

we crossed the south face to gain the southeast ridge at 6400 meters. We were on the summit at 11:30 A.M. By 5:30 we had descended the southeast ridge, crossed the Shyamvarn Glacier and reascended to our bivouac on the east col.

SIMON YEARSLEY, *England*

*Sudarshan.* Sudarshan (6507 meters, 21,350 feet) has become a very popular objective particularly for Indian expeditions. An expedition led by Gautam Mukherjee reached the summit on June 6. A Spanish expedition and three other Indian groups were also given permission to attempt the peak, but their outcome is not yet known.

*Kedar Dome.* An Indian team climbed Kedar Dome (6831 meters, 22,410 feet) on June 2. Summitters were leader Sachin Karato, Sumanta Talukdar, Samir Krishna Das and Bujay Hazare. Another Indian expedition climbed the mountain when on September 29 Uttam Samanta gained the summit.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, Himalayan Journal*

*Bharte Khunte Attempt.* An Indian team led by Romesh Bhattacharjee attempted Bharte Kunta (6578 meters, 21,580 feet) from the Gangotri Glacier. They reached a high point of 6450 meters.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, Himalayan Journal*

*Shivling.* An eight-man commercial French team led by Gilles Buisson and Jean-Pierre Frachon and organized by Atalante completed the first French ascent of Shivling. On September 3, Frachon, Christian Carre, Peter Bruijs and Alain Crocombette reached the summit (6543 meters, 21,467 feet) via the west ridge by which the mountain was first ascended in 1974 by Indians. Base Camp was reached on August 23. They established Camps I, II and III at 5100, 5400 and 5850 meters and fixed 1500 meters of rope.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, Himalayan Journal*

*Thalay Sagar Attempt.* Japanese Hiroshi Kawasaki and Kimihiro Kumaga attempted the west ridge of Thalay Sagar in July. They placed Camp I at 5500 meters on July 20, but monsoon rains and snow increased the danger of avalanches and they abandoned the climb.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, Himalayan Journal*

*Thalay Sagar from the South and Rudugaira.* Our expedition made a second, and this time successful, attempt by a new route on Thalay Sagar from the Phatung Glacier to the south. Our previous try was in 1990. Because of deep

winter snow, most of the porters could not reach Base Camp at 3700 meters, established on May 9. The lower section of the route above Advance Base at 4600 meters followed a steep glacier to the left (west) of the rock buttress climbed in 1990. A lower-angled glacier and a 60° snow slope led to the foot of the granite headwall, where Camp III was placed at 6300 meters. Equipment had to be carried up specially to attempt the vertical south face. Regular afternoon snowfall and lack of continuous cracks stopped progress. Severe spindrift often buried tents in several minutes. The summit push started on May 23 from Advance Base but was delayed at Camp I at 5700 meters by bad weather. Camp III was established on June 3 and the summit was reached three days later from Camp IV at 6500 meters. Charles French and Julian Fisher descended while Tom Prentice and I carried on and bypassed the granite by climbing to the left up a vertical sérac to reach a big snow cone. After a short foray on the south face, we joined the original route on the steep and rocky west ridge and reached the summit (6904 meters, 22,650 feet) on June 6. The west ridge was mostly snowy rock climbing with a few aid moves and proved quite difficult with some loose rock. Everyone helped clear the mountain. Rudugaira (5364 meters, 17,600 feet) was climbed by Gordon Scott, Prentice and Susan Grimley. [This is not to be confused with the 5819-meter Rudugaira which lies some 15 kilometers to the northwest.] Nearby P c.5100 (c.16,733 feet) was climbed by Fisher and American Jordan Campbell. These may have been first ascents. Ratangrian (5858 meters, 19,220 feet) was attempted by Scott, Grimley and Campbell.

KEITH MILNE, *Mountaineering Club of Scotland*

*Thalay Sagar Attempts by Spaniards.* Two Spanish expeditions were unable to complete the ascent of Thalay Sagar (6904 meters, 22,650 feet). On the night of August 20, Carlos Suárez and Alfonso Vizán started up the north face. They climbed through much of the day but could find no place to bivouac on the precipitous slopes, which were being swept by avalanches. They descended in 15 rappels from 6450 meters. Another group, principally Basque, attempted the mountain via the col between it and Bhrigupanth. They were Juan Carlos (Txingu) Arreita, the brothers Patxi and Juan Lasarte, Lucio Eiguren and Jaca Chiro Sánchez. From the col they hoped to climb the Polish-Norwegian route on the northeast ridge, but they gave up below the col at 5900 meters because of the great quantity of loose snow, which avalanched and carried Juan Lasarte 400 meters down the couloir. Luckily, he escaped with a broken ankle, but he had to be helicoptered out.

*Manda III.* Scot Andy Cunningham, Englishman Richard Mansfield and Irishmen Gary Murray and I arrived on the Bhrigupanth Glacier on September 8 but were confined to Base Camp for the next eleven days by very bad weather. When it eventually cleared, we climbed Manda III or P 6529 (21,420 feet) via