

(or Pyramid, 22,238 feet), the Czechs having made the first ascent. The summit party assembled in Camp V on August 10. They were Arioka, Takano, Maeda, and Yamamoto. On the 12th they started for the 23,625-foot col on the left ridge along the upper edge of the glacier. It took many hours to fix ropes in the crevassed area and they bivouacked at 22,650 feet under the couloir that descends from the col. The ice was so hard that it was difficult to cut steps and took them seven hours to climb 350 feet on the 13th. As they ascended, the couloir narrowed and ended in a 65-foot cliff. It snowed again in the evening when they finished the cliff and ascended the gentle snow slope. They found the abandoned tent of the Czech party. On August 14 they traversed the west side of the ridge which connects the main and north peaks. From 24,100 feet they climbed directly to the ridge on which they bivouacked at 24,275 feet in a snowstorm. On the 16th they descended to the col at 23,625 feet. As five days had passed since they had started, the remaining members began to think of a possible accident. It happened that Kurt Diemberger and a companion were near Camp V, hoping to climb Tirich Mir. The Japanese explained the situation and asked him if he could give a hand. Since Diemberger's partner was not in good condition, it was decided that Kondo would accompany him. They started in the afternoon and reached 22,650 feet. The summit party descended the couloir from the col the next morning, fixing ropes and meeting Diemberger at 22,650 feet. Those descending, without ropes, had hard toil and finally reached Camp V at four o'clock. After a day's rest at the col, Diemberger and Kondo traversed the upper Tirich Glacier side from the 24,450-foot point on the ridge and reached the top (25,290 feet) seven hours from the bivouac on August 19. Maeda and Nishina made an attempt on August 27 but it was too late and the mountain was covered with ice. They reached 23,950 feet.

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*Czech Ascent of Tirich Mir.* The Czechs were led by Vladimir Sedivy and were further Cervinka, Galfy, Jaskovsky, Masek, Smida, Urbanovic, Heckel and others. They climbed from the south branch of the upper Tirich Glacier, making the following ascents: Dir Gol Zom (22,238 feet) first ascent on July 12 by Cervinka, Galfy, Jaskovsky, Masek, Sedivy, Smida and Urbanovic and on July 22 Cervinka and Heckel; Tirich Mir Main Summit (25,260 feet) on July 19 by Cervinka, Galfy, Jaskovsky, Smida, Urbanovic by a new route through the northwest col and the

northwest ridge, Tirich West I (24,565 feet; date and climbers unknown) by northwest col; Achar Zom II (20,670 feet) first ascent by Masek, Vlc and Ashraf Aman.

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*Barum Glacier.* A German group under Otto Huber consisting further of Frau Ria Huber, Konrad Kirch and Frau J. Kirch was on the southern Barum Glacier and made a small ascent. This was close to the route taken by the Norwegians when they climbed Tirich Mir.

*Attempt on Tirich Mir from the South.* The Carinthian Hindu Kush Expedition was made up of Hans Thomaser, leader, Fritz Samonigg, Peter Brabeck, and Gerhard Neuwirth. They went to the northern part of the Dir Gol. In 1966 the southern part was explored by the Admont expedition. Their photographs indicated a route from the northern Dir Gol onto the south ridge and main summit of Tirich Mir. This year's group was to investigate this unexplored region and reconnoiter the route, which would finally join the 1950 Norwegian route in the upper part of the south ridge. They approached via the Arkari valley and Dir Gol, reaching Base Camp at 14,275 feet on August 4. After a difficult time in the icefall of the North Dir Gol Glacier, they set up Camp I at 17,225 feet in a glacial basin below a south col in the ridge which divides the North Dir Gol and the South Barum glaciers. The route was to continue up the more northerly of the two rather big spurs that led to this divide and Camp II was set up on August 15 at 19,350 feet on this spur. They climbed a 20,500-foot shoulder from there and after a bivouac continued up the adjacent ice slope to 22,000 feet before being forced back by the weather. Thomaser and Samonigg made a second attempt and probably reached the south ridge but never returned. Before this Samonigg and Neuwirth had climbed on August 18 P 5579 (18,304 feet) in the northern edge and next day Glacier Peak (20,342 feet), the dividing point of the South Barum, the Owir and the North Dir Gol glaciers.

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*Istor-o-Nal North.* The Salzburg section of the Austrian Alpine Club (ÖVA) was composed of Kurt Lapuch, leader, Manfred Oberegger and Max Friedwagner. They first reconnoitered the upper Lopar valley, east of Istor-o-Nal group, looking for a route onto those peaks. Base Camp was at 15,000 feet. They made three first ascents from there: a 17,000-foot peak on June 16 by all three, Shongolasht Zom (19,095 feet) on June 17