

a very difficult 100 meters before descending for the night. On June 19, we returned, spending three days ascending the red granite, which was vertical, very compact and encrusted with ice. We limited aid climbing as much as possible. All four of us reached the summit (6290 meters, 20,637 feet) late on June 21. All night and on the next day, we descended rappelling and got to Base Camp in the evening. Rosanna Manfrini is the first woman to have made such a difficult climb of a 6000-meter peak. The vertical rise is 800 meters and the difficulty from 5.10 to 5.11 and A3. On June 25, I left Base Camp alone, crossed the Trango Glacier and approached the Great Trango Tower. Without any protection gear, I attacked the north face by a route I had studied from the Uli Biaho Tower. In a little less than nine hours, I climbed the 2000 meters to the summit (6280 meters, 20,604 feet). This was the first solo ascent and the fourth following Norwegian, English and American ascents.

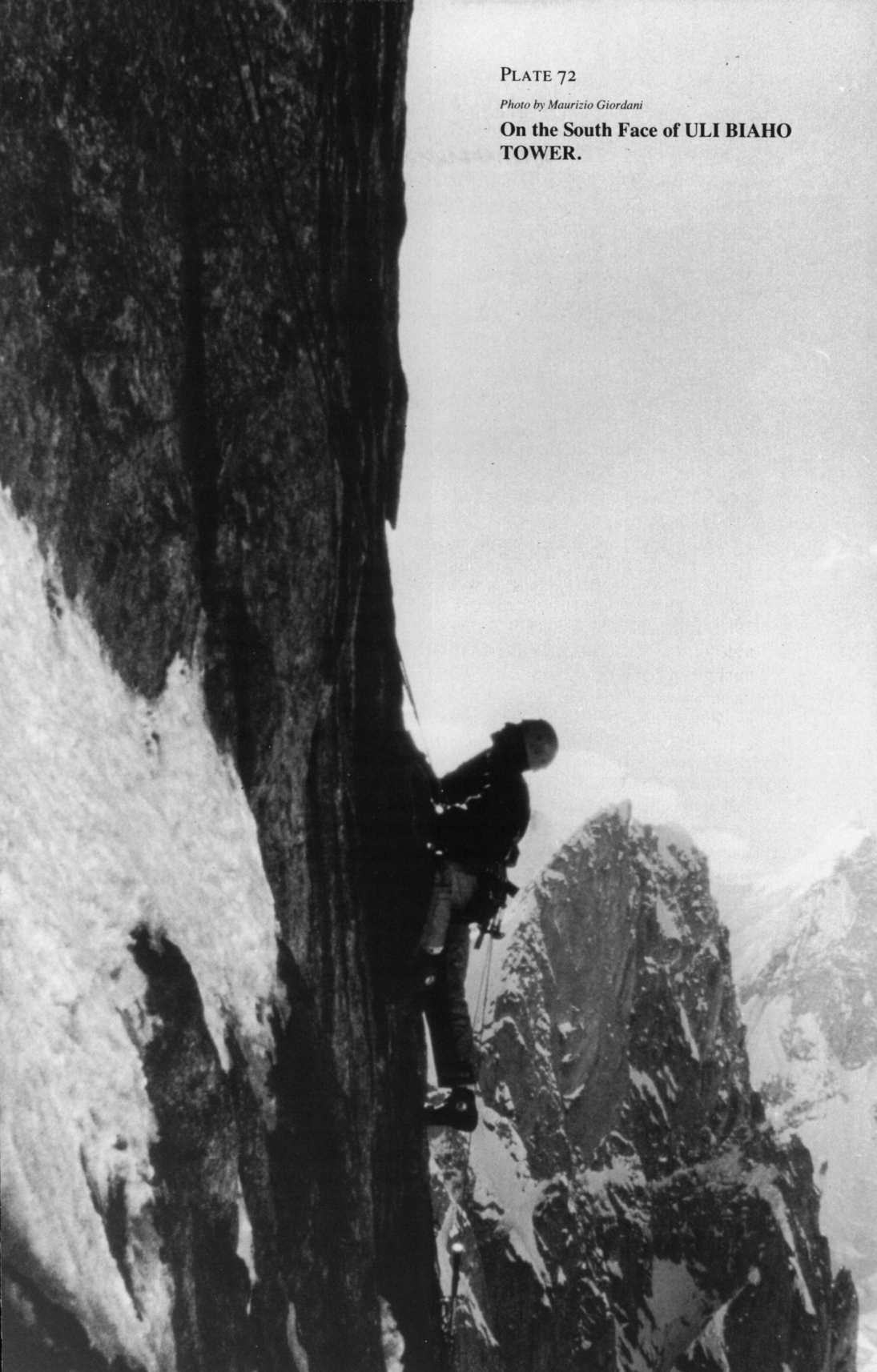
MAURIZIO GIORDANI, *Club Alpino Italiano*

*Charakusa Spires, 1987 and 1988.* The five glacier systems leading up from the head of the Hushe Valley offer remarkably easy access to spectacularly steep walls of rock and ice characteristic of the Karakoram. From July to September 1987, Ruben Mookerjee, Mick Seavers, Dave Pritchard and I chose to concentrate on the Charakusa (or Saraqsa) Glacier to the east. We first attempted unclimbed Nanika (6325 meters, 20,750 feet) by its northwest ridge. After two days, we were forced to retreat from a bivouac at 18,800 feet by an exploding stove and deteriorating weather. The ice-and-mixed climbing would have required four or five days to complete. (Nanika was climbed three weeks later by another British group via a rock spur on the southwest.) We then attempted to repeat alpine-style the 1978 Japanese route on the north ridge of Dryphica (6568 meters, 21,500 feet). Weather again forced a retreat from a bivouac at 20,800 feet. The one successful ascent in 1987 was made by Mookerjee and me on September 4 of the south couloir of Sulo (6005 meters, 19,700 feet), a second ascent. The route, while not difficult, is exposed to serious rockfall. With perfect weather, great friendship and help from the Hushe villagers, it was very enjoyable. A 16-page report and maps are available. From July to September 1988, John Stiles, Andy Bunnage, Bob Pettit, Steve Jones, Bob Marks, Jill Onyett, Chris Holder, Dave Pickels and I returned. We chose to work in smaller teams. In eight weeks of climbing, we reached four unclimbed summits. Stiles and Marks made a two-day ascent of a crack-and-chimney system on the southwest face of Kar Spire (5791 meters, 19,000 feet). Bunnage and I climbed Naysen Peak (5700 meters, 18,700 feet) in a single day. This spectacular pyramid's north ridge was gained from a scree slope which led to a col at 17,600 feet. A very long, continuous ice gully, 3500 feet high, led to the summit of Hussain Peak (5852 meters, 19,200 feet). It was climbed on a very long day by Bunnage and Marks. Stiles, Pickles and I climbed Poro Peak (6187 meters, 20,300 feet) from an advance camp at 18,200 feet. An easy snow slope led to the summit ridge at 19,800 feet. It was there that the pinnacles and difficulties

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*Photo by Maurizio Giordani*

**On the South Face of ULI BIAHO  
TOWER.**



started. There remains a great deal of potential in this area for small teams to attempt unclimbed peaks. I am preparing a history of climbing on the Hushe region, listing all known ascents and all unclimbed summits, as well as a detailed map based on data gained on the 1987 and 1988 expeditions. It is available from me, 91 Telford Avenue, London SW2 4XN, England.

DAVID HAMILTON, *Alpine Climbing Group*

*Spantik.* Our expedition of the German Alpine Club's Summit Club climbed the southeast ridge of Spantik (7027 meters, 23,055 feet), which is without much in the way of difficulties. The weather on the mountain was excellent. We used no high-altitude porters. We traveled from Skardu, through Arandu and up the Chogolungma Glacier to Base Camp at 4300 meters, which we reached on June 28. We ascended steep grass and then scree to the ridge. We placed Camps I and II on the ridge at 5250 and 6200 meters on July 2 and 7. On July 8, Swiss Heinz Bosshard and Irene Oehringer, and Germans Ursula Heynert, Winfried Hansen, Eva Höllinger, Gerhild Kurze, Albert Öffner, Dieter Porsche, Karl-Heinrich Thiele, Monika and Gisbert Weber and I climbed to the summit without problems.

HERBERT STREIBEL, *Deutscher Alpenverein*

*Haramosh Southwest Face.* Our expedition was composed of Janusz Baranek, leader, Mieczysław Jarosz, Mirosław Konewka, Kazimierz Malczyk, Andrzej Mostek, Jan Nogaś, Dr. Jadwiga Skowrońska, Jacek Wiltosiński and Karimierz Wszółek. Base Camp was at 3200 meters in the Ishkapal valley. The Ishkapal valley was first visited in 1984 by a Polish reconnaissance team, which "discovered" the 4000-meter-high southwest face of Haramosh. Members of that team climbed two lower summits: Redam (5300 meters, 17,389 feet) by Krzysztof Baraniok, Malczk and me and Godeli (5325 meters, 17,470 feet) by Mostek and Wiltosiński. Camps I, II and III were established at 4900, 5900 and 6600 meters on June 29, July 4 and 10. The lower part of the face to Camp I was of 50° ice and a very dangerous couloir with crevasses. From Camp I to II, it was rock, partly UIAA V, and 45° to 50° ice. Between Camps II and III, there was very difficult climbing on vertical rock and very steep ice (V and 70° ice). From Camp III Jarosz, Malczyk and I crossed a dangerous hanging glacier and bivouacked at the foot of an icefall. The next day, July 28, after 16 hours of continuous climbing, we reached the summit (7397 meters, 24,072 feet). Climbing the partly overhanging icefall and steep ice wall with vertical séracs was very difficult. Baranek, Mostek and Wszółek reached the summit on July 30. That same day Konowka and Wiltosiński crossed the virgin top of Sari Sumari (c. 7200 meters) but strong wind and lack of time prevented the ascent to the main summit.

MAREK PRONOBIS, *Klub Wysokogórski Gliwice, Poland*