

summit (7281 meters, 23,888 feet) in 2½ hours. The weather was fine and the route not difficult. The next day Shoichiro Ueo, Takashi Nishiyama and Rikuyo Morimoto stood on the summit too.

YOSHIO KONDO, *Academic Alpine Club of Kyoto, Japan*

*Porong Ri, First Ascent and Tragedy.* A 14-man Japanese expedition led by Toru Ito made the first ascent of Porong Ri (7294 meters, 23,898 feet), which is connected to Shishapangma by a ridge and lies some five miles to the northwest. Base Camp was established at 17,000 feet on April 15. Minoru Wada and Yukio Eto got to the summit via the north ridge on May 14, but Wada fell to his death during the descent.

*K2, North Ridge.* The Japanese Mountaineering Association led by Isao Shinkai and Masatsugu Konishi was composed of 14 climbers and 29 Japanese support people, since no high-altitude local porters were available. "Base Home" was established on May 5 at 12,650 feet on the Shaksgam River. Climbers and support personnel had carried four tons ten miles to Base Camp at 16,075 feet on the K2 Glacier by May 29. The support party withdrew on June 5 and climbing started on June 9. Camp I was placed at 19,000 feet on June 13 but bad weather for 22 of the next 34 days slowed progress. The route was on the north ridge at the edge of the northwest face. Camps II, III and IV were established at 21,650, 24,775 and 25,750 feet on July 17 and 24 and August 1 respectively. The last camp was on a north col. After rope was fixed to 26,250 feet, they all returned to rest at Base Camp. The summit push started on August 9. On August 14 Naoe Sakashita (an American Alpine Club member), Hiroshi Yoshino, Yukihiro Yanagisawa and Takashi Ozaki set out for the summit without oxygen, but Ozaki had to return from 26,900 feet. They climbed unroped above the end of the fixed rope with little equipment and mostly separate from each other. They turned left and climbed the big snowfield in the upper center of the north face. After climbing for some 12 hours, Sakashita reached the summit, soon followed by Yanagisawa. Yoshino arrived an hour later. On the descent Yoshino bivouacked at 27,550 feet and Sakashita and Yanagisawa at 27,400 feet. Yanagisawa had no down jacket and Sakashita hugged him all night long to keep him warm. In the morning Yoshino joined them. While Sakashita descended, the other two waited for the second summit team to bring them a climbing rope and hot tea. When the pair reached the fixed rope, Yoshino untied to straighten out the fixed rope. When he looked up, Yanagisawa had disappeared. On August 16 his jacket was sighted on the north face at 16,750 feet, but avalanche danger prevented a search. On August 15 Kazushige Takami, Haruichi Kawamura, Tatsuji Shigeno and Hironobu Kamuro reached the summit after having carried supplies to the descending climbers. After the mountain had been evacuated, Dr. Toshitaka Sakano on August 29 strolled up a small peak behind "Base Home." He did not return. His body was found on the 31st. He had apparently fallen from a rock on the

top and hurt himself. He had frozen to death while attempting to return. Details, photographs, maps, etc. appear in *Iwa To Yuki*, Numbers 85, 87, 91, and 92.

*A Note on the Chinese Name for K2, "Qogir."* The Chinese use "Qogir" for the name of the world's second highest peak. The Editor and other experts deplore this name. It would be written "Chogir" in our usual orthography. This is obviously a corruption of "Chogori," a synthetic name made up by Western explorers early in this century from two Balti words: *chhogo* = big and *ri* = mountain. It has no local usage. The mountain was not prominently visible from places where local inhabitants ventured and so had no local name. Years ago, the Survey of India assigned the peak a survey number, K(arakoram)2. This still is its official name in Pakistan. Most Pakistanis I know object strenuously to "Chogori" and insist on the use of the official name, K2. In my experience, the Baltis use no other name for the peak than K2, which they pronounce "Ketü." I strongly recommend *against* the use of the name *Chogori* in any of its forms.

H. ADAMS CARTER

*Kongur Attempt, Xinjiang.* The first American expedition to Kongur (7719 meters, 25,325 feet) arrived at Base Camp on July 20. The climbing party consisted of Gil Anderson, Rob Leitz, Art Porter, Andy Shidner, Ed Stachon and me as leader. Our goal was to repeat the first-ascent route of the 1981 British Expedition. High temperatures and consequent abysmal snow conditions severely hampered our progress. Even at 18,000 feet the temperature did not drop below freezing on some nights. Snow conditions practical for travel would exist for only four or five hours a day at best. We reached our Camp III at the approximate location of the British Advanced Base in the upper basin of the Koxsel Glacier on August 1. Camp V at 22,000 feet was established on August 8, and a reconnaissance to the Kongur-Kongur Tiubie col at 22,300 feet showed that even there the snow conditions were not better. Since we were running out of both food and enthusiasm for wallowing in slush, a retreat began on August 10. We may have encountered an exceptionally hot summer, or perhaps it was just a mistake to attempt a south-facing route in early August. Skis, which we did not have, would have been a great help. We acknowledge with thanks the assistance of the Chinese Mountaineering Association. Our liaison officer, Chen Shangren, and our interpreter, Guo Jin-Wei, executed their duties with consummate skill. This expedition was sponsored by the Colorado Mountain Club Foundation.

RICHARD DIETZ, *Colorado Mountain Club*

*P 20,700 and P 21,750, near Kongur.* I led twelve schoolboys on a mountaineering expedition to the very west of China, also accompanied by six recently left "Old Boys" of the school and one woman, Fiona Blake. Base