

Tien Shan, on June 9 and 10. All nine climbing members, K. Miyagawa, M. Nakazima, T. Fujibayashi, E. Ohno, S. Yamada, A. Mishima, H. Nose, S. Kaneko and I as climbing leader, and two cameramen, T. Kazihara and A. Shinya, reached the top. We scaled the northeast ridge of the main peak, which was very difficult, especially from the col to the top. Icy, snowy, rocky walls rose up at 45° to 50°, and so we fixed 4000 feet of rope on that continuously steep slope; thus many men and women could reach the top. Base Camp was established on May 27 on the north side of the North Bogda Glacier after two approach days from Lake Tien-chi, northeast of Urumchi. Camp I (13,000 feet) was set up on the 30th under the icefall and Camp II (15,425 feet) on the col of the northeast ridge. On June 10 Mitsuko Shirouzu, a very slim lady and one of our non-climbing members, walking down to Base Camp from Camp I, suddenly fell 65 feet into a narrow crevasse. Our rescue members went down in a hurry from Camp I and the summit and after two hours we began to try to save her. Our thinnest member could descend only some 25 feet. After four hours we could not hear her voice at all. Thus we lost her.

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Bogda West. A number of Japanese expeditions visited Bogda in 1981. All twelve members of a group led by Ryohei Uchida made the first ascent of Bogda West (5213 meters, 17,103 feet) by its north ridge. They established Base Camp, Camps I and II at 11,650, 14,600 and 15,900 feet on July 26, August 1 and 5 respectively. The summit was reached on August 7, 8 and 10.

USSR

Soviet Climbing in the Pamir Mountains and the Tien Shan, 1980. Despite generally bad weather in 1980 in the mountains of the USSR, a number of new big-wall climbs were made on the high peaks by Soviet climbers. The 9000-foot-high south face of Pik Kommunizma was climbed from July 29 to August 11, 1980 by nine Red Army climbers led by K. Valiev. They placed over 300 rock and ice pitons and often had only sitting bivouacs. The new routes were done on 7105-meter (23,310-foot) Pik Korzhenevskoi. A. Putinzev led six Tashkent climbers up the west buttress, 1500 feet of which were of UIAA VI difficulty; A. Bashmakov and his Leningrad team took seven days to make the route up the neighboring west face. A new route was done by climbers led by E. Kondakov on the northwest face of Pik Revolyutsiya (6974 meters, 22,881 feet); two-thirds was of UIAA V and VI. Five instructors from the Pamir climbing camp led by W. Hatukov took five days in July to climb the 5500-foot west face of Pik Akhmada Donisha.

The 5500-foot east face of 5959-meter (19,551-foot) Holodnaya Stena had been unsuccessfully attempted numerous times. It yielded three routes in 1980, each of which had 2000 feet of UIAA VI climbing. W. Solonnikov's Leningrad group climbed the center of the wall; W. Kovtun's Ukrainians climbed the more difficult left side; the right side fell to climbers led by O. Shumilov, who had to wait out a five-day storm on the wall. Leningrad climbers led by J. Fedotov climbed the 5500-foot-high southeast face of P 5224 (17,139 feet), making the first ascent of the peak. In July S. Efimov led six climbers from Sverdolovsk on the north face of P 5200 (17,061 feet). (Epimov was one of the hosts of the American Alpine Club group in the Pamir in 1978.) A five-man team from Kharkov led by S. Bershov climbed the 6500-foot north face of P 5730 (18,799 feet) from July 21 to August 1 in bad weather. They claim to have climbed 5500 feet of UIAA VI. In the Tien Shan four Kirghiz climbers led by E. Stelzov climbed the 6500-foot west face of Pik Pogrebezko (6487 meters, 21,283 feet) in bad weather from August 1 to 10. All these climbs had climbing of UIAA V and VI difficulty. A fuller report appears in *Alpinismus* of June, 1981.

SOUTH PACIFIC

Carstensz Mountains Correction. Unfortunately there were errors in the article, *Snow Mountains of Irian Jaya*, by Geoffrey Tabin in *A.A.J.*, 1981, pages 83-6. The Carstensz Mountains are in Melanesia and not East Asia. The 1961 New Zealand expedition, of which I was deputy leader, made the first penetration of the range, from the north from Ilaga. In 1962 (not 1963) I led Harrer back there and together we made many first ascents, including Pyramide, in company with Australian rock-climber Russell Kippax and Dutch patrol officer Albert Huizenga. Later Harrer and I climbed Idenburg Top. I returned to the Carstensz a third time, late in 1962, and led a US recovery team, collecting remains from the USAF plane wreck on the north face of Ngga Pulu. West New Guinea became part of Indonesia in 1964 and not 1974. In 1972 Jack Baines, Leo Murray and Dick Isherwood made the first ascent of the north face of Pyramide. Whether it was as direct as Tabin's I don't know. They also made the first ascent of Sunday Peak.

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