

They also made the third ascent of Koh-i-Marchech on September 12 to 14 by a new route, the south ridge.

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Pamirs and Tian Shan, 1969. Excellent summaries of climbing in the Soviet Union are found in the *Alpine Journal*, 1970 on pages 159 to 162 and in *Alpinismus* of February, 1970. Among other difficult new climbs described there, we mention the following. In the Pamirs a Leningrad team led by J. Kuzmin made from July 31 to August 17, 1969 a most amazing 10-mile traverse all above 20,000 feet. After completing a new route on the northwest face of Pik Garmo, they traversed over Pik Patriot, Pik Rossiya and Pik Kommunisma. Climbers from Odessa led by W. Swiridenko made the first ascent from August 2 to 13 of the south buttress of Pik Sandal and then traversed over Musdjlga. Another remarkable traverse was that of Pik 26 Bakinski Commissars, Pik Revolution and Pik Shipka. The 8000-foot south face of Pik 26 Bakinski Commissars was a particular feat. In the Tian Shan two extremely difficult new routes were made on Pik Swobodnaja (Free) Korea by Ukrainians led by Anatoli Kutuzovski and Siberians led by Valeri Bussubkin. Lithuanians made a very difficult new route on the 4000-foot face of Pik Djigit.

Pamirs and Tian Shan, 1970. Soviet climbers continued making excellent difficult climbs, as reported in *Alpinismus* of January, 1971. Two extremely hard new routes were made on the highest peak in the Soviet Union, Pik Kommunisma (24,547 feet) in the Pamirs. The 8000-foot southwest face was climbed in a new direct line by climbers led by E. Mislobski. They reached the summit on August 15 after 14 bivouacs; they used 200 pitons. The southeast buttress was also climbed for the first time from August 10 to 19 by a group led by V. Voronin. They found difficult ice-covered rock from 15,750 to 17,700 feet and steep ice up to 19,350 feet. The most difficult part was between 20,000 and 21,650 feet. Ukrainians led by V. Pusanov made the first ascent of Pik Kirov (20,900 feet). In the Tian Shan, Pik Pobjeda (24,407 feet) had several good ascents. An 11-man group from Dnepropetrovsk led by A. Saidler and four Siberians led by V. Samochvalov climbed the north face of Pik Vasha Pshavela (22,704 feet) and continued over the main and eastern summits. The most difficult route on Pobjeda was done by Moscow climbers led by V. Ivanov. They made the first ascent of the 8000-foot north face of P 6740 (22,113 feet) and traversed Vasha Pshavela, Pobjeda, Sovjetskaja Armenija (23,130 feet) and Pobjeda East. This took 11 days.