

to the summit because of extremely strong northwest winds. It took an hour to join Muller, 125 feet away on not difficult terrain. We stopped at 24,600 feet (7500 meters). After this attempt we retreated because of fatigue, lack of food and fuel and because winter had arrived. (The south buttress climbed by Japanese in 1978 lies east of the French route.—*Editor.*)

PIERRE BEGHIN, *Groupe de Haute Montagne*

*Tukucho, Southwest Ridge.* A Japanese expedition was led by Tatsuo Morimoto, who stayed in Base Camp, and the climbing leader, Shuichi Torii. On September 28 Torii, five other Japanese and two Sherpas reached the summit from Camp II via a new route, the southwest ridge.

MICHAEL J. CHENEY, *Himalayan Club*

*Sisne, North Peak, Kanjiroba Himal.* A Swiss expedition was composed of Daniel Chevallier, Pierre Galland, Jean-Claude Chautems, André Meillard, André Egger, Dr. Gilbert Villard and me as leader. We took 20 days to travel from Surkhet to Base Camp at 13,300 feet in the Chaudhabise valley, which we reached on April 11. Late snows kept us from placing Base Camp as near to the peak as we wished. We had to establish Camp I at 14,425 feet just short of a 16,275-foot pass to the east and descend to Camp II (Advanced Base) at 13,800 feet in the Changda Khola. The rock of the northwest ridge of Sisne was very rotten. Camps III, IV and V were placed on the ridge at 16,900, 18,575 and 20,050 feet on April 15, 23 and 29 respectively. On May 3 Chevallier and Galland climbed to the north summit of Sisne (6470 meters, 21,227 feet). The ridge to the higher south summit (6620 meters, 21,720 feet) was knife-edged; they felt it could be better climbed from the Jagdula valley. The summit climbers did not attempt to traverse the ridge.

RUEDI MEIER, *Section de Neuchâtel, Club Alpin Suisse*

*Api, South Face Attempt.* Our 12-man (British) Army Mountaineering Association expedition was driven from Kathmandu to Dandeldhura. The new mountain road from Dangadhi to Dandeldhura is easily passable by jeep; a jeep track from Dandeldhura to Baitadi is nearly completed. It took 15 days to walk from Dandeldhura to Base Camp at 13,500 feet at the foot of the south face of Api (7132 meters, 23,399 feet). The route followed roughly along a difficult ridge in the face to Camp III. The principal difficulty was a 250-foot gendarme halfway to Camp II, which we climbed on the west side. The ice nose above Camp III to gain the second glacier was steep ice; the slopes of the ramp to the third glacier was 55° ice. The summit slopes were 50° ice, rotten in the upper

section and covered with unstable powder snow. Above Camp III the route was threatened by powder-snow avalanches. Camps I, II, III and IV were placed at 16,700, 18,500, 20,400 and 21,800 feet on April 1, 16, 22 and 29 respectively. We fixed 10,000 feet of rope. Major M.G. LeG. Bridges and Sergeant J.L. Arthy on the first summit attempt were caught in Camp IV by a heavy snowstorm and their camp, sheltered in the bergschrund, was shot over by many avalanches. After a day and night of this, followed by a rest day, they started out at one A.M. on May 1. After three hours of wading up the upper glacier, they followed a low rib, protected from the continual snow slides. At ten A.M., 400 feet from the top, they turned back because of the poor ice, the dangerous snow, fatigue and Arthy's frostbitten hands. On May 2 Captain A.J.N. Simkins and Corporal J.R.F. Walsh on a second try were caught at the foot of the upper slopes by a severe thunderstorm. It was decided to evacuate the mountain.

SIR CRISPIN AGNEW OF LOCHNAW, *Major, Scottish Infantry*

### India—Garhwal

*Peaks Climbed by the India-Tibet Border Police.* For some years the India-Tibet Border Police has been climbing in the Himalaya but they have generally kept from announcing what they have done. Although a few have appeared in print, for the first time the *Indian Mountaineer* has published a list of their climbs. Those done in Garhwal follow. Trisul (23,360 feet, 7120 meters) July 10, 1970; Kagbhusund\* (19,210 feet, 5855 meters) May 17, 1970; Raj Rambha\* (21,466 feet, 6537 meters) July 11, 1971; Gangotri III (21,578 feet, 6577 meters) June 26, 1971; Kedarnath Dome (22,410 feet, 6831 meters) September 15, 1971 and April 27, 1978; P 19,900\* (6093 meters) in Kagbhusund Range June 10, 1972; Bhagirathi II (21,365 feet, 6512 meters) June 15, 1972; P. 20,013\* (6100 meters) near Tirsuli July 3, 1972; P 21,310\* (6495 meters) near Ganesh Parbat July 23, 1972; Panchchuli I\* (22,652 feet, 6904 meters) October 17 and 18, 1972; Panchchuli II\* (21,120 feet, 6437 meters) May 25, 1973; Nanda Pal\* (20,690 feet, 6306 meters) June 8, 1973; Balakun\* (21,230 feet, 6471 meters) July 9, 1973; Vasuki\* (22,285 feet, 6793 meters) October 2, 1973; Kedarnath (22,770 feet, 6940 meters) May 19, 1974 and May 1, 1978; Shivling\* (21,466 feet, 6543 meters) June 3, 1974; Chandra Parbat (22,073 feet, 6728 meters) September 29, 1974; Nilkanth (21,640 feet, 6596 meters) June 3, 1974; Bharte Khunta\* (21,580 feet, 6578 meters) September 6, 1975; Suitilla\* (20,910 feet, 6373 meters) October 2, 1974; and Hardeol\* (23,460 feet, 7151 meters) May 31, 1978.

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\* First Ascent