

days later. For 3300 feet above, there was no spot where camp was possible on the technically difficult and avalanche-swept ice slope. Camp II was pitched at 19,700 feet on June 8, but stocking this camp prevented until June 17 their ascent up only slightly less difficult ice to Camp III at 21,650 feet. On June 20 they continued another 1000 feet upwards before traversing onto the somewhat gentler slopes of the Bazhin Glacier to set up Camp IV at 23,300 feet, really more of a bivouac without sleeping bags and air mattresses. Some 2300 feet above them at 25,630 feet lay Bazhin Col, where their route joined Buhl's. After a day of storm, at one A.M. on June 22 Toni Kinshofer, Siegfried Löw, Anderl Mannhardt and Manfred Sturm left for the summit, leaving Michl Anderl in support. Sturm soon fell behind and had to return, but the other three kept on, without oxygen. Above the col, which they reached at nine A.M., they had unpleasant, *verglas*-covered rock. At the Great Tower there were two rope-lengths of Class V climbing. A cornice later broke under Löw, but his companions held his fall. Then the climbing became easier and at five P.M. they reached the summit. Löw, whose feet were already numb with frost-bite and who was feeling weak as the effect of his pervitin pills began to wear off, suffered especially in the bivouac 250 feet below the summit. The next morning, after passing the Great Tower, they unroped and started climbing downward more directly than on the ascent. Löw lagged behind and while Kinshofer was climbing back up towards him, fell past and out onto the glacier. Badly hurt, he was cared for by Kinshofer while Mannhardt hurried down past empty Camp IV to Camp III for help. When Löw died at 8:30 P.M., Kinshofer staggered on downward but fell exhausted into the snow for the night and reached Camp III only the next morning. With his companions he continued on to Camp II for the night and descended to Base Camp the day after. Other members of the party were Rudolf Marek and Hubert Schmiedbauer.

*Saltoro Kangri.* The Academic Alpine Club of Kyoto, Kyoto University, sent an expedition under the leadership of Dr. Tsunahiko Shidei to join the Korakoram Club of Pakistan. Taian Kato, Dr. Kazuhiko Hayashi, Dr. Atsuo Saito, Kazumasa Hirai, Yatuka Tani, Goro Iwatsubo, Yasuo Takamura, Schoichiro Uyeo and Tadashi Maegoya were the Japanese members. Professor H. A. Beg was the leader and H. A. Khan, R. Bashir and P. A. Khan were the members of the Pakistani group. Captain B. A. Bashir was liaison officer. Leaving Skardu at the end of May, we placed Base Camp near Ali Branza at the head of the Bilafond Glacier. It took more than 20 days to cross the Bilafond La (18,000 feet) and to set up Advance Base Camp at the junction of the Siachen and the Peak 36 glaciers, aided by ten high-altitude porters and thirty local men. Camp I in the Peak 36 Glacier and Camp II at the foot of the north wall of Saltoro Kangri were

established by the beginning of July. We started climbing in mid-July, and Camps III, IV and V were set up at 20,000, 21,500 and 23,650 feet respectively. Following the route which was taken by Sir John Hunt in 1935, we used some rope ladders on ice walls just below Camp III. We had much bad weather and snowfall there, and the Japanese snowshoes were very helpful in the steep, deep snow. The assault team, Dr. Saito, Takamura and R. Bashir, left Camp V for the summit early on July 23. They did not have great difficulties, but the continuous slope of deep snow did not allow them to reach the summit that day. At 24,500 feet near the "Gendarme" and about one mile from the top, they had to spend the night in a bivouac sack without sleeping bags and mattresses. It was also fine on the 24th and they started again at 2:30 A.M. After seven hours of struggling with deep snow, they climbed a shallow ice gully which led to the final ridge and at last trod the summit at 10:45. They radioed the news from the summit to all other members and descended to Camp V on the same evening to join their support party.

DR. TSUNAHIKO SHIDEI, *Academic Alpine Club of Kyoto*

*Tirich Mir.* Two expeditions attempted Tirich Mir (25,267 feet) last summer. First, the German Fritz Stammberger, climbing alone, established a series of camps and had reached possibly 20,000 feet when he was caught in an avalanche from which he emerged with minor head and face injuries. Upon his return to Base Camp, he fortunately met with the incoming American party of Felix Knauth, Peter Newell and Bill Bartlett, M.D., from whom he received treatment. The Americans used three weeks and a half dozen excellent local porters to establish camps to 20,000 feet by a different route. At their highest camp at 21,500 feet, five days of snow pinned them down and the consequent severe avalanche danger forced retreat.

FELIX K. KNAUTH

*Khinyang Chhish.* The British-Pakistani Karakoram Expedition, under the joint leadership of Major E. James E. Mills and Captain Jawed Akhter, had overcome the greatest obstacles on the route up the southeast side of Kkinyang Chhish (25,762 feet) above the Hispar Glacier. They appeared to have few difficulties left before reaching the summit. On July 18 Major Mills and Captain M. R. F. Jones were preparing the route along a snow ridge at about 20,000 feet when the snow avalanched and dropped them 5000 feet below to the Pumarikish Glacier to their death.

*Indus Kohistan.* I visited Swat and Indus Kohistan between August 15 and September 10. Although the Swat valley is relatively well frequented,