

Dobani. Isao Ikeuchi and I climbed Dobani (20,158 feet), 15 miles southeast of Rakaposhi, on June 9. Each of us carried one big sack during the expedition, limiting our equipment and food, but this was an advantage since it made it inexpensive. On May 2 we established Base Camp on the Gutumi Glacier at 11,500 feet. We started to attempt the north ridge on May 4, reaching a col on the north ridge the next day. We got to below a foresummit of 15,750 feet on May 7. Deteriorating weather held us up for two days. The ridge from there to the top was very precipitous and so we gave up. On May 21 we established a new Base Camp at 13,450 feet on the Kuturi Glacier, southwest of the peak. On May 24 we climbed the south ridge to 16,000 feet, where we camped. We were held up by the weather for two days. On May 27 we climbed to 17,000 feet but the ridge became too precipitous for us to climb with our few pitons. On the way back we descended directly down the west face of the ridge. On June 6 we reestablished Base Camp in the same place. On June 7 we set out for the west face with food for five days. We bivouacked in a crevasse in the middle of the west face. On the 8th we camped on the col in the north ridge below the summit. On June 9 we climbed a snow face to reach the summit at ten A.M.

MASARU HASHIMOTO, *Japanese Alpine Club*

Pakistan—Hindu Raj

Buni Zom. Joe Reinhard and I made an ascent of the main peak of Buni Zom (21,494 feet or 6551 meters) in August. From Base Camp at Kulakmali in the Phargam Gol we climbed through a rock barrier to reach the Khorabar Glacier on the west side of Buni Zom. We set up a high camp at 18,000 feet. We first attempted the north ridge of Buni Zom but after reaching the col between the main and north summits, we found the upper ridge too dangerous due to deep, soft snow. We then climbed the south face of the mountain by a steep snow couloir which joins the west ridge at around 21,000 feet. This gave a reasonably straightforward climb of UIAA III difficulty. We descended the same route. We also climbed Khorabar Zom (19,193 feet or 5850 meters) and Panorama Peak (18,668 feet or 5690 meters), both easy ascents and good viewpoints.

RICHARD J. ISHERWOOD, *Alpine Club*

P 6206, Thui Group. James Fotheringham and I climbed P 6206 (20,360 feet), which is situated between Thui I and Thui II. We went from Base Camp at Sholtali along the Aghost Bar Glacier to the Qualandar Gum Glacier and from there directly onto the south face, which is over 5000 feet high. We left Base Camp early on June 20 and spent the first night at the foot of the face at about 14,500 feet. The second day took us

halfway up the face, where we were fortunate to find an ice cave that made an ideal bivouac. We reached the summit at about two P.M. on June 22 and got back to the ice cave by seven o'clock. We spent the next two days retracing our steps back to Base Camp. The first half of the face was relatively straightforward except for a maze of crevasses and schrunds at the bottom. It was the second half which was interesting, especially near the top, where the difficulties were of Scottish Grade 4.

IAN TATTERSALL, *England*

Ghochhar Sar Tragedy. Six members of a Japanese expedition were killed when buried by a huge avalanche on the Shachiokh Glacier as they were heading for Ghochhar Sar (20,502 feet). This peak lies east of Chitral. The leader was Yoshio Sugimura. More details are in *Iwa To Yuki*, N° 70.

Pakistan—Hindu Kush

Darban Zom Attempt and Accident, 1978. Paddy Feely, *Irish*, Fred van Gemert, *Dutch*, Bob Milwood and I, *English*, in early August of 1978, made very good progress on the north side of Darban Zom (23,665 feet). After only two weeks our first summit attempt came within 500 feet of the top. During a temporary retreat toward our high camp, van Gemert fell, forcing all four to a bivouac at 22,000 feet without equipment. Van Gemert was unconscious for the night and semi-conscious for the next three days, during which he was lowered 4000 feet. During the second day a belay failure resulted in a further 60-foot fall into a bergschrund, luckily with little extra damage. On the third day we got to the head of a difficult icefall at 18,000 feet. We were forced to wait there, feeding the casualty on double rations while remaining on half-rations ourselves. After four days, with almost all the food gone, we descended the icefall with van Gemert walking (with help) for the first time in eight days. After a ten-hour, foodless day we got to Base Camp. Milward soloed an elegant peak behind Base Camp, P 20,230, on the south side of the Udren An (pass). This may have been climbed previously by Japanese. The return trip took 18 hours from our 13,900-foot Base Camp with a bivouac at 19,000 feet. There were 4000 feet of serious snow and ice climbing on the north face and west ridge.

STEPHEN PARR, *England*

Tirich Mir, South Face, 1978. Not reported in last year's *A.A.J.* was a Japanese expedition led by Kotsutoshi Ikebe. They placed Base Camp on June 20, 1978 at 12,800 feet and Camp I at 15,250 feet on the South Barum Glacier. On July 26, 1978 Eiji Kitazaki, Naoya Yamazaki and