

Yano led an eight-man expedition which unsuccessfully attempted the American route on Thalay Sagar. Base Camp was made on September 14, 1980, Advance Base at 16,050 feet on the 17th and Camp I at 17,200 feet on the 22nd. This camp was swept by an avalanche on September 23 and so they moved it 100 meters. After climbing the couloir on the northwest face, they pitched Camp II at 19,750 feet on October 6, but gave up the attempt on the 9th. Six climbers led by Michio Tsukahara attempted Brigupanth. Base Camp was established at 15,425 feet on September 14 and Advance Base at 17,750 feet at the foot of the west ridge the next day. On September 21 Yoshio Konno and an American member of the group, Thomas Mark Rugo, were in Camp II. An avalanche swept over the Camp. Konno fell 100 meters and was saved, but Rugo was carried in the tent down to the glacier, where his body was found the next day. The expedition was given up.

*Thalay Sagar Attempt.* This year P. Minks, C. Rowland, P. Trower, C. Graham, K. Hoppen and I managed to hit the worst spell of Himalayan weather I have ever experienced—avalanches killed 15 people in the area. We didn't get to within 100 feet of our previous high point and all the prepared section was wiped out by avalanches. It snowed continuously for nine days at the end of September and even our Base Camp disappeared while we were holed up above it.

J.V. ANTHOINE, *Alpine Climbing Group*

*Manda, Gangotri Region.* Our team members were James Balog, leader, David Sweet, Mark Udall and I. With the help of 15 porters, on May 12 we established Base Camp on a small alp below the Manda Bamak (glacier) at 14,000 feet. After acclimatization and setting up an Advanced Base at 16,500 feet, Sweet, Udall and I made an alpine-style attempt up the line of least resistance on the massive northeast face above the Manda Bamak. All of us were hit by rockfall and chunks of ice. We climbed for three days and reached the ridge that topped the face at 20,200 feet still some 1150 feet below the 21,360-foot (6510-meter) summit. We abandoned our efforts due to an on-coming storm, lack of sheltered bivouac sites and fear of a snow build-up on the lower face. The climbing was almost entirely on ice, up to perpendicular, but mostly 55° to 70°.

ANTHONY HERR

*Manda.* We were a team of five: Nandan Singh, a high-altitude porter, Rustom Antia, Muslim Contractor, Danesh Kalyaniwalla and I, leader. We established Base Camp on the bank for the Kedarganga

at 14,000 feet. We followed the stream and established Camp I on the east lateral moraine of the Manda Glacier. Camp II was placed at 18,000 feet on the top of the icefall, which was not difficult but dangerous due to rockfall. On June 2 Antia, Kalyaniwalla and I started for the summit, planning a bivouac on the way. We climbed a gully of hard snow on the west of the peak until at four P.M. we had reached 20,000 feet. We cut a ledge under an overhang, anchored ourselves and our equipment and bivouacked for the night. The next day we felt so drained that we returned to Camp II. Kalyaniwalla and Contractor had to leave for home. I was struck by severe diarrhea but Nandan Singh and Antia were going well. They started at five A.M. on June 7, climbed the gully, passed our previous bivouac site and proceeded over a patch of steep ice and onto the northern summit ridge. Antia double-axed up the patch and Nandan Singh followed. Antia had to lead most of the way as Nandan Singh was new to technical climbing. He more than made up for this by his tremendous stamina and endurance. They reached the summit (6510 meters, 21,360 feet) at three P.M. and returned to Camp II by evening.

MINOO MEHTA, *Himalayan Club*

*Sudarshan Parbat and Other Peaks, Gangotri Glacier.* Our expedition consisted of five climbers and two doctors from India: Zerksis Boga, C.D. Danthi, Vijay Kothari, Kanu Pomal and me as leader, Dr. Rodhan Shroff and Dr. Vasant Desai; and four climbers from France: Bernard Odier, deputy leader, Hubert Odier, Alain de Blanchaud and Jacques Giraud. We were supported by two Sherpas and four high-altitude porters. Our principal objective was Sudarshan Parbat (6507 meters, 21,350 feet). This imposing ice pyramid had defeated five previous expeditions in the last decade. Six nearby peaks were also to be attempted. On May 1 we left Bombay for Dehra Dun, where we changed to a bus and reached Uttarkashi on the 4th and Gangnani Lanka on the 5th. The famous Gangotri Shrine opened on the 6th and we were fortunate to attend the auspicious and colourful ceremony. Next day a broken bridge stopped our load-carrying mules at Gangotri. We separated and one party went ahead to Gaumukh. On May 12 all of us with 65 loads occupied Base Camp at 15,800 feet on the Raktavarn Bamak (Glacier) about two kilometers before turning to the Swetvarn Bamak. Advanced Base Camp was occupied on May 17 on a high moraine ridge where the Swetvarn bifurcates into two valleys, west and east. For acclimatization we reconnoitered the east and west glaciers. On the 19th two simultaneous attempts were made to climb Saife and Koteshwar. Leaving Advanced Base early, Hubert Odier climbed solo the northeast face and east ridge and was on top of Saife (6162 meters, 20,215 feet; second ascent) at 8:50. He started to