

Pakistan

Nanga Parbat Attempt. Although our expedition under the leadership of Jean-Pierre Frésafond arrived in Islamabad on April 8, we had to wait for two weeks until we could take the road constructed along the banks of the Indus by the Chinese. And then an earthquake blocked the road, which was destroyed in several places. Not being able to reach the Rupal Face to attack the central buttress, we decided to try the nearest west face, cost what it might. We tried to climb the very long Mazeno ridge, but the weather was very bad for thirty consecutive days. Moreover the ridge must be 15 miles long and is difficult. We could not set off alpine-style for ten days because of the weather. After having climbed the first of the five Mazeno peaks, we gave up to return some other day. The team had 23 French members and two Pakistanis.

LOUIS AUDOUBERT, *Club Alpin Français*

Nanga Parbat Attempt. Our expedition was composed of Walter Ruppert, leader, Lili Alfrid Ruppert, Walter Knezicek, Herbert Jesenko, Naz Gruber, Walter Snehotta, my brother Gerhard Neumayer and me. We attempted the 10,000-foot-high Diamir Face of Nanga Parbat. We were delayed 12 days in Rawalpindi waiting for baggage and only got to the Bunar Bridge on July 26. We set out from there to Base Camp with 70 porters. Base Camp was on the right moraine of the Diamir Glacier at 13,400 feet. On August 3 we set up Camp I at 15,425 feet at the beginning of a 60° rockfall-threatened ice couloir. We had to retire to Base Camp in the face of snowfall and subsequent avalanche danger. On August 14 we set up Camp II at 19,700 feet but were driven back down by bad weather. On August 17 we set out again. My brother and I reached 22,300 feet on the 19th but were again driven back by snowfall. This time the mountain was plastered with six feet of snow and we abandoned the attempt. Close to Camp I at about 16,000 feet we found the remains of Bob Broughton, the American lost on July 31, 1977. We buried him in a crevasse.

FRANZ NEUMAYER, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

Pakistan—Karakoram

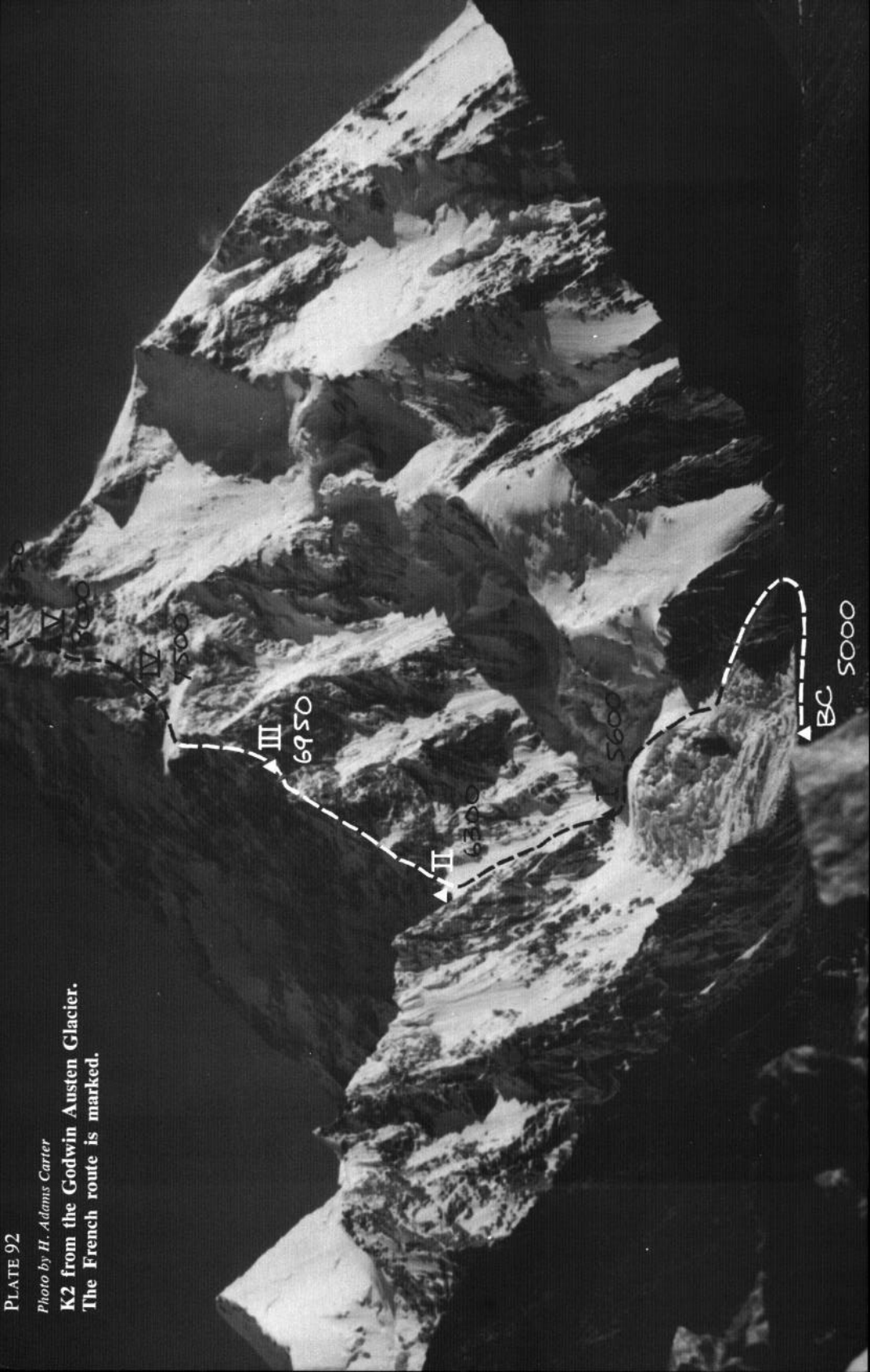
K2. Italians Reinhold Messner, Friedl Mutschlechner, Renato Casarotto and Alessandro Gogna, German Michael Dacher and Austrian Robert Schauer made up a strong team that hoped to climb the well publicized "Magic Line" on K2. This route would have climbed to the Negrotto Saddle between K2 and the Angelus, ascended the south buttress to a point where it would traverse across the south face to meet the Abruzzi Ridge

some 1000 feet below the summit. There were serious delays. The expedition waited three weeks for a flight to Skardu. On the approach the female doctor broke her leg and had to be carried back to Askole and helicoptered out. A porter was killed falling into a crevasse on the Savoia Glacier. After a brief reconnaissance, in view of the tight time-schedule, Messner decided instead to climb the Abruzzi Ridge. Despite the publicity of a "five-day victory, alpine style without high camps," the preparations were in fact much more. On June 22 Messner, Dacher, Gogna and Casarotto moved from Base Camp at 16,250 feet to Camp I at 20,000 feet. The next two days they climbed House's Chimney and carried loads to the site of Camp II at 21,925 feet before returning to Base Camp for a rest. On June 27 Schauer, Mutschlechner and two Balti porters carried to Camp I and the first two on the 28th to Camp II. Gogna and Casarotto were also active. On July 1 Gogna climbed 1000 feet above Camp II extracting from the ice or replacing Japanese fixed ropes. On July 4 Messner and Dacher climbed and fixed rope up to 24,000 feet, near the site of Camp III. The whole team had been active repairing or replacing the Japanese fixed ropes or placing new ones. This was therefore hardly the touted "alpine-style" ascent. After a rest at Base Camp, on July 8 Messner and Dacher moved to Camp I and in the next two days to Camps II and III. On July 11 they climbed to place and occupy a bivouac tent at 26,000 feet. On July 12 they reached the summit at 4:40, having used no oxygen.

K2, South-Southwest Ridge Attempt. A strong, rather massive French expedition nearly climbed K2 by its very difficult south-southwest ridge. The leader was Bernard Mellet, the deputy leader, Yannick Seigneur and the others were Maurice Barrard, Pierre Beghin, Jean-Marc Boivin, Dr. Dominique Chaix, Patrick Cordier, Jean Coudray, Xavier Fargeas, Marc Galy, Yvan Ghirardini, Thierry Leroy, Dominique Marchal, Daniel Monaci and Jean-Claude Mosca. There was also a ten-man publicity-film and television team. Using 1400 porters, they took ten days to get to Base Camp at 16,400 feet on the Godwin Austen Glacier, arriving on July 9. Aided by 50 of the porters, they established Camp I the next day at 18,375 feet. Above there, twelve porters were used until one of them died of a heart attack while carrying a load to Camp IV. (Another porter drowned in a stream while returning to Askole from Base Camp.) Camp II was carved out of the ice above the couloir at 20,675 feet in the col between the Angelus and the south-southwest ridge of K2. The route to Camp III at 22,800 feet was fixed by July 20, but bad weather stopped climbing until July 27. Camp IV was placed at 24,600 feet on August 1. Before the weather broke for the worse again, Mellet and Seigneur reached 25,600 feet, but from then on there was little good weather. The site for Camp V at 26,250 feet was reached on August 18 but not until September 1 could the first tent be pitched there. There were several attempts

Photo by H. Adams Carter

K2 from the Godwin Austen Glacier.
The French route is marked.



to get higher in the unstable weather. Boivin suffered a severe retinal hemorrhage and descended from Camp IV to Base Camp by hang-glider. On September 9 Monaci and Leroy left Camp VI, heading for the summit in unsettled weather. Monaci soon felt it hopeless and stopped but Leroy kept on for another 350 feet. However it was obvious that winter had come and the attempt was abandoned. (We are indebted to Yannick Seigneur for this information. He also points out that one can live for 2½ months at over 20,675 feet and go five times to 26,250 feet without oxygen and that one can climb UIAA Grade V+ rock at 27,225 feet.)

Broad Peak Attempt. Our expedition was led by Dr. Franz Berghold and composed of Günther Knauseder, Horst Schindlbacher, Peter and Wastl Wörgötter and me. We had the usual approach problems, such as porter strikes, lost baggage and swept-away bridges, which delayed our arrival at Base Camp until the end of June. Our original plan of climbing a new route, the southeast buttress, was given up because of bad conditions and lack of time. We prepared the normal route with the variant used by the Poles, Japanese and French. In only nine days, in which the weather could not have been better, we fixed ropes and set up camps at 18,700, 21,000 and just under 23,000 feet. On July 12, the day Messner climbed K2, we were all at Camp III and in top form. We set out on Friday the 13th of July at 1:30 A.M. in icy cold. There was some difficult trail breaking. The forward group, both Wörgötters, Schindlbacher and Knauseder, reached the col at 25,600 feet at about 9:30 when the weather turned bad and drove them back. I had to give up sooner fearing frozen feet. Two other attempts ended, one at Camp II and the other at Camp III. Time was up and we had to quit. Dr. Berghold did high-altitude medical research during the expedition, using the most modern equipment. We wore electro-cardiograph equipment during our summit attempt.

HERBERT KARASEK, *Salzburg (Austria) Karakoram Expedition*

Broad Peak Attempt. Our Spanish expedition consisted of Carlos Soria, Miguel López, Mariano Arrazola, Salvador Rivas, Luis López and me. The route we picked was the west spur, which rises some 11,000 feet and has difficult spots. This was the Polish route of 1975 and coincides in great part with the first-ascent route of the Austrians in 1957. The approach march took ten days. A porter lost his life when he fell into the river shortly before Payu Camp. We placed Base Camp on the central moraine of the Godwin Austen Glacier at 15,600 feet. The weather was the worst that has been seen in the Karakoram for many years. Despite the daily snow storms and unstable weather, we went ahead preparing the route on the lower part of Broad Peak. After leaving a supply dump at 17,225 feet, we placed one camp at 18,375 feet and a second at

20,675 feet. Above Camp II we reached the height of 22,000 feet and continued to relay supplies. However, the persistent bad weather, the unfavorable radio weather reports and the fast approaching date of the arrival of the porters to evacuate us led to the decision to give up. We left Base Camp on August 19.

JERÓNIMO LÓPEZ, *Federación Castellana de Montañismo*

Gasherbrum II, Chilean Expedition. Our expedition consisted of Jorge Bassa, Claudio Gálvez, Rubén Lamilla, Claudio Lucero, Nelson Muñoz, Jorge Quinteros, Iván Vigouroux, Leonardo Zúñiga and me as leader. It took us two weeks to complete formalities in Islamabad. In Skardu we contracted 130 porters and left on April 27 for Base Camp. The approach march lasted 23 days, the Baltoro Glacier being completely covered with snow. Base Camp was set up May 23 on the Abruzzi Glacier at 16,900 feet. The porters returned from there. It was a task to find a safe and rapid route past the enormous crevasses and séracs of the South Gasherbrum Glacier. For eight days we worked up the glacier with camps at 18,000, 19,000 and 20,000 feet. We divided into two groups with Bassa, Zúñiga and Quinteros supplying the lower three camps, while the rest worked up the spur climbed by the Austrians in the first ascent in 1956. In the first week of June we climbed very steep snow and ice and set up three camps. Muñoz and Gálvez returned to Base Camp from 22,650 feet after much of the technical climbing had been done. Lamilla, Lucero, Vigouroux and I placed a high camp at 23,625 feet on June 7, from which we planned a lightning attack. Carrying little, on the 8th we advanced only to 24,950 feet, slowed by climbing difficulties and our exhaustion. The bivouac was fairly good but the night was long and cold. On the morning of June 9 we set out in clear cold weather. At 25,600 feet Vigouroux had to give up from fatigue and returned to Camp VI with Lamilla. Lucero and I pressed on and reached the summit (26,362 feet), exhausted, at six P.M. We knew we had to get back to Camp VI, which we reached under a luminous moon at midnight.

GASTÓN OYARZÚN, *Federación de Andinismo de Chile*

Gasherbrum II. Actually we were two expeditions which combined to save money. We lived much off the food of the region, particularly chapatties, which contributed to much dysentery. We placed Base Camp at 17,400 feet and Camps I, II and III at 19,700, 22,650 and 24,275 feet. On July 31 Hilmar Sturm, Dr. Karl Hub and I reached the summit (26,362 feet), followed on August 4 by Kurt Diemberger, Walter Lösch, the leader Hanns Schell, Alfred Schwab, Wolf Weitzenböck and the Pakistani liaison officer Fayyaz Hussein. For Diemberger it was his *fifth*



PLATE 93

Photo by Gastón Oyarzún

In the Gasherbrum Group.

8000er. The weather was generally terrible and much snow fell. We could not therefore attempt the south buttress, which had been our objective.

REINHARD KARL, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

Gasherbrum V, East Peak, 1978. Details, lacking in *A.A.J.*, 1979, have appeared in *Iwa To Yuki* N° 69. The Japanese party led by Ryuichi Babagushi made the first ascent of the east peak (23,300 feet) of 24,020-foot Gasherbrum V. Base Camp and Camps I and II were made at 16,750, 18,000 and 19,000 feet on July 1, 5 and 13 respectively. A route on the southeast ridge was given up because of avalanches in favor of a rock route, also on the same ridge. The rock route was then abandoned because of knife-edges. A third route was worked out up séracs between the southeast and east ridges and Camp III was established at 21,000 feet on July 30. K. Mukaide, M. Sakaguchi and T. Sato reached the east peak on August 1. On August 2 the leader set out alone ahead of seven more climbers. They found him dead near the top in a crevasse.

Sia Kangri and Baltoro Kangri III. Our expedition consisted of S. Hiraoka, S. Etori, S. Uemura, T. Mizuoshi, T. Kurita, K. Miyashita, T. Kobayashi, Dr. T. Takahashi, J. Futagami and me as leader. Having left Skardu on May 21 Kobayashi, Takahashi, Mizukoshi and I made a round trip to the head of the Chogo Lungma Glacier, went up the Kero Lungma Glacier, over the Nushik La and the Hispar Pass and down the Biafo Glacier, where we were joined on June 21 at Askole by the other members. We then went up the Baltoro and Abruzzi Glaciers to the foot of Sia Kangri. On Sia Kangri we followed G.O. Dyhrenfurth's route. Base Camp was at 16,500 feet, Camp I on the Conway Saddle at 19,400 feet, Camps II and III at 21,100 and 22,375 feet. On July 30 Kobayashi, Miyashita, Mizukoshi, Takahashi, Futagama, high-altitude porter Gohar Shah and I reached the summit (24,350 feet) of Sia Kangri. On August 4 Kobayashi and Futagami got to the top of Baltoro Kangri III (23,885 feet), the highest in the Baltoro Kangri group. We descended the Siachen Glacier, went past the Teram Kangri III expedition's Base Camp to the junction of the Lolofond Glacier on August 12 and descended to Goma on the 15th.

RYUJI HAYASHIBARA, *Japanese Alpine Club*

P 7024, Sia Group. Our expedition left Khapalu on May 29 and established Base Camp on the Kondus Glacier on June 3. Camp II was at 18,700 feet on the Sia La at 18,700 feet. P 7024 (23,048 feet) was some three miles north of the pass. Camps III and IV were established on June 18 and July 5. On July 8 Yoshinori Mitamura and Dr. Matsubayashi reached the summit. On July 9 Michio Kawazoe, Shinji Hayashi

and Kazuo Hirooka got to within 130 feet of the peak but gave up since they found their pitons useless in the rotten rock.

AKIRO NOMURA, *Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan*

Linksar Attempt. A Japanese expedition from Rissho University, led by Kihuo Goto, reached 19,850 feet on the east face of 23,100-foot Linksar. Base Camp was established at 11,500 feet on the Kondus Glacier on June 7. Four camps were placed on the Linksar Glacier and on the avalanche-prone east face. Camp IV was established at 18,700 feet on July 26 and the attempt was given up two days later.

Teram Kangri III. Our expedition was composed of Masatoshi Sato, Zenzo Shikanai, Mitsutaka Kudo, Masanori Oka, Takayoshi Sato, Osamu Nonomura, Tetsuo Hasegawa, Junji Kurotaki, Kenji Nikko, Akira Marui, Gaku Ishi and me as leader. We left Khapalu on June 1 with 150 porters. Despite porter troubles, we crossed the Bilafond La and the Siachen Glacier to establish Base Camp at 16,900 feet on the Teram Glacier on June 26. We placed Camp I at 17,850 feet at the foot of the gully on the right side of the south ridge. Camp II was above the gully on the ridge at 19,850 feet. After fixing rope, we placed Camp III at 21,150 feet. Snowfall delayed us for a week. On July 29 we placed Camp IV on the ridge between Teram III and I at 23,200 feet. After three attempts, on August 3 Oka, Kurotaki and Kudo reached the summit (24,219 feet). On the descent between Camp I and Base Camp Oka fell through a snow bridge into a stream on the surface of the glacier and was drowned.

SUMITO HANADA, *Hirosaki University, Japan*

P 22,160 or Choricho Attempt, 1978. Our objective was Choricho, so called by the locals as it lies just south of the Choricho Glacier, northwest of Payu Peak. We were Will Thomson, John Hardie, Alan Thomson and I. In mid-June, after marching up the Braldu River from Dasso, we crossed the rope bridge over the Dumordu, left the approach to the Baltoro Glacier and went directly up the hill to an unnamed glacier which runs west from below the south face of Choricho. We reached the glacier after seven days from Dasso. The porters quit there and we had to spend three days relaying our gear to Base Camp at 14,000 feet. We were camped on the right side of the glacier, which extended three miles to the foot of the south face. Ahead were steep scree slopes which later became high faces of the mountains above us. Access onto the glacier was at the point where the scree changed to high steep walls. Because of extraordinarily warm weather, landslides kept hurtling down, sending masses of splintered rock in all directions across the glacier. On our first carry from Base

Camp, we discovered that the entry point onto the glacier was a very dangerous place. To proceed up the glacier, we entered the dangerous region and got rapidly out to the middle where there was less danger from flying rocks. Complicated crevasses with sagging bridges made travel on the glacier hazardous. Altogether we spent eight days ferrying supplies up to a point at 18,000 feet where the mountain suddenly shot upwards. At the head of the glacier an icefield stretched up for 1500 feet at about 60°. The warm weather continued. The ice was running with water which washed out stones of all sizes; these relentlessly came hurtling down the slope. We had no alternative but to retreat. Later we started up a steep rock tower of about 20,000 feet which looked sound but it soon became obvious that the séracs and ice in the abnormally warm weather were not adhering firmly to the glacier and again we had to retreat.

HUGH McNICHOLL, *Scottish Sports Council*

Trango Towers. It has been pointed out that we have not clearly stated in *A.A.J.*, 1977 and 1978, exactly which of the Trango towers were climbed. The British climbed a spectacular tower which stands out clearly from the rest, while the next year the Americans climbed the highest tower of the group. In the photograph on page 437 of *A.A.J.*, 1978 the American tower appears on the left and the British on the right.

Skamri. Our expedition was composed of Tetsuo Nogami, Norio Fukuda, Saburo Mitsumoto, Miss Tomoko Aoyagi, Mrs. Atsuko Shibata, Miss Noriko Furusawa and me as leader. We ascended the Panmah and Drenmang Glaciers. Base Camp was placed on the side of the Drenmang at 14,100 feet on June 21. Skamri has three summits. We took the south ridge to the highest peak, the east (22,100 feet). Camp I was established on June 30 on the south branch of the Drenmang Glacier at 15,425 feet at the foot of the south ridge, Camp II on July 10 at 17,225 feet above a 50° ice slope on the ridge, Camp II on July 12 at 18,375 feet just above an 80-foot ice wall and Camp III on July 19 at 20,350 feet above a couloir which rose through massive rock on the eastern side of the ridge. On June 20 Nogami and Fukada climbed to the summit after a struggle with fragile frost on deep snow on the steep, narrow ridge. A second attempt was abandoned because of bad weather.

TADASHI KAMEI, *Yokohama Alpine Club, Japan*

Latok I. Latok I (23,439 feet) was finally climbed up the south face by a Japanese expedition led by Naoki Takada. The route ascended the buttress left of the couloir that divides Latok I and III. Base Camp was established on the Baintha Lukpar Glacier at 15,100 feet on June 10. A first Camp I was established in the couloir at 18,050 feet on June 20 but

this was wiped out by an avalanche on June 21, luckily without loss of life. A new Camp I was placed on June 23 high on the glacier at 16,575 feet. Camp II was placed at the point where they left the couloir for the steep rock buttress at 19,000 feet. It took eight days to fix the route on the buttress from Camp II to 20,675 feet, where they had hoped to have Camp III. As it was difficult to find space for a tent, the climbers bivouacked there and moved on July 15 up to 21,325 feet to pitch Camp III. The first summit attempt on July 17 failed. On July 19 Tsuneo Shigehiro, Sin'e Matsumi and Yu Watanabe struggled for 13 hours up bad snow to the summit. On July 22 Hideo Muto, Jun'ichi Oku and Kota Endo also climbed to the top. They considered themselves lucky not to have been struck by rockfall or avalanches.

Latok III. The following were members of the Latok III expedition: Kazushige Takami, Sakae Mori, Kiyukaza Kitamura, Keiso Sadatomo, Naoki Ohudaira and I as leader. We climbed the mountain from the Baintha Lukpar Glacier via the southwest ridge, which had repelled another Japanese expedition in 1978. We placed Camp I at 15,100 feet on the glacier on June 25 and proceeded up a steep snow couloir to establish Camp II on June 27 at 16,750 feet on the snow below the main peak. Camp III was placed at 20,000 feet on July 3. Above Camp III there were three ice grooves. We took the right-hand one and placed Camp IV on July 10 at 22,000 feet at the foot of the final 1000-foot-high rock wall. Above Camp IV we took the center crack system. It took two days to work out the route up to the final snow ridge. On July 15 Takami, Mori and I reached the summit (22,475 feet).

YOJI TERANISHI, *Japanese Alpine Club*

P 6960, Latok Group. Hoping to climb a technical Himalayan peak using alpine techniques, we attempted P 6960 (22,835 feet), situated between the Ogre (Baintha Brakk) and Latok II, by a route up the northwest ridge. Chris Gilley, John Bennison, American Donald Bouyea* and I arrived in Pakistan on June 3 and reached Base Camp on June 17 after an eight-day walk from Skardu. Twenty porters were used to reach Base Camp (15,500 feet) via the Biafo Glacier. Within another week we had made a carry to the col (18,500 feet) between the Ogre and P 6960. We dumped the gear and enough food to complete the route in a snow hole at the col and returned to Base Camp. The climbing to the col was technically straightforward but involved an interesting icefall and the notorious "Death Alley," so named by Japanese expeditions using this route on the

* Recipient of an American Alpine Club Climbing Fellowship grant.

Ogre in 1975 and 1978. The dangers of Death Alley are huge séracs which threaten much of the way to the col. On June 26 Bouyea and I set out from Base Camp for our summit bid. We used no tents above Base, relying on Gore-Tex bivouac bags and sometimes snow holes. Our first bivouac was between the icefall and Death Alley and the second on the col. From there we took food for five to six days. To leave the col we had to climb 45° slopes and then three ice pitches up to 75° to gain another large snowfield, where at 20,000 feet we made our third bivouac. Unfortunately it began to snow in the night and stormed for two nights and a day. Not having dug a snow hole and finding it impossible to dig one in the storm, we had to retreat to Base Camp. Gilley and Bennison left on a summit attempt on July 1. They reached 21,000 feet with four bivis but had to retreat after a bad bivouac and because of continued difficulties ahead. Above the snowfield where Bouyea and I bivouacked were 45° ice slopes which gradually changed to mixed climbing and mostly rock on the steeper final slopes. I fell ill with hepatitis but the other three attempted the south buttress. This turned out to be very steep and would need much aid climbing. We lacked food and equipment for a serious attempt. We left Base Camp on July 18.

ROWLAND C. PERRIMENT, *England*

Pumari Chhish. Our expedition was composed of Susumu Ogasawara, Hideo Yokoyama, Yoshimasa Chiba, Katsutoshi Kariya, Kenji Hirooka, Koichi Minami, Michio Hayashi, Michihiro Kanno, Mitsuo Shiroishi, Masaki Ohashi, Shigeki Chiba and me as leader. We placed Temporary Base Camp at 13,775 feet and Base Camp on June 19 at 14,100 feet on the Kunyang Glacier. Camp I was also on the Kunyang Glacier at 17,400 feet at the foot of the pass to the Yazghil Glacier. The 2300-foot icefall leading to the col, where we placed Camp II at 19,700 feet, averages almost 60°. It took four days to prepare this part of the route with fixed ropes. Camp III was also at 19,700 feet, at the foot of the north ridge of Pumari Chhish on the upper Yazghil Glacier. The snow slope to Camp IV averaged 50° and took four days to prepare. Camp IV was established on July 14 on a fore-peak at 22,650 feet. In all we fixed 7500 feet of rope. On July 15 Yokoyama, Mimami, Ohashi and H. Chiba climbed to the top, followed on July 17 by Ogasawara, Y. Chiba, Hayashi, Kanno and Shiroishi. From Base Camp to the summit was 12 miles. We had difficulty over porter pay for four days in Nagar, finally paying 80 rupees per day plus 20 rupees for the return.

TAKAO SASAKI, M.D., *Japan Hokkaido Alpine Association*

Kunyang Chhish North. A Japanese expedition from Hokkaido University was led by Kohei Echizenya climbed the north ridge of Kunyang

Chhish (23,321 feet) to make the first ascent. Base Camp was placed on the Kunyang Glacier at 14,300 feet on June 17. They followed the same route as the expedition to Pumari Chhish as far as the north col. Three camps, the highest Camp IV at 22,000 feet, were established on the north ridge. All eight climbers got to the summit on July 11.

Trivor Attempt. Our expedition organized by the Czechoslovak Mountain Federation was led by me and composed of 14 climbers. We went to Nagar by Jeep and continued with 110 porters up the Gharesa valley and the Trivor (Gharesa) Glacier to Base Camp below the west side of Trivor (23,622 feet). We got there on June 28. Reconnaissance was very difficult due to heavy clouds on the massif. We explored the area below the west face but found the area endangered by hanging glaciers. We then turned to the south buttress. Camp I was at the upper end of the glacier. The route to where Camp II would have been in a saddle on the buttress was climbed but it was obvious that technical difficulties were such that some 15,000 feet of fixed rope would have been needed. We turned to the Anglo-American route on the west ridge, by which the mountain was climbed in 1960. Camp I was placed on the glacier on July 14 and Camp II above the dangerous icefall on the 16th. Bad weather and heavy snowfall stopped all climbing until July 24. Camp III was placed in the col between Trivor and Mornhil Sar and Camps IV and V on the ridge. To reach the summit from there would have required one more camp. Approaching bad weather made us give up the climb.

JIRÍ FOLTANEK, *Czechoslovak Mountaineering Federation*

Lupghar Sar West. Our Tegernsee expedition was made up of Markus Fisser, Sepp Gloggner, Walter Janner, Alfred Müller, Sepp Öckler, Otto Parzhuber, Georg Wagner and me as leader. After an overland drive from Germany for six of the eight of us to Gilgit, we arrived at Nagar by Jeep on May 31. With 45 porters we set out up the Hispar River, forked left and ascended the Gharesa Glacier. At the glacier fork, we took the left branch north to reach Base Camp at Bardoom Tike at 16,250 feet on June 5. Above rose unclimbed Lupghar Sar, with its three summits of nearly equal height. We were at the foot of the southwest ridge, which rises to the western summit, the highest at 23,619 feet. The next day my brother Sepp and Müller climbed through very deep snow to a 19,350-foot forepeak on the southwest ridge, the site of Camp I. Four days later the same pair struggled upward from Camp I in hip-deep snow along a not too steep but corniced ridge. The ridge steepened and after a rock band, they cramponed to another ridge summit behind which they placed Camp II at 20,675 feet. Bad weather drove us back to Base Camp. When it finally cleared, on June 17 Sepp and I left Camp II for a summit

attempt, aided by the trail breaking of Müller and Öckler up to some wild gendarmes which barred the way to the snow slope that led to the final buttress. Now alone, we two climbed four rope-lengths over terribly rotten rock. We bivouacked on the snow slope at 22,000 feet. The next morning, June 18, we climbed for hours unroped, since there was no possibility to belay on the incredibly rotten rock. Slabs and blocks of rock teetered on the slope, held by an insecure mortar of ice. We finally reached the top so late in the day that we had to make a miserable summit bivouac. The climb had been so dangerous that no further summit climbs were made.

HANS GLOGGNER, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

Lupghar Sar West and Central. Our group was made up of Dr. Masatsugu Otaishi, Isao Uchida, Tatsuo Nazuka, Yuichi Watanabe, Kunio Kataoka, Hitoshi Shimizu, Toshiyuki Kawasaki and me as leader. We left Nagar on June 16 with 88 porters and got to Base Camp at 15,100 feet on the Gharesa Glacier on June 20. We climbed the southwest ridge over the west peak. From 20,000 to 20,675 feet and from 21,325 to 22,650 feet the loose rock was very dangerous. Camps I, II, III and IV were established at 18,375, 19,850, 21,150 and 22,975 feet on July 4, 19, 30 and August 3 respectively. The central peak was a mile beyond the west peak along a knife-edged snow ridge. On August 4 Nazuka, Watanabe and Shimizu left Camp IV at five A.M., got to the west summit at seven A.M. and to the central summit at 10:20 A.M. The three summits are nearly of the same altitude, but we guess that the central peak is slightly higher.

MASAKATSU DOI, *Hosei University Mountaineering Club, Japan*

Rakaposhi, Second Ascent by New Route, Northwest and Southwest Ridges. The first ascent of Rakaposhi (25,550 feet) was made in 1958 by Mike Banks and Tom Patey. Since then all other attempts had ended in failure. The Polish-Pakistani expedition 1979 had six Pakistani men, led by Lieutenant M. Sher Khan and two Polish women and five men, led by Ryszard Kowalewski. After the Japanese gave up on the north buttress, the Poles and Pakistanis started up the northwest ridge, which had been reconnoitered to 19,700 feet in 1964 by an Irish expedition. Base Camp was set up at 12,500 feet in a side basin of the Biro Glacier on June 5. Though the site seemed safe, on June 14 an ice wall collapsed on the big snow terrace of Rakaposhi. A gigantic ice avalanche fell into the Biro Icefall. The wind generated by it, though it stopped still 1½ to two miles away, destroyed the tents in Base Camp and covered the valley walls with a thick layer of wet snow down to 21,000 feet. Camp I was established on June 6 at 16,100 feet at the foot of the northwest ridge. The climbing

difficulties began there; some 10,000 feet of rope were fixed above that point. Camp II was placed at 19,000 feet on June 19. The route continued along the ridge. Four gendarmes were bypassed on the right. On June 26 Camp III stood at 20,350 feet on the shoulder of the Nun's Head. The route slabbed under the top of the Nun's Head and descended 200 feet onto the roomy snow terrace below Rakaposhi's summit pyramid. Camp IV was placed at 21,325 feet on the edge of the terrace on June 28. It took six to eight hours to traverse the terrace to a col at the end of the southwest ridge, where Camp V was set up at 23,300 feet on June 30. On July 1 Kowalewski, Sher Khan and Tadeusz Piotrowski climbed to the summit of Rakaposhi in 18 hours. The next day, after a miserable night with six in the tent, Andrzej Bielun, Jacek Gronczewski and Jerzy Tillak climbed to the top in only six hours. On July 5, supported by no one above Camp III—Camps IV, II and I had been evacuated because the porter train was to arrive on July 9—the two women, Anna Czerwinska and Krystyna Palmowska, fought their way up to the summit through wind and drifting snow. They went unroped because it was too cold for one to wait for the other. These two women, who had worked as much and as hard as the men, did the second highest "ladies-only" climb, the highest having been the ascent by Halina Krüger and Anna Okopinska of Gasherbrum II in 1975.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*

Rakaposhi, North Ridge. A Japanese Waseda University expedition of seven was led by Eiho Ohtani. They climbed the north ridge, which had been unsuccessfully attempted in 1971 by Dr. Herrligkoffer's German expedition. Base Camp was established at 12,150 feet on June 15 and Camp I at 15,750 feet on a col in the north ridge on June 19. Camps II, III and IV were placed at 17,400, 19,000 and 21,000 feet on June 26, July 8 and 13 respectively. A 500-foot rock band was bypassed by means of a couloir and Camp V was pitched at 23,000 feet on July 25. Camp VI was placed above a 150-foot ice step at 23,950 feet on July 31. On August 1 Ohtani and Matsushi Yamashita bivouacked at 24,925 feet and reached the summit (25,550 feet) on August 2, where they found signs of the Poles. *Iwa To Yuki* N^o 72 has an account.

Pasu Peak, 1978. The then unclimbed 23,897-foot Pasu Peak, above picturesque Hunza valley, was the target of the Pakistani-Japanese Services Expedition, sponsored by the Defence Academy Alpine Club of Japan and the Alpine Club of Pakistan. It had been attempted by Japanese in 1974. Our group included Japanese Captain Chitoshi Ando, leader, Lieutenants Isao Fukura, Susumu Shinmayo, Koichi Wakui, Sau Yamada and Masato Inove and Pakistanis Captains Sher Khan, Ehtesham Anwar and Inayat Wali, Saad Tariq Siddiqui, Dr. Faiz Aman, Flight

Lieutenant Mohammed Ismail and Major Manzoor Hussain as deputy leader. We reached Pasu village on June 1, 1978. After reconnoitering Pasu Glacier for two days, we started the approach march on June 4, establishing Base Camp on June 5 on the western side of Pasu Glacier at 13,200 feet. The main summit of Pasu Peak, not visible except from the highest camps, lay six miles away from Base Camp. Camp I was established on June 10 on the upper Pasu Glacier at 14,000 feet at the foot of icefalls. The route between Camps I and II was the most difficult and dangerous of the entire climb. At several places ladders were utilized. Camp II (Advanced Base Camp) was established on June 18 on a big snowfield above the icefalls at 16,000 feet. The route to Camp III, which was established on June 22 at 19,000 feet, led up a gentle ice slope. Camp IV, set up on June 30, was at 20,500 feet on the top of the ridge which joins Pasu Peak and Shipare. The summit of Pasu Peak, visible from Camp IV, rose steeply as an icy pyramid. Camp V was placed at the foot of the pyramid at 22,000 feet on July 2. The summit party was to have been Ando, Wakui, Inove, Yamada, Sher Khan, Anwar, Wali and Manzoor Hussain. On the morning of the 3rd Manzoor fell victim to bronchitis and dehydration and Anwar stayed behind to attend him. The rest left for the summit, climbing the steep ice as fast as possible. The team stood on the rocky, sharp-edged summit at 1:15 of July 3, 1978.

Alpine Club of Pakistan

Diran, Hunza, Second Ascent and Tragedy. Our eight-man expedition was a light-weight one. We went up the new Karakoram Highway and on June 24 arrived in Minapin, where we contracted 44 porters. Despite porter problems, we established Base Camp on June 26 at 11,150 feet northeast of the peak. By June 30 we had gone four miles up the glacier to place Advance Base at 12,900 feet. Between July 1 and 3 the route to the north col at 16,550 feet was opened and on July 4 we reconnoitered the north ridge but conditions were so bad that we changed to try a new route on the north face, east of the first-ascent route. Camp I was placed on July 5 at 16,400 feet and Camp II on the face at 18,375 feet the next day. On July 10 Camp III was established near the west col at 20,350 feet. Arturo Romero, Enrique Temprano, Ramón Jaúdenes and Pedro Nicolás reached the summit (23,848 feet) at two P.M. on July 11. They slept that night at Camp III. The next day they descended to Camp II, where all but Nicolás spent the night. At 4:30 A.M. on July 13 a huge avalanche fell from the upper séracs on Diran, completely burying Camp II. Some ice blocks even fell on Camp I, injuring José Luis García. Nicolás and I climbed rapidly to Camp II, but quickly saw the magnitude of the avalanche and the impossibility of recovering the bodies. Base Camp was evacuated on July 15.

ANDRÉS FERNÁNDEZ, *Sociedad Deportivo Excursionista, Madrid*

Dobani. Isao Ikeuchi and I climbed Dobani (20,158 feet), 15 miles southeast of Rakaposhi, on June 9. Each of us carried one big sack during the expedition, limiting our equipment and food, but this was an advantage since it made it inexpensive. On May 2 we established Base Camp on the Gutumi Glacier at 11,500 feet. We started to attempt the north ridge on May 4, reaching a col on the north ridge the next day. We got to below a foresummit of 15,750 feet on May 7. Deteriorating weather held us up for two days. The ridge from there to the top was very precipitous and so we gave up. On May 21 we established a new Base Camp at 13,450 feet on the Kuturi Glacier, southwest of the peak. On May 24 we climbed the south ridge to 16,000 feet, where we camped. We were held up by the weather for two days. On May 27 we climbed to 17,000 feet but the ridge became too precipitous for us to climb with our few pitons. On the way back we descended directly down the west face of the ridge. On June 6 we reestablished Base Camp in the same place. On June 7 we set out for the west face with food for five days. We bivouacked in a crevasse in the middle of the west face. On the 8th we camped on the col in the north ridge below the summit. On June 9 we climbed a snow face to reach the summit at ten A.M.

MASARU HASHIMOTO, *Japanese Alpine Club*

Pakistan—Hindu Raj

Buni Zom. Joe Reinhard and I made an ascent of the main peak of Buni Zom (21,494 feet or 6551 meters) in August. From Base Camp at Kulakmali in the Phargam Gol we climbed through a rock barrier to reach the Khorabar Glacier on the west side of Buni Zom. We set up a high camp at 18,000 feet. We first attempted the north ridge of Buni Zom but after reaching the col between the main and north summits, we found the upper ridge too dangerous due to deep, soft snow. We then climbed the south face of the mountain by a steep snow couloir which joins the west ridge at around 21,000 feet. This gave a reasonably straightforward climb of UIAA III difficulty. We descended the same route. We also climbed Khorabar Zom (19,193 feet or 5850 meters) and Panorama Peak (18,668 feet or 5690 meters), both easy ascents and good viewpoints.

RICHARD J. ISHERWOOD, *Alpine Club*

P 6206, Thui Group. James Fotheringham and I climbed P 6206 (20,360 feet), which is situated between Thui I and Thui II. We went from Base Camp at Sholtali along the Aghost Bar Glacier to the Qualandar Gum Glacier and from there directly onto the south face, which is over 5000 feet high. We left Base Camp early on June 20 and spent the first night at the foot of the face at about 14,500 feet. The second day took us

halfway up the face, where we were fortunate to find an ice cave that made an ideal bivouac. We reached the summit at about two P.M. on June 22 and got back to the ice cave by seven o'clock. We spent the next two days retracing our steps back to Base Camp. The first half of the face was relatively straightforward except for a maze of crevasses and schrunds at the bottom. It was the second half which was interesting, especially near the top, where the difficulties were of Scottish Grade 4.

IAN TATTERSALL, *England*

Ghochhar Sar Tragedy. Six members of a Japanese expedition were killed when buried by a huge avalanche on the Shachiokh Glacier as they were heading for Ghochhar Sar (20,502 feet). This peak lies east of Chitral. The leader was Yoshio Sugimura. More details are in *Iwa To Yuki*, N° 70.

Pakistan—Hindu Kush

Darban Zom Attempt and Accident, 1978. Paddy Feely, *Irish*, Fred van Gemert, *Dutch*, Bob Milwood and I, *English*, in early August of 1978, made very good progress on the north side of Darban Zom (23,665 feet). After only two weeks our first summit attempt came within 500 feet of the top. During a temporary retreat toward our high camp, van Gemert fell, forcing all four to a bivouac at 22,000 feet without equipment. Van Gemert was unconscious for the night and semi-conscious for the next three days, during which he was lowered 4000 feet. During the second day a belay failure resulted in a further 60-foot fall into a bergschrund, luckily with little extra damage. On the third day we got to the head of a difficult icefall at 18,000 feet. We were forced to wait there, feeding the casualty on double rations while remaining on half-rations ourselves. After four days, with almost all the food gone, we descended the icefall with van Gemert walking (with help) for the first time in eight days. After a ten-hour, foodless day we got to Base Camp. Milwood soloed an elegant peak behind Base Camp, P 20,230, on the south side of the Udren An (pass). This may have been climbed previously by Japanese. The return trip took 18 hours from our 13,900-foot Base Camp with a bivouac at 19,000 feet. There were 4000 feet of serious snow and ice climbing on the north face and west ridge.

STEPHEN PARR, *England*

Tirich Mir, South Face, 1978. Not reported in last year's *A.A.J.* was a Japanese expedition led by Kotsutoshi Ikebe. They placed Base Camp on June 20, 1978 at 12,800 feet and Camp I at 15,250 feet on the South Barum Glacier. On July 26, 1978 Eiji Kitazaki, Naoya Yamazaki and

Tatsuo Goto climbed to the summit (25,290 feet) from a 24,350-foot Camp V. More details appear in *Iwa To Yuki* N° 69.

Peaks East of Tirich Mir, 1978. My wife and I, the only ones finally to make the trip, were beset with many problems while driving toward the Hindu Kush and had to alter our plans. Lacking a firm attachment to the cliffs, the shelf-road between Chitral and Knoll was badly damaged in parts by the severe monsoon, which penetrated in the Hindu Kush. We joined up with the Polish expedition to get along the road better. We had to repair stretches of the road and relay loads ourselves. Abandoning our original goal, we went with the Poles to the North Barum Glacier. I soloed three peaks which I believe were unclimbed, all about 6000 meters (19,685 feet). On July 22, 1978, from a bivouac I climbed a peak about five miles east of Tirich Mir between the North Barum and Lono Glaciers. The second peak was southwest of the first, about a kilometer toward Tirich Mir. I climbed this on July 27. To reach my third peak I went up the South Barum Glacier to the Japanese Camp I and from there on July 30 I went directly south up a glacier to a col and along the west ridge to the summit.

HARRY ROST, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

Bindu Gol Zom II. A Japanese expedition from Kawashi City was led by Tadakiyo Sakahara and composed of H. Suzuki, T. Hayashida, E. Kusakabe and K. Iwano. Iwano fell ill and had to be helicoptered out. They established Base Camp at 12,625 feet on the North Barum Glacier on July 29. Camps I, II and III were at 14,375, 16,575 and 17,300 feet on the glacier and Camp IV was at 18,400 feet on the west ridge. Sakahara and Suzuki completed the first ascent of Bindu Gol Zom II (20,387 feet) on August 15, followed on the 16th by Hayashida and Kusakabe. They report that the North Barum Glacier heads from Bindu Gol I and II and not from Tirich Mir East. An account and map are in *Iwa To Yuki* N° 71.

Afghanistan

Kohe Shakhaur, Kohe Nadir Shah, M2 and M3, 1978. On July 31, 1978 our expedition from Brno placed Base Camp at 13,000 feet in the Shakhaur valley. We climbed alpine-style, making mostly new routes. Our first climbs for acclimatization were west of Kohe Shakhaur, where we established a camp at 16,400 feet. On August 7 Piotr Bednařík, Jaroslava Tallová and I climbed M3 (20,042 feet) by its east ridge from Camp II in the col at 18,375 feet. Karel Cídl and Tomáš Skříčka repeated the route the next day. Also on August 7 Jiří Beneš and Jan Krch climbed the north face of M3, an ice face averaging 40° but with passages of 80°.