

porters. Base Camp was set up at the junction of the Raikana and East Kamet Glaciers at 15,250 feet on May 12. Camps I, II, III and IV were set up at 17,500, 18,500, 20,500 and 22,000 feet on May 18, 21, 25 and 29 respectively. The route immediately below Camp IV was difficult and 1300 feet of rope were fixed. Camp IV was used by Naik Surjit Singh, Surinder, J.S. Sidhu and Sherpas Ratna and Nima for their climb of Abi Gamin. Camp V was placed on Meade's Col on May 30. Lieutenant Deepak Kalakoti, CHM S.S. Gill, Naik J.S. Dhinu and Sherpas Sangbu and Pasang set out from Camp V and got to the summit of Kamet (7756 meters, 25,447 feet) on June 1 at about one o'clock. The group from Camp IV arrived within five minutes of the same hour at the summit of Abi Gamin (7355 meters, 24,130 feet).

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Himalayan Club*

*Shivling, West Ridge.* Our expedition was composed of Shiro Kurachi, leader, Takao Kobayashi, Miss Kinuko Ihara, Yoshiyuki Inoue, Miss Hisako Adachi, Katsuji Yamasaki, Masatoshi Iwasa, Hiroshi Nishie, Miss Kazuko Minesaki, Yukitaka Inoue and me. Base Camp was established at 14,100 feet on May 27. We proceeded from Tapoban up the Meru Glacier around three ridges descending from Shivling and on June 6 established Camp I at 17,050 feet at the head of the glacier. We climbed the snow slope avoiding two big crevasses and placed Camp II on the rock col near the hanging glacier at 18,550 feet on June 10. We pitched Camp II at 19,350 feet on June 16 on the snow ridge 18 pitches up the rock-and-snow ridge above a 130-foot step. On a rock band between Camps II and III we found two snow pickets which the Indian party must have used for belays. Immediately above Camp III the ridge abutted a snow wall. We climbed this 50° wall for 500 feet to regain the ridge as it headed for a 200-foot-high hanging glacier. We climbed one pitch over the hanging glacier and over a schrund. After two more pitches there was another hanging glacier which we crossed to get to a snowfield leading to a col between Shivling and an unnamed peak at 20,500 feet. Kobayashi, Yoshiyuki Inoue, Nishie and Yukitaka Inoue bivouacked there. On June 20 they climbed 400 feet up from the right end of the 60° to 70° ice wall and reached the ridge crest. They came on a fixed line and recovered 200 feet of it. They climbed four more pitches and at last stood on the summit of Shivling (6543 meters, 21,467 feet) at two P.M.

MASAYORI KAYA, *Japan Workers' Alpine Federation*

*Shivling, North Ridge.* Masayuki Fujita, Masayoshi Yamamoto, Isao Kubo, Takayuki Akasu and I as leader visited the Gangotri area to climb Shivling by a new route. Indians had climbed the west ridge in 1974 but no other route had been done on the mountain. Although

delayed by monsoon rains, we arrived at Uttarkashi on July 13. On the 16th we left there with 42 porters. On July 20 our advance party reached Tapoban, east of Shivling's north ridge, where we set up Base Camp. Although we could not see the ridge because of bad weather, we set out for our objective. On July 28 we established Advanced Base Camp on a green hill at 15,525 feet, below "Baby" Shivling, a small peak of about 18,000 feet on the north ridge. From Advanced Base we had to climb up the side of the north ridge on rotten rock to the col between "Baby" Shivling and Shivling, where on August 4 we set up Camp I at 17,550 feet. From there we followed the north ridge to some big pinnacles. We climbed over the first one and traversed under the rest on the left to reach a snow gully on the east, which led us back to the ridge crest. There was some direct aid in this part. We fixed rope from Camp I to II, which was just beyond the pinnacles and before the gully. We found a flat place on the north ridge for Camp III, which we pitched on August 22. The weather continued bad. We climbed the steep ice face and then a very steep, thin, unsound snow ridge. At the end of the ridge, at 20,350 feet, just below where the north ridge is of overhanging rock, we established Camp IV. The north-west face was almost vertical but we found a snow band that traversed up across the rock of the face. We prepared the route slowly. On September 4 Fujita, Yamamoto and Kubo left Camp IV at 7:30 A.M. and after ten hours reached the summit. They were back in camp at eight P.M. We were all back in Base Camp on September 6 and left there on the 9th.

NORIO YASUDA, *Tokyo University Ski Alpine Club, Japan*

*Thalay Sagar Attempt.* Unfortunately, due to other commitments, we had to climb during the monsoon and out of four weeks on the mountain we had only two days without snow. Despite that, we climbed on all but two days. We attempted the north flank, from the east col, of Thalay Sagar. The route to the col, which lies between Thalay Sagar and Brigupanth, had previously been fixed by the American women, but we could not find the fixed ropes and spent a dangerous few days reaching the col on very unstable but easy snow. The route really begins at the col at about 20,000 feet. It provided very hard climbing on rock and ice. We reached 21,200 feet before returning to Base Camp. We have left all our equipment on the mountain for another attempt in 1981. (NCCS IV, F8 or 9, A2 or 3.) We were Peter Minks, Malcolm Howells, my wife Jacky and I.

J.V. ANTHOINE, *Alpine Climbing Group*

*Kharchakund.* Our expedition consisted of the following: Yoshiki Yamanaka, Masao Mizuno, Toshiharu Hashimoto, Yoshitaka Tanimura,