

one P.M. we climbed the last vertical pitch to the summit of Shakhaur. We found no trace of the previous ascents. That same day we descended along the easy ridge to the Nadir Shah col, where we bivouacked at 21,650 feet. By detouring around huge cornices we climbed Nadir Shah at 2:30 the next day, where we found traces of the Yugoslavs of 1968 and a bottle with the names of the Polish first-ascent party of 1962. We descended the ridge to its abrupt 1300-foot icefall, down which we made six abseils. Below was the broad M3-M4 saddle and there we spent the seventh night. The further route was marked with flags left by our support team: Z. Dudrak, W. Jedliński and A. Pawlik. The next day we descended to the col in the ridge between Nadir Shah and Shakhaur Myani Glaciers. It took three long abseils to reach the latter. Two attempts by the support team on Languta-e Barfi failed at 19,700 feet in bad weather.

MARIAN BALA, *Kraków Academic Alpine Club, Poland*

Sad Ishtragh Group, Darrah-e-Qalat. The North of England Expedition was made up of Michael Anderson, New Zealand, Miss Terry Funk, Switzerland, Michael Hosted, my wife Dawn and me. We drove to Kabul and used local transport from Kunduz to Eshkashem. We made a one-day approach march south into the Darrah-e-Qalat, which terminates in the Sad Ishtragh massif. We had bad weather at first but made the following first ascents: Kohe Nova (5200 meters or 17,061 feet; one mile north of Wala 91) via east face on July 19 by P. and D. Bean; Kohe Barabar (5050 meters or 16,568 feet; one mile northeast of Wala 91) via south couloir on July 20 by P. and D. Bean; and Kohe Akhery (5100 meters or 16,733 feet; Wala Peak 98) via north face on July 24 by Hosted, Funk. Anderson and I made the second ascent of P 4750 (15,584 feet; Wala Peak 107) on July 24. We also found and crossed an ice pass (4885 meters) connecting the Qalat and Syarpalas Glaciers and made other minor ascents.

PAUL BEAN, *Cleveland Mountaineering Club, England*

Koh-e-Bandaka. The first Rumanian Hindu Kush expedition was made up of Valentin Garner, Ionel Coman, Anton Demeter and Zoltan Kovacs. On August 26 they climbed Koh-e-Bandaka (22,451 feet).

ADOLF DIEMBERGER, *Österreichischer Alpenklub*

Restrictions on Expeditions in Afghanistan. Friedrich Weber of Marktoberdorf, Germany informs us that the Afghan government is now collecting duty on food imported amounting to one to two dollars per kilo. Porter fees are very high; they had to pay \$16 per day for each porter for the 1½-day pack from Qazi Deh to the Noshaq Base Camp.