

Camp, we discovered that the entry point onto the glacier was a very dangerous place. To proceed up the glacier, we entered the dangerous region and got rapidly out to the middle where there was less danger from flying rocks. Complicated crevasses with sagging bridges made travel on the glacier hazardous. Altogether we spent eight days ferrying supplies up to a point at 18,000 feet where the mountain suddenly shot upwards. At the head of the glacier an icefield stretched up for 1500 feet at about 60°. The warm weather continued. The ice was running with water which washed out stones of all sizes; these relentlessly came hurtling down the slope. We had no alternative but to retreat. Later we started up a steep rock tower of about 20,000 feet which looked sound but it soon became obvious that the séracs and ice in the abnormally warm weather were not adhering firmly to the glacier and again we had to retreat.

HUGH McNICHOLL, *Scottish Sports Council*

Trango Towers. It has been pointed out that we have not clearly stated in *A.A.J.*, 1977 and 1978, exactly which of the Trango towers were climbed. The British climbed a spectacular tower which stands out clearly from the rest, while the next year the Americans climbed the highest tower of the group. In the photograph on page 437 of *A.A.J.*, 1978 the American tower appears on the left and the British on the right.

Skamri. Our expedition was composed of Tetsuo Nogami, Norio Fukuda, Saburo Mitsumoto, Miss Tomoko Aoyagi, Mrs. Atsuko Shibata, Miss Noriko Furusawa and me as leader. We ascended the Panmah and Drenmang Glaciers. Base Camp was placed on the side of the Drenmang at 14,100 feet on June 21. Skamri has three summits. We took the south ridge to the highest peak, the east (22,100 feet). Camp I was established on June 30 on the south branch of the Drenmang Glacier at 15,425 feet at the foot of the south ridge, Camp II on July 10 at 17,225 feet above a 50° ice slope on the ridge, Camp II on July 12 at 18,375 feet just above an 80-foot ice wall and Camp III on July 19 at 20,350 feet above a couloir which rose through massive rock on the eastern side of the ridge. On June 20 Nogami and Fukada climbed to the summit after a struggle with fragile frost on deep snow on the steep, narrow ridge. A second attempt was abandoned because of bad weather.

TADASHI KAMEI, *Yokohama Alpine Club, Japan*

Latok I. Latok I (23,439 feet) was finally climbed up the south face by a Japanese expedition led by Naoki Takada. The route ascended the buttress left of the couloir that divides Latok I and III. Base Camp was established on the Baintha Lukpar Glacier at 15,100 feet on June 10. A first Camp I was established in the couloir at 18,050 feet on June 20 but

this was wiped out by an avalanche on June 21, luckily without loss of life. A new Camp I was placed on June 23 high on the glacier at 16,575 feet. Camp II was placed at the point where they left the couloir for the steep rock buttress at 19,000 feet. It took eight days to fix the route on the buttress from Camp II to 20,675 feet, where they had hoped to have Camp III. As it was difficult to find space for a tent, the climbers bivouacked there and moved on July 15 up to 21,325 feet to pitch Camp III. The first summit attempt on July 17 failed. On July 19 Tsuneo Shigehiro, Sin'e Matsumi and Yu Watanabe struggled for 13 hours up bad snow to the summit. On July 22 Hideo Muto, Jun'ichi Oku and Kota Endo also climbed to the top. They considered themselves lucky not to have been struck by rockfall or avalanches.

Latok III. The following were members of the Latok III expedition: Kazushige Takami, Sakae Mori, Kiyukaza Kitamura, Keiso Sadatomo, Naoki Ohudaira and I as leader. We climbed the mountain from the Baintha Lukpar Glacier via the southwest ridge, which had repelled another Japanese expedition in 1978. We placed Camp I at 15,100 feet on the glacier on June 25 and proceeded up a steep snow couloir to establish Camp II on June 27 at 16,750 feet on the snow below the main peak. Camp III was placed at 20,000 feet on July 3. Above Camp III there were three ice grooves. We took the right-hand one and placed Camp IV on July 10 at 22,000 feet at the foot of the final 1000-foot-high rock wall. Above Camp IV we took the center crack system. It took two days to work out the route up to the final snow ridge. On July 15 Takami, Mori and I reached the summit (22,475 feet).

YOJI TERANISHI, *Japanese Alpine Club*

P 6960, Latok Group. Hoping to climb a technical Himalayan peak using alpine techniques, we attempted P 6960 (22,835 feet), situated between the Ogre (Baintha Brakk) and Latok II, by a route up the north-west ridge. Chris Gilley, John Bennison, American Donald Bouyea* and I arrived in Pakistan on June 3 and reached Base Camp on June 17 after an eight-day walk from Skardu. Twenty porters were used to reach Base Camp (15,500 feet) via the Biafo Glacier. Within another week we had made a carry to the col (18,500 feet) between the Ogre and P 6960. We dumped the gear and enough food to complete the route in a snow hole at the col and returned to Base Camp. The climbing to the col was technically straightforward but involved an interesting icefall and the notorious "Death Alley," so named by Japanese expeditions using this route on the

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