

into this valley. Joi-Dur was not named on any map, but Shimshalis refers to a valley of that name. It divides into two parallel glaciers 4 kilometers from the main valley, both flowing northward. Both glaciers were much larger than we had imagined. The East Joi-Dur Glacier is about 8 kilometers long, extending from the south icefall, below a 5,930m peak (the peak surveyed by M. Spender of Shipton's party). The West Joi-Dur Glacier is about 5 km long, joined by the overflow from the middle of the east glacier of Phurzin-i-Dur. Although it had been reported that there are seven peaks over 6,000m in the Chot-Pert Group, based on our observations from Mungarig-Sar and Kuz-Sar, only a few peaks in the central part of Phurzin-i-Dur are that high. The topography of this group is complicated, and a revision of the existing maps is needed.

Based on the view from three peaks we ascended in the Shuijerab Glacier area (Mungarig-Sar, Kuz-Sar, and Halshamas-Sar), there are six peaks over 6,000m. Most are unnamed, but one was named Halshamas-Sar, after our porter.

Although existing maps show 6,400m peaks in the Shuwert Glacier area, we found none that high. We only saw some ca 6,150m peaks on the ridge dividing the East Shuijerab and Shuwert Glaciers. Though we had intended to look at the south side of the Chot-Pert Group from Khurdopin Pass, we ran out of time. Also, the north side of the Shuijerab Group is still unknown, and will stay that way until the southwest part of the Oprang River is opened up.

TADASHI KAMEI, *Yokohama Alpine Club* (translated by Kei Kurachi)

*Correction: The uncredited map on page 369 of AAJ 2002 was excerpted from a 1990 Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research map prepared by Jerzy Wala, of Poland.*

*Batura II, attempt at its first ascent.* A six-man team from the Saxon Alpine Club of Germany made a spirited attempt on the unclimbed Batura II (7,762m), one of the highest unclimbed points remaining in the Karakoram. Tilo Dittrich, Günter Jung, Jan Lettke, Tom Niederlein, Christian and Markus Walter set up base camp on the Baltar Glacier in June and followed the route of the first ascensionists of 7,786m Batura I. In 1976 a German Alpine Club expedition penetrated the Eastern Baltar Glacier to the south of the peak and climbed up to the Batokshi Pass (ca 5,900m) on the ridge running north from Hachindar Chish. In the process they climbed the 6,050m Batokshi or Saddle Peak. Above the col the ridge fades into the steep upper slopes of the high Batura Group and the team set out across the south face of the main peak. After establishing five camps above Base, Hubert Bleicher and Herbert Oberhofer, who just two years previously had made the first ascent of neighboring Shispare, climbed the final 40°–45° snow slopes and reached the summit on June 30. Batokshi Peak was climbed again in July 1996 by a small international group that made the largely alpine-style fourth ascent of Batura I via the German Route.

The 2002 Saxon expedition crossed the rubble-covered Baltar Glacier to an advanced base at 4,250m and established Camp 1 towards the end of June at 5,240m. To reach the site of Camp 2 they had to climb through a narrow and dangerous couloir, dubbed the Gunbarrel by the 1976 German team, which squeezed through a small gap between a rock wall and large serac barrier. Camp 2 was placed at ca 5,800m on July 2 and shortly after, camp 3 above the Batokshi Pass. The team took around 250m of fixed rope and placed most of it on this section. On July 15 several team members were situated at camp 4 (6,560m) on the south face of Batura II, somewhat left of the German line, preparing for a summit assault the following day.

Generally the weather had been very mixed with frequent snow fall but on the 16th the day dawned gloriously and Jung with the two Walter brothers set off at 3:30 a.m. The snow conditions seemed reasonably acceptable to about 7,000m but above they realized the névé field they were climbing was loosely bonded over ice and would undoubtedly slide when hit by the rays of the sun. The three progressed to 7,100m before deciding it was too dangerous. The route was subsequently abandoned but not before four members had climbed Batokshi Peak.

Back at Base Camp the group split, half going for an exploratory walk up the Toltar Glacier, while the rest climbed a 150m rock tower above camp. This gave three bold pitches (IV, VI and VII or 5.10c) on excellent granite and was christened Phalwan Chish (ca 4,200m).

LINDSAY GRIFFIN, *High Mountain INFO*



The east face of Buni Zom Main peak (6,551m) and North peak (6,338m). Nikolas Kroupis

*Gordoghan Zom attempt.* Our goal was to climb Buni Zom mountain (6,551m) in the Hindukush range of northwest Pakistan. The nearest access is from the village of Harchin, located about 120 km from Chitral, on the Gilgit road. Our expedition consisted of two Greek persons, Nikolas Kroupis and George Zardalidis. We spent 10 days in the mountains in July. Our two days trekking (14 km) started at Harchin (2,900m) and ended at the base camp (3,900m) in Kulakmali, a big plateau on the way to Phargam An pass. We used four porters to transport our equipment to the base camp. The path goes through Rahman and Phargam villages. We had an intermediate camp at 3,700m, where we found drinkable water at the beginning of the huge rocky slopes. We crossed the stream from Gordoghan glacier the next day early in the morning, because the stream flux increases due to ice melting during the day. We spent the next three days in base