



The route on the south pillar of Purbi.
Max Bolland

Trisul II, attempt. An 11-member expedition from Calcutta, led by Amitava Roy, attempted Trisul II, a 6,690m peak situated above the Bidalgwar Glacier. This peak was first climbed by a former Yugoslavian expedition in 1960 (by the Japanese in 1978 and for a third time by former Yugoslavs in 1987) and has probably not been attempted for 15 years. From the glacier the team established two camps (almost certainly on the south ridge, the route of the first ascensionists and probably not attempted again since that date) and were in position for a summit attempt, when an avalanche destroyed the site of Camp 2 at 5,600m (their high point) and buried lots of equipment.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Honorary Editor,*
The Himalayan Journal

CENTRAL GARHWAL

Devban, second ascent? An Indo-Tibet Border Police Expedition led by Y.S. Sandhu made what was probably the first ascent of this 6,852m peak south east of Kamet since Frank Smythe climbed it in 1937, although in the meantime several false claims have been made. The strong ITBP team reached the top on September 19. The summiters were Mohammed Ali, Tashi Motop, Jyot Singh and Vijender Singh. Approaching from the east, they climbed the south ridge.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Honorary Editor, The Himalayan Journal*

Editor's note: Peter Oliver and Frank Smythe climbed Devban (formally Deoban) from the Bank Plateau to the south. Unconfirmed repeat ascents via this route were reported in 1980 and 1997, both by Indian Military expeditions.

Arwa Tower and Arwa Spires, various new routes. A French expedition led by Antoine de Choudens (with 11 members) climbed the recently discovered Arwa Tower (6,352m) by two different routes. First they established base camp on May 4 at the foot of this peak, and climbed the south face. Then another team climbed the northwest face. The East Summit of the Arwa Spires (6,132m) was also climbed in a three-day push via the original British route. (See "Arwa Tower, Spire, and Crest," earlier in this Journal for a more complete report.)

HARISH KAPADIA, *Honorary Editor, The Himalayan Journal*

Arwa Spires, first ascents of north face and the central and west summits. The 6,193m-high granite top of the Arwa Spires was first climbed in 2000 by two Scotsmen, Andy and Pete Benson. They reached the East Summit via the east ridge, but three attempts to ascend the north face of the Spires failed. In 2002 three Swiss mountain guides, Bruno Hasler, Stephan Harvey, and Roger Schäli, climbed the north face of the Arwa Spires by two independent routes to the central and