

accident spot on the 3rd, I was caught in a slide but escaped from it. Climbing activities began again on October 4, but as our permit was running out, we had to abandon our attempt.

TSUNEO HASEGAWA, *U Tan Club, Japan*

*Shishapangma.* Twelve of our expedition reached the summit of Shishapangma. Base Camp, Advance Base, Camps I, II, III and IV were at 5000, 5400, 5800, 6400, 6900 and 7150 meters. We divided into three groups and reached the summit on May 10, 12 and 19. Oswald Gassler made the first ski descent of the mountain. The following reached the top: Austrians Gassler, Leopold Schausberger, Balthasar Kendler, Thomas Schilcher, Helmut Wagner, Gottfried Heinzl, Leopold Karner and Hanns Schell and Swiss Max Wettstein, Angelo Vedani and Sepp Wangler. We had no high-altitude porters and no artificial oxygen.

MARCUS SCHMUCK, *Österreichischer Alpenverein*

*Shishapangma.* An Italian commercial expedition led by Renato Moro climbed Shishapangma on May 16 when Giuliano De Marchi and Moro reached the summit. Storms prevented the other members of the expedition from getting to the top.

*Shishapangma.* Our Swiss expedition was organized and led by Markus Itten. The others were Peter Bärtsch, Henrik Rhyn, Marcel Rüedi, Hansruedi Staub, Peter Weber, Diego Wellig, Stefan Wörner and I. We got to Base Camp at 5100 meters on September 7. On the 10th we set up Advance Base at 5800 meters and already on September 12 Rüedi, Wellig and I started out alpine-style. Rüedi had been on K2 and we other two were acclimatized from being high in the Alps. We used skis to our second bivouac at 7100 meters. On September 14 we left our tent at 5:30 A.M., got to 7400 meters at 9:30 and followed just left of the ridge crest to avoid avalanche danger. From 7600 meters the snow was hip- to chest-deep. We got to the summit ridge at five P.M. and the summit at 5:30. We drank a bottle of Swiss wine in lovely but frigid weather and were back at our bivouac at 8:30. This was Rüedi's eighth 8000er. We skied to Advance Base the next day. Heavy snowfall and avalanche danger kept the others from getting above 7100 meters.

OSWALD OELZ, M.D., *Schweizer Alpen Club*

*Lalaga Ri Attempt.* A nine-man Japanese expedition led by Yutaka Yasui failed to ascend unclimbed Lalaga Ri (6666 meters, 21,870 feet), which lies in Tibet 14 miles northwest of Shishapangma. Base Camp was established at 4900 meters on May 4, Advance Base at 5200 meters on May 7 and Camp I at 5500 meters on May 8. On May 9 Toshinori Takahashi and Hisashi Goto started up the northeast ridge and bivouacked at 6100 meters. On the 10th they fixed 200

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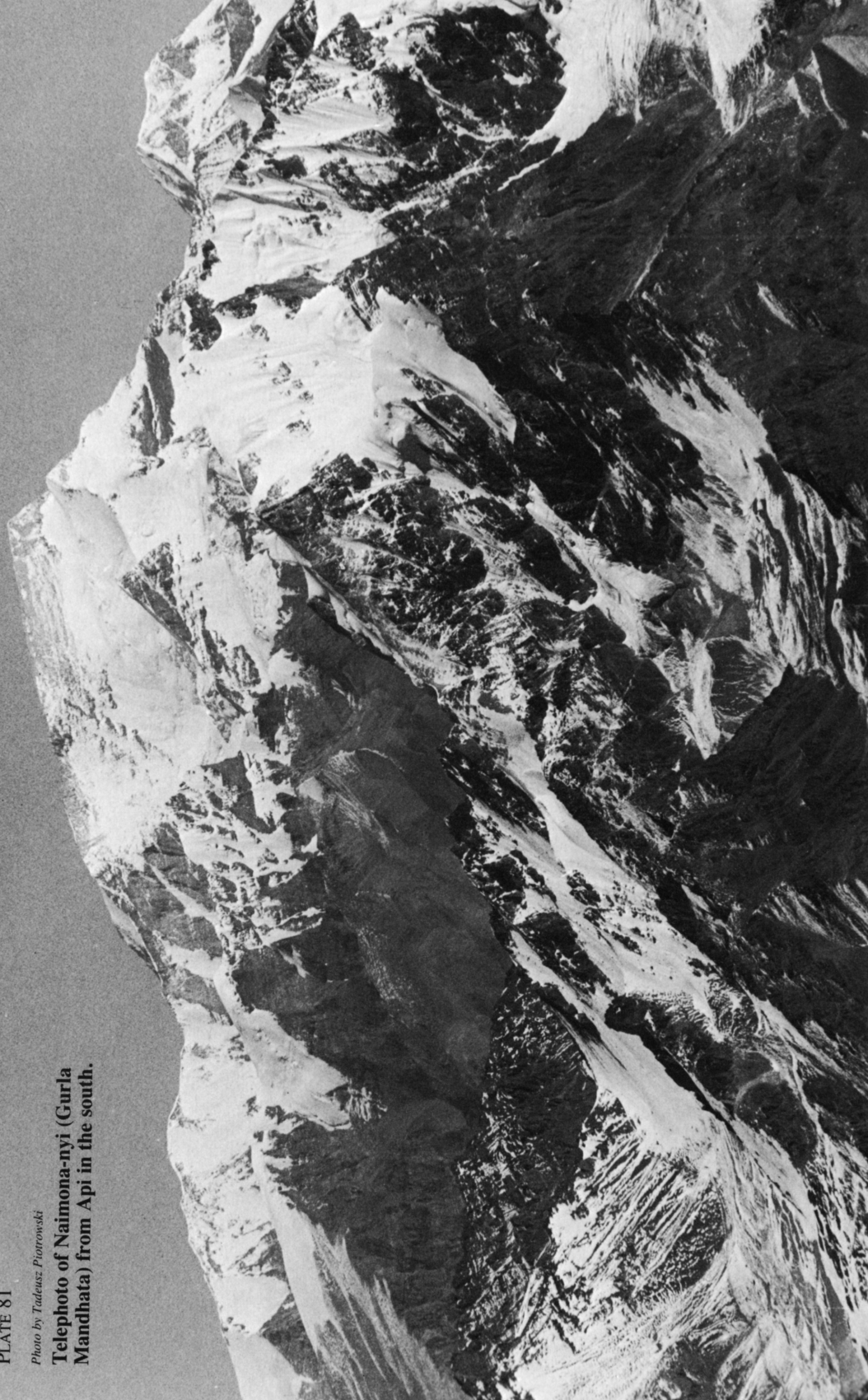
*Photo by Katsuyoshi Hirabayashi*

Naimona'nyi (Gurla Mandhata) from  
Lake Manasarowar in the north. The  
West Ridge is on the right.



*Photo by Tadeusz Piotrowski*

**Telephoto of Naimona-nyi (Gurla  
Mandhata) from Api in the south.**



meters of rope as they climbed a rock ridge to gain an easy snow ridge at 6400 meters, but the summit was still too far and they had to return. More details and a photograph appear in *Iwa To Yuki*, N° 112.

*Naimona'nyi (Gurla Mandhata)*. The Japanese part of the joint expedition, of which I was the mountaineering leader, passed through Urumchi and reached Kashgar, where we met the Chinese part on April 11. We went through Yarkand, crossed the Kunlung Mountains and went over the Tibetan plateau. Then we reached the source of the Indus River via Shiquanhe and went along the river. We established our "Base House" at Sukan at 4600 meters on the north of Naimona'nyi. This approach march was carried out with six jeeps, twelve trucks and a bus. We established Base Camp at the tongue of the Zaromalangpa Glacier at 5600 meters on May 2. Camps I, II, III and IV were made at 6100, 6720, 7240 and 7420 meters on May 3, 11, 16 and 25. At 7:40 A.M. on May 26 Japanese Yoshiharu Suita, Kozo Matsubayashi, Toyoji Wada and Kiichiro Suita, Tibetans Cirenuoji and Jiabu, Chinese-Korean Jin Junxi and Chinese Song Zhiyu started from Camp IV to reach the summit at 11:45. A second climbing team of five Chinese including one Tibetan, Yang Chiu-hsui, Chi Mi, Ch'en Kien-Chün, T'sao An and Pao Te-shing, also succeeded in reaching the top on May 28. After the ascent, the expedition made scientific surveys in geology, geophysics, glaciology, high-altitude medicine, hydrology, social science, human geography, etc. On the return journey we visited Kailas and went along the Yal-Tsangpo River to reach Lhasa via Shigatse. The journey was 3000 kilometers from Kashgar to Lhasa via Manasarowar Lake. Although the altitude of the mountain has been given as 7728 meters, a new Chinese survey shows that it is 7694 meters (25,243 feet). Though the mountain has previously been called Gurla Mandhata, the Tibetan is Naimona'nyi. *Naimo* = herbal medicine; *na* = black; *nyi* = heaped-up slabs. The meaning is therefore "the mountain of heaped-up slabs of black herbal medicine."

KATSUTOSHI HIRABAYASHI, *Doshisha University Alpine Club, Japan*

*Mount Spender or Chongtar Attempt*. Mountain Travel obtained a permit for the first American expedition to the Chinese Karakoram. We were Jim Bridwell, leader, Sergio Fitch-Watkins, Dr. John Allen, Pauline Green, Dr. Paul Kustra, Barry Rosenbaum, James Vavrina and I as expedition doctor. Using camels to transport our gear, we approached Mount Spender (also called Chongtar; 7330 meters, 24,049 feet) from the Yarkand River near Mahza. The peak lies just west of K2. We started walking on September 5. We crossed the Aghil Pass on September 8 and reached the Shaksgam River, an awesome desert gorge surrounded by unclimbed snowy peaks. Younghusband crossed this pass in 1887 and Shipton in the 1930s. On September 11 we reached the snout of the Sargo Laggo Glacier at 4000 meters. We carried all our own loads beyond here. On September 15 we moved to Advance Base on the glacier at 4350 meters. We then turned up a dry valley into the basin labeled North Chongtar Glacier on the