

attempt, aided by the trail breaking of Müller and Öckler up to some wild gendarmes which barred the way to the snow slope that led to the final buttress. Now alone, we two climbed four rope-lengths over terribly rotten rock. We bivouacked on the snow slope at 22,000 feet. The next morning, June 18, we climbed for hours unroped, since there was no possibility to belay on the incredibly rotten rock. Slabs and blocks of rock teetered on the slope, held by an insecure mortar of ice. We finally reached the top so late in the day that we had to make a miserable summit bivouac. The climb had been so dangerous that no further summit climbs were made.

HANS GLOGGNER, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

*Lupghar Sar West and Central.* Our group was made up of Dr. Masatsugu Otaishi, Isao Uchida, Tatsuo Nazuka, Yuichi Watanabe, Kunio Kataoka, Hitoshi Shimizu, Toshiyuki Kawasaki and me as leader. We left Nagar on June 16 with 88 porters and got to Base Camp at 15,100 feet on the Gharesa Glacier on June 20. We climbed the south-west ridge over the west peak. From 20,000 to 20,675 feet and from 21,325 to 22,650 feet the loose rock was very dangerous. Camps I, II, III and IV were established at 18,375, 19,850, 21,150 and 22,975 feet on July 4, 19, 30 and August 3 respectively. The central peak was a mile beyond the west peak along a knife-edged snow ridge. On August 4 Nazuka, Watanabe and Shimizu left Camp IV at five A.M., got to the west summit at seven A.M. and to the central summit at 10:20 A.M. The three summits are nearly of the same altitude, but we guess that the central peak is slightly higher.

MASAKATSU DOI, *Hosei University Mountaineering Club, Japan*

*Rakaposhi, Second Ascent by New Route, Northwest and Southwest Ridges.* The first ascent of Rakaposhi (25,550 feet) was made in 1958 by Mike Banks and Tom Patey. Since then all other attempts had ended in failure. The Polish-Pakistani expedition 1979 had six Pakistani men, led by Lieutenant M. Sher Khan and two Polish women and five men, led by Ryszard Kowalewski. After the Japanese gave up on the north buttress, the Poles and Pakistanis started up the northwest ridge, which had been reconnoitered to 19,700 feet in 1964 by an Irish expedition. Base Camp was set up at 12,500 feet in a side basin of the Biro Glacier on June 5. Though the site seemed safe, on June 14 an ice wall collapsed on the big snow terrace of Rakaposhi. A gigantic ice avalanche fell into the Biro Icefall. The wind generated by it, though it stopped still 1½ to two miles away, destroyed the tents in Base Camp and covered the valley walls with a thick layer of wet snow down to 21,000 feet. Camp I was established on June 6 at 16,100 feet at the foot of the northwest ridge. The climbing

difficulties began there; some 10,000 feet of rope were fixed above that point. Camp II was placed at 19,000 feet on June 19. The route continued along the ridge. Four gendarmes were bypassed on the right. On June 26 Camp III stood at 20,350 feet on the shoulder of the Nun's Head. The route slabbed under the top of the Nun's Head and descended 200 feet onto the roomy snow terrace below Rakaposhi's summit pyramid. Camp IV was placed at 21,325 feet on the edge of the terrace on June 28. It took six to eight hours to traverse the terrace to a col at the end of the southwest ridge, where Camp V was set up at 23,300 feet on June 30. On July 1 Kowalewski, Sher Khan and Tadeusz Piotrowski climbed to the summit of Rakaposhi in 18 hours. The next day, after a miserable night with six in the tent, Andrzej Bielun, Jacek Gronczewski and Jerzy Tillak climbed to the top in only six hours. On July 5, supported by no one above Camp III—Camps IV, II and I had been evacuated because the porter train was to arrive on July 9—the two women, Anna Czerwinska and Krystyna Palmowska, fought their way up to the summit through wind and drifting snow. They went unroped because it was too cold for one to wait for the other. These two women, who had worked as much and as hard as the men, did the second highest "ladies-only" climb, the highest having been the ascent by Halina Krüger and Anna Okopinska of Gasherbrum II in 1975.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*

*Rakaposhi, North Ridge.* A Japanese Waseda University expedition of seven was led by Eiho Ohtani. They climbed the north ride, which had been unsuccessfully attempted in 1971 by Dr. Herrligkoffer's German expedition. Base Camp was established at 12,150 feet on June 15 and Camp I at 15,750 feet on a col in the north ridge on June 19. Camps II, III and IV were placed at 17,400, 19,000 and 21,000 feet on June 26, July 8 and 13 respectively. A 500-foot rock band was bypassed by means of a couloir and Camp V was pitched at 23,000 feet on July 25. Camp VI was placed above a 150-foot ice step at 23,950 feet on July 31. On August 1 Ohtani and Matsushi Yamashita bivouacked at 24,925 feet and reached the summit (25,550 feet) on August 2, where they found signs of the Poles. *Iwa To Yuki* N° 72 has an account.

*Pasu Peak, 1978.* The then unclimbed 23,897-foot Pasu Peak, above picturesque Hunza valley, was the target of the Pakistani-Japanese Services Expedition, sponsored by the Defence Academy Alpine Club of Japan and the Alpine Club of Pakistan. It had been attempted by Japanese in 1974. Our group included Japanese Captain Chitoshi Ando, leader, Lieutenants Isao Fukura, Susumu Shinmayo, Koichi Wakui, Sae Yamada and Masato Inoue and Pakistanis Captains Sher Khan, Ehtesham Anwar and Inayat Wali, Saad Tariq Siddiqui, Dr. Faiz Aman, Flight