

car and traveled through Faizabad and Ishkamish into the Wakhan Corridor and finally to the village of Langar (north of Gilgit), where they arrived on August 16. After a quick look at the Langar valley and the upper Urgend valley (Urgend-e-Bala), they decided on the lower Urgend valley (Urgend-e-Payan). Leaving Urgend on August 20, they climbed in two days to Base Camp at 15,000 feet. On August 26, Dr. Simon Burkhardt, Alois Strickler and Victor Wyss climbed Sirt-e-Urgend-e-Payan ("Snow Peak of the Lower Urgend Valley") (21,145 feet). Burkhardt, Strickler and Eiselin climbed Koh-e-Urup (18,537 feet) on August 30. Sirt-e-Urgend-e-Bala (23,091 feet) was climbed on September 4 by Burkhardt, Strickler, Hanspeter Ryf and Eiselin and on the 7th by Strickler and Wyss.

*Noshaq.* Two Austrian expeditions, one from Styria composed of Dr. Gerald Gruber, Dr. Rudolf Pischinger, Norbert Zernig, Sepp Weber, and Manfred Schober and the other from Upper Austria composed of Hans Pilz, Matthias Hofpointner, Siegfried Jungmair, and Gerhard Werner, found themselves heading for the same objectives and joined forces. Three days march from Qaz-i-Deh they set up Base Camp at the head of the valley at 15,000 feet, below the western spur of Noshaq. Noshaq (24,580 feet) was climbed twice in 1960, by Japanese and by Poles, (*A.A.J.* 1961, 12:2 pp. 277-8 & 418-9.) but by a different route. The Austrians set up Camp I at 18,200 feet, Camp II at 21,000 feet and bivouacked at 22,650 feet in a snow cave. On August 21 the Upper Austrians and three of the Styrians made the first ascent of Noshaq's west peak (23,622 feet) and the third ascent of the main peak. The Upper Austrians continued to climb, making the second ascent of Khorpusht-e-Yakhi (18,700 feet) on August 28 and the first ascents of an unnamed peak (17,390 feet) and of Gumbaz-e-Safed (21,655 feet) on the 30th, which had been unsuccessfully attacked by the Poles.

*Koh-i-Kesnikhan.* Sepp Kutschera returned with a group of Austrians to try to climb Koh-i-Kesnikhan (Kishmi-Khan) (c. 23,600 feet), on which he had failed in 1962. This time they avoided much of the long climb on the west ridge and reached the ridge by way of a spur at about 20,000 feet. Kutschera and Werner Pongratz reached the summit on July 27 and Alois Maier and Rainer Weiss the next day. They also climbed two peaks near Warg, Koh-i-Warg (c. 21,325 feet) and Koh-i-Spurditsch (c. 20,670 feet).

*Baba Tangi.* The Italian Oxus Expedition reached Khandut and explored the Wakhan range of the Hindu Kush. From Qala Panja, they reached the Little Pamir, discovering a peak of about 6000 meters (19,685 feet), called by the inhabitants of the region Baba Tangi or Jade Peak.