

vertical ice climbing. We could not continue when Espona fell sick with pneumonia and Fernández froze his feet.

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*Lupghar Sar.* A Japanese expedition led by Kazuo Ito made the third ascent of this 23,610-foot (7196-meter) peak, climbing the southwest ridge. After approaching from Nagar to the Ghalesa Glacier, most of the porters refused to go further and the climbers and four porters carried loads and pitched Base Camp on June 10. They followed the route of the previous German and Japanese ascents. Advance Base was at 17,400 feet. Camps I, II and III were placed at 18,050, 19,850 and 21,000 feet on June 5, 20 and 28 respectively. The first summit try failed 150 feet from the top after a bivouac. Ito and Takehiro Okazaki bivouacked at 22,950 feet and reached the summit of the west peak on August 4. They did not attempt to traverse to the east summit. (See *Iwa To Yuki*, N° 80, page 106.)

*Batura Attempt.* Noburu Takenaka and Hirooh Komamiya tried to climb the south ridge of Batura (7785 meters, 25,540 feet) from the Muchichur Glacier. After establishing Camp III at 23,300 feet on August 16, Takenaka lost a crampon and they descended to Base Camp. Komamiya had to return to Japan, but Takenaka returned to try it solo. He had to give up on August 27 about 1000 feet from the summit because of fatigue caused by deep snow. Takenaka was killed five months later during the Japanese winter attempt on Mount Everest. (More details in *Iwa To Yuki*, N° 80, page 106.)

*Bindu Gul Zom or Kunotak, Correction.* On page 312 of *A.A.J.*, 1979 there is an incorrect account of the first ascent of Bindu Gul Zom, just east of Tirich Mir. There is a photo on page 311. Actually I made the first ascent of that peak in 1964. See *A.A.J.*, 1965, p. 472 and *Mountain World*, 1964-5, p. 193. The most complete account appears in the *Himalayan Journal*, 1965, p. 52, accompanied by a photo facing page 54 which is almost identical to the photo in *A.A.J.*, 1979. In my accounts we refer to the peak as Kunotak, the name used on the maps we consulted at the time.

GENE F. WHITE

*Tirich Mir, East Peak, Southeast Ridge Attempt.* Our expedition was composed of Murray Foubister, leader, Doug Herchmer, Hamish Mutch, Ian Taylor, and me, and was partially supported by the Alpine Club of Canada. We set up Base Camp (11,750 feet) near the junction of the North and South Barum Glaciers on August 23. Camp One (14,150 feet) was above the lower icefall on the South Barum Glacier and Camp II

(15,650 feet) at the base of the upper icefall. En route, at 15,000 feet on the northern side of the glacier, the body referred to in Butson's account (*A.A.J.*, 1979, p. 313) was found. It seems unidentifiable. Camp III (17,000 feet) was established above the upper icefall on September 1, the route avoiding all but the upper part of the ice by the easy rock buttress to the north. Snowfalls and avalanche hazard accompanied us on the face towards the southeast ridge, which was reached on September 7 (18,675 feet). More threatening weather and route difficulty halted further progress. On our return we climbed a peak which may be Owir VII (c. 17,600 feet) after a snowstorm.

STEPHEN BEZRUCHKA

*P 5900, "Tekone Peak," Tirich Mir Massif.* Our expedition consisted of Mike Browning, Dana Coffield, Bruce and John Gordon, Ed Ramey and me as leader. On July 1 our expedition flew from Rawalpindi to Chitral and the next day took the three-hour jeep ride to the small village of Parpish where we were met by our porters. A delightful 2½-day trek brought us to the site of the traditional Base Camp for the southern approach to Tirich Mir, located at 12,000 feet at the snout of the South Barum Glacier. By paying an additional day's wage, we were able to coax most of the porters up some formidable scree slopes parallel to the South Barum Glacier to 13,500 feet. Over the next few days we shuttled our gear from this makeshift camp to our official Base Camp at 15,000 feet, the site of the Norwegian's Camp II during their first ascent of Tirich Mir in 1950. Located just below the crest of a hill directly across from the point where the South Barum Glacier doglegs to the north and heads for Tirich Mir, this camp had running water, ample tent platforms and beautiful alpine flowers. After establishing Base Camp on July 7, the next three days were spent in transporting equipment up the long and heavily crevassed South Barum Glacier to a spot at 16,500 feet just below the upper icefall. From our glacier camp we had a spectacular view of our objective, P 5900 meters, the pyramidal shaped mountain just to the south of Lower Tirich Mir. On July 11 Dana Coffield, Mike Browning and I made what we believe to be the first ascent of this peak in one long day from our camp at 16,500 feet. Our route ascended the northeast face of the peak and involved climbing mixed snow and ice. The last 1000 feet, in particular, consisted of multiple pitches of "perfect" glacier and water ice ranging in steepness up to 55° or 60°. The summit was a classic corniced snow dome which was so precarious that we took turns crawling to the highest point while the other two climbers belayed from a safe distance below. As the area maps do not indicate a name for this mountain, we christened it "Tekone Peak," which is the Urdu word for "pyramid" or "triangle."

GLENN PORZAK