

from aerial photographs; through it and the climb we discovered some errors. The peak at the head of the cirque in which we climbed is given as 5160 meters (16,929 feet) by Frey but appears as 5406 meters (17,736 feet) on the topographic map. We climbed the peak just east of Frey's P 5107, which he gives as a triangle only (5300+ meters or 17,389+ feet on the topographic map). From its top it was clear that P 5160 is a good 300 meters or nearly 1000 feet higher than P 5107. We climbed the west ridge and descended by a series of chutes on the south face, mostly third-class.

STEPHEN ARNON, *Harvard Mountaineering Club*

*Koh-i-Bandaka, East Ridge.* The Nagasaki University Bandaka Expedition was led by Yoshinori Ichise and composed of Harumi Mizokami, Dai Ohtsuka, Kango Nakao, Tsukasa Matsuo, Sumio Narasaki, Masaaki Maenami, Isao Morimoto and Miss Atsuko Inomata. After Base Camp was established in the Darrah-i-Sakhi at 13,800 feet on July 25, they began to carry loads to higher camps on the 27th. They attacked the east ridge from the south glacier. Camp I was at 16,925 feet, Camp II at 19,200 feet and Camp III at 20,700 feet. On August 14 Mizokami, Narasaki and Morimoto left Camp III and reached the main summit (22,450 feet) via the east ridge and east face. They descended the southwest ridge, bivouacking at 21,650 feet.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

*Peaks in West Parun Valley and Zerago Peak, Bandaka Group.* The Mount Yari Hut Party was composed of Minoru Murata, leader, Bunji Kobayashi, Susumu Hirose, and Katsuki Kohno. They traveled from Kabul via Ishtui to the western head of the Parun valley, where on June 27 they established Base Camp at 12,150 feet. Kobayashi and Hirose climbed P 5740 (18,832 feet) on June 30, with a camp at 14,750 feet and a bivouac at 17,000 feet. They called it "Parun Spear". (All these peaks may be identified on Wolfgang Frey's map in *Zwischen Munjan und Bashgal*.) From camp at 15,100 feet Murata and Kohno on July 2 climbed P 5611 (18,409 feet). Since Kohno was mountain sick, he stopped in the col and Murata went on alone to climb P 5510 (18,078 feet). From the col they descended to the north to their high camp. On July 3 Murata alone climbed P 5375 (17,635 feet). On July 5 Kobayashi and Hirose climbed first P 5515 (18,095 feet) and then P 5420 (17,782 feet) from a 17,000-foot bivouac site. They then on July 7 descended to Ishtui, ascended the Sebalgar river, crossed the Weran Kotal and went along the Munjan river to its confluence with the Zerango valley (11,000 feet),

which they reached on July 15. From camp at 15,425 feet, on July 17 Murata and Hirose climbed Zerango Peak (19,380 feet, the highest unclimbed peak in the Bandaka group.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

*Mir Samir.* Two expeditions, Kohtaro Ohyama, leader, Yataka Arita, Munechika Sawada, Yasumasa Ueno, Hironari Hirabayashi and Keizo Kohno of Meijo University and Shigeo Handa, leader, Minoru Hashimoto, Muto, Ishizuka and Otsuki of the Chukyo Alpine Club, combined forces in the Mir Samir region. They placed Base Camp in the Darrah-i-Chamar on July 12 at 13,500 feet. Camps were made at 15,750 and 17,000 feet. On July 21 Muto and Sawada completed the ascent of Mir Samir (19,059 feet) by a new route, the frontal east ridge. Only the Meijo University party went on to climb in Swat Kohistan.

ICHIRO YOSHIKAWA, *A.A.C. and Japanese Alpine Club*

*Bandaka Sakhi, Attempt on East Face.* Dr. Geoff Cram, Lawrie Holliwell, Dave Yates, Dave Robbins, Tony Charlton, Dr. John Burslem and I as leader drove overland from England via Kabul to a village called Zebak in northeast Afghanistan at the beginning of the Wakhan corridor. From Zebak we had a three-day trek, using horses and donkeys, into the mountains, approaching the Bandaka group from the north. I recommend this approach, provided one has a robust vehicle for the drive from Kabul to Zebak. Our primary objective, the east face of Bandaka, was abandoned after close examination, 9000 feet of steep climbing involving long ice-mushroomed ridges at high altitude with considerable avalanche risk. We lacked time, having only three weeks. Our energies were therefore directed at our secondary objective, the east face of Bandaka Sakhi (20,800 feet). We decided to attempt the 5000-foot face by a steep and sensational line leading directly to the south summit ridge. The first 3000 feet constituted snow and ice climbing, the last 2000 feet being steep rock with mixed climbing to the summit. We used two snow holes on the face for camps, the higher situated below the steep upper rock section. During this period we experienced a week of bad weather which marooned two of us in the top snow hole for five days. We made a number of attempts to climb the loose and dangerous rock to the ridge. Because of the unstable state of the face we abandoned the attempt after some very steep and difficult climbing.

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