

Shaukat). As the group started descending, an avalanche caught Rehmat Ullah Baig and Shambi Khan, who were behind the other members checking the sight of CII, and carried them down almost to BC. Luckily, the rest of the members remained safe from the avalanche. Aman Khan immediately informed BC about the accident. At BC, Muhammad Nasir Awan and Rajab Shah canceled their own program to come up at CII and rushed to rescue the injured. After ten minutes, Rehmat Ullah Baig contacted them by walkie-talkie and told them that he and Shambi Khan were OK. Nasir Awan and Rajab Shah soon reached Rehmat Ullah Baig and Shambi Khan and transported them slowly to BC. Shambi Khan was seriously injured and bleeding from his wounds. The rest of the team also reached the base safely, bringing with them the remaining equipment from CII. They took more than seven hours to descend because the avalanche had totally destroyed the climbing route. After this accident, the third group canceled their summit bid and the expedition was ended. All members of the expedition were in good health by the time they reached Islamabad on March 5.

MUHAMMAD NASIR AWAN, *Pakistan*

*Sani Pakush, Attempt.* It was reported that Andy Benson, Kenton Cool, Rich Cross and Al Powell attempted the ca. 2600-meter west buttress of Sani Pakush (6885m), the pyramidal peak north of Chalt on the watershed between the Kukuay and Batura glaciers north of Broad Peak. Three consecutive towers make up the lower section of the ridge. The team climbed and fixed the first tower in early August in 800 meters of mixed and rock climbing up to British HVS. After a return to BC in 16 rappels, the four began a continuous push on August 11, nearly getting hit by ibex-instigated rock fall en route. They ascended the second tower with one pitch of E1 5b and reached the bottom of the third tower on the third day. On the fourth day, they managed five mixed and rock pitches up to E3 5c before rockfall cut one of their ropes. Their high point of ca. 5600 meters was 400 meters short of where the buttress joins the south ridge, from where it is another 800 meters of 30° snow to the summit. (*High Mountain Sports* 196)

*Broad Peak, Attempt and Tragedy.* Eric Escoffier and Pascal Bessi res (F) were last seen on the summit ridge of Broad Peak (8047m) on July 29 by Poitr Putzelnik and Ryszard Pawlowski, members of a Polish expedition. The two were climbing up to a col at ca. 7800 meters when they saw Escoffier and Bessi res moving slowly upward on the ridge above. "It was a snow storm and they had a long way to go for the final summit. They were on the ridge at approximately 8000 meters," said one of the Polish climbers. The search was abandoned when Pakistani Ashraf Aman returned from a futile attempt to locate the two French climbers. The third member of the French expedition, Jean-Fran ois Lassalle, managed to come down with the Polish team. The French shared a climbing permit for the normal route with Slovakian and Italian climbers.

ASEM MUSTAFA AWAN, *The Nation, Pakistan*

*Savoia Kangri, Attempt.* It was reported that Nick Bullock, Julian Cartwright, Jamie Fisher, Ewan and Ruairidh Pringle, Paul Schweizer and Alan Swann (U.K) attempted to make the first ascent of Savoia Kangri (7263m) via the southeast face in July. They deviated from the

line taken by perhaps the only other attempt on the mountain, a 1982 Czechoslovakian group, by climbing the bow-shaped gully through the triangular buttress left of the 1982 line. On their first attempt, on July 15, Bullock, Cartwright, Fisher, and Schweizer reached a point about two-thirds of the way up the gully by dawn before rockfall forced them to bivvy on a snow rib. A storm complicated departure the next morning, and when Fisher was hit by a rock at ca. 6000 meters, the four dumped their gear and descended.

The same climbers made another attempt on July 22, reaching the top of the gully in 12 hours of sustained Scottish 3/4 climbing. The next day, Fisher and Cartwright climbed the 700-meter ice face (55-60°) above in 11 hours to a bivvy below a gendarme at ca. 6900 meters. A storm that dumped 60 centimeters of snow kept them pinned in their tents for two days. They then went for the summit, but deep unstable snow prohibited travel past ca. 7000 meters and they retreated again. One more attempt was made on August 5, reaching the top of the gully before more bad weather brought an end to the expedition. (*High Mountain Sports* 196)

*Gasherbrum I and II, Ascents, Attempts and Tragedy.* Our international expedition of 13, led by Peter Guggemos (Germany), successfully saw 11 summiting GII and one reaching the top of GI. The weather was persistently stormy and, aside from a week of fair skies at the beginning of July, afforded only isolated clear days. On July 31, having already summited GII, Toni Hinterplattner (Austria) and Guggemos set out from CII at 6500 meters on Gasherbrum La for a fast and light summit bid on GI. A severe storm forced them to retreat only ca. 20 meters short of the summit. On the descent, a small avalanche threw Toni off balance. He fell ca. 200 meters, sustaining two broken ribs and a tib/fib fracture which, during his subsequent descent of over 1000 meters, turned into a compound fracture. After bivouacking with Peter in the storm at ca. 7400 meters, Toni descended to CII on his own, where a rescue party organized from BC (5100m) was able to reach him and transport him to BC for a helicopter ride out. Two members of a four-person Japanese expedition, last seen by Peter and Toni near the summit of GI, disappeared in this same storm. Their comrades went up in an attempt to find them and also disappeared.

HJORDIS RICKERT

*Latok I, North Ridge, Attempt, Harpoon, First Ascent, and Other Activity.* Our expedition consisted of Lyle Dean, John Bouchard, and myself. We established Base Camp at the head of Choctoi Glacier directly across from the north ridge and north east face of Latok I. In preparation, we first climbed the beautiful pyramid-shaped peak on the opposite side of the glacier from Latok (ca. 6000m). Lacking a name on any map, we dubbed the peak Harpoon.

Our ascent followed the obvious 2,500-foot couloir on the southwest face to the saddle on the south ridge. This was mostly snow climbing with some ice at the top to which we third classed, arriving at the saddle about noon. The following morning we climbed the remaining eight pitches of mostly rock and mixed up to 5.8 M4 along the south ridge to the summit. Although we did encounter some old retreat slings in the lower couloir, we found no evidence of previous climbing on the summit ridge. We reached the summit at approximately 1 p.m. on July 21 and descended that day to our high camp at the saddle and Base Camp the following day.