

*Nanda Devi East Ascent and Tragedy.* An expedition of Indian paratroopers was led by Major Kiran I. Kumar. After reaching Base Camp at 16,250 feet in the Nanda Devi Sanctuary on September 7, they set up Camps I, II, III and IV on the southwest ridge at 19,200, 20,175, 22,150 and 23,000 feet on September 10, 20, 26 and October 3 respectively. On October 4 Captain Premjit Lal and Phu Dorjee were returning from the summit of Nanda Devi East (7434 meters, 24,391 feet) when they fell to their deaths. On October 7 Flight Lieutenant U.K. Palat, Chamber Tashi, Tsering Tashi and Phuba Tsering reached the summit in a seven-hour effort. On October 9 Captain A.K. Srivastava, Havildar Daya Chand, Laik Naik Umed Singh, Phuto Wangyal and Sanjay Sherpa got to the top. Daya Chand slipped and was killed during the descent. Meanwhile they turned to the main peak and placed four camps on the conventional southwest ridge, despite very inclement weather. Captain Lakha Singh and Havildar Khusal Singh were trapped at Camp IV at 23,625 feet. On October 12 they started down but as they descended Lakha Singh slipped and fell to his death. The expedition still pressed on. On October 16, Flight Lieutenant Venu Gopal slipped and fell 100 feet when he, Gyarsi Ram, Tsering Wangdu and Duhsera Kami were only 400 feet below the summit. The other three secured him and went on to the summit (7816 meters, 25,645 feet). When they returned he was snowblind. During the difficult evacuation, Gyarsi Ram, who had unroped for a moment, fell to his death. The expedition was finally given up after this fifth tragedy.

*Nanda Khat.* This peak (6611 meters, 21,619 feet) in the Pindari region and on the Nanda Devi rim was climbed on June 13 by Samarendra Nath Dhar, Ranjan K. Mondal and Asoke K. Roy Chowdhury from a second bivouac at 21,200 feet, which was above their Camp V at 20,700 feet. On the descent they were swept down 500 feet by an avalanche but escaped unhurt. The leader was Amitava Majumdar.

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*Nanda Khat Tragedy.* The leader of a Himalayan Association of Japan expedition, Morio Kajima, was the only survivor when avalanches overwhelmed the other seven. Base Camp was set up in late August and three other high camps were established. On October 27 snow began to fall. Radio communication with the seven climbers in Camp III was interrupted. Kajima descended from Camp I to Base Camp on the 28th because of avalanche danger. On the 29th porters ascended but found no sign of any of the camps. More details are in *Iwa To Yuki*, N° 86.

*Changabang, South Ridge.* Our expedition consisted of Renato Lingua, leader, Ugo Manera, Lino Castiglia, Isidoro Meneghin, Ales-



sandro Zuccon, Roberto Bonis, Pietro Crivellaro, Dr. Giuseppe Rocca and me. Starting on September 23 we took a week to proceed up the Rishi Ganga to Base Camp at 13,300 feet. Unfortunately Lingua had to return to Italy because of sickness. It took from October 2 to 6 to establish Camp I at 17,225 feet and from October 6 to 10 to fix the way (UIAA III, IV and IV+) and establish Camp II at 19,700 feet on the Italian Col. We prepared the route up the south ridge for 1300 feet (UIAA V, V+, A1, A2 and ice of 70° and 80°) until we joined the Japanese route on the southwest ridge. From October 16 to 18 Manera and Sastiglia climbed to the summit (6864 meters, 22,520 feet), bivouacking twice on the ascent and once on the descent. We evacuated Base Camp on October 24. The weather was consistently good. The climb presented no objective dangers. We had solid granite and very good ice.

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*Changabang and Dunagiri Attempts.* The members of our expedition were Andrzej Pawlik, Andrzej Mirga, Marek Kozik, Tadeusz Preyzner, Zbigniew Dudrak, Dr. Andrzej Pilc, Wojciech Paszyński and I as leader. We had hoped to attempt the north side of Changabang. The Indian Mountaineering Foundation refused permission for Base Camp on the Bagini Gal and so we decided on Base Camp on the Ramani Gal, hoping to get to the north face over the Bagini Pass. On August 28 we started with 15 porters and 50 goats for Dharansi Pass from Surajthota, a quicker and better way we feel than from Lata. Already on August 31 our first group was in Base Camp on the Ramani Gal. The first reconnaissance confirmed an easy ascent to Bagini Pass, but on September 5 Mirga and Preyzner climber P 6191 (20,312 feet) between the pass and Changabang and saw that the approach beyond the pass would be steep and difficult for transporting equipment and that the rocky monolith of the north face would be nearly impossible. On September 6 Kozik and I climbed P 6187 (20,300 feet), south of Changabang. Hanuman (6075 meters, 19,931 feet) was climbed on the 7th by Dudrak, Pawlik and Pilc and solo on the 13th by Paszyński. We began transporting supplies to Shipton's Col, hoping to climb Changabang's south face up the big depression between the Japanese and Anglo-Polish routes but were prevented by heavy snowfalls. Knowing we did not have enough time, we gave up the attempt. Meanwhile Mirga and Preyzner had been attempting a new route on the southeast face of Dunagiri (7066 meters, 23,133 feet), up the 50° to 60° ice face to the left of the Tasker-Renshaw route. On September 22 they reached the Swiss first-ascent ridge and continued up it to 6850 meters (22,475 feet) but were stopped by bad snow conditions and falling snow. They had left their sleeping bags at the last (third) bivouac and could not risk another bivouac without them. They