

India—Kashmir and Jammu

Nun, Kun and White Needle. Many expeditions now successfully climb the peaks in the Nun and Kun Group. Nun (7135 meters, 23,410 feet) was climbed by French led by François Chantran, Austrians led by G. Steinmair, Poles led by Wacław Otreba, Spaniards led by José Antonio Masio, Japanese ladies led by Miss Hiroshi Kinoshita and other Poles led by Jan Kwiaton, Spanish Catalan Jordi Magrinyà climbed solo to within 150 meters of the summit on the north ridge in July but turned back because of avalanche danger. Kun (7077 meters, 23,220 feet) was ascended by French led by Georges Tsao, Germans led by Ekkart Gudelach and other French led by Philippe Alibert. Five of six members of an Austrian expedition perished on the night of October 13/14 when an avalanche swept over Camp I. The White Needle (6500 meters, 21,325 feet) was climbed by French led by André Latuier. On September 17, four women, Naseem Akhter, Ghrishangpui, Changthang Jami and Mayrujyoti Sakia with C.S. Bhattacharya and R.P. Gantam reached White Needle's summit. These were the first Indian women to make the climb.

Nun. Two Polish expeditions climbed Nun in 1987. Starting from the Shafat Glacier, they established four camps at 5300, 6150, 6550 and 6800 meters. On August 12, the summit was reached by leader Wacław Otreba, Andrzej Rykaczewski, Bożena Bruzdowicz, Marek Kaźmierowski, Jacek Kiełbratowski, Waldemar Soroka and Edward Taylor. The autumn expedition ascended from the northwest side. Camps were set up at 5400 and 6300 meters. The summit was reached by Marek Grochowski, and Zbigniew Kacuga on September 30, by Wojciech Jedliński and leader Jan Kwiaton on October 4 and by Andrzej Perepeczko and Jerzy Tillak on October 6. Despite the many expeditions, the campsites were clean.

JÓZEF NYKA, *Editor, Tatarnik, Poland*

Nun, East Ridge Attempt. In September the weather was fine and we climbed a number of peaks in Kashmir. By early October there was much unsettled cold weather. We reached 21,000 feet on the east ridge of Nun and bivouacked there for three days in a storm that dumped much snow. An epic descent followed. We left the area when the major storm began that killed five Austrian on Nun and stranded thousands in Ladakh.

GRAEME DINGLE, *New Zealand Alpine Club*

Hagshu Tragedy, 1986. A four-man British team, Stephen Biggs, Ian Kerr, David Woolbridge and Ian Fox, passed a police post on September 25, 1986, headed for Hagshu. They have not been seen since and are presumed dead.

KAMAL K. GUHA, *Editor, Himavanta, India*