

LAHUL, SPITI AND KINNAUR

Dharamsura (White Sail Peak), Ascent. A Japanese team led by Zennosuke Sakurazawa climbed Dharamsura (6445 m) by the east face on September 7. Summitters were Z. Sakurazawa, Yusuo Kurasawa, Tstuomu Aoki, Takashi Chiko, Masanobu Ouchi, Fatehchand and Pyarelal. The seven-member team approached the peak via the Tos Glacier. They operated in the area during August and September.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Editor, The Himalayan Journal*

Dongrimo and Other Peaks In The Losar Valley, Various Ascents. The twelve-member team of the Rock Climbing School, Calcutta, India, led by Rajani Rakshit attempted many peaks in the Losar valley of the western Spiti. On August 14, Satyajit Kar, Bijoy Chakraborty, Pinaki Bhusandas with Tashi Choppal climbed Lagborche (5950 m). Kar, Chakraborty and Choppal also climbed Fluted Peak (6139 m) on August 16. Jeeven Peak (5900 m) was also climbed on the same day by them. During the attempt on Dongrimo (6160 m), on August 22, Chakraborty fell down and sprained his ankle. Thus the team abandoned the attempt and returned home.

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Parvati Valley, Various Ascents. The expedition was a joint effort of the Himalayan Club, Mumbai, and The Mountaineers, Seattle. The primary aim of the expedition was to have a climbing holiday in a congenial mountain setting, to promote friendship and camaraderie between Indian and American climbers and to initiate the groundwork for future mountaineering adventures between the two nationalities. For this reason, the upper Parvati Valley of the Kulu Himalaya was chosen, with its abundance of peaks of modest height (the highest in the area being Peak 'A', 6248 meters) and varying levels of technical difficulty, with the added bonus of a delightful approach march with two sites of hot springs thrown in! The expedition climbed five peaks varying in height from 5360 to 5805 meters. Two of the climbs were first ascents. An attempt was also made on the technically challenging Pt. 6127m (South Parvati).

By September 22, all the climbers, the LO and Inder, one of the cooks, were ensconced comfortably at Advance Base Camp at 4650 meters, which was almost at the end of the left lateral moraine of Glacier IV, a grueling distance of 7.5 kilometers as shown on the excellent Survey of India map. From there, the team climbed the following: Pt. 5605m ("Snow Peak") (second ascent overall; first Indian and first American ascent), on September 23, via a line on the east face and the northwest ridge to the corniced summit (Karen Close, Howard Weaver, Jim Tweedie, Ajay Tambe and Shridhar Nivas); Pt. 5360m (Twin Peak) on September 24 and 25, via the elegant J-shaped east-northeast ridge. The classically alpine snow ridge that automatically draws the eye from Advance Base was later christened "The Birdwalk" as it had large prints of a bird's foot all the way to the summit. Leaving camp at 6 a.m., the climbers made their way across the lower part of the northwestern branch of the glacier on to the talus slopes, which gave access to the east-northeast ridge. The summit was reached at 11:45 a.m. Another party followed the same route the next day. (September 24: Don Goodman, Natala Goodman, Aloke Surin, Si Lin Hu, Jaspal Chauhan; September 25: Jim Tweedie, Howard Weaver, Karen Close, Ajay Tambe). (This was the first ascent of the higher of the twin summits.) Pt. 5360m, on September 25 (Mike Burns and Steve Cox), by the northwest face to northwest ridge. Descent was made by the northeast