

*Trango Nameless Tower; The Book of Shadows.* Eric Brand, Jared Ogden, Willie Benegas, and Kevin Starr completed a new route, *The Book of Shadows* (VII 5.10+ A4 WIV), on the Trango Nameless Tower in July and August. An account of their climb appears earlier in this Journal.

*Trango Nameless Tower; Insumisioa.* It was reported that the Spanish team of Fermín Izco, Mikel Zabalza, and Antonio Aquerreta established a new route on the Northeast Face of the Trango Nameless Tower. *Insumisioa* was developed at roughly the same time as *The Book of Shadows*, and the 900-meter was given a grade of VI 6a A3+. (*Desnivel*)

*Trango Nameless Tower; Attempt and Ascent.* Paul Pritchard, Noel Craine, Adam Wainwright and Andy Cave traveled by jeep to arrive at Askole on July 5. We were travelling and sharing many expenses with the British Women's Trango Expedition, so we left Askole with 60 porters. On July 9, we found a new Base Camp one and a half hours higher up than the usual Dunge Base Camp on the opposite side of the glacier, much nearer to the Towers. Unfortunately, a Spanish team had just completed one of our prospective new lines on the north face and an American team was deeply involved with the other. The rest of the rock on the north face was pretty blank and we couldn't justify the amount of drilling needed. Adam and Andy went off to attempt the Slovene Route on the south face whilst Noel and I continued to explore the north side. By July 22 we had carried loads up the gully to Col Curran (5400 meters), thereby being the first to make this approach. We slept high in the gully and next morning the weather had deteriorated badly. We decided to descend immediately. On the descent Craine fell into a crevasse, cracking three ribs and damaging a lung. Craine got down to Base Camp safely with help from Pritchard. Meanwhile Cave and Wainwright had fixed 200 meters of rope to the shoulder at 5600 meters on the south face and had been stormed off. Cave agreed to escort Craine back home to the U.K.

At the beginning of August we decided to attempt the Slovene Route from the Trango Glacier. On August 2 we jumared to the shoulder camp and on the 3rd and 4th fixed rope on four pitches. The climbing was technical (E2 A2) on a perfect sheet of granite. Then a five-day storm began which we sat out at an American team's Base Camp on the Trango Glacier. The weather cleared and on August 10 we jumared to the shoulder camp. On the 11th we set off on the lines at 6 a.m., freed our top two ropes for climbing and began grappling with severely iced-up rock. We planned two days for the sixteen remaining pitches, but with so much ice we realized things would be a bit slower. The climbing was always difficult and required a lot of ingenu-



ity and sculpting of ice. Two further days of climbing saw us on the summit (6259 meters) at 4:30 p.m. on August 13 (the same day as the K2 tragedy) in a terrible wind. Three hours were required to rappel 18 pitches to the shoulder camp. On the rappels I began to feel odd and on arrival at the shoulder my lungs began to gurgle. After a bad night I felt worse, gurgling more. It was pulmonary edema in an acclimatized person, descending. The remaining rappels were very difficult for me but we had help from the Women's Expedition in getting our equipment and fixed rope down.

After a few days at Base Camp my lungs recovered enough for us to beat a hasty descent to Skardu. Wainwright and Pritchard, along with three of the British Women's Expedition, were subsequently barred from Pakistan for four years for diverging from regulations. Wainwright and the three women left Base Camp four days early to get home for work commitments. Pritchard broke no rules but was barred as leader. It is very common for some of the team to leave early and it does not usually end so.

PAUL PRITCHARD, *Alpine Climbing Group*

*Trango Nameless Tower, Slovene Route.* It was reported that the Spanish team of Txuma Ruiz and Julián Beraza repeated the Slovene Route. Further details are lacking.

*Trango Nameless Tower, Slovene Route Attempt.* Celia Bull, Donna Claridge, Kate Phillips, and "Grandma" Geraldine Westrupp attempted to make an all-women ascent of the Nameless Tower. We arrived at the Dunge Glacier Base Camp (4200 meters) on July 9. From July 10-24 the team established two camps on the Dunge Glacier side of Trango Tower. Camp 1 (4600 meters) was established on a relatively safe grassy spur at the head of an unstable rock gully. We established Camp 2 (5100 meters) on a glaciated couloir. This couloir was constantly threatened by rock and serac fall so all load carrying was restricted to nighttime and the early hours of the morning. Poor weather prevented the team from pushing on up to the snow ledge (our shoulder camp at 5500 meters). The dangerous conditions on the Dunge side made us revise our plan and we cleared Camp 1 and carried loads round to the Trango Glacier. We climbed to the shoulder on August 3. Gerry and Kate waited on the shoulder for good weather to descend and retrieve our equipment from Camp 2 on the Dunge side. Meanwhile Donna and Celia carried the remaining equipment up to the shoulder from the Trango Glacier Base Camp. Unfortunately the weather did not become good in time and we were forced to decide between one day of climbing on the route or getting our gear back out and home. The gear won and Gerry and Kate cleared the Dunge side while Donna and Celia cleared from Trango Glacier. Due to