

Pakistan

K7 Attempt. Japanese led by Masayuki Hoshina made an attempt on K7 (6934 meters, 22,750 feet) by way of the 17,000-foot west col. They approached from Hushe via the Charakusa Glacier, where they established Base Camp on May 27. They fixed some 5000 feet of rope. The expedition reached a little higher than 20,000 feet.

Hidden Peak (Gasherbrum I), North Face Attempt. Granger Banks, Richard Soaper, Lyle Dean and I arrived at Gasherbrum I Base Camp on May 19 after eleven days on the Baltoro approach with 23 porters. After placing a food cache at 21,325 feet in the Gasherbrum La Icefall, we descended to recuperate. On June 3 we returned up the West Gasherbrum Glacier icefall to the cache in two days. The next day we climbed the right side of the north face in twelve hours unroped. The face consisted of wind-blown ice on the bottom, mixed climbing on a rotten rock arête in the middle and a final third of "funky" névé up to 80°. We carried four days' food. We were on the north face itself, well left of Messner's route. On the top of the north face, on the northwest shoulder of Hidden Peak, we placed our high camp at 23,300 feet next to Messner's and Habeler's destroyed tent. On June 6 we rested, hoping to join Messner's route the next day and climb to the summit. We were wrong. The next three days were spent battling gale winds. Supplies dwindled. Granger Banks and I descended the north face. Dean and Soaper waited in hope of a calming of the winds. That evening they thought there was a chance and started off that night. Soaper reconsidered and returned to the high camp. At 24,600 feet Dean found the conditions worse and decided to come back down too. We felt that the ice and snow conditions might be better later in the season.

GORDON BANKS, *Unaffiliated*

Hidden Peak, Ski Descent. After arriving at Base Camp at 17,050 feet on May 15, four French and Swiss climbers, Sylvain Saudan, Jean Pierre Ollagnier, Daniel Semblanet and Marie José Valençot, and high-altitude porter Mohammad Ali climbed Hidden Peak after 32 days. On the summit day, the Swiss skier and leader of the group, Saudan, skied down for two hours and bivouacked. Laurent Chevalier and a Swedish photographer stayed at 25,600 feet to film the run. The next day he descended to Base Camp in nine hours, completing the descent of over 9000 feet with 3000 turns. Between 21,325 and 19,700 feet the corniced ridge was difficult. We presume they followed the first-ascent route.

Hidden Peak (Gasherbrum I), North Face. We made the seventh ascent of Hidden Peak by a partially new route, the north face, when Michel Dacher, Sigi Hupfauer and I got to the summit (8068 meters, 26,470 feet) on July 22. Base Camp was established on June 18 and Camp I on June 21. We had placed