris FitzHugh, Oliver and Margaret Stansfield, Bob Watson and me. We approached the Jouomeh valley (spelled Youmeh by Ian Rowe in *A.A.S.*, 1971 and given as Mulaw on Frey's map) from the north via Jurm. Leaving the truck at Hazrat Said, we marched with donkeys for six days down the Kotcka and Munjan rivers. Base Camp was established at 12,500 feet on July 17 and an advance camp was made at 14,500 on the glacier. Margaret managed Base Camp admirably and an altitude record of 15,500 feet is claimed for her six-month-old child. We ascended five hitherto unclimbed peaks and made new routes on five others. Our main objective, the north face of Koh-i-Mondi (20,453 feet), was ascended alpine-style towards the end of our stay. This magnificent 5000-foot-high face provided a direct route to the summit at a continuously high standard. It started up the snowfield below the central couloir and traversed left and climbed directly up the huge buttress to the left of the couloir. Boardman, FitzHugh, Church and I

reached the summit in 4½ days on August 17. Other major peaks climbed were P 5752 (18,871 feet) via west ridge by Boardman, Fitz-Hugh; Koh-i-Khaaik (19,226 feet) via north face by Boardman, Wragg, Stansfield; and Koh-i-Mondi via northeast rib by Fitzhugh, Church. We also climbed Koh-i-Jumi (19,685 feet); P 5500 (18,045 feet), the next peak west; the peak between Koh-i-Khaaik and P 5752; the peak north-east of P 5752; P 5751 (18,868 feet), northwest of P 5752; and P 5685 (18,648 feet), along the east side of the valley. (These may be identified on Frey's map, *Zwischen Munjan und Bashgal*.)

MARTIN WRAGG, *Nottingham University Mountaineering Club, England*

Koh-i-Parshui Attempt. On our approach to the central Hindu Kush this year, our roadhead was Barikot, giving us two extra days march per traverse up and down. The local languages are baffling even to our interpreter; Barikot is Pashtu, but higher up there appear to be highly localized and incomprehensible dialects. We established Base Camp in the Sunigal valley (35°42' N, 71°5' E) and had unsuccessful attempts at (Frey's) P 5370 (17,618 feet) for lack of acclimatization and at Koh-i-Parshui (19,718 feet) because of impending bad weather.

IAN ROWE, *Alpine Climbing Group*

Mir Samir. The Ulster Afghanistan Expedition made two new routes on Mir Samir (19,059 feet). Mick Curran, Trevor Mitten and I climbed the southwest couloir in July, 1971, with one bivouac on the way up and one on the descent. Although nowhere unduly difficult, it was subsequently found to be a death-trap. The south face was climbed by high-altitude leader John Anderson, Dick Jones and Mitten. On the descent they were caught in a thunderstorm, which avalanched the couloir below them. We also made the ascent of three unclimbed peaks in the Chamar valley. Bert Slader was the general leader of the expedition.

PHILIP BLAKE, *Ulster*

Khwaja Muhammad Range. Yasu Takeuchi led nine members of the High School Athletic Association of Fukuoka. Leaving Kabul on July 8, they entered the mountains via Anjuman village and established Base Camp on the 17th. The highest peaks climbed were Koh-i-Sakarowa (19,016 feet) on July 28 and Robogan (18,777 feet) on July 30.

ICHIRO YOSHIZAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Razer Valley. The Kyushu Dental University expedition was composed of the leader Seishiro and five others. Starting from Kabul on July 1, they got to Base Camp in the Razer valley on the 12th. P 5523 (18,121 feet) and P 5623 (18,449 feet) were climbed by all members on July 27, P 5500 (18,045 feet) by Shinichi Nakamura and Nobuhide Kuwabara on

the 29th, Koh-i-Piriack South (18,793 feet) by the same climbers on the 30th, P 5521 (18,114 feet) by Kamachi, Masaru Higuchi, Kosaku Tsujihata and Ken Kanazawa on the 30th. Kuwabara repeated the last peak on the 31st. They started their return on August 4 and took the northern route through Jurm and Faizabad, reaching Kabul on the 11th.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

Koh-e-Baba. The Frenchmen Jean Emmanuel Michal and Laurent Davenas on August 18 and 19 climbed Koh-e-Baba (16,861 feet), ascending the southeast ridge and descending the east face. A Japanese party from Tokyo Metropolitan University also made an ascent of this peak.

USSR

Pamirs and Tien Shan, 1971. In *Alpinismus* of March 1972 there is an excellent summary of the remarkable accomplishments of climbers in the Soviet Union in 1971. Their highest mountain, Pik Kommunisma (24,548 feet) was ascended by 64 climbers, Pik Pobjeda (24,406 feet) by 12, Pik Lenin (23,406 feet) by 34 and Pik Korzhenevskoi (23,310 feet) by 50. New routes of extreme difficulty were pioneered and there were many multi-day, multi-summit ascents, where the climbers spent days above 20,000 feet. From August 12 to 20, 1971 V. Bessubkin, J. Andreev, V. Ljach, A. Vstavski and V. Ushakov climbed from the Walter Glacier up the 6500-foot-high north face spur to the Pamir Plateau at 20,350 feet and on by the west ridge to the summit of Pik Kommunisma. A second new route, two miles to the west on this enormous face, was climbed in the same year by an expedition led by J. Hetman; after placing 230 pitons, they reached the plateau and continued to the top via the east ridge. Other remarkable Pamir climbs included the first ascent of the higher (north) summit (21,096 feet) of Pik Kommunisticeskaya Akademiya, which involved a traverse over the 20,834-foot south summit by a new route; the north face buttress of Pik Engels (21,359 feet), a 12-day face climb of extreme difficulty; a 6000-foot new route up the north face of Pik Tadzhikistan coupled with a nine-mile traverse over P 6100 (20,013 feet), Pik Nikoladse (20,834 feet), Pik Marx (22,146 feet), Pik Engels and Pik 40 Years LKSMU (20,702 feet), a 15-day climb mostly above 20,000 feet; and the first ascent of the 4000-foot, mostly overhanging south face of Pik 40 Years LKSMU, where the climbers used 280 pitons and 30 bolts and bivouacked all ten nights suspended in hammocks. In the Tien Shan, Kirgiz climbers led by V. Kotschetkov made the first ascent of the south-southwest buttress of Pik Maxim Gorki (19,849 feet) and then continued on over Pik E. Abalakov (19,292 feet), Pik Tschapaev (20,900 feet) to Khan Tengri (22,933 feet), a distance of nine miles, which took them 22 days in very poor weather. For further details, see *Alpinismus*.

Pamirs and Tien Shan, 1972. Despite much bad weather, Soviet climbers were more active than ever. Pik Kommunisma (24,548 feet) was climbed by 193 climbers including nine women, Pik Pobjeda (24,406 feet) by 18 including two women, Pik Lenin (23,406 feet) by 23 including three women and P. Korzhenevskoi (23,310 feet) by 65 men and 10 women. In the Pamirs W. Nekrasov led a large army expedition. The main objective was the 6500-foot southwest face of Pik Komakademiya (north summit 21,096 feet, south summit 20,834 feet). After fixing ropes on the bottom 650 feet, four climbers retired in bad weather. Upon their return, avalanches had swept out most of the ropes. During the next nine days they ascended the face. After traversing both summits, they descended to an 18,000-foot col, continued over P 6045 (19,833 feet) to Pik Garmo (21,703 feet). The whole traverse took 16 days! Meanwhile from August 5 to 17 three others climbed the 6500-foot east face of the south summit of the same mountain. A third team of five made from August 10 to 21 another new route, the northwest face of Pik Dankov (19,620 feet). From July 28 to August 5 O. Abalakov led a group up the southeast ridge of Pik Rossiya (22,480 feet). The 5000-foot nearly vertical northwest face of Pik OGPU (19,778 feet) produced two difficult new routes. Two new routes were made on the 4000-foot east face of Pik Tadzhikistan's south summit (20,670 feet). The most difficult ascent in the southwestern Pamirs was a *direttissima* of the 4500-foot east face of Pik Engels (21,359 feet), made from July 28 to August 10. Further details are given in *Alpinismus* of February 1973.

ANTARCTIC

Lassiter Coast, Antarctic Peninsula. A six-man U.S. Geological Survey party (Steve Boyer, Karl Kellogg, Peter Rowley, Dick Waitt, a Russian exchange scientist E.N. Kamenev and I) spent three months of the 1972-3 austral summer conducting reconnaissance geologic mapping in the rugged mountains of the Lassiter Coast near the base of the Antarctic Peninsula. In addition to the geologic work, first ascents of several prominent peaks were made. Mount Kane, the highest in the Playfair Mountains, was climbed by Kellogg and me on Thanksgiving Day. We ascended a mixed snow and rock rib in the center of the west face and descended the north ridge and northwest spur. The descent required several pitches of roped climbing on a knife-edged arête. Mount Barkow in the southwestern Dana Mountains was climbed from the north by Rowley on December 11. Two peaks in the Werner Mountains were climbed. Mount Fell was traversed from southwest to northeast by Kellogg and me on December 21 and three days later Kellogg traversed Mount High from west to east. I soloed the east ridge of the westernmost peak in the Ferguson Nunatak group on December 29 (NCCS II, F5) and on New Year's Day climbed the north ridge of Mount Axworthy in the Dana Mountains.

WALTER R. VENNUM