

*Gasherbrum II.* Our expedition had two climbers, Tiziano Zünd and me, and was accompanied by three friends, Lorenza Cattaneo, Angelo Zanetti, all Swiss, and Frenchman Claude Belli. After a 14-day approach from Skardu, we set up Base Camp on July 3 at 16,750 feet on the Abruzzi Glacier. By July 12 we had reconnoitered the long, broken-up glacier to 19,700 feet. We returned to Base Camp and were pinned down for eight days by bad weather. We set out again on July 20 on a push for the summit but got only to 22,300 feet because of bad weather; we had to bivouac for six nights at 19,700 feet until the lack of food forced us back to Base Camp. The low-altitude porters were to arrive to escort us out on July 28. We decided to send our three friends out with most of the equipment, leaving Zünd and me with two porters for a last try. We set out on July 28 and after six days and five bivouacs, on August 3 at eleven A.M. we got to the summit (8035 meters, 26,360 feet). It took us two days to descend and another seven 10-hour days to reach Skardu. We were without food for the last three days.

ROMOLO NOTTARIS, *Club Alpino Svizzero*

*Gasherbrum IV Tragedy.* A Japanese expedition failed to climb Gasherbrum IV (7925 meters, 26,000 feet) by its west face. On July 7 all five members were carrying loads from Camp I to Camp II. At 20,000 feet a huge sérac collapsed above them. Shigetoshi Tada was unhurt and Tomoyoshi Usaka had his leg broken. The fixed rope broke and leader Koichi Takebe, Hiroyuki Shirasawa and Hirokazu Nishioka fell to their deaths. Tada managed to get Usaka back down to Camp I. Help was given by Austrians on Gasherbrum II and Japanese on Hidden Peak. More details are found in *Iwa To Yuki* N° 84 on page 106.

*Sosbun Brakk.* Sosbun Brakk was unclimbed although it had been attempted by Germans in 1976. We climbed it by the southwest ridge to the headwall, below which we traversed right to gain the upper slopes. Our expedition consisted of Hisao Hashimoto, Mikio Tabata, Norichika Matsumoto and me as leader. We established Base Camp at 14,700 feet south of the peak on June 14. Camps I, II, III, IV and V were pitched at 16,400 feet (at the foot of the ridge), 17,450, 18,300, 18,625 and 19,900 feet on June 17, 21, 24, 26 and 28 respectively. The weather was bad on July 1 and 2. On July 3 Hashimoto and Matsumoto set out for the top, bivouacked at 20,375 feet and reached the summit (6413 meters, 21,040 feet) at 11:23 on July 4. They descended a more direct line down the south face.

SEIICHI KAWAUCHI, *Japanese Alpine Club*

*Uzan Brakk, 1980.* Our expedition was made up of Dr. Will Tapsfield, Tony Saunders and me as leader. We left Skardu on July 10 and