

Kanglacha. All members of a 14-man Japanese expedition led by Yoshio Ogose reached the summit of Kanglacha (6150, 20,177 feet) on August 11, 13 and 17.

Matho Kangri, Stok Area, Ladakh. On July 23 Claude Buhler, Jacques Prillieux, liaison officer C.R. Thakur and I made the first ascent of Matho Kangri (6030 meters, 19,784 feet). We left from Matho village with three donkeys and that same day reached Base Camp at 4800 meters. The next day we reconnoitred. On the 23rd we climbed to the summit first on rock and then snow. There was no need for crampons or rope as the way was quite easy.

MARC SCHERRER, *Club Alpin Français*

Ski Traverse of the Great Himalaya Range from Ladakh to Kashmir. During March Jay Jensen, Gordon Wiltsie and I made a successful 75 kilometer ski trek from Panikhar in Ladakh to Kashmir. After a spectacular plane flight from Srinagar to Leh, a stirring Tibetan freedom rally in Leh, and a two-day drive along some of the most remote roads in the world, we found ourselves in the village of Panikhar under the shadow of the Nun-Kun massif. We began the ski tour up the Chalong Nala to the amazement of villagers uninitiated to the existence, let alone use, of skis. Our route crossed Bhatkal Pass (Lonvilad Goli) (14,400 feet), followed the downward course of the Warwan Valley (Kaintal Nor), climbed over Gulol Pass (14,452 feet) and finished out the East Liddar River into Pahalgam. Severe storms and a wide gambit of snow conditions accompanied us for the 13-day ski traverse. While descending from Gulol Pass after sitting out a two-day storm, we encountered a rock wall between us and the final valley that led past the summer village of Shesnag and out to Pahalgam. As we were roping down an ice gully splitting this cliff, the three of us were swept away by an avalanche that had originated thousands of feet above on the mountain. The violent slide gained velocity in our narrow gully and carried us 600 feet down to the slopes below. Somehow, we were all alive when the avalanche ended, only partially buried and in sight of what was left of our packs. Gordon suffered two compressed vertebrae (learned later) and a concussion, but managed to struggle out the last twenty miles using the only pair of skis we had left.

ALLAN PIETRASANTA

India—Karakoram

Saser Kangri II. The joint Indo-Japanese expedition, led by Major Hukam Singh and me, had 13 Indian and five Japanese members. After an approach from Pinchmik in the Nubra valley up the west side of the Saser group, on August 6 we established Base Camp at the snout of the Sakang Glacier at 4800 meters. Five higher camps were made above Base Camp. Advance Base, Camps I and II were set up on the Sakang Glacier at 5400, 5700 and 5900



PLATE 67

Photo by Masato Oki

**SASER KANGRI II from Advance
Base.**

meters. Above Camp II the team fixed 2400 meters of rope up the nearly vertical rock and mixed face to establish Camps III and IV at 6450 and 6650 meters on the crest of the northwest ridge on August 24 and 27. On August 30 Tsering Angchuk fell 100 meters onto a rock ledge between Camps III and IV and was killed. The team prepared for a summit try on September 3 but the weather became hostile and six Indians and three Japanese had to remain in Camp IV for five days. When the weather cleared on September 7, six members left Camp IV at six A.M. After a struggle of 11½ hours, Phu Dorjee, Sonam Wangdu, Tshering Smanla and Sherup Chholdon reached the summit (7518 meters, 24,666 feet). Two other members, Masato Okamoto and Prahlad Singh, had to turn back 300 meters short of the summit. Saser Kangri II has two summits for which the same altitude is given; the ridge between the two summits is about a kilometer long. Our team reached the West Summit. The other Indian members were Dr. C.R. Pattaynayak, Chait Singh Kutiyal, Nima Dorjee, C.K. Tyagi, Piar Singh and Daulat Ram and the other Japanese were Tadao Ando, Kazuo Tokushima and Kaname Minemoto.

MASATO OKI, *Himalayan Association of Japan*

Rimo IV and Other Peaks, 1984. The 25-man Indian Army Engineer expedition reported on briefly on page 308 of *A.A.J.*, 1985 reached the region after a very complicated approach. They got to Base Camp at the snout of the South Rimo Glacier at 15,500 feet on July 26. Advance Base was placed on this glacier at 17,600 feet on August 5. M.P. Yadav and G.K. Sharma headed for the west face of Rimo IV and bivouacked at 19,800 feet on August 7. They continued up the western cwm the next day and bivouacked at 21,500 feet. On August 9, 1984 they headed up the west face to the southwest ridge and reached the summit (7169 meters). The climb was repeated on August 11 by leader K.S. Sooch and Y.C. Chhibbar.

Rimo III and Other Peaks in the Terong Basin, Eastern Karakoram. Our Indo-British expedition was a joint venture between Bombay Mountaineers, Harish Kapadia, leader, Arun Samant, Muslim Contractor, Dhiren, Zerksis Boga and Dr. Meena Agrawal and Alpine Club and Alpine Climbing Group members, Jim Fotheringham, Henry Osmaston, Tony Saunders, Dave Wilkinson and me. Three Bhotias from Kumaon, Har Singh Senior, Har Singh Junior and Pratap Singh also joined us. We visited the Terong Basin, east of the Siachen Glacier snout, to attempt unclimbed 7000-meter peaks in the Rimo group and 6000-meter peaks, which we have given Balti and Ladakhi names. We were the first expedition to visit the Terong Basin since Dr. Visser's 1929 party. The walk-in from the army base at the Siachen snout started on June 14. The first camp was just inside the entrance to the Terong valley. After a difficult river crossing, the second was placed at the snout of the Terong Glacier. Base Camp was not fully established until July 23 at Siab Chushku, the meeting point of the North Terong, Shelkar Chorten and South Terong Glaciers, only 18 miles from