

two hours later, Boysen managed to cut his trouser leg off with a piton and freed himself. Time and food were running out and the attempt was given up. The climbers, who also included Ian McNaught-Davis, Joe Brown, Will Barker and Dave Potts, had climbed the gully south of the tower, where they placed Camp I. Above, the climbing became difficult, being either iced-up rock or mixed climbing. Camp II was a snow cave in the snowfield a third of the way up the rock tower.

Baltoro Cathedral. The Belledo section of the Italian Alpine Club climbed two routes on the Baltoro Cathedral, the southwest ridge with camps and the southeast face alpine-style. Members were Giulio Fiocchi, leader, Dr. Alberto Sironi, Giuseppe Lafranconi, Ernesto and Sergio Panzeri, Gianluigi Lanfranchi, Carlo Duchini, Amabile Valsecchi, Daniele Chiappa, Pierino Maccarinelli, Benvenuto Laritti, Giacomo Stefani and Armando Colombari. They had hoped to climb the Trango Towers but the Pakistani government instead gave them permission for the Baltoro Cathedral or Thunmo (19,246 feet). From camp at Liliwa, they cut diagonally across the Baltoro Glacier to Base Camp at 12,800 feet at the confluence of the Dunghe Glacier with the Baltoro. After three days of reconnaissance they decided on the routes. On June 23 the siege of the southwest ridge began. They had UIAA V to V+ difficulties to climb the 2500 feet on often rotten granite to Camp I. To there they fixed 3300 feet of rope. Bad weather then delayed operations. On July 3 E. Panzeri, Lafranconi, Lanfranchi and Valsecchi returned to Camp I but Panzeri fell sick and was replaced by Laritti. Despite snow, cold, fatigue and insufficient food, they pressed on. The next section presented difficult mixed climbing, particularly around 16,000 feet. They had next two rope-lengths of overhanging rock, then dangerous loose snow and nearly vertical ice. Finally from Camp IV they reached the summit at 2:30 P.M. on July 10. The attack on the 5000-foot-high southeast face began on July 3. Chiappa, Maccarinelli, Stefani, Duchini and S. Panzeri climbed 1650 feet up a gully in the east face and traversed right on a shoulder. They climbed another 1650 feet the next day to the foot of the final buttress. To there they had had UIAA III to V difficulties. Bad weather drove them back to Base Camp. Two days later, July 6, they were back at their high point. Chiappa and Maccarinelli climbed two rope-lengths where they could not place a single piton. They bivouacked at 16,400 feet. On the 7th Stefani and S. Panzeri took the lead, climbing overhanging cracks on aid and then ice, and finally more difficult and rotten cracks before returning to the bivouac. On the 8th Chiappa, Duchini and Maccarinelli left first and above the former high point climbed rotten, snow-covered flakes. Panzeri and Stefani followed. Chiappa led a vertical dihedral to get to the top of the face followed by the rest. (UIAA V, V+, A2, A3). Easier mixed climbing took them



PLATE 71

Photo by H. Adams Carter

TRANGO TOWERS. The English route ascends the center of the middle tower.

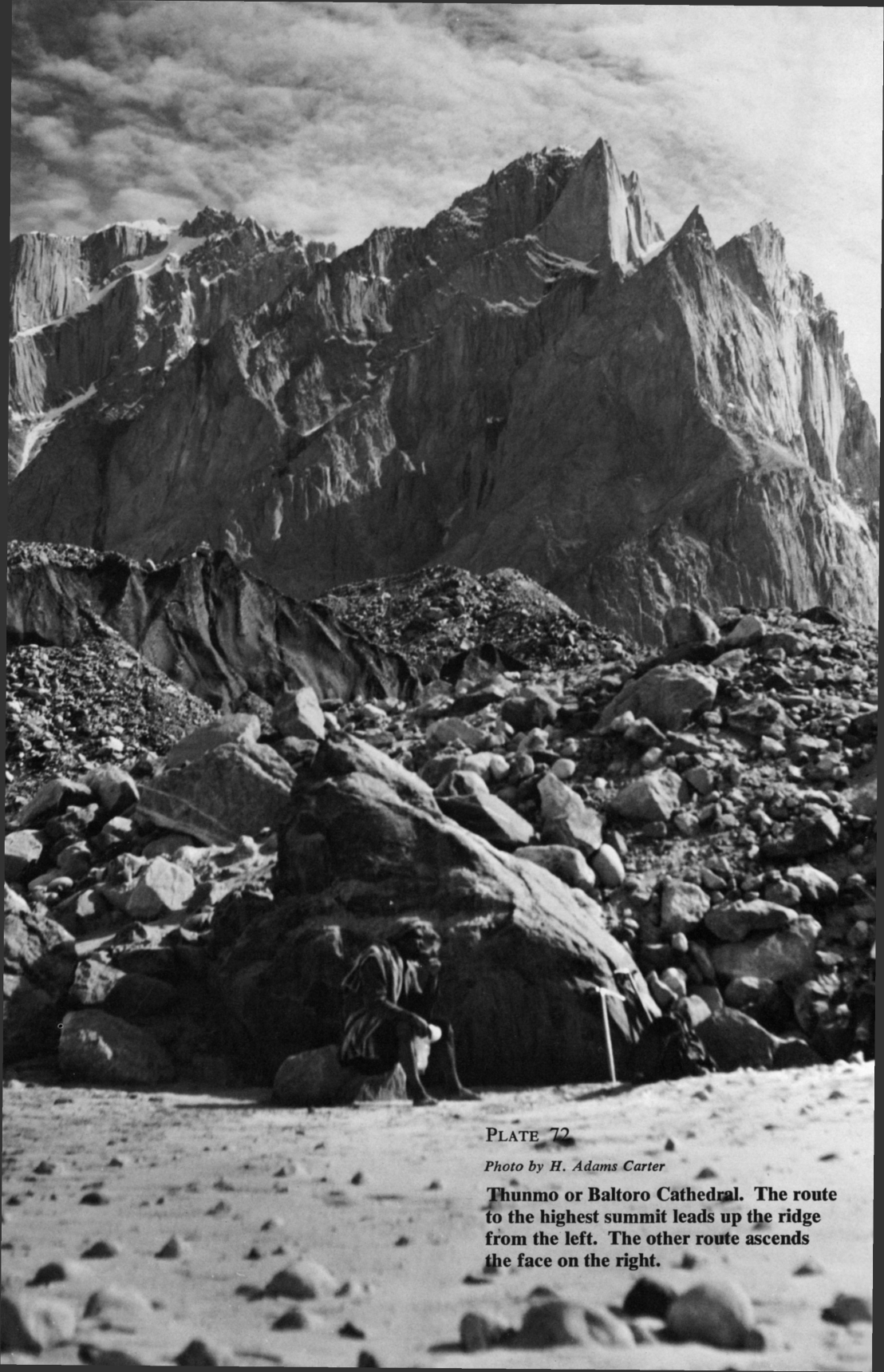


PLATE 72

Photo by H. Adams Carter

Thunmo or Baltoro Cathedral. The route to the highest summit leads up the ridge from the left. The other route ascends the face on the right.

to the top. They used 500 feet of fixed rope and 150 feet of metal ladder. A deep depression separates this high point from the summit of Thunmo.

Lopsang Peak. Like most expeditions this year in the Baltoro Glacier area, we ran into problems. The sudden opening of the region brought a flood of expeditions, overtaking the limited facilities. The porters took full advantage of the seller's market. We therefore had troubles with the government, the local Balti people, our liaison officer and the poor weather. We passed the more exciting objectives as we moved up the Baltoro, namely the Uli Biaho Spire and the Trango group. The granitic formations deteriorated as we advanced but we made the best of what we had. The film crew caught up to us in Rawalpindi and they accompanied several members of the expedition to the summit of Karpogang (19,560 feet), a snow dome just west of the Mustagh La. On June 19 Yvon Chouinard, Dr. Joel Malta, George Lowe and Doug Tompkins reached the top. On June 18 Don Lauria, Mike Covington and I climbed Lopsang Peak (20,423 feet) via its southern couloir. Shortly after these climbs, four members left for Skardu. Lowe, Lauria and I made three attempts on P 18,700, located on the southeastern spur of Mount Biange. We reached 18,000 feet on the west arête before retreating in a storm. All the climbing was done alpine-style, which accounts for our lack of accomplishments.

DENNIS HENNEK

Broad Peak, Central Summits. A Polish expedition from Wrocław consisted of 15 climbers under the leadership of Janusz Fereński. Their Base Camp was established at 16,400 feet on the Godwin Austen Glacier on June 30. The route followed the Austrian route of 1957 with some variants, keeping more on the crest of the buttress. Camps I, II and III were at 19,000, 21,500 and 23,625 feet. On July 28 Roman Bebak, Kazimierz Głazek, Marek Kęsicki, Janusz Kuliś, Bogdan Nowaczyk and Andrzej Sirocki set off for the summit of the central peak (c. 26,300 feet) but in the afternoon Bebak withdrew while still below the col between the main and central peaks. Right above the col and near the top were two difficult rock steps. At 7:30 P.M. the five other climbers reached the summit of the central peak. After descending most of the fairly difficult ridge in the dark under worsening weather, they decided to rappel to a snow terrace on the west side, which led back to the col. Nowaczyk was lost when his rappel rope came adrift and plunged down the Chinese side. This was their only rope. During the unroped descent further on the icy slopes Kęsicki, Sikorski and Kuliś slipped at different times. Kuliś managed to arrest himself, but the other two fell to their deaths.

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